



TAIRĀWHITI

WAIPAOA CATCHMENT PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP

Hui agenda, minutes, and actions

Hui #3

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


Group facilitator	Dr Jill Chrisp
Advisory Group members present	Samuel Lewis, Stan Pardoe, Jacob Harrison, Phil Gaukrodger, Grant Vincent, Tim Rhodes, Nick Briant, Tim Tietjen, Keith Katipa, Dave Hawea, Owen Lloyd, Bronwyn Wilson-Hokianga, Shanna Cairns, Nicki Davies, Joss Ruifrok, Murray Palmer, Ranell Nikora (temporary replacement for Dianne Irwin), Leo Kelso
Council	Janic Slupski, Oliver Vetter, Ariel Yann le Chew, Paul Murphy, Sarah Thompson, Desiré du Plooy, Charlotte Knight Lois Easton, Wolfgang Kanz
Apologies	Alan Haronga, Dianne Irwin, Stuart Davis, Matawhero Lloyd

Agenda

Karakia and whakawhanaungatanga	12:30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Housekeeping Minutes and actions from hui #2 Adoption of revised Terms of Reference 	
Recap of previous hui and context for today's hui	12:45
Group exercise #1	13:00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term vision 	
Group exercise #2	13:45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FMUs 	
Leg stretch and cuppa tea	14:00
Group exercise #3	14:10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental outcomes 	
Wrap-up and next steps	14:45
Closing karakia	14:55

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	Responsible	Due
T10	Confirm date of wānanga to be held at Ohako Marae	Freshwater team	11 Oct
T11	Members to forward homework and/or any additional comments to the Freshwater team	Advisory Group	22 Sept

Minutes

1. Karakia and whakawhanaungatanga - welcome & housekeeping

- 1.1. The hui commenced with an opening karakia.
- 1.2. Minutes and actions from the hui held on 16 August were taken as read and accepted.
- 1.3. The draft Terms of Reference was adopted as final. A wānanga is being planned for this year at Ohako Marae to explore the Ka Hao Kupenga Framework and how this framework can be used to guide the Advisory Group in planning and managing freshwater.
- 1.4. Oliver Vetter is the main Council contact for assistance in accessing the portal. Meeting documents are hosted on the portal. Hard copies can be provided or sent via email if needed.
- 1.5. Members were encouraged to prepare for the monthly meetings, and where applicable, do the homework to ensure maximum participation in the process.
- 1.6. Attendance is remunerated, and members were reminded to submit monthly invoices to Kara Moir.

2. Tasks to be actioned

Task	Actions	Responsible	Due
T10	Confirm date of wānanga to be held at Ohako Marae	Freshwater team	11 Oct

3. Recap of previous hui

- 3.1. At the August hui the Group looked at what the specific values of the different sub-catchments are, with the focus on what values are specific to Waipaoa/Tairāwhiti.
- 3.2. A range of values were identified that are not in the current Waipaoa Catchment Plan for example flood and sediment, taniwha, korero a mua (original stories), aquifer recharge etc.
- 3.3. Some of the values were also identified as being more widespread across the catchment, for example mahinga kai, drinking water and swimming.
- 3.4. These issues will be further discussed at the hui in October.

4. Overview and context of today's hui

- 4.1. An overview was provided on what is meant with developing long-term visions and Freshwater Management Units (FMUs) and what to take into consideration with setting environmental outcomes for mandatory values. Waipaoa-specific values and environmental outcomes were also covered.
- 4.2. Three group discussions were facilitated by Council staff to gain feedback on the matters mentioned in 4.1.

5. Group discussion #1 – Long-term vision

5.1. The Group split into smaller groups to string together a long-term vision for the Waipaoa Catchment, with consideration given to what freshwater would look like in this catchment in 2060, how success will be judged, and how to get there.

6. Group discussion #2 - FMUs

6.1. The same groups then moved on to consider if the proposed four FMUs represent a reasonable spatial framework for setting limits, targets and action plans. Additionally, to consider if they cover areas with common values, if there is a need to make any further changes, and to also consider specifically if the aquifers should all be in the same FMU or separated.

6.2. Staff recommended to change the current land-used boundaries in the Waipaoa Catchment FMUs, the number will however remain unchanged at four FMUs.

6.3. The Group supported the staff recommendation to rename the Poverty Bay Flats FMU to Tūranga Flats FMU to give recognition to the original name of the area.

6.4. Te Arai FMU will also be renamed as Te Arai Te Uru FMU.

6.5. No disagreement was raised by the Group on the third staff recommendation to increase Te Arai FMU to include the area originally in the catchment before the flood control scheme.

