



# TAIRĀWHITI

## WAIPAOA CATCHMENT PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP

### Hui agenda, minutes, and actions

#### Hui #5

Held at Rose Room, Lawson Field Theatre on 13 December 2023 at 12:30pm

<b>Group facilitator</b>	Dr Jill Chrisp
<b>Advisory Group members present</b>	Stan Pardoe, Grant Vincent, Nick Briant, Tim Tietjen, Dave Hawea, Owen Lloyd, Leo Kelso, Stuart Davis, Tim Rhodes, Alan Haronga, Phil Gaukrodger
<b>Council</b>	Janic Slupski, Oliver Vetter, Ariel Yann le Chew, Paul Murphy, Sarah Thompson Lois Easton, Wolfgang Kanz, Adele Dawson
<b>Apologies</b>	Matawhero Lloyd, Samuel Lewis, Jacob Harrison, Murray Palmer, Nicki Davies, Bella Hawkins, Bronwyn Wilson-Hokianga, Shanna Cairns, Joss Ruifrok, Desiré du Plooy, Dianne Irwin

### Agenda

<b>Karakia and whakawhanaungatanga</b>	<b>12:30</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome</li> <li>Housekeeping</li> <li>Minutes and actions from hui #4 and #4.5</li> </ul>	
<b>Recap of planning process</b>	<b>12:45</b>
<b>Session 1 – Recap of draft environmental outcomes</b>	
<b>Group exercise #1</b>	<b>13:00</b>
<b>Group exercise #2</b>	<b>13:30</b>
<b>Leg stretch and cuppa tea</b>	<b>14:00</b>
<b>Session 2 – Introduction to outstanding waterbodies and wetlands</b>	
<b>Open group discussion</b>	<b>14:25</b>
<b>Closing karakia</b>	<b>14:55</b>

## 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 meeting minutes

Task	Actions	Resp	Due
T14	Provide an update to Group on an analysis of/reflection on government changes (legislation and policy) as soon as information is released	Janic	13/03/2024
T15	Provide higher resolution map that identifies streams	Freshwater team	tbc

# Minutes

## 1. Karakia and whakawhanaungatanga - welcome & housekeeping

- 1.1. The hui commenced with an opening karakia, followed by the facilitator inviting Stan Pardoe to acknowledge the recent passing of fellow Advisory Group member Keith Katipa. Stan Pardoe and the facilitator commemorated the life of Keith Katipa by sharing their memories of him. The facilitator invited the group to have a minute of silence in remembrance of Keith.
- 1.2. Minutes and actions from the hui held on 11 October and 15 November 2023 were taken as read. There were two names missing from the attendance list on 15 November 2023. The corrected version has been made available on the Council website.

## 2. Recap of planning process, 2024 schedule

- 2.1. Staff recapped the catchment planning process through an illustration based on the National Objective Framework. Staff also recapped the role of Advisory Group members, with a diagram illustrating how the Advisory Group feeds into the development of the overall plan.
- 2.2. Due to disruptions and various delays in the day-to-day Council operations caused by Cyclone Gabrielle, central government has granted Gisborne District Council a two-year extension. This extension will give us enough time to involve tangata whenua and the community in a meaningful way while developing the comprehensive plan. This extension has been taken into account when planning the meeting schedule for 2024.
- 2.3. Staff presented the proposed 2024 meeting schedule, spaced out to every 5 to 6 weeks. This gives Council staff adequate time to prepare for each meeting. The Advisory Group members didn't have any objections. The new meeting schedule is considered as approved.
- 2.4. One of the members asked how the legislative changes proposed through the manifesto of the coalition government will affect the freshwater planning process that this Advisory Group is a part of. Staff assured members that Council will continue to meet its statutory requirements by finding a balance between using water for economic purposes and protecting the environment for the future of Tairāwhiti.

