



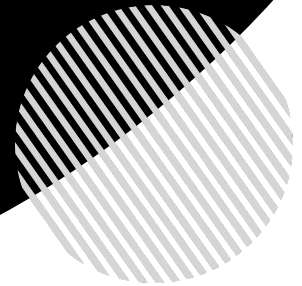
AJ&CO

Manahi Moana

Senior Associate
Land Use & Management



Translating complex legal and regulatory issues into clear, commercially focused advice that gives our clients the clarity and confidence to move forward.



Manahi is a Senior Associate advising government, infrastructure and private sector clients on complex matters spanning environment and planning, property, major projects and Native Title law.

Introduction

Manahi advises government, infrastructure and private sector clients on some of their most complex and consequential matters, spanning planning approvals, land acquisition, major development projects and regulatory strategy.

His experience extends across Crown, iwi and corporate environments, giving him a distinctive understanding of the legal, commercial and cultural considerations that shape major projects. He brings particular depth in Māori law and Indigenous rights, including Māori land matters, Treaty partnerships, co-governance, cultural impact, mitigation and project-related agreements

Manahi is trusted to navigate matters where legal complexity, commercial interests and stakeholder expectations intersect. He identifies and manages legal, financial and reputational risk, distilling complex, multi-party issues into clear, commercially grounded advice tailored to any client – providing the clarity to make informed decisions, unlock opportunity and move complex projects forward.

Expertise

Planning & Environment

- Planning and environmental approvals, plan changes and appeals
- Resource consent applications and hearings before local authorities
- Environmental approvals for renewable energy projects, including wind generation
- Regulatory and government advisory

Property

- Land acquisition and Public Works Act transactions
- Residential and commercial property acquisitions and disposals
- Leases, transfers and reserve land
- Property documentation and development contracts

Native Title & Māori Law

- Māori land law, co-governance arrangements and Treaty partnership frameworks
- Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) applications
- Facilitating partnership and governance frameworks, including cultural impact, compensation and mitigation agreements with iwi groups

Projects & Commercial

- Major transport and infrastructure projects
- Commercial agreements and contract management
- Strategic, regulatory and organisational advisory

Experience

Recent transactions of note include:

- Provided legal advice on major transport and infrastructure projects, including Riverlink, the Manawatū-Tararua Highway, Mt Messenger and Ngā Ūranga ki Pito-One
- Advised Crown agencies and infrastructure clients on land acquisitions, leasing arrangements and Public Works Act transactions for significant infrastructure projects
- Supported environmental approvals for renewable energy projects, including wind generation developments
- Advised on Māori land law, co-governance arrangements and Treaty partnership frameworks
- Assisted local government with plan changes and plan change appeals, including mediation, hearings and submissions before local authorities
- Advised on Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) applications and Māori land issues
- Led and facilitated engagements between iwi organisations and government agencies, supporting alignment on priorities, outcomes and partnership approaches
- Supported clients to design and implement partnership frameworks and governance models, strengthening relationships between iwi, government and commercial entities
- Led and supported negotiations of commercial and partnership agreements, including mitigation packages and stakeholder arrangements
- Engaged directly with senior stakeholders, including Chief Executives, Ministers, Boards and senior leadership teams

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Laws – Victoria University of Wellington



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