6.6. The last staff recommendation to move Te Maungarongo o Te Kooti wetland into the Gisborne Urban FMU was not accepted. It was agreed that Te Maungarongo o Te Kooti wetland should remain within the Tūranga Flats FMU. All of the catchment area is used for horticulture.

7. Group discussion #3 – Environmental outcomes

7.1. For this group discussion, members chose one of the four FMUs to consider and prioritise values for that FMU, and to discuss what the environmental outcomes should be for that FMU, for that value.

8. Key themes that transpired during the three group discussions

8.1. Two groups verbally supported to align the vision with Te Mana o Te Wai's hierarchy of obligations and be aspirational, but also achievable.

8.2. Adopt a holistic and integrated management approach, ki uta ki tai - start at the top and travel down the mountain to the sea.

8.3. Freshwater habitat restoration to get to a future state of abundance through protection and promotion of native vegetation and forest, conservation of endangered and threatened species, pest control over invasive species, erosion control, bank stability and native buffers.

8.4. Restoration of wetlands, identification of new ones, landowner education on benefits of wetlands, incentivisation.

8.5. Improved clean water quality and management – swimmable rivers, no sediment, contaminants, restrictions on discharges that can end up in receiving waters.

- 8.6. Rivers to be given tipuna status to focus on their importance as not all rivers are respected. Need kaitiaki around us that will determine the quality of the rivers.
- 8.7. Water quantity/supply/capacity needs are met sustainably, inclusive of drinking water and water for irrigation. Making better use of natural resources, looking into water storage with improved access to water sources.
- 8.8. True partnerships with trusting relationships, mutual respect, collaboration, community engagement, identification of mahinga kai and wahi tapu sites.
- 8.9. Land use to match land capability.
- 8.10. There was no clear direction received on the way forward with aquifers.

9. Tasks to be actioned

Task	Actions	Responsible	Due
T11	Members to forward homework and/or any additional comments to the Freshwater team	Group members	22 Sept

10. Proposed review process and wrap-up

- 10.1. The Group was thanked for having productive conversations. The facilitator also acknowledged the evolution of the Group into a more cohesive entity.
- 10.2. The Group will workshop environmental outcome statements and values further at the next hui in October.

11. Closing karakia

The meeting closed at 15:00 with a karakia. The next Group meeting is scheduled for 11 October 2023.

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	Date addressed
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	Date tbc
T8	A wānanga is planned to further workshop Waipaoa catchment-specific cultural values at Ohako Marae	16/8/23	11/10/23 provide update
T9	Data and digital sovereignty: need to consider Māori Data Sovereignty framework released by StatNZ, and what that means to our process (referring to inherent rights and interests that Māori have in relation to the collection, ownership and application of Māori data)	16/8/23	tbc

Appendix 1: Written feedback

Session 1: Long Term Visions

Questions for consideration:

1. What would you like freshwater in the catchment to be like in 2060? Think about lakes, streams, wetlands, aquifers, springs as well as the big rivers as well as the relationships people have with these waterbodies.
2. How would you judge success?
3. Are there key actions needed to achieve your long-term vision?

Table 4

1. Biodiversity conservation

- Te Arai focus - primary focus is preservation and restoration of biodiversity, protection and enhancement of biodiversity
- Conservation of endangered and threatened species (e.g. tuna, watercress (mahinga kai), koura, kakahi)

2. Habit restoration + protection

- Sand dunes / wetlands / forest
- Environmental outcomes - restore + protect these habitats
- Sand dune restoration at Waipaoa
 - dumping ground at Waipaoa River mouth
 - are dead cattle
 - could be a beautiful place - needs a rahui for cleaning the area.

3. Water quality and management

4. Sustainability of land use

5. Community engagement

General visions

- Controlling invasive species
- Creating wildlife corridors
- Restoring natural ecological balance
- People collaborating with each other
- True partnership with trusting relationships to achieve this kaupapa for our environment
- Promote native vegetation in the habitats
- Wetland restoration project to improve water quality & provide nesting sites for bird species & forest conservation efforts to maintain & enhance the native cover

Table 2

- Endangered species are moved out of the category as they're abundant
- Being able to drink out of rivers without getting sick
- Who pays?
 - Science
 - Land retirement
 - Pest control
- Being able to catch an eel straight after putting the line in
- Good quality groundwater for multiple uses
- Land use to match land capability
- Ample H2O quantity available for use
 - Storage
 - MAR
 - Not reliant on rivers
- Extension on "how"
 - Erosion control
 - Wetlands
- Mahinga kai – healthy
- Improve significant lakes (health)
- Revert to golden sand beaches
- Science based rules in the plan

- Staged approach to restoration
- Less silt (e.g. permanent native forest cover many places)
- Riparian planting (especially in hill country) = corridors
- Significant wetlands rehabilitated + NEW ONES
- Education for landowners on benefits of wetlands (incentives?)

