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Indigenous Governance of Rivers: an Aotearoa New Zealand co-management solution

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Treaty of Waitangi 1840



- **Crown sovereignty**
- **Maori “full and undisturbed possession of their lands ...”**

Te Tiriti o Waitangi 1840

- Crown governance
(*kawangatanga*)
- Maori retain
sovereignty
(*rangatiratanga*) over
their treasures
(*taonga*)





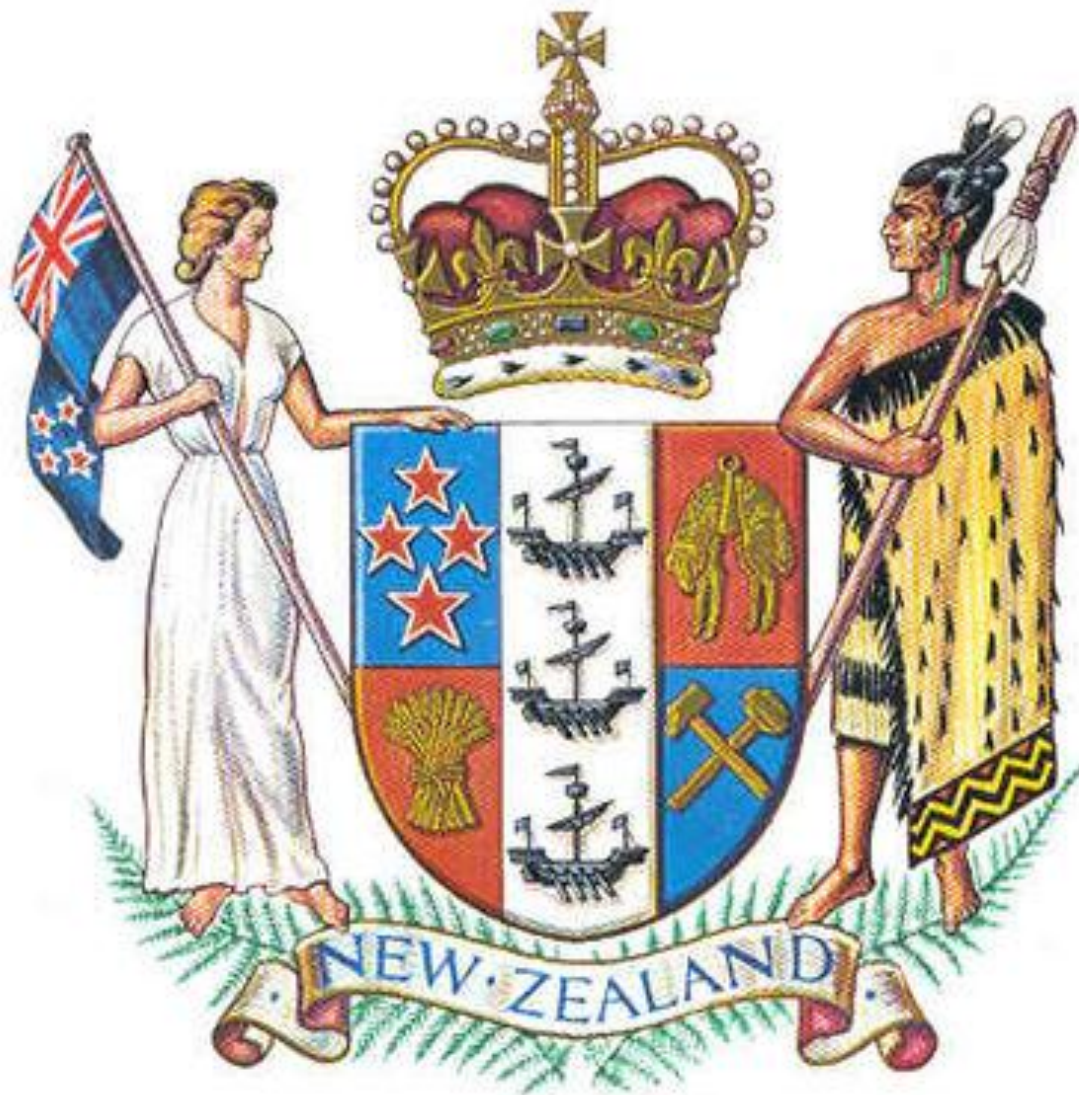
**ON THE ACQUISITION OF
THE TERRITORY, THE
COLONISING POWER
ACQUIRES A RADICAL
TITLE WHICH GOES
WITH SOVEREIGNTY.**

**BUT RADICAL TITLE IS
SUBJECT TO EXISTING
NATIVE RIGHTS.**



Resource Management Act 1991

- An Act to reform the law relating to the use of land, air and water
- Must have regard to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
- gives regional and local councils the power to assert rules and guidelines for the take, use, damming, and diversion of fresh water



Treaty Claims Settlements Acts

- **Statutory acknowledgements**
- **Vesting of lake beds**

- **E.g. Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998;
Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006**

Waikato River



Waikato River



Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Bill 2008

- Is a tupuna (ancestor)
- Crown acknowledges wrongdoing



Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Bill 2008



- **Co-management**
- **Vision and strategy**
- **Kiingitanga Accord**

Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Bill 2008

- **Guardians of the Waikato River**
- **Waikato River Statutory Board**

