



**Mahinga Kai - He Pou Herenga Tāngata,
Haere Ake Nei, Haere Ake Nei:**

**Ngāi Tahu Mahinga Kai Food Safety
Framework**

Georgia Bell

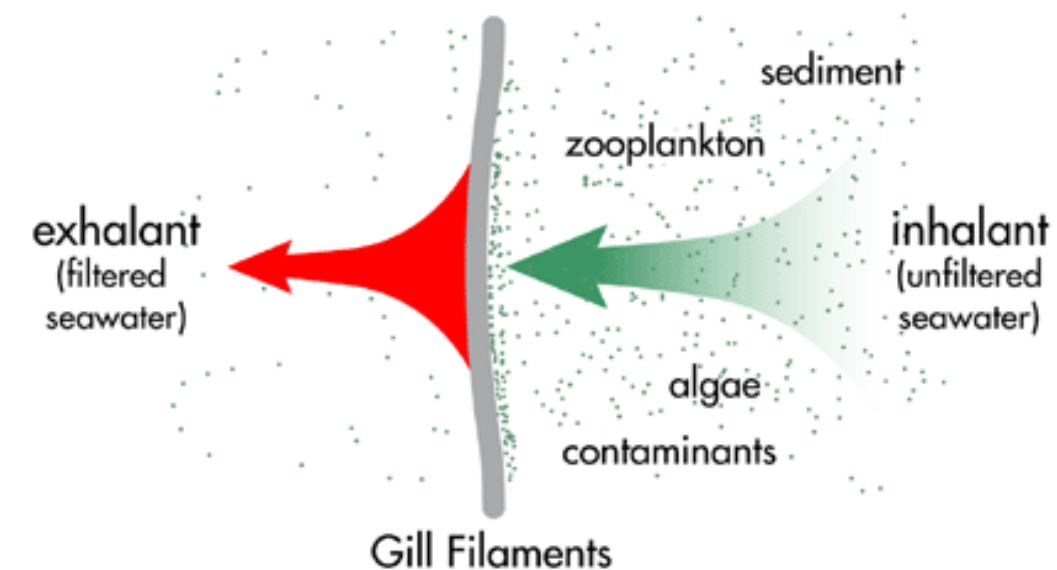
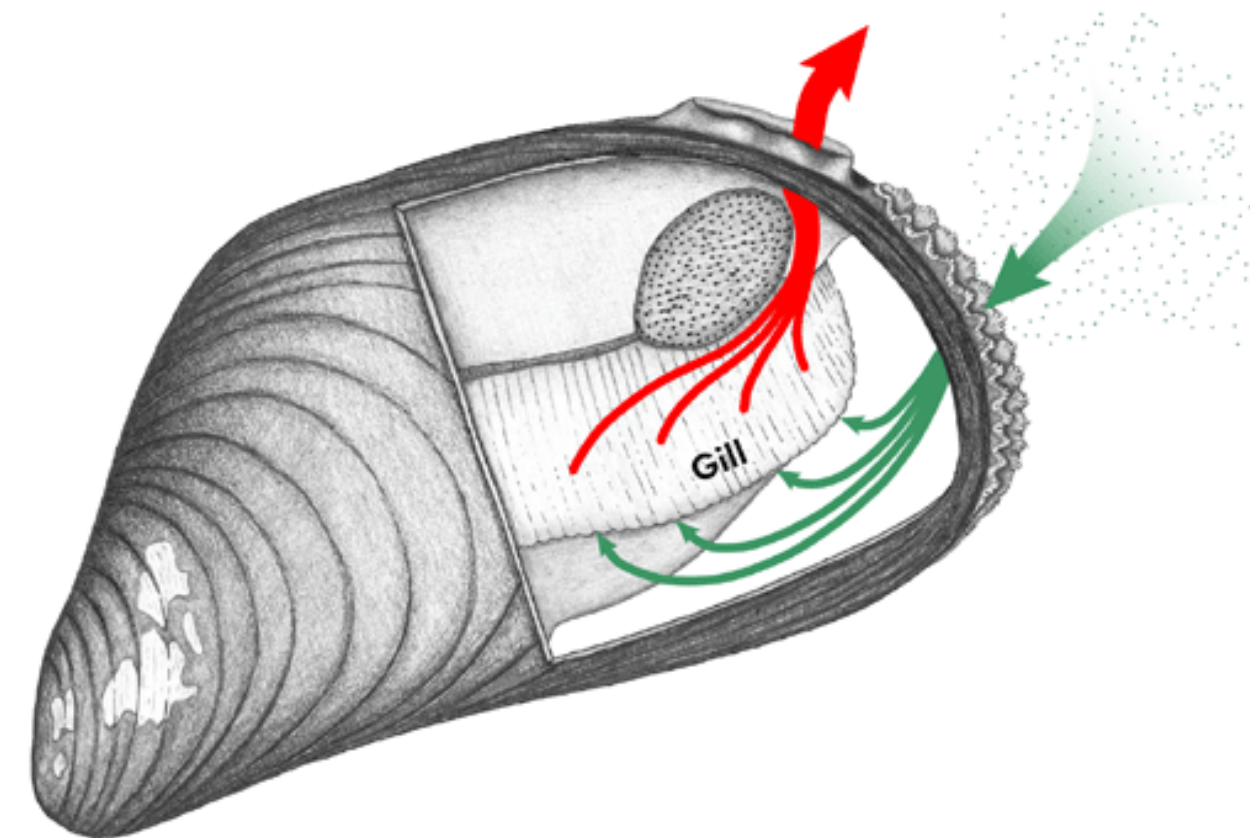
Mahinga Kai