## 3. Tasks to be actioned

Task	Actions	Responsible	Due
T14	Provide an update to the Group on an analysis of/reflection on government changes (legislation and policy) as soon as information is released	Janic	13/03/2024

## Session 1 – Draft environmental outcomes

### 4. Recap of previous hui and overview of this hui

- 4.1. Staff recapped the work done to date in the Waipaoa catchment planning process. In Hui 2, the Group looked at what values are specific to the Waipaoa catchment. In

Hui 3 and 4, the Group looked at the values and environmental outcomes, the freshwater management units (FMUs) and the vision for the catchment.

4.2. In this hui 5, the Group revisited the draft environmental outcome statements that have been refined following feedback received.

## **5. Group discussion #1 – Draft environmental outcome statements**

5.1. The Group split into five smaller groups to consider the refined draft statements for each of the following FMUs:

5.1.1. Waipaoa Hill Country

5.1.2. Te Arai Te Uru

5.1.3. Turanga Flats

5.1.4. Gisborne Urban.

5.2. All feedback was captured on flipcharts and is attached as **Appendix 1**.

## **6. Group discussion #2 – Priority actions and locations to achieve environmental outcomes**

6.1. For this discussion, the Group split into four smaller groups to consider what are the priority actions and locations for the following environmental outcomes:

6.1.1. Ecosystem health, threatened species, habitat restoration, wetlands, natural form and character

6.1.2. Human contact, transport and tauranga waka, waka ama, recreation

6.1.3. Aquifer recharge, irrigation and food production, drinking water

6.1.4. Wāhi tapu, mahinga kai, fishing.

6.2. There was no report back following the end of the breakout session. All feedback was captured on flipcharts and is also included in **Appendix 2**.

## **Session 2 - Outstanding waterbodies, scheduled waterbodies, wetlands**

### **7. Laying the foundation**

7.1. In this session, staff introduced schedules, focusing on schedules for outstanding waterbodies, aquatic ecosystem waterbodies, and wetlands. The intention of this introduction is to explain the purpose of the schedules to the Group and providing the Group the opportunity to review the existing areas on the schedule, and if there are any areas that should be included through the review process.

7.2. Due to time constraints, the Group was invited to share their thoughts in an open discussion. Feedback received are included in **Appendix 3**.

### **8. Wrap-up, closing karakia**

8.1. The Group was invited to provide feedback on the effectiveness of all hui to date. They indicated aspects that are functioning well, improvement areas, and suggestions for enhancing the quality of discussions. All responses were collected and feedback is attached to these minutes (**Appendix 4**). The Freshwater team will take this feedback and consider what can be done differently to address the identified improvement areas.

8.2. Staff thanked all members who were able to attend the last hui for 2023, inviting the members to return in the new year.

8.3. The next hui will take place on 13 March 2024, on the topics of attributes and subprojects happening within the Waipaoa catchment.

8.4. The hui closed at 15:00 with a karakia.

**9. Tasks to be actioned**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Due</b>
<b>T15</b>	Provide higher resolution map that identifies streams	Freshwater team	tbc

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## PARKING LIST

The following matters have been captured from discussions during the **WAIPA OA CATCHMENT PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP** hui. They are captured here to be incorporated as supplementary recommendations in the Group's final report and/or responded to directly.

Parking List			
Reference	Item/Action	Date raised	Status
T5	Organise site visits to discuss topic-specific catchment issues	12/7/23	tbc
T6	Sub-projects Te Arai and Maungarongo wetlands to be covered at a future meeting	12/7/23	13/03/24
T8	A wānanga is planned to further workshop Waipaoa catchment-specific cultural values at Ohako Marae	16/8/23	tbc
T12	Provide opportunity for members to actively participate in the information analysis processes as we progress through plan development, for example establish specialised focus groups	11/10/23	Ongoing
T14	Provide an update to Group an analysis of/reflection on government changes (legislation and policy) as soon as information is released	13/12/23	13/03/24
T15	Provide higher resolution map that identifies streams	13/12/23	tbc

# Appendix 1 – Written feedback

## SESSION 1 – Reviewing the draft environmental outcome statements

### Questions on the draft environmental outcome statements:

- Are they correct?
- Are there things missing or where you disagree?