Verbatim minutes (additional points raised by members not captured on post-its/A1 sheets)

Consider alternatives. For example if pine/willows not to be used, what are the alternatives that can be used? Any examples (from other regions)?

Table 1

Waiata – 'Haeremai a Paoa' - like it was when Paoa settled here

1. Aspirational, but yet achievable

- Plentiful, bountiful, provision for community
- 30 yrs? 100 yrs? 500 yrs? 1000?
- Balance in forest
- Restoration of wetlands
- Environmental/Taiao
- Pest control/protection of forests/fauna
- Erosion Managed Mitigated
- Rivers are 'clean'

2. Vision in alignment of 'Te Mana o te Wai'

- Practices align with TMOTW
- Need metrics to measure
- Decision making process has reversed, what does the river need first?

3. Mauri ora balance

4. Water supply needs are sustainable met

- Drinking/potable
- Irrigation
- Te Tipuna Status – has a higher need/importance

Restoration of abundance/sustainable

- "mountains to the sea"
- Environmental values in place
- People fit into that environment.
- Rectify / repaired waterways
- Making sure we maintain that
- Indicator Species return
- Restoration of abundance
- start at top - treat the cause where its created
- Education + community engagement - Shifting mindset In order to achieve goals
- Sam – people's health reflected in waterways

Verbatim minutes (that are not reading off the post-its/A1 sheets)

- Talked about timeframes to get to these visions. Aligning vision to TMOTW. Basically holistic, aspirational focus.
- River should be given tipuna status. That will enable attention/focus to the river as due.
- Uniqueness of each catchments. Waterways need covering. The best waters come from covered waterways. Remember that people will live in what we plan today. Keep in mind the hierarchy of obligation (i.e. TMOTW)

Table 3

- State that provides for all values
- Sustainable land & FW management
- Improved water quality - ~~erosion~~ / sediment / contaminants
- Improved access to water- capacity - storage
- Discharges - restrictions on inputs that can end up in receiving waters
- Bank stability / native buffers
 - filter to horticulture /ag
 - Biodiversity
- Swimmable rivers

- Focus on sub catchments discharging most sediment

Session 2: Freshwater Management Units (FMUs)

Questions for consideration:

1. Do you think these FMUs proposed are a reasonable spatial framework for setting limits, targets and action plans?
2. Do they cover areas with common values?
3. Are there any change you would make? (indicate these using post it notes stuck on the maps)
4. Consider the aquifers – should they all be in the same FMU? should this be the Turanga Flats FMU or a separate FMU?

(NOTE: No allocated report-back time, but had some extra time at the end so included the verbatim feedback here under assumption that it was for the FMUs)

Verbatim feedback (in the last 5-10 minutes before closing)

- For mahinga kai, it would be important to identify where these sites are so farmers can do better to protect these sites. Same for wahi tapu sites too.
- Most important is that farmers and tangata whenua have mutual respect with each other. Which is how it operates in Te Arai, where tangata whenua can access private property with no problem.
- In spirit of ki uta ki tai, debate on table around FMUs and catchments, especially Waipaoa catchment should be considered as a whole. Question around why we need large FMUs. Question on the scale or resolution used to look at these issues.
- Wanted to see that we have a system of consistency in developing FMUs. So we first based on land-use, then on catchment.
- Important to also understand ki uta ki tai, especially monitoring implications and what it means for FMUs and subcatchments.
- Four people agree on FMU boundaries
- General consensus of Turanga Flat FMU as opposed to Poverty Bay Flats. Suggestion raised to start gradually changing the names of rivers back to their original names

Post-its

- Ki Uta ki tai & FMUs
- Understand the problem first
- FMU vs engagement
- lower levels of NOF process
- Monitoring levels?
- TMOTW alignment
 - FMU effect
 - FMU speaking to each other
- Report at FMU or Sub-FMU?
 - What are the implications of more FMUs
- Compliance monitoring
 - Related to FMUs
- Need to map by land use & manage that way
- Watersheds as a unit?
- What would it take to change?
 - mana whenua voice called for

Session 3: Environmental Outcomes

Questions for consideration:

Consider the NPSFM Values for the FMU – are these right?

