

Section 5.14 Accidental Discovery Protocol

This accidental discovery protocol is relevant to all sites associated with human activity that occurred before 1900, regardless of any cultural association. If any material is discovered then work shall stop immediately.

In recognition of Section 6 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and legal requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 there is a requirement to consult Heritage New Zealand when archaeological sites are disturbed without authorisation having been previously obtained. The New Zealand Police also need to be consulted if the discovery includes Kōiwi (human remains).

If the work is being undertaken on land managed by the Crown such as the Department of Conservation or Land Information New Zealand, the landowner shall be notified.

In addition to this, if the site is related to Maori, the following shall also apply:

Kōiwi Accidental Discovery

If Kōiwi (human skeletal remains) are discovered, then work shall stop immediately and Te Ao Mārama Incorporated (Ngāi Tahu (Murihiku) Resource Management Consultants) will be advised.

They will arrange a site inspection by the appropriate Tangata whenua and their advisers, including statutory agencies, who will determine whether the discovery is likely to be extensive and whether a thorough site investigation is required.

In recognition of Section 6 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and legal requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, there is a requirement to consult Heritage New Zealand when archaeological sites are disturbed without authorisation previously obtained. The New Zealand Police also need to be consulted if the discovery includes Kōiwi or human remains.

Materials discovered will be handled and removed by Iwi responsible for the tikanga appropriate to their removal or preservation.

Taonga or Artefact Accidental Discovery

Taonga or artefact material (e.g. pounamu/greenstone artefacts) other than Kōiwi will be treated in a similar manner so that their importance can be determined and the environment recorded by qualified archaeologists alongside the appropriate Tangata whenua.

In-situ (Natural State) Pounamu/Greenstone Accidental Discovery

Pursuant to the Ngāi Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997, all natural state pounamu/greenstone in the Ngāi Tahu tribal area is owned by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. The Ngāi Tahu Pounamu Resource Management Plan provides for the following measures:

- Any in-situ (natural state) pounamu/greenstone accidentally discovered should be reported to the Pounamu Management Officer of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu as soon as is reasonably practicable. The Pounamu Management Officer of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu will in turn contact the appropriate Kaitiaki Papatipu Rūnanga.
- In the event that the finder considers the pounamu is at immediate risk of loss such as erosion, animal damage to the site or theft, the pounamu/greenstone should be carefully covered over

and/or relocated to the nearest safe ground. The find should then be notified immediately to the Pounamu Management Officer.

Contact details for the Pounamu Management Officer are as follows:

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	Phone: +64 3 366 4344
Te Whare o Te Waipounamu	Phone: 0800 KAI TAHU
15 Show Place	(0800 524 8248)
Addington	Fax: +64 3 341 6792
Christchurch 8024	Email: info@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Postal Address
PO Box 13 046
Christchurch 8141