### CATCHMENT-WIDE VALUES

**Note:** This group was not formed

### TŪRANGA FLATS FMU

**Note:** This group mostly suggested rewording of the draft statements on the provided handouts. Words in **red** are the suggested rewording of the statement.

<b>Irrigation + Food productions</b>	<p>Second sentence (“Good practice management of soil health, runoff and nutrients means the freshwater impacts of food production are reduced.”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil health should still be a value – more emphasis needed</li> <li>• “...are reduced <b>to</b>...”</li> <li>• Find a way to include irrigations in addition to changes in practice</li> </ul>
<b>Drinking water supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ How are the aquifers going to support the drinking water network? Due to water quality attributes of deeper aquifers, my understanding is that this would only be shallow aquifers mainly Te Hapara Sands and THS is already considered fully allocated?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Natural form and character</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ “the bed of the river returns <b>towards</b> its original cobbled state” – more realistic?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Aquifer recharge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquifer managed – “managing” by reduced allocations alone will not reverse saline intrusion</li> </ul> <p>Email:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the modelling shows that management by reduced allocation alone will not reverse saline intrusion then I think that needs to be clear in the statement</li> </ul>
<b>Other comment</b>	<p>Email:</p> <p><u>Current state</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Aquifers are in decline, <b>sea levels are rising</b> and saline intrusion is a risk” – aquifer decline is not the only factor and</li> </ul>

	saline intrusion would be a risk even if aquifer levels were stable?
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### TE ARAI TE URU FMU

<b>Irrigation + Food productions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Also access</li> </ul>
<b>Wāhi tapu</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water storage</li> </ul>
<b>Flood protection and resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetlands</li> <li>• Tuaraki Rd</li> <li>• Pahou Marae</li> <li>• Po Ko Kongae</li> <li>• Wetland – 1.5-2h</li> <li>• Acc Pardoe</li> <li>• Kaporehe Block – a lot of water from Whakato Rd goes into this area</li> </ul>
<b>Others written on the handout</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gumbout lane</li> <li>• Tarere</li> <li>• Waipatu Spring first house in Manutuke – Opou Station</li> </ul>

Verbatim minutes (written notes in the above table were only provided to staff after report back session)

- Overall OK with environmental outcomes
- Would also include (see below 'notes on specific environmental outcome statement')
  - Water storage
  - Wetlands

### GISBORNE URBAN FMU

<b>Natural Form and Character</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree – sediment is key for flood management</li> </ul>
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<b>Transport + Tauranga Waka</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to maintain the water access points from sedimentation</li> </ul>
<b>Fishing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add Waikanae stream</li> </ul>
<b>Irrigation + Food productions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well more production/intensification increase water quality problem</li> <li>• ✓ Important to avoid saline intrusion</li> </ul> <p>Email:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am not sure how much Makauri aquifer fits into the redrawn Urban FMU. If the second sentence refers to Te Hapara Sands aquifer only then is it likely that it could avoid saline intrusion and support drinking water network (above)? If it refers to Makauri aquifer then is it feasible to avoid saline intrusion by reducing abstraction alone? I guess we'll be having that conversation soon enough but it seems counter-productive to set up unrealistic expectations at this stage.</li> </ul>
<b>Wetlands + Groundwater</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ✓ Wetlands</li> </ul>

### WAIPAQA HILL COUNTRY FMU

<b>Natural Form and Character</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not natural anymore – how do we restore?</li> <li>• Balance required</li> <li>• Restore wetlands</li> <li>• Allow for some lanuses/modification</li> <li>• Work with nature</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water is slowed down</li> <li>• Erosion control</li> <li>• Harmony</li> </ul>
<b>Flood control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vents/valves for flood release – Tesla valve</li> <li>• Wetlands attenuate + filter</li> <li>• Planting in headwaters</li> <li>• Dams + water storage</li> </ul>