Waipaoa Hill Country FMU	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drinking water supply – rurally & hill country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible • Clarity • Safe • Tastes food (palatable) • Smells good • Spiritually safe • Sufficient volume during peak demand • Tapu a noa • Sustainable practices • Reliability • Source protection • Diverse sources • Cost effective sources • Efficient use – water is not wasted 2. Ecosystem Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase biodiversity & ecosystem health • Waiora • Abundance of taonga species thriving • Increased & enhanced habitat ni the water & on the land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quantity • Water quality • Mauri ora • Habitat protection • Habitat rehab 3. Irrigation & Food production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient irrigation process • Efficient use & reuse of water sources • Maintaining Te Mana o te Wai • Local consumption & circular economies • Sustainable practices for run off & nutrients 4. Mahinga kai <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abundance of mahinga kai species in water & on land • Access to mahinga kai sites • Practicing traditional harvest preservation & sustainable management • Preservation of sites of significance <p>Ecosystem health – provides for other values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Koura as indicator of stream health • Markers- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kotare as a marker of stream health ○ Kanae as indicator of Eco health- whatatutu+ Waikanae • Restoration of waterways • Landuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Farming + forestry practices don't affect water health ○ Reducing land degradation, implementing for conservation measures <p>Action -> Landcare shallow landsliding GIS Identify vulnerable areas – management of erosion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Irrigation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Water quality is suitable b. Efficient water use 2. Irrigation available year around without negative effects on environment

	<p>3. Rules that allow for innovation i.e. when are volumes of H2O needed. Tech. AI.</p> <p>4. WATER STORAGE</p> <p>a. Ecological niche</p> <p>b. Other water sources</p> <p>5. Te Arai is best place to start protection of threatened species</p> <p>6. Te Arai/Arai te Uru – ecological values are high in the headwaters. So it will be easier to raise the ecological & natural values of the rest of this catchment than in other catchments? i.e. a priority?</p> <p>7. Markets & industry need to be involved in treated WW discussion</p> <p>8. Trust between council, iwi & water users. No more “use it or lose it”</p>
Gisborne urban FMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban FMU needs irrigation as a value i.e. Gueze, Food production, etc
Turanga Flats FMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquifers need to be separate FMUs? What is considered “freshwater”? Should it be split? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivers Aquifers Based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land use Catchment Pink area for Te Arai flats (like yellow)
Te Arai FMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water storage can double as habitat for native flora & fauna Remove current “unintended consequences”
General comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Values very similar in all 4 FMUs – Lump into 1? Matawhero loop – land-use more similar to Turanga flats Should higher density housing be separate to Awapuni lagoon? Prefer the old boundaries TMT <p><u>Mahinga kai</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MK focus on sustainable practices a cultivating techniques that prioritise the preservation a protection of biodiversity MK to restore a enhance habitats that support the local food sources Implementing sustainable farming practices - good quality water supports overall health Conservation a traditional food sources - culturally significant Education & Community engagement - buy in – collab approaches <p>“Regenerative”</p> <p>Be consistent with how we define FMUs – land use VS catchment</p>

Submitted answers received via Waipaoa Catchment Advisory Group portal

NPS-FM value	Environmental outcomes
Waipaoa Hill Country FMU	
Ecosystem health	Te Mana o Te Wai, people/communities need access to good quality water

Mahinga kai	Lake Repongaere and other important mahinga kai sites provide healthy and safe kai for mana whenua to enjoy
Human contact	Identified swimming holes are safe to use during the bathing season from October to April
Natural form and character	Sustainable communities surviving weather extremes
Fishing	Locals are able to continue to catch trout in the Wharekopae River
Animal drinking water	All properties that farm animals need access to good water
Te Arai FMU	
Ecosystem health	Te Mana o Te Wai, people need access to good quality water
Natural form and character	Sustainable communities surviving weather extremes
Drinking water supply	All communities need access to good water
Animal drinking water	All properties that farm animals need access to good water
Irrigation and food production	Very important to feed the nation cost effectively
Turanga Flats FMU	
Ecosystem health	Te Mana o Te Wai, people need access to good quality water
Human contact	Identified swimming holes are safe to use during the bathing season from October to April
Irrigation and food production	Very important to feed the nation cost effectively
Natural form and character	Sustainable communities surviving weather extremes
Drinking water supply	The Waipaoa River provides an important part of the drinking water supply for Gisborne City and communities across the Turanga flats
Animal drinking water	All properties that farm animals need access to good water
Gisborne Urban	
Ecosystem health	Te Mana o Te Wai, people need access to good quality water

Natural form and character	Sustainable communities surviving weather extremes
Irrigation and food production	Very important to feed the nation cost effectively
Transport and Tauranga waka	The Taruheru River is able to be used safely year – round for waka ama and kayaking
Animal drinking water	All properties that farm animals need access to good water