- Natural resources
- Harvesting and knowledge of resource gathering
 - Hundreds of years old
 - Anchors us to our whakapapa
- Cultural, spiritual and physical sustenance
- Traditional food, practices involved, and gathering places
 - Wild foods
 - Cultivated



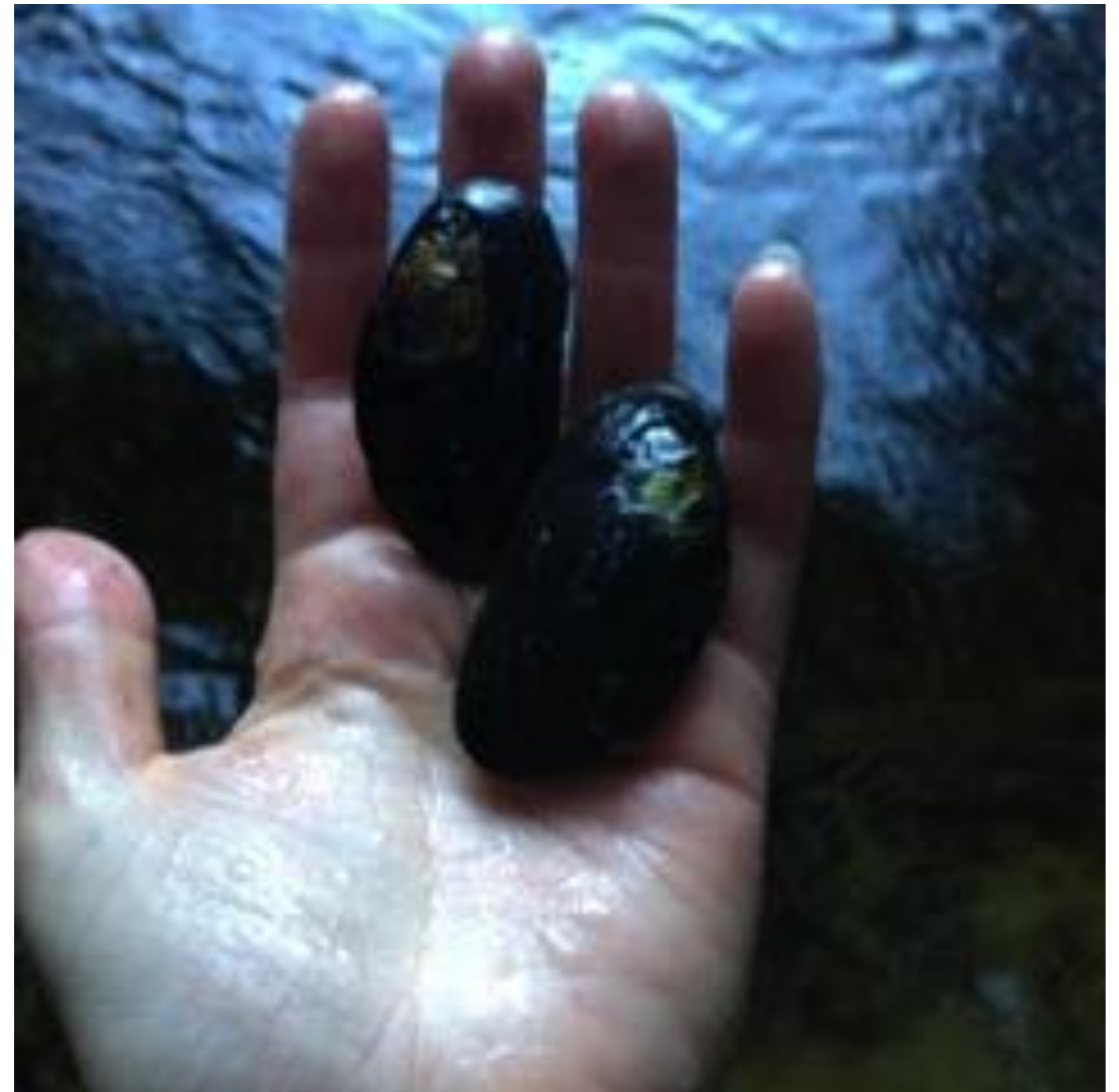
Challenges for Mahinga Kai

- Land development
- Loss of habitat
 - Species decline
- Anthropogenic pollution
- Impacted by upstream activities
 - Lowlying areas
- Bioaccumulate in kai
