

Sonia August

From: icm.referrals <icm.referrals@gdc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 August 2026 12:05 pm
To: Jo Michalakakis; Integrated Catchment RC Referrals
Cc: Dalia Evanson; Notified Resource Consents
Subject: RE: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 13 August 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Hi Jo

Good here thanks, sorry for the slow response on this one.

I looked at the proposed consent conditions, and Jenny Moran's comments on the ecological issues- Jenny states that a survey for bats should be undertaken, which I believe will be provided for in proposed Condition 9 (j)?

Regarding plant surveys and the Kauri tree- I am not aware of the presence or location of the Kauri tree and therefore whether any protection measures could be afforded to it. It does not seem to be mentioned in the ecological report and individual trees are not generally provided for in the TRMP. Plant surveys- Given the highly modified nature of the site, no detailed plant surveys were undertaken and were not deemed necessary by the ecologist.

The bird habitat ecological value was assessed as low by the ecological report, and this also seems an accurate assessment.

I cannot see anything regarding biodiversity in the Wi Pere submission.

I do not think any additional information is required regarding the terrestrial ecological impacts as a result of the submissions. I will leave the freshwater/fish assessment to Science.

Cheers Mel

From: Jo Michalakakis <jmichalakakis@align.net.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 13 August 2026 3:32 pm
To: Integrated Catchment RC Referrals <ICM.Referrals@gdc.govt.nz>
Cc: Dalia Evanson <Dalia.Evanson@gdc.govt.nz>; Notified Resource Consents <NotifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 13 August 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Kia ora Mel

Hope you are good.

Submissions have now closed for the above. I now have a summary of submissions available. There were very few biodiversity matters raised but I thought I would run the comments past you to see if you have any further concerns or require any clarifications from the ecologist or others as a result of submissions.

Here is my summary of submissions.

[LU-2026-113441-00 GDC Te Karaka Stopbanks Notification - Enquiry Register.xlsx](#)

There were 86 although many were in support with limited material to read/review.

Position	Number
Support	71
Oppose (including "Oppose in part")	13
Neutral	2
Total submissions	86

Submitters wishing to be heard

The following submissions indicated **Yes** to being heard:

1. Tracy Wilson (#1)
2. Jenny Moran (#6)
3. Ross Muir on behalf of Murray & Wendy Burgess (#7)
4. Daniel Moran (#64)
5. Jacqueline Hema (#73)
6. Michael Hewitt Haami (#74)
7. Wi Pere Trust / Tim Rhodes (#75)
8. Chris Coates on behalf of JRD & PA Coates Family Trust (#76)
9. Te Aitanga a Māhaki Trust et al. (#77) (counted as one submission)
10. Kenneth & Karen McLanachan (#80)
11. Pine Hollow Family Trust (#81)

Total wishing to be heard: 11 submissions.

The submissions are generally named on the website for your full reading/context. [Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade | Gisborne District Council](#)

I have attached the ones I've referenced below.

I draw your attention to the following submissions/themes:

The ecological issues are not dominant but are still specifically raised by:

- **Jenny Moran**
- **Wi Pere Trust**

covering:

- bats
- fish
- vegetation
- ecological assessment adequacy

I seek confirmation as to whether the issues have already been fully addressed by the ecological report

Are you able to please respond with any further clarifications or concerns raised as a result of submissions by mid next week please (end Wednesday)? The applicant can answer as part of a second section 92/request for further information. Otherwise they'll need to address any the matters in evidence.

The hearing is set for 28/29 September. Evidence exchange will be as per the following timetable. I'll keep you posted as to whether you would need to present evidence.

8	★	specialist review submissions	5 days	Mon 10/08/26	Fri 14/08/26		
9	★	second s92 or clarifications	15 days	Mon 17/08/26	Fri 4/09/26		
10	★	write s42a	10 days	Mon 24/08/26	Fri 4/09/26		
11	★	issue s42a	1 day	Mon 7/09/26	Mon 7/09/26		
12	★	applicant and expert evidence preparation	5 days	Mon 7/09/26	Fri 11/09/26		
13	★	applicant and expert evidence exchange	1 day	Mon 14/09/26	Mon 14/09/26		
14	★	non-expert evidence preparation	10 days	Mon 7/09/26	Fri 18/09/26		
15	★	non-expert evidence due	1 day	Mon 21/09/26	Mon 21/09/26		
16	★	hearing	2 days	Mon 28/09/26	Tue 29/09/26		