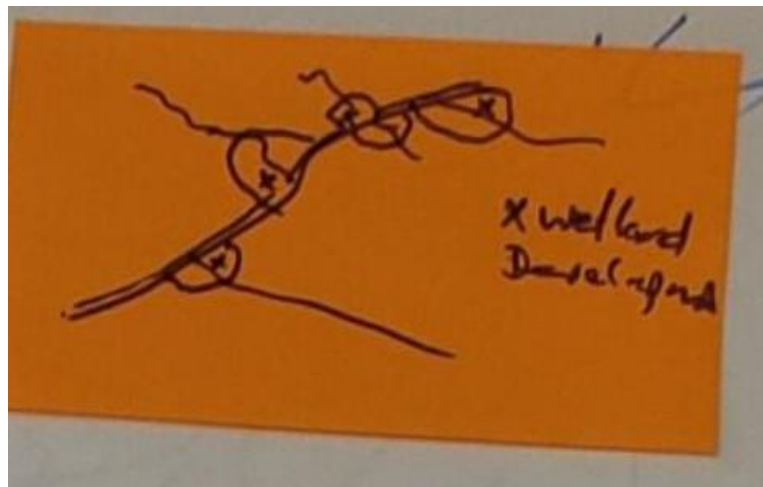
## SESSION 2 – Prioritising environmental outcomes

### Questions:

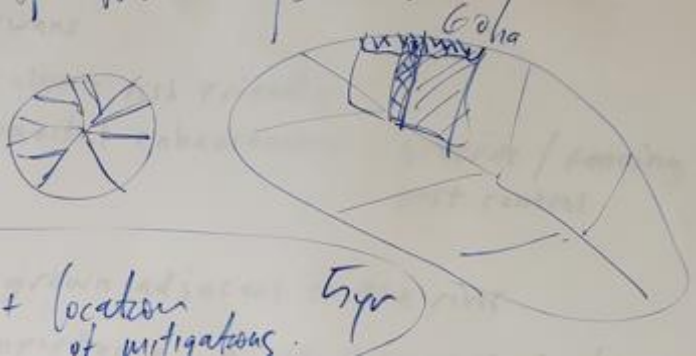
1. To achieve the environmental outcomes what are:
  - a. Priority actions
  - b. Priority locations
2. Consider what actions might make progress towards achieving multiple environmental outcomes
3. Consider how these actions might be most effective

### Ecosystem health, Threatened species, Habitat restoration, Wetlands, Natural form and character

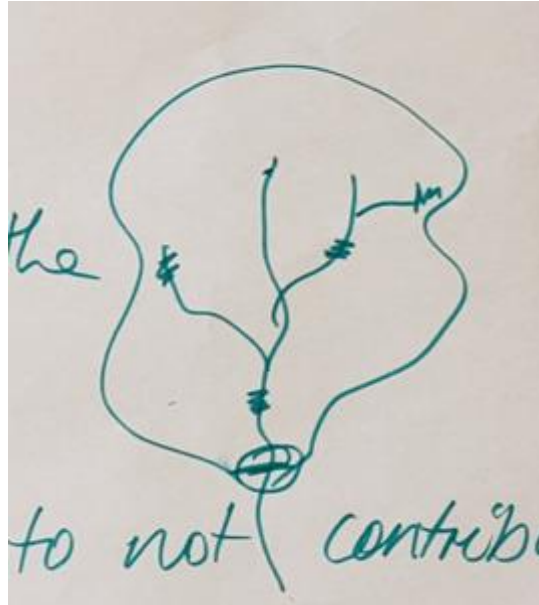
- Wetland development – choose those that deliver multiple benefits