 - Filter feeders
- Risks unknown
 - Knowledge gap



Challenges for Māori

- He pātaka kai - food cupboard
 - Manaakitanga
 - Large harvests for events
- Māori at higher risk of consuming contaminants
 - Eat more
 - Harvest more
 - Eat raw
- Harvesters unsure about health risks
- Mātauranga māori



Customary Fisheries

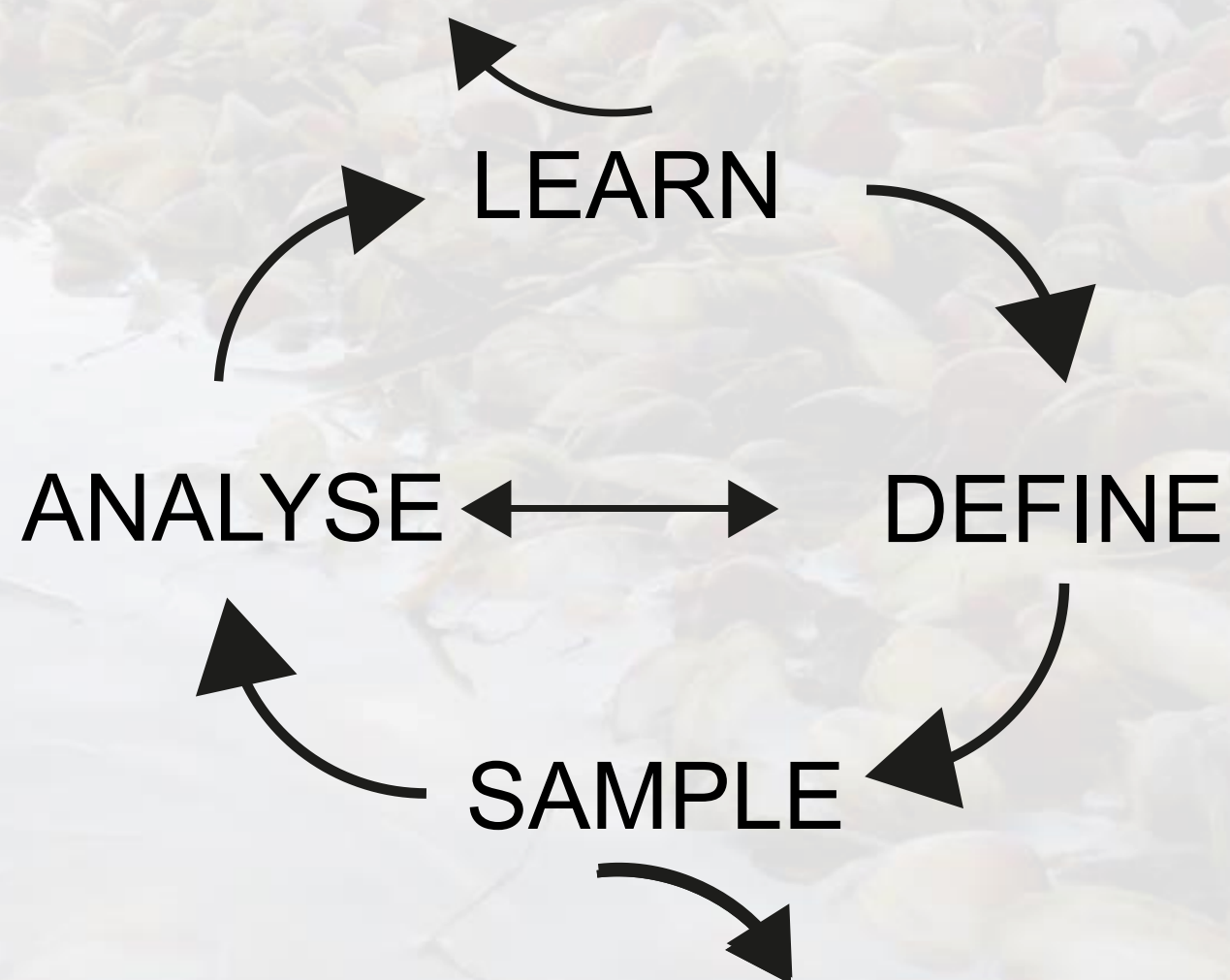
- Fishing rights for tangata whenua
 - Co-management
 - Sustainability
- Current gap in food safety
 - Commercial operations
 - Recreational