Thank you

Ngā mihi

Jo Michalakakis

National Manager – Planning

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Align

From: Jo Michalakis
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 9:35 am
To: 'Integrated Catchment RC Referrals' <ICM.Referrals@gdc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 04 May 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Thanks Mel, yes all is well 😊 Hope you are too

Jo Michalakis
National Manager – Planning

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Align

From: Integrated Catchment RC Referrals <ICM.Referrals@gdc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 15 June 2026 11:30 am
To: Jo Michalakis <jmichalakis@align.net.nz>
Subject: RE: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 04 May 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Thanks Jo

Happy with this, hope all is good up your way 😊

Thanks Mel

From: Jo Michalakis <jmichalakis@align.net.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 4:19 PM
To: Integrated Catchment RC Referrals <ICM.Referrals@gdc.govt.nz>
Cc: Resource Consents Admin Team <rcadmin@gdc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 04 May 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Kia ora Mel

Please find attached the s92 response letter; and link for the s92 response for the Te Karaka stopbanks consent (containing the Appendices referred to in the main letter). Your question(s) are #20.

The applicant has responded to your request for native planting and updated their condition accordingly

Your other notes, I can put as conditions (I will add to the Applicant set in due course).

I am aiming to have all assessments complete ready to notify in 2 weeks' time, assuming there are no residual issues. If you could look at this as soon as you are able that would be much appreciated.

Ngā mihi

Jo Michalakis

National Manager – Planning

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From: Integrated Catchment RC Referrals <ICM.Referrals@gdc.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 7 May 2026 11:36 am

To: Resource Consents Admin Team <rcadmin@gdc.govt.nz>

Cc: Jo Michalakis <jmichalakis@align.net.nz>

Subject: RE: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 04 May 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Hi Jo

Sorry this is late- the application is enormous!

I have had a look through relevant parts of the application and do not see many concerns from a biodiversity perspective. Most of the flood scheme expansion area has been maintained as grazed pasture or crops for decades and is largely comprised of exotic pasture grasses and horticultural crops. It does not provide important habitat for indigenous flora or fauna and has been assessed as having 'negligible' ecological value.

The riparian vegetation is listed as primarily grey willow, various poplar species and possibly crack willow. Where invasive exotic vegetation is to be removed then it must be appropriately disposed of to avoid spreading to new areas. This issue is addressed in the application in section 11 (Proposed consent conditions) in condition 57 (page 143).

No natural wetlands have been identified, however there is a "wet" area identified at 1 Kipling Road and another pond feature visible on the aerial photography at the property adjacent to 90 Kanakanaia Road, however both features are outside of the footprint of the works. In the suggested conditions, condition 27 (page 137) refers to a "potential wetland", which I assume means the one at 1 Kipling Road. The Ecological Impact Assessment report suggests if there is any chance of the earthworks coming within 10 m of the wet area, it would be pertinent to have it properly delineated.

Bats are known to be present in the vicinity (recorded 12km away) but presence at the proposed works area has not been established. The possibility of bats occupying the existing trees has been recognized and monitoring is proposed however details are scant. Section 4.6 of the application states that removal of mature trees will take place outside of native bat roosting season. Given the potential of the area to be a foraging/hunting site for bats, the ecological report recommends that a targeted bat survey should be completed before any tree felling is undertaken between 1 October and 30 April when bats are most active. The surveys should use Automatic Bat Monitors (ABMs) and the monitors should be deployed for two weeks, within the monitoring guidelines from DOC (2024). If bats are detected, tree removal must follow the appropriate bat management protocols outlined by DOC (2024) (Section 4.3.2 and 5.3.5 of the Ecological report). Suggest these details are included as conditions.

Two at risk bird species are referred to as having been seen in the area (Page 29 of the application), the species are identified on page 12 of the ecological report as Karerea (NZ Falcon), and Black Shag, however habitat quality in the works area is assessed as "low".

