

Mōkihi

Mahinga Kai Web Series Transcript

English

Our people lived off the land, they used the land, they used the sea,

they looked at the resources that were there and they utilised them

so it makes sense that when we are traveling across fresh water ways, rivers, lagoons, lakes that you look at what are the natural resources that are available to help do that.

Mohi or Moki as we know it MOGI or mōkihi as more traditional watercraft.

Our tūpuna used to make mōkihi or mohi out of raupō or using kōrari – flax stalks that was I suppose an easier way of building a river craft/ watercraft rather than having a waka.

Nau mai, haere mai i tēnei rā, Ko Jo Wakefield taku ikoa, Nō te Waka o Aoraki ahau, nō reira tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā rā tātou katoa

People just see raupō as just a type of bush, they don't see its worth. A swamp to us is a supermarket.

When we go cut raupō we found there is a lot of dead raupō just lying there that's hadn't been cleared away

so when we went through there we were clearing that as well, so therefore it allows the water to actually flush into areas that it hasn't flushed into for some time so by doing that its carrying the nutrients up into areas it hasn't so it allows for new growth.

That's going to have a spin on effect for species such as whitebait for spawning sites and other species as well they all rely on the raupō as a protection guard.

Te Reo Māori

I ora ai te iwi i te whenua, i te moana

Ko ngā rawa i reira, i whakamahia e rātou,

Ā, he tika tonu ka haerēre ana i ngā awa, i ngā hāpua, i ngā moana, ka kimihia ngā rawa hei āwhina i a koe.

Ko te Mohi, ko te Moki rānei, ā, ki a mātou ko te Mogi, ko te mōkihi rānei he taonga tuku iho.

I hangaia te mōkihi, te mohi rānei ki te raupō, ki te kōrari rānei. Te āhua nei he māmā ake te hanga waka awa i te waka tūturu.

Nau mai, haere mai i tēnei rā, Ko Jo Wakefield taku ikoa, Nō te Waka o Aoraki ahau, nō reira tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā rā tātou katoa

He puihi noa te raupō ki te nuinga, ā, kāore tōna take. Ki a mātou, he hokomaha te repo.

I tā mātou hauhake i te repo, i kitea he maha tonu ngā raupō kua mate e takoto noa ana.

Nā reira, nā mātou i para, Kia rere pai te wai i ngā wāhi katoa o te repo ā ka ora ērā wāhi kia tipu anō ai te raupō.

Nā tērā ka ora ngā momo pēnei i te inanga, ā, he whakaruruhau te raupō ki ēnei momo.



Mōkihi

English

You know raupō is part of the riparian strips, you know they take care of a lot of the nitrate phosphorous

you know issues that are going on.

It has an important part to play along with harakeke in trying to neutralise the pollution from the land use effects of the farming etc.

To me what would've happened in the old days is our tūpuna would've got to a river or a water way

and they would've known that they would've had to cross it,

they would've decided right there and then, let's make a mōkihi.

Now the flax stalks you can grab at any time when they're there,

you can just grab a whole bundle of them tie them up and make a raft or a mōkihi and cross the river

so the same would've applied to the raupō as well,

they were in a hurry and they needed a mōkihi they would've made one right there and then, but these days we prefer to have our raupō dry.

The main concern is going to be that the layout is down below because that's where all the water is going drip to.

So on top the wind and the sun will dry out the top layers quite easily

but its underneath so maybe once a week come in here and try turn it over just to get some air through it.

The thing is when the raupō dries its shrinks so we really don't know what it's going to look like until you actually see it dry and then only then will we will have an idea of what size it will be,

but Definitely making one. Not maybe full, full size but we definitely, we've got enough here to make one.

Te Reo Māori

Ka noho te raupō ki te pātanga o te wai
Ka tiakina te nitrate phosphorous

Ka mōhio hoki he aha ngā take o te wā

He mea nui kia tautokona tēnei me te harakeke kia whakaruhe i te para mai i ngā pāmu.

Ki au nei ko tā ngā tūpuna i ngā rā o mua, ka tae atu ki tētahi awa ki tētahi arawai

Me te mōhio hoki me whakawhiti rātou i te arawai

ā, ka whakatau rātou i taua wā tonu, me hanga mōkihi.

E taea ana te tiki ngā harakeke mēnā kei reira

Ka kohia ētahi harakeke, ka herea te katoa kia hangaia he mōkihi, whakawhiti atu ai i te awa

Ka pēnei hoki mō te raupō.

Mēnā he hiahia nō rātou ki tētahi mōkihi i taua wā tonu, ka tere hangaia
Heoi i ēnei rā he pai ake te raupō kua marokehia.

Ko te mea whakararu matua, kei raro iho te whakatakotoranga, ā, ka heke iho te wai ki reira.

Hei runga ake rā ko te hau me te rā, ā, ka māmā ake te maroke haere i ngā whakapaparanga a runga

Engari i raro kē iho, me whakahuri i ia wiki kia rere pai hau ki roto

Ka maroke haere te raupō, ka tīngongo heoikāore mātou i te tino mōhio ka pēhea nei tana āhua, tae atu ki te wā kua maroketia tēnā ka mōhiotia tana rahi

Ka taea te hanga tētahi, kāore pea i tino rahi nei, engari ka taea tonuhia te hanga tētahi.