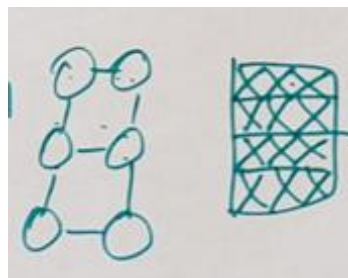
- Every stem to have wetland before they enter the main stem
  - Cleans water
  - Supports threatened species
  - Water control dams
    - Water storage
    - Dams discharge
- How to address Tarndale
  - Re-engineer – netting and pumping
  - Re-sloping
  - Spring driving Tarndale erosion
  - Drone planting to seed slope
  - Engineer appropriate drainage
- Retirement of land

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pest control</li> <li>• GPS revegetated areas – monitoring – identify + protect what we've got</li> <li>• Habitat restoration plan</li> <li>• Encouraging farmers to plant hedgerows</li> <li>• Native corridors between commercial forests</li> </ul> <p>Ecosystem -&gt; Actions + Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial native forestry</li> <li>• Under-road tunnel for weka etc</li> <li>• Keep stock out of waterways – management policy</li> <li>• Riparian strip</li> </ul>  <p>+ location of mitigations</p> <p>Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research – efficiency + locations of mitigations (5 years)</li> <li>• Water monitoring/collection point – bottom of Mangatu + Mangatu bridge</li> <li>• More monitoring + auditing forestry companies</li> <li>• Implementing native restoration – corridors</li> <li>• Wetland restoration</li> <li>• Retirement of land</li> </ul>
<p><b>Human contact, Transport and Tauranga waka, Waka ama and Recreation</b></p>	<p>Priority of Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other scheduled swimming sites + Te Karaka Bridge (Kanakanaia) + Whatatutu</li> <li>• Wharekopae River sites</li> <li>• Taruheru River</li> <li>• Marina Park for boats – sediment</li> <li>• Wi Pere – Waimatā</li> </ul> <p>Key Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All about the E.coli – it dies over distance + time + light <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Targeting swimming sites – fencing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Overflows only occur in 120mm event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Used to be 60mm</li> <li>◦ 600% of normal flows</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sediment is important – swimming holes filling up</li> </ul>

- Programmes (subcatchments) like the Wharekopae River Restoration
  - Stock exclusion, stock crossings, but better targeted
- Keep going hard with Drainwise
- Aim to increase the size of event (no. of runoff rain) that the wastewater system is resilient to



- New development ensure has measures to not contribute to the problem
  - Attenuation



- Wetlands!
- Planting + land stabilisation upstream of swimming sites
  - Wider
- Retire heavily eroding land
- Winter grazing needs significant setback
- Support for this
  - Pathways for enabling this recognising is a huge issue

**Aquifer recharge, irrigation and food production, drinking water**

- Does restricting at Kanakanaia actually health the ecosystem downstream?
- Community drinking water supply – needs to be provided for in Plan
- MAR is the silver bullet

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Swamps help with recharge</li> <li>• Water user groups good idea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Users with multiple takes/sources</li> <li>○ Reduce hours of irrigation not L/s</li> <li>○ Group them by location – spread them</li> <li>○ Visibility over meters</li> <li>○ Incentivised by Council</li> </ul> </li> <li>• User pays for water (\$\$) back into irrigation water</li> <li>• Improved application efficacy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wāhi tapu, mahinga kai and fishing</b></p>	<p>Priority actions/locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access – safer/practical – maintaining</li> <li>• Waterfowl – ducks/swans</li> <li>• Inanga spawning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Culvert fish friendly</li> <li>○ Habitat enhancement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grasses/fencing</li> <li>▪ Pest control</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Whatatuna</li> <li>• Near SH2 bridge</li> <li>• Cultivation of food grown adjacent to the river</li> <li>• Historic sites of importance i.e. old transport routes (navigation), watering holes</li> <li>• Hangi rocks – Arai River <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oweta Pa – Tapui</li> <li>○ Tarau valley Rd</li> <li>○ Poulgrain Rd</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Names and stories behind the names are important</li> <li>• Important to record and schedule those areas</li> <li>• Trading, canoes fishing out to aerial reef</li> <li>• Catching fish with flax and worms</li> <li>• Different flax for ketes and fishing</li> <li>• Drinking water springs/wells</li> <li>• Whitebait spawning area</li> <li>• Waikanae</li> <li>• The kanae would swim go stream to Te Kauri</li> <li>• Taro and yam grow well at Te Kauri</li> <li>• Well known Maara Kai site</li> <li>• Te Maunga cheel before Kahotia, awarua garden</li> </ul>

