

Mangawhai Waka Ama Surf to Surf 2026

14th & 15th March - Mangawhai to Waipu Cove - Pānui 1



Ko Pukekaroro te maunga

Ko Ngati Whatua te iwi

Ko Te uri o hau te hapu

Nei ra te mihi ki a koutou

Nau mai, haere mai, whakatau mai ra i te karanga o Tangaroa.

No reira tena koutou, tena koutou, tena tatou katoa.

EVENT SUMMARY

Set in the stunning Kaipara region, our epic playground stretches from the sheltered Mangawhai Estuary and surrounding heads to the open ocean—and for the bold, the legendary surf bar awaits!

We're calling on waka ama crews from all over Aotearoa to come together for a weekend of racing, fun, and good vibes.

Whether you're a seasoned paddler or just keen to give it a go, there's something for everyone. Our race weekend features events for all skill levels and is the perfect warm-up for the Long Distance Nationals. Expect action-packed races, awesome spot prizes, and prize-giving to wrap up.

After a wicked event last year, we can't wait to welcome you and your whānau back for another unforgettable weekend on the water!



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RACE SCHEDULE

Time	Race
10.00am (Sat)	Race 1 - W6 Mangawhai to Waipu Cove Return relay. 15km each way.
2.30pm (Sat)	Race 2 - W6 Open. 10km.
10.00am (Sun)	Race 3 - OC4 Surf Challenge

RACE DAY INFORMATION

Car Parking: Parking is available by street parking. Please note all parking is under Kaipara Council management, please be considerate.

Trailer parking: Trailer parking will be in the Mangawhai Campbell Park Christian Youth Camp.

Food: Kai is provided as part of your race entry. Extra kai tickets can be purchased at the event. Coffee carts available at Mangawhai and Waipu Cove.

Toilets: Toilets are located at Sellars reserve (end of North Ave), and at the Mangawhai Boating and Fishing Club.

First Aid: First Aid will be available at the Mangawhai Boating and Fishing Club and Waipu Surf Club.

Rubbish/Recycling: We encourage you to please take what you bring. However, the main rubbish and recycling station is located by the Mangawhai Boating and Fishing Club.

Alcohol/Smokefree: Alcohol, smoking, vaping and any other substance use is not permitted at this event, including all premises of the event.



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EVENT SCHEDULE

Race 1 Saturday - W6 RELAY (15Km x 2) - ocean	
7.00am	Registration, waka drop off & safety checks
8.30am	Karakia
9.00am	Race & safety briefings
10.00am	Racing starts
10.05am	Shuttle(s) departs to Waipu Cove
TBC	Shuttle(s) return from Waipu Cove
1.00pm	Racing finishes
4.30pm	Prizegiving
4.30pm	Closing Karakia

Race 2 Saturday - W6 10Km - Short course in Estuary	
12.00pm	Registration, & safety checks
1.00pm	Race & safety briefings
2.30pm	Racing starts
3.30pm	Racing finishes
4.00pm	Prizegiving
4.30pm	Closing Karakia

Race 3 Sunday - OC4 Surfing Challenge	
9.00am	Registration, & safety checks
9.30am	Competition & safety briefings
9.50am	Karakia
10.00.am	Competition starts
2.00pm	Competition finishes
2.30pm	Prizegiving
2.45pm	Closing Karakia

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RACE RULES

For the relay race, Mangawhai to Waipu Cove.

All entrants must be familiar with the Waka Ama New Zealand race and safety rules.

Refer to the following link for more information: [Waka Ama NZ Race Rules](#)

WAKA	DISTANCE	DIVISIONS	GENDER
W6	2x15km	Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Mixed (minimum of 6 females)
W6	10km	J19, Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master	Mixed, Male, Female
OC4	2 Waves	Open	Mixed, Male, Female

CONTACT INFORMATION

- All enquiries please email: mangawhaiwakaama@gmail.com
- [Facebook](#)