Mōkihi

English

so here you've got your honeycomb effect so you've got little pockets, see those little pockets of air, so that's what gives its buoyancy

So when we first brought the raupō here it looked like a real huge amount of raupō but over the last 4 weeks it's been sitting here drying out and the raupō has actually dried down

How I've measured the rope in terms of the length that's required for the raupō lashing the raupō together is

I've pretty much just gone four times the length of the of the raupō that's beside us

and then just cut it, also joined the ropes so that I begin at halfway so find halfway mark

and just starting at the middle and then ah working out to the each end.

You might have an idea in your mind before you start pretty much what you're wanting to achieve what the expected outcome is but you know it never happens that way

you know it's pretty much you put start putting it together and slowly stage by stage it'll take its own natural shape.

The key is the lashing because the lashing is actually gonna pull the raupō and the kōrari sticks inside together.

When you lash it you're actually tightening it up and it becomes solid, and the idea to tightening is that you use less gaps so that the water won't be able to actually come through to in the inside.

We've made the two sides of the base, so we've aligned each lashing up with each other. Starting from the middle and working outwards.

Okay so we've got three lashings either side of the middle on both.

Now we're separated them out, we're going to form what we call the puku or the stomach. We're going link it through here.

Te Reo Māori

He pīhangaiti te āhua, ā, kei reira he pēke, he pēke pūpuri hau hei pūrewa ake.

I te mauria tuatahi mai o te raupō ki konei, te āhua nei he nui ngā raupō I ngā wiki e whā kua hori nei e maroke noa ana, ā, kua maroke rawa

Kua tātaihia te taura kia tika te roa mō te hou i te raupō

Kua whakaroa ake tēnei taura

Kātahi ka tapahia, ka tūhonohia ngā taura. Timatatia i te pae wehe

Kia mutu rāno i ngā pito

I te whakaritenga mai o ngā mahi, he whāinga pea ōu hei whakatutuki. He mahere hei whai me te mōhio ka kore rawa e pērā

Ka mahia ngā mahi, ā, ka whakatutuki haere.

Ko te mea matua ko te hou i te mea ka whakapiri te hou i te raupō me ngā kōrari rākau.

Ka houa, kia aukaha kia toka. Ko te tikanga o te aukaha kia iti iho ngā kōhao kia kore te wai e uru ki roto.

Kua oti ngā taha e rua o te papa, kua whakahāngaihia ngā hou mai i waenganui ki ngā pito.

Ināiane i e toru ngā hou kei ia taha o te waenganui

Nā, kua whakawehea, ka hangaia te puku. Ka honoa ki konei.



Mōkihi

English

When you're doing the base, that's when, your lashing really needs to be nice and tight and holding it together

the sides you know a little bit different the sides are just there really to protect um the water from coming over the top

you know it's not just about making the mōkihi, it's also about the whakawhanaukataka that comes about it, that bond, that family bond that relationship that people coming together sitting around talking.

if somebody comes along and puts his face in the wananga or watches us even make a moki like we are here today and they become interested then kei te pai I'm happy with it coz i know someone else has taken an interest

and wants to get involved and wants to continue it on.

it was the transport for preparing māhinga kai, pounamu people from one place to another and yeah it wouldn't take them long to whip one up.

Once you got to the other side you could just leave it there and walk off you know someone else would come along and use it.

what's happened in the past I've seen is that people have made mōkihi around the different marae, Ngāi Tahu marae and then they have put them underneath a stage or hung them for display

but they have never used them and therefore it hasn't fallen apart and they forget about it and it stays there, in the meantime no one has come back and made another mōkihi so the knowledge you know is not quite well known anymore

how to make mōkihi because they haven't made one for quite some time, so for me yeah it's the key you know to keep passing the knowledge on sharing it with those people that wana know if your able to do that then you keep that tradition alive.

Te Reo Māori

Mō te tauihu me tika, me ita ngā hou

Mō ngā taha, he āhua rerekē ēnei, ko tā rātou mahi kia whakamaru ai kia kore te wai e uru ki roto,

Ehara i te mea ko te hanga mōkihi noa te mahi, ko te whakawhanaungatanga ko te noho tahi, ko te kōrerorero i ngā kaupapa matua o tēnei mahi

Ki te haere noa mai te tangata ki te mātakitaki i a mātou e hanga mōkihi ana. Ā, ka aro mai ki ēnei tū āhuatanga, ā, kei te pai ki ahau i te mea kua aro mai tētahi atu tangata

Ā ka ora tēnei tikanga, haere ake nei, haere ake nei

He kawenga tēnei mō te mahinga kai, mō ngā tangata pounamu kia haria rātou mai i tētahi wāhi ki tētahi atu, ā, ehara hoki i te mea ka roroa te wā kia hangaia tētahi mōkihi

Ka tae atu ana ki tō wāhi haere, ka waiho atu te mōkihi ki reira i runga i te mōhio ka whakamahia e tētahi atu.

I taku kitenga atu, kua hanga mōkihi i ngā marae maha i ngā marae o Ngāi Tahu, ā, kua waiho noa atu ki raro i te atamira, kua iria rānei

Ā kāore i whakamahia. Ka pakaru haere, ka wareware i a rātou ka noho noa ki reira. Kāore hoki tētahi i hanga anō i tētahi atu mōkihi nā reira ka mahiti te tikanga, te mōhiotanga

Me pēhea te hanga mōkihi
Ki au nei, me whāngai tēnei tikanga, tēnei mātauranga ki ngā tāngata katoa kia ora ai mō ake tonu atu.

