The Waikato River Settlement:
Exploring a Model for Co-Management and Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources

As Hawai‘i explores the potential of co-management regimes – where communities work in partnership with regulators – it is helpful to look to the experiences of our ‘ohana throughout the Pacific. Professor Linda Te Aho from the University of Waikato will share her work with co-management regimes in Aotearoa, including the framework established under the Waikato River Settlement, which mandates the protection and restoration of the river’s health and well being for present and future generations. Professor Te Aho’s presentation is part of this semester’s Maoli Thursday series focused on Aloha ʻĀina (care for our natural resources), including how current legal struggles protect this relationship – or not. Last month’s presentation featured Hawai‘i’s first community-based subsistence fishery area (CBSFA) in Hā‘ena, Kaua‘i. Such co-management regimes hold enormous potential for resource management in Hawai‘i and promote aloha ʻāina through place-based management and the utilization of indigenous practices.

Come and explore the possibilities being developed by our ‘ohana in Aotearoa around trusteeship of fresh water resources and the value of co-management regimes.

Professor Linda Te Aho researches and teaches Māori and Indigenous legal issues at Te Piringa Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato in Aotearoa. She has extensive experience regarding the co-management of natural and cultural resources. For example, Professor Te Aho was appointed by the Waikato-Tainui Iwi as a guardian for the co-management of the Waikato River ecosystem to develop a long-term vision for its holistic restoration. She is also an expert in Treaty of Waitangi claims, Post-Settlement governance issues, and Te Ture Whenua Māori 1993 (the Māori Land Act).

*Moderated by: Professor Melody MacKenzie

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Maoli Thursday is a lunchtime forum & speaker series held every first Thursday of the month. Refreshments will be served if you RSVP by Tuesday, September 29th by noon at www2.hawaii.edu/~kahuliao