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Te Kura Mātauranga o ngā Taonga ā Papatuanuku

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To: Mokoia Island Maori Trust Board, Rotorua

Re. Mokoia Island Waiora Experiences.

Dear members of the Trust:

As you all know I have been working on Mokoia Island since 1994 studying several of the bird species that inhabit the island (hihi, weka and tieke). During my years on Mokoia I have only been treated with respect and concern by everyone from your Iwi. I am indebted to you for allowing me to carry out research on Mokoia, a place I love and to which I am deeply committed.

For the last year, my fieldtrips have been done through Waiora Experiences, the new management team for Mokoia. The team has been excellent with us, always helpful and supportive. In numerous occasions we have spoken and they have expressed their interest in continuing to support our research endeavours in the years to come. In my opinion, the management of the island has maintained great standards while Waiora Experiences has been in management. The grass has been mowed and the hot pool maintained. The few tours I have been able to join have been fantastic because the members of the team have great knowledge of the island, its history and, its inhabitants.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Waiora Experiences team and I am looking forward to continuing our collaboration in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Isabel Castro

