TAIRĀWHITI

WAIMATĀ-PAKARAE CATCHMENT ADVISORY GROUP

Hui #6 agenda, minutes, and actions

Held at Mahutonga Room, Gisborne Public Library on Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 9:30am

Advisory Group members present	Stan Pardoe, Colin Kerslake, Jennie Hindmarsh, Sarah Williams, Tash Irwin, Stephanie Gardner, Laura Watson, Maraea Hinemoa Aupouri, Tania Swift
Council/Consultant	Janic Slupski, Ariel Yann le Chew, Summer Agnew, Oliver Vetter
	Wolfgang Kanz, Ranell Nikora
Apologies	Abi Wiseman

Agenda

1. Karakia 2. Housekeeping 3. Previous hui minutes and actions
4. FMUs, Values and Environmental Outcomes
5. Long Term Vision - discussion
6. Baseline Attribute States, Target Attribute States
7. Wrap up, Close
8. Lunch

Supporting documents

- Memo: Moving from high-level into the detail
- Draft minutes from hui 5

Summary of actions

	*Future Action *Refer to Parked List for summary*		*Current task*

Notes:

Each task is allocated a unique identifier e.g. T2 for ease of reference

The numbering continues from previous hui minutes

Task ID	Actions	Responsible	Due
WP-T22	Add 'Wetland' to the 'Riparian restoration/buffers' in the Rural FMU	GDC	Actioned 25 September 2024

Minutes

1. Karakia, housekeeping, previous hui minutes and actions

1.1. The hui commenced at 9.34am with an opening karakia.

1.2. Staff outlined the agenda for the day and set out housekeeping matters.

1.3. When asked if any amendments were needed for the draft Hui 5 minutes, the Group sought amendments to items 4.2.2 and 3.3, and Appendix 1. The Group accepted the proposed amendments to the draft Hui 5 minutes for finalisation.

1.4. In response to the list of Māori Freshwater Values in Appendix 1, the Consultant explained that further wānanga would be needed before the values and environmental outcomes are finalised.

1.5. Consultant responded that there is the Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) project underway in the Waimatā catchment, where the Consultant is keen to see integration and connection between the NBS project and the values/environmental outcomes setting through this catchment planning process.

1.6. In response to the action from the previous hui for the freshwater team to update the Group on Council's plans in addressing the urban flood risk on the lower Waimatā, staff responded with the following key points:

1.6.1. A flood hydrodynamic model for Waimatā-Taruheru has been built and calibrated to Cyclone Gabrielle.

1.6.2. Work to collect bathymetry data to understand riverbed level trends and sediment transfer, however the timeframe to complete this work is still unsure.

1.6.3. Council entered a funding agreement with Crown Infrastructure Partners of Central Government to investigate flood risk reduction options for the Waimatā catchment. Staff understands that engagement with iwi and stakeholders are planned. The recommended options are expected June 2026.

2. Session 1: Freshwater Management Units (FMUs), Values and Environmental Outcomes

2.1. Staff outlined the key comments on the proposed FMU selections (Urban, Rural):

2.1.1. Many values are the same, and we could just have one large FMU.

2.1.2. The need to cater for the values of coastal/beach settlements.

2.1.3. Linking urban issues to rural drivers – where managing the rural drivers will also benefit the downstream urban areas.

2.1.4. Adopting a practical approach that focusses on what we do.

2.2. Staff presented draft infographics for the Urban and Rural FMUs for easier visual understanding.

2.3. Staff explained that the aim of the Urban FMU is to set out a pathway (regulatory and non-regulatory) to address drivers of degradation in the Urban FMU area to achieve the vision for the Urban FMU. The Rural FMU is different; the Rural FMU will need to address drivers of degradation in the Rural FMU to achieve the visions in the Rural FMU and the Urban FMU.

2.4. Staff asked the Group to send in their feedback on the draft values and environmental outcomes (***see Appendix 2 of the memo 'Moving from high-level into the detail'***). Staff explained that the more specific (and measurable) the environmental outcomes can be, the more effective the catchment plan will be.

3. Session 2: Long Term Vision (LTV)

3.1. Staff explained that LTV is the ultimate state or vision for the catchment, where the LTV must set ambitious but reasonable goals, with an identified timeframe to achieve those goals.

3.2. Members formed into two breakout groups to brainstorm on what should be included in the LTV for the catchment.

3.3. Members reported back on their discussion. The transcribed feedback from the breakout session is recorded in **Appendix 1**.

4. Session 3: Baseline Attribute States, Target Attribute States

4.1. Staff focused on the Baseline Attribute State (BAS) for sediment and e. coli at this hui. This is because sediment impacts on other values such as macroinvertebrates, fish, and phosphorus levels (phosphate binds to sediment). The connection of e. coli is often linked to human-related values, such as recreational and gathering of mahinga kai.

4.2. Sediment has two compulsory attributes:

4.2.1. **Suspended fine sediment (SFS)**, which is an indicator for water clarity (i.e. water quality). Council has collected data for 7 sites where 3 sites are below the National Bottom Line (i.e. D band), 2 sites in C band and 2 sites (Hamanatua and Wainui) in B band.

4.2.2. **Deposited fine sediment (DFS)**, which is an indicator for physical habitat as the sediment settles onto the river bed.

4.3. Because Council had not historically monitor DFS, Council has recruited a panel of (western) expert scientists to evaluate scenarios of sediment as provided through a sediment loading model.

4.4. Staff noted that the Reference State for SFS is in the A band. The Reference State has not considered natural processes, such as earthflow and mud volcano.

4.5. A member commented that monitoring in different phases of maramataka will yield different findings. During the huna phase, the taiao is quiet. The member noted that because working with maramataka is now a lost knowledge, tangata whenua are now relearning this lost knowledge.

4.5.1. Staff responded that Council has the obligation to understand mātauranga (such as maramataka) and there is the opportunity to build mātauranga into this catchment plan.

4.6. Staff noted that e. coli is below the National Bottom Line for all sites (D and E bands). Reference State for e. coli would be A band when no livestock, pest, wastewater (containing human and pets e. coli traces) entering waterways.

4.7. The BAS for sediment (i.e. SFS) and e. coli can be found in ***Appendix 3 of the memo 'Moving from high-level into the detail'***.

4.8. Staff explained that the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) 2020 does not allow state of waterways to stay below the National Bottom Line. Councils are required to introduce Action Plans to improve the state of waterways. The Group will need to discuss and consider what is the future state we should aim for – i.e. the Target Attribute State (TAS).

5. Wrap up and close

5.1. Staff thanked members for their contributions. The next hui will look at action planning and other attributes that are closely linked to sediment and e. coli, such as macroinvertebrates and fish. The Group will also consider if additional attributes will be needed to assess progress against environmental outcomes.

5.2. Staff also notes that future meetings will also cover:

5.2.1. Water quantity and allocation.

5.2.2. Scheduled waterbodies.

5.2.3. The effects of quarries and borrow pits.

5.2.4. Forestry.

Tasks to be actioned

Task ID	Actions	Responsible	Due
WP-T22	Add 'Wetland' to the 'Riparian restoration/buffers' in the Rural FMU	GDC	Actioned 25 September 2024

PARKING LIST

The following matters have been captured from discussions of the **TAIRĀWHITI WAIMATA-PAKARAE ADVISORY GROUP** hui. They are captured here to be incorporated as supplementary recommendations in the Group's final report and/or responded to directly.

Ref	Item/Action	Date raised	Status
WP-T9	Circulate stakeholder survey	10/04/2024	In progress – Team considering a cross-catchment approach to stakeholder surveys
WP-T18	Discuss eDNA results in a future hui.	02/07/2024	TBC

WP-T19	Provide an update on the development of Land Overlay 3B and the Forestry Plan Change work.	13/08/2024	TBC
WP-T21	Further discussions with mana whenua to decide on Māori freshwater values and environmental outcomes.	13/08/2024	Ongoing

APPENDIX 1: LONG TERM VISION DISCUSSION

Group 1

Goals

- Drink/Swim in streams and tidal areas
- Mahinga Kai
- Intergenerational – whakapapa
    - Ownership/perpetuity & accountability
- Diverse abundant life in stream/awa/moana
- Monitoring and review system
- Re-naturalising hydrology over time.
- Landscape ecology

<table>
<tr><th>5 Years</th><th>15-20 Years</th><th>30 Years</th><th>100 Years</th><th>500 Years</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Identify – Plan – Implement</td><td></td><td>Partnership:
Industry/farming
Urban/rural</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Acknowledge attention is needed from top to bottom</td><td></td><td></td><td>Freshwater is protected, whilst livelihood is maintained.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Innovation:
Industry
Farming
Urban living
New systems</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="3">Rules are important</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Tributaries short term</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Shaded Streams</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Setbacks from streams/awa</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
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• Not allowed 5 m within stream				
Riparian planting				
Community – accountability – compliance				
Restoration of wetlands				
Wood debris				
FEP – Farmer Environment Plans				
Education for schools, our catchments/ farmers/landowners	Mahi tahi • Everyone is working together	Wetlands		
3B land permanently covered with native		• Economic model • Carbon etc. credits • GDC support planting e.g. enable plant propagation etc.		

Group 2

LTV

- Tourism – able to Manaaki -> blue carbon credits
- Wetlands everywhere -> water quality (improved) -> blue carbon credits
- Working with natural character of land and water

    - Patchwork/mosaic of rural landuses
        - Connected
        - Core sanctuaries
    - Productive land is where it should be
        - Vulnerable land transitioned to permanent vegetation – thriing
    - Education
    - Biodiversity credits
        - Incentives/supporting changes
    - Blue carbon credits
- No logs coming down river (Waimata)
- Taiao is an industry – biodiversity credits
    - Community landuse invests in taiao as well as productive landuse
- 100 years
- Stories woven into the landscape – revived, connected to mana whenua identity -> Purakau
- Moteatea -> Purakau
    - Speaks to abundance
    - Normalised korero, common knowledge
- City l/s manages water better
- Land stabilised, banks stabilised
    - Fences stay
    - Greater presence of native podocarps
- Sustainability of natural resources
    - Nature-based solutions
    - Sustainable whitebaiting
        - Populations grow and returned
        - Growing of bat populations in Waimata
        - Lamprey – threatened species, protected populations enhanced
    - Mahinga kai

- E. coli levels reduced -> healthier waterways
- Economy sustainable
    - Sustainable farming becomes a selling point
    - Landuse is sustainable and economic value added
- Pest management effective -> maintains ecosystem
    - Trap programmes
    - Education programmes
    - Effective resourcing
    - Titi, Kokako, Kaka, Tui, Keruru, Kakariki, Piwakawaha
- Tributaries cared for in a way that water flows into urban
    - Can still participate in recreational activities
    - 100% bird corridors on all major waterways
    - Titi, Kokako, Kaka, Tui, Keruru, Kakariki, Piwakawaha
- Planting
    - Manuka + kanuka
    - Holds and kills e.coli
- E.coli
    - Dung beetles
    - Ruminants introduced to NZ.
    - We don’t have a native
    - Different species -> has real potential.
    - Greater Wellington Regional Council, Nelson, Marlborough introduced dung beetle packs.
    - Cons: - Farm Management Plans
        - Can’t contain/prevent from entering land where people don’t want
        - Wouldn’t see dung beetles again for 10 years