

Matariki

PLEIADES

In winter, the appearance of Matariki in the north-east before sunrise marks Te Tau Hou Māori for Tūhoe, Tauranga Moana, and Te Tai Rāwhiti.

Puanga

RIGEL

For Te Tai Tokerau, Whanganui, and parts of Te Waipounamu, it is the pre-dawn winter rising of Puanga in the east that marks Te Tau Hou Māori.

NGĀ WHETŪ O TE TAU

Te Waka o Tamarereti

In a time before light filled the world, Tamarereti traversed the expanse of night over seas of darkness on his waka, becoming a highly skilled navigator. When Tāne decided to take Te Whānau Mārama (the sun, moon, and stars) into the heavens, he turned to Tamarereti for his expertise and support. Tamarereti, with Tāne and Te Whānau Mārama onboard, set sail, navigating his waka across the oceans and beyond the distant horizon. He anchored his waka in the heights of heaven as Tāne placed the stars, moon, and sun in the sky, bringing light, warmth, and growth to the world.

Te Waka o Tamarereti remains anchored in the heavens. Seen in the early morning winter skies, spanning the horizon from the west to the south and around to the north-east, Te Waka o Tamarereti can be used as a guide to help find the stars that mark Te Tau Hou Māori for different iwi across the motu.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Inspiration for this rauemi comes from kōrero shared by Jack Thatcher and an oriori composed by Mahara Nicholas. It explores just one variation of the story of Te Waka o Tamarereti. Different iwi, hapū, whānau, and rohe may have their own unique versions, names, and understandings of this kōrero. We encourage you to use this resource as a tool to help explore the pūrākau from your own area.

Illustrations: Ruatēpupuke Ngata | Te Ihi Design
 Design & Layout: Te Pu-a-Nga Maara Creative
 Production: Supported by Manurewa Local Board



Rehua

ANTARES

The early morning winter setting of Rehua in the west is a marker of Te Tau Hou Māori for Waikato-Tainui and Te Tai Hauāuru.



Te Kokota

HYADES
 TE HOE URUNGI
 The Steering Paddle



Tautoru

ORION'S BELT
 TE TAU RAPA
 The Stern



Takurua

SIRIUS
 TE TOHUNGA
 The Priest



Atutahi

CANOPUS
 TE KAIHAUTŪ
 The Navigator



Piawai

FALSE CROSS
 TE RĀ
 The Sail



Kaipatiki

DIAMOND CROSS
 TE RĀ
 The Sail



Mahutonga

SOUTHERN CROSS
 TE PUNGA
 The Anchor



Rangirui & Uruao

BETA & ALPHA CENTAURI
 TE TAURA
 The Anchor Rope



Te Matau-a-Māui

SCORPIUS
 TE TAU IHU
 The Bow

