

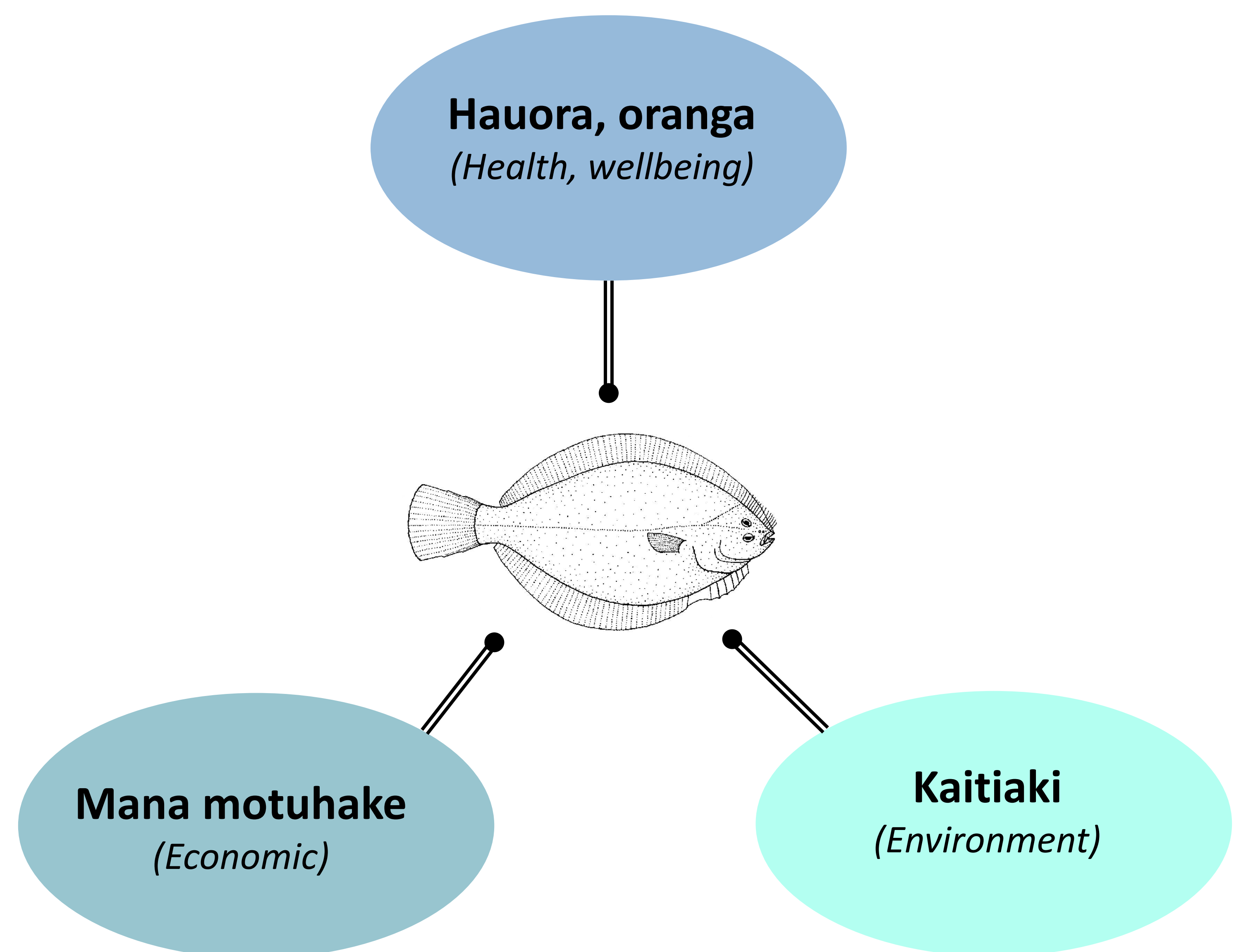
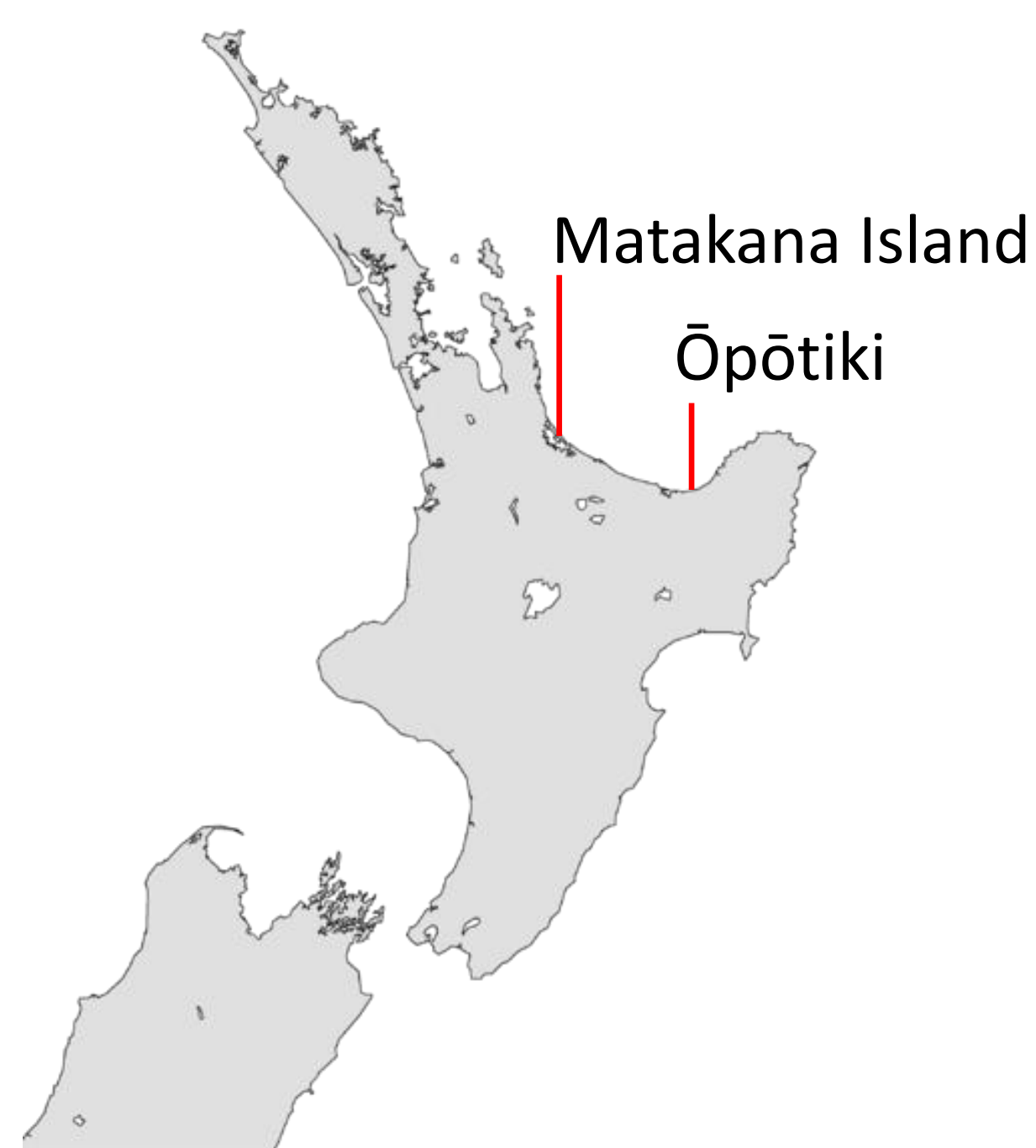
A novel approach to aquaculture in Aotearoa

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Introduction

High infrastructure costs limit the access of rural communities to become stakeholders in the aquaculture industry. Pātiki tōtara, or yellowbelly flounder (*Rhombosolea leporina*), are both a taonga species and a promising aquaculture target. These fish should be well suited to land-based aquaculture in low cost, shallow raceway ponds.

This project is a collaborative partnership with hapū on Matakana Island and Whakatōhea to progress the development of pātiki aquaculture. This will be achieved through four key outcomes (See Work program, below).



Work program



Key findings to date

- A basic protocol to produce larval pātiki in captivity has been developed.
- Wild caught broodstock are prone to reproductive failure in captivity, this can be overcome with therapeutic induction

What does this mean for co-development partners?

Through the weaving together of mātauranga Māori, local community values/aspirations and economic data, this project will gauge 'investor readiness' of partnering iwi and hapū to engage in pātiki aquaculture.

Next steps

Further project work focuses on:

- Conclusion of market and economic analysis
- Completing wānanga series to establish investor readiness
- Creation of biological and mātauranga based tools