Ngāi Tahu Mahinga Kai Food Safety Framework

- Deliver monitoring tools and expertise to the community
- Marine



Models
Further assesment tools
- Microbial Source Tracking
Optimise framework



Data analyses
Determine risk
- National standards
Reporting
- Presentations

Sites of concern
Mātauranga Māori
- Pūrākau
- 'Kanohi ki te kanohi'
- Hui/wānanga
Previous monitoring
- review

Survey design
- Species
- Time
- Contaminants of concern
- Climate data

Case Study

- Whakaraupō Mātaitai
 - Ngāti Wheke
 - Lyttelton Harbour
- Water and sediment
- Actively harvested, mussels, cockles, pāua (including the hua)



<https://teara.govt.nz/en/photograph/5107/paua-gut>

Whakaraupō Mātaitai Sampling Sites



Contamination Suite

Bacteria

- Total bacterial counts, *E. coli*, faecal coliforms, Enterococci
- *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Vibrio spp.*

Virus

- Norovirus

Metal

- Arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel and zinc



Guidelines for Shellfish Harvesting Areas (MAF, 2006)

Water

Faecal coliforms:

10% allowable limit for exceedances over
43 MPN/100 mL

Median measuring below 14 MPN/100 mL

Shellfish

E. coli:

10% allowable limit for exceedances over 700
MPN/100 g

Median below 230 MPN/100 g

Guidelines for Shellfish Harvesting Areas (MAF, 2006)

Water

Faecal coliforms:

10% allowable limit for exceedances over
43 MPN/100 mL

20% exceeded

Median measuring below 14 MPN/100 mL

Median concentration 3 MPN/100 mL

One guideline exceeded

Shellfish

E. coli:

10% allowable limit for exceedances over 700
MPN/100 g

1.9% exceeded

Pāua - highest concentrations

Median below 230 MPN/100 g

Median 20 MPN/100g

Overall – acceptable

Shellfish

Microbial Quality

- Ready to eat
- Aerobic bacterial count (MoH, 1995)

Requiring **no further** cooking / raw

Exceedances:

- No samples over $10^5/\text{g}$

Requiring cooking:

- No samples over $5 \times 10^6/\text{g}$



<https://teara.govt.nz/en/photograph/5107/paua-gut>

Shellfish

Microbial Quality

- Ready to eat
- Aerobic bacterial count (MoH, 1995)

Requiring **no further** cooking / raw

Exceedances:

- No samples over $10^5/\text{g}$
= five pāua samples exceeded maximum
- **potentially at risk eating Pāua raw with hua**

Requiring cooking:

- No samples over $5 \times 10^6/\text{g}$
= within limits



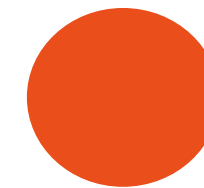
<https://teara.govt.nz/en/photograph/5107/paua-gut>

Microbial Quality - Pathogens

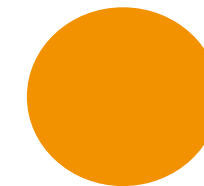
	Site	Species	<i>Listeria</i> sp	<i>L. monocytogens</i>	<i>Salmonella</i>	<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i>	<i>V. cholerae</i>	<i>V. vulnificus</i> *	<i>V. alginolyticus</i> *
Kaimoana	Cass	Cockles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sandy	Cockles	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
	Rīpapa	Mussels	-	-	-	-	-	-	+++++
	Quail	Mussels	+	-	-	-	-	-	++
	Rīpapa	Pāua	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Quail	Pāua	-	-	-	-	-	++	+

Overall risk

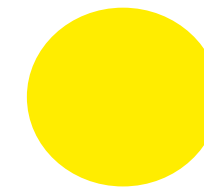
- Microbial risks:
 - Water
 - Pāua raw with hua
 - *Vibrio* and *Listeria* species
- No metal risk in shellfish
- No norovirus
- Whānau should cook their kai



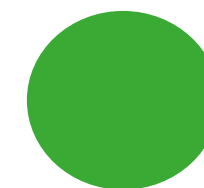
= Risk



= Potential risk



= Environmental risk



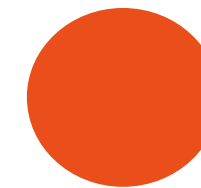
= No risk

Overall risk

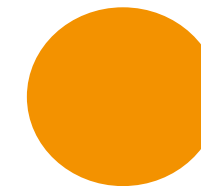
- **Microbial risks:**

- Water
- Pāua raw with hua
- *Vibrio* and *Listeria* species

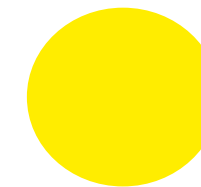
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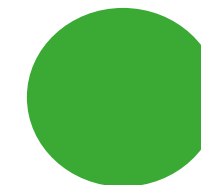
= Risk



= Potential risk



= Environmental risk



= No risk

Rangatiratanga

- Driven by our tangata whenua
- Information used by tangata tiaki
 - Inform harvesters
- Ultimate goal: whānau confidence to engage in their traditional resources
 - Restore food security
 - Inform mitigation strategies for contamination



Photo credit: Claire Hodge

Future Optimisations

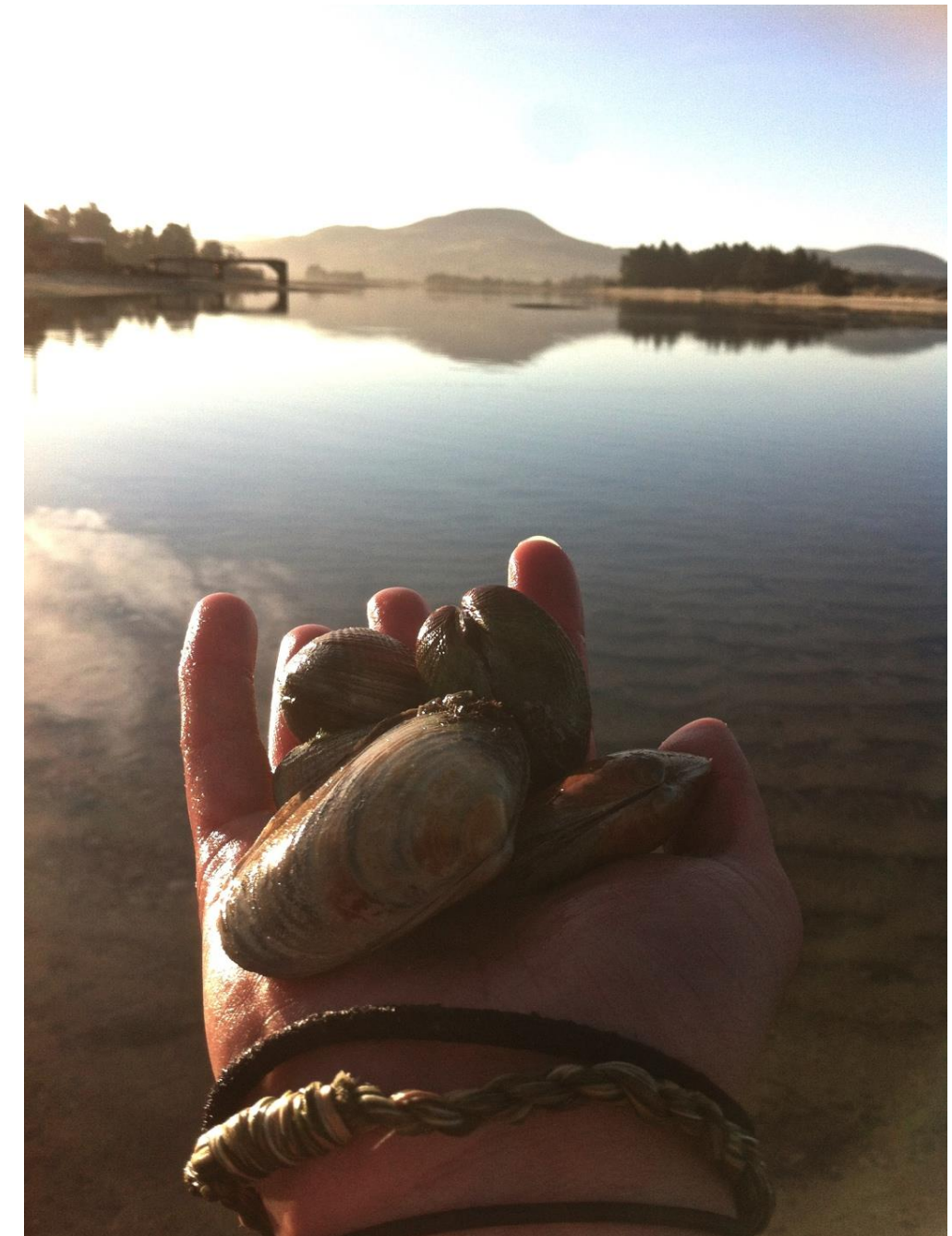
- Validate the framework
- Consider other contaminants and species
- Food consumption surveys
 - Specific to local areas



One Health Aotearoa

- Tools and resources directly into our communities
- Model for other areas in Aotearoa
- Kai for our future generations

“Toitū te Marae o Tane, toitū te marae o Tangaroa, toitū te iwi”



Ngā mihi nui

- Ngāti Wheke, Kāti Huirapa, Otago East Coast Taiāpure
- ESR colleagues: Elaine Moriarty, Jymal Morgan, Sarah Coxon, Rob Lake
- Te Tiaki Mahinga Kai colleagues: Dan Pritchard, Emma Kearney, Derek Richards
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu: Nigel Scott
- Vision mātauranga capability fund

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Sample type	Guideline	Microbial/metal types
Shellfish	Microbiological Reference Criteria for Food (MoH 1995)	Aerobic plate counts
		<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
		<i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>
		<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i>
		<i>V. cholerae</i>
	The NZFSA Animal Products (Specification for Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Notice 2006 (MAF, 2006)*	<i>E. coli</i>
	Australia New Zealand Food Safety Standards Code (FSANZ 2008)*	Arsenic
		Cadmium
		Lead
		Mercury
	FSANZ Compendium of microbiological criteria for food (FSANZ 2016)*	<i>Listeria</i> spp.
Water	The NZFSA Animal Products (Specification for Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Notice 2006 (MAF, 2006)	Faecal coliforms