

MACA Rongomaiwahine Hearing Overview

1. Hearing Area

Rongomaiwahine Iwi are a priority applicant under [s125](#) of the Act. Ahead of the July 2024 case management conference, the applicant sought a High Court hearing for this application. This was allocated by Churchman J following the CMC¹ and scheduled in February 2025.

The hearing area is defined by Rongomaiwahine Iwi’s application area centred on the Mahia Peninsula.

The hearing boundary is illustrated on the map from [Kōrero Takutai](#) below.



¹ [Minute of Churchman J dated 31 July 2024 – 2024 CMCs](#)

2. Dates and venue

The hearing will take place over two weeks starting 4 May 2026 at Gisborne High Court.

3. Participants

| Application CIV | Applicant Group | Lead Counsel |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| CIV-2011-485-794 | Rongomaiwahine Iwi | C M Hockly |
| CIV-2017-485-230 | Ngāti Kurupakiaka | M K Mahuika |
| | | |
| Interested Parties | Kahukura Whānau (MAC-01-09-002) | |
| | Attorney-General | G L Melvin, Y Moinfar-Yong, D Ward |
| | Gisborne District Council | P Beverley |
| | Hawke's Bay Regional Council | M Conway |
| | Landowners Coalition Incorporated | B E Morten |
| | Seafood Industry Representatives | B A Scott |

(Further parties may join)

4. Indicative Hearing Timetable²

| Item | Due dates |
|--|------------------|
| Applicants file their evidence (16 weeks before hearing) | 12 January 2026 |
| Interested parties, other than the Attorney-General, file their evidence (10 weeks before hearing) | 20 February 2026 |
| Attorney-General files evidence (8 weeks before hearing) | 6 March 2026 |
| Applicants' evidence in reply to be filed (6 weeks before hearing) | 20 March 2026 |
| Close of pleadings date (6 weeks before hearing) | 20 March 2026 |
| Applicants' file opening submissions, statement of agreed facts, and bundles of authorities (4 weeks before hearing) | 2 April 2026 |
| Interested parties' file submissions and bundles of authorities (2 weeks before hearing) | 17 April 2026 |
| Attorney-General files submissions and bundles of authorities (1 week before hearing) | 24 April 2026 |
| Stage 1 Hearing Begins | 4 May 2025 |

² Proposed by memorandum of counsel for Rongomaiwahine dated 1 July 2024, not yet ordered by Court.