A "planting plan" is referred to in the suggested conditions section of the application (Page 134). The conditions suggest that a planting plan be submitted to Council for "certification" prior to any planting at the new roading embankment at Rangatira Road. It does not mention the use of "appropriate indigenous species", so suggest that terminology should be included if the suggested condition is adopted in the consent. I can't see any other reference to proposed planting in the document- specifics are not really required at this stage but we should ensure that the planting plan is for indigenous and not exotic species, unless willows are required for bank stabilization, in which case they should be a non-invasive species.

Thanks Mel

From: Resource Consents Admin Team <rcadmin@gdc.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 23 April 2026 8:51 PM

To: Mangala Wickramanayake <Mangala.Wickramanayake@gdc.govt.nz>; ESreferrals <ESreferrals@gdc.govt.nz>; Resource Consents Science <RCScience@gdc.govt.nz>; DEresource <DE.Resource@gdc.govt.nz>; Integrated Catchment RC Referrals <ICM.Referrals@gdc.govt.nz>; DEgeotech <DE.Geotech@gdc.govt.nz>

Cc: Jo Michalakakis <jmichalakakis@align.net.nz>

Subject: Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment - Response due by 04 May 2026 - GDC - Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade - Various Locations - LR-2026-113441-00 & others

Resource Consent Referral - For Your Comment

A resource consent application has been received that may require comment by your department. A full copy of the application is also attached to this email.

To enable us to comply with statutory timeframes, please respond within 5 working days of the date of this email. By **04 May 2026**.

Application Number	LR-2026-113441-00
Date Received	22 Apr 2026
Applicant	GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES
Description	**BUNDLED** To undertake flood resilience works and upgrades to the stopbank adjacent to and within the Waipaoa River to reduce the existing and potential flooding effects on the Te Karak township.
Site Address	MATAWAI ROAD TE KARAKA
Legal Description	LOT 1 DP4355
Coordinating Planner	Jo Michalakakis

Circulate to the following Sections for comment:	Comment:
River Engineering (Mangala)	Please review the following: 1. Appendix 4 stopbank drawings and cut-fill volumes 2. Appendix 8 Consequential Flood Risk Assessment, 3. Section 6.10 Effects on Hydrology and River Dynamics, And advise if you concur with the assessment or if you have any concerns or/and require further information.
Environmental Science	Can you please review the Effects on Hydrology and River Dynamics and advise if

	you concur with the assessment? Please advise if the hydrology assessment only needs to be addressed by the River engineering team. The applicant is also proposing to undertake dewatering and has applied to take up to 1,000 m³/day from the Waipaoa River. Please advise if there is sufficient allocation in the river to sustain the sought volume of take.
RC science advisor	Can you please appendix 7 : Ecology Assessment and section 6.14 (Effects on Ecology and Water Quality) provided with the application and comment on the effects of the proposed works and associated sediment discharge on freshwater quality and aquatic life and advise if you have any concerns or need further information? Please advise if the proposed mitigation measures are adequate and fit for purpose.
DE	Can you please review Appendix 5: Road Raising Concept Design Report and drawing and the Concept Design report (Page 357) advise if you have any concerns regarding the effects of the proposed works on traffic?
ICM	Biodiversity The proposal involves removal of vegetation. The vegetation is mainly grass, weeds and shrubs. The applicant will replant the disturbed area upon completion of works. Can you please review the proposed Planting Plan and advise if you have any concerns or need more information?
Geotechnical engineering	Can you please review the geotechnical report (Appendix 15) and advice if you have any concerns regarding the effects of the works on land stability and whether you concur with the finding of the report?

1. Please respond to any specific questions or requirements stated here by typing your answer below the question:

2. Please advise if there is further information required in order to fully assess the consent (this may trigger a formal request under s92 RMA):

3. Please type any conditions you require on the consent here (or attach documents to this email):

4. Please type any general comments or information you have here (or attach documents to this email):

5. If you are unable to provide technical comment, please indicate the relevant reasons:

	Outside of expertise
	No work capacity
	Conflict of interest
	Other:

6. Please complete the following cost / input table so we can ensure we recover all costs associated with processing this consent:

Date Work Performed	Description of Work	Officer Name	Time Incurred (based on 15 minute units)	Charge Out Rate	Total (\$)
7/5/26	Read application and provide comment	Mel.C	5	TSOIL	



Consents Coordinator

Te Kaunihera O Te Tairāwhiti - Gisborne District Council

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