



Waiapu Catchment Technical Advisory Group

Hui 1 - Report 2 - Waiapu Catchment Long-term Vision

1.0 Introduction

The Waiapu Catchment Plan requires long-term visions to be set as per the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (Amended 2024). Current requirements for setting long term visions and considerations for the development of the Waiapu Catchment Plan are included in Table 1.

Table 1: Long Term Vision Requirements and Considerations	
NPS-FM Requirements	Waiapu Catchment Plan Considerations
Long term visions may be set at FMU, part of an FMU, or catchment level.	Currently considering one FMU for the entire Waiapu catchment and the adjacent coastal catchments.
Must set goals that are ambitious but reasonable (that is, difficult to achieve but not impossible) and; Identify a timeframe to achieve those goals that is both ambitious and reasonable.	Consider long term visions e.g. 100 years to guide and/or intersect with vision of Waiapu Koka Huhua but also consider some shorter term visions that could act as milestones in reaching the 100 year vision.
Be developed through engagement with communities and tangata whenua about their long-term wishes for the water bodies and freshwater ecosystems in the region; and Be informed by an understanding of the history of, environmental pressures on, the FMU, part of FMU, or catchment; and Express what communities and tangata whenua want the FMU, part of the FMU, or catchment to be like in the future.	The draft long-term visions presented in this paper take into account previous engagement with hapu members within the Waiapu Catchment in 2022. Further engagement will be required with hapu, community and stakeholders in the catchment to develop final long term visions. Existing literature and resources detailing the significance of the Waiapu River and tributaries to Ngati Porou have also been considered in the development of the draft long-term visions ¹

¹ <https://www.govt.nz/assets/Documents/OTS/Ngati-Porou/Ngati-Porou-Relationship-Accord-Schedule-MOU-in-relation-to-the-restoration-of-the-Waiapu-catchment-23-April-2014.pdf>
<https://ourlandandwater.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/TMOTW-Case-Study-Waiapu-Kokahuhua.pdf>

2.0 Draft 100 Year Vision

The Waipapu River and its tributaries are of great cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance to Ngati Porou. This has been acknowledged through the Ngati Porou Treaty Settlement and the Waipapu Koka Huhua agreement – a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in relation to the Restoration of the Waipapu Catchment between the Crown, Te Runanganui o Ngati Porou (TRONPnui) and Gisborne District Council (GDC). As the Waipapu Koka Huhua relationship