### SESSION 3 – Outstanding waterbodies, scheduled waterbodies, wetlands

**Note:** no breakout group, only had 3 minutes for group to consider question before closing for the day.

#### Questions for open discussion:

##### Existing schedules

1. Are these missing important areas? If so where?

##### New schedules

2. Is there a need for new schedules? E.g. mahinga kai, wāhi tapu

- *Scheduled watercourses, with differentiation between drains, modified watercourses and artificial watercourses.*

3. Are there particular activities we need to be careful around some types of scheduled areas?

- *Wāhi tapu is contextual – whole community should not lose out on an area just because that area is classified as wāhi tapu (in the schedule). Important that there is a clear definition on what is wāhi tapu, especially for non-Māori speakers' understanding as it should not be blanket rule but only under certain circumstances. Permanent tapu is urupa. Temporary tapu is rahui, like when someone drowned in an area.*
- *Also to note that a lot of wāhi tapu sites are on private land now.*

## Appendix 2 – Written feedback on process and hui effectiveness

**Note:** *The intention of requesting feedback was how the members viewed the current operation of the Waipaoa Catchment Advisory Group. This includes, for example, the scheduling of how a session is run, the location of the reports (Is it easier on portal? Or should Council prepare hard copies?) to if the reports have been too general and should include additional resources (e.g. Council guides etc). Some comments refer to how Council, in general, is operating.*

### Question 1: What is working well?

- Breaking up into smaller groups is working well
- Having a knowledgeable & fair facilitator is working well
- Having a good cross-section of people is working well
- Having iwi/hapu/tangata whenua knowledge & input & guidance is working well
- Discussions are going better as we get further along the process
- At first I thought that "...is this just going to be another talk-fest..." with little actual progress? I've been pleasantly surprised by the progress that we've made & that it may well make it in to practical improvements to our degraded ecosystems
- Targeted groups
- Breaking down barriers & building relationships
- More focus, get to the point

One commented nothing so far.

#### Also:

- Flood control to lower Waipaoa has been completed

### Question 2: What is not working well?

- Sometimes people waffle or dominate which wastes time
- Clearer focus in meetings, stay focussed on the topic in hand

#### Also:

- Wetland areas identified and named
  - Managed wetlands re-established and managed

### Question 3: Any suggestions for improvement?

- Clearly define purpose for each meeting and review at the end
- Restoration of swamp land
- Think more about nature
- The stories are taonga
- More clear reference back to progress towards the plan -> less time going down rabbit holes
- FWAG to continue after TRMP reviewed & completed – biannual
- FWAG meeting thereafter for continuity
- Values and use original Māori names

#### Also:

- Hikoi with Stan and Dave and Owen to understand places and stories
- Potential hikoi to Wi-Pere Trust to look at:
  - Wetlands
  - Water take
  - Flood control
  - Talk to Tim Rhodes
- Habitat for trout
  - Hangaroa – freshwater mussels on waterfall by Rakuia Kaka

- Big Pa Tuna on Hangaroa, below Cogg Lewes hence Te Reinga people
- Wetland areas to be fenced to control stock etc