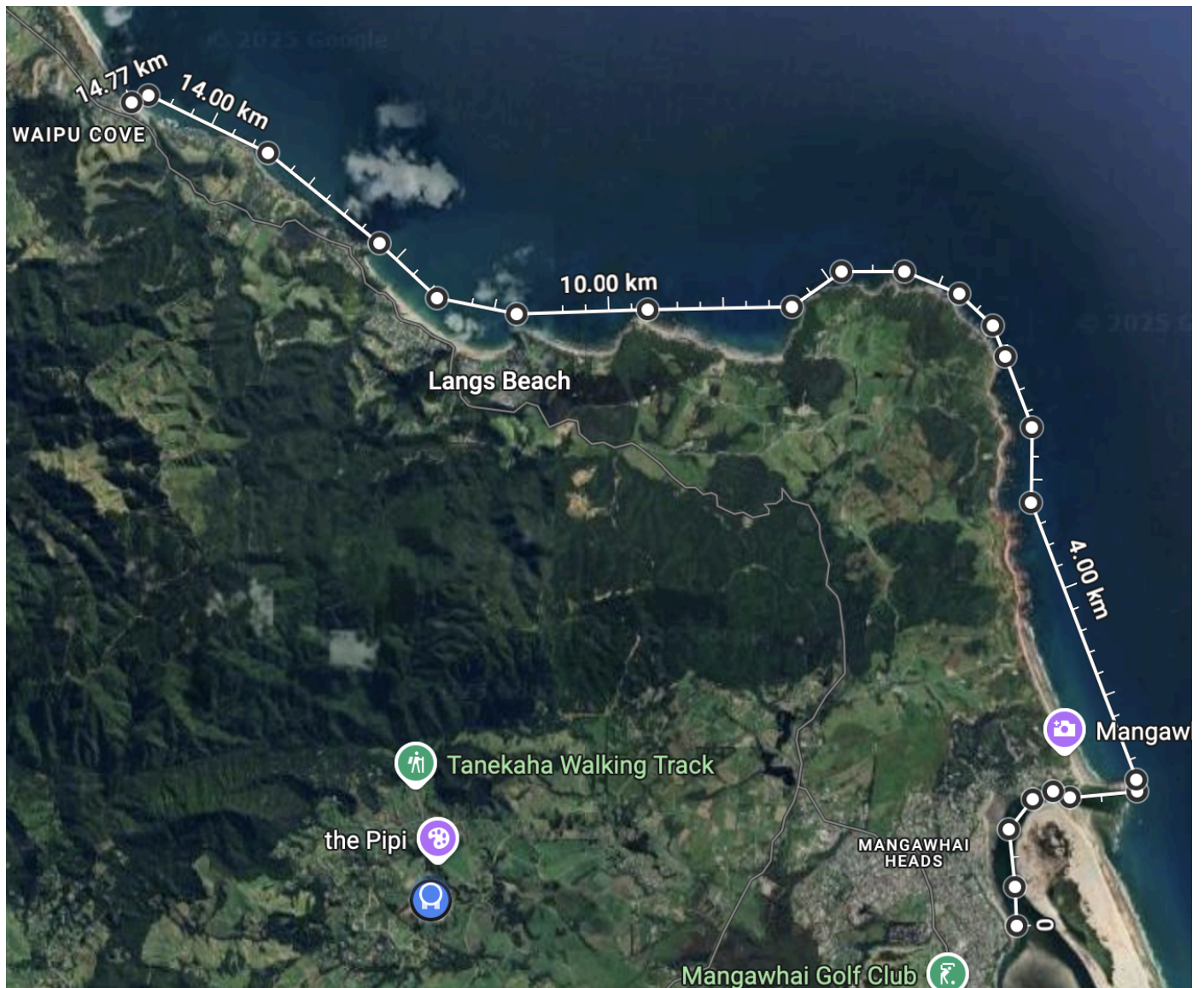


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RACE 1 MAP RELAY RETURN FROM WAIPU COVE



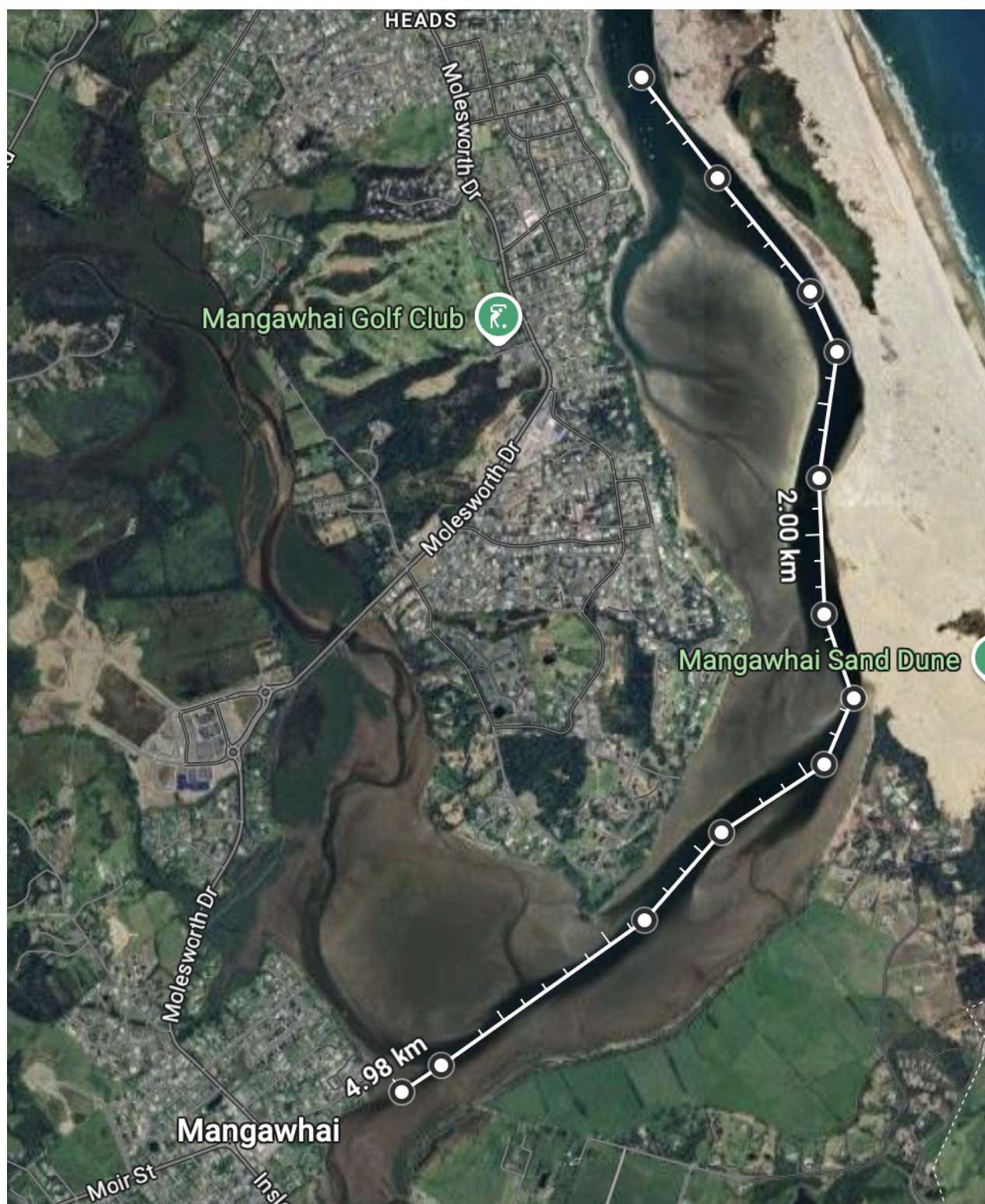
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RACE 2 MAP

Turn at top of estuary back to Mangawhai Waka Ama Club.



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OC4 SURFING CHALLENGE

We're excited to invite teams from across Aotearoa to join us for this unique and exhilarating OC4 surfing competition. Mangawhai Bar offers some of the best waves around—perfect for all kinds of water sports and an ideal setting for our event.

In 2025, nine teams battled it out through heats and a thrilling final to crown a champion! We're looking forward to another epic day of friendly competition, fun waves, and memories that will last a lifetime—weather permitting, of course!

Come be part of the action, the community, and the stoke!
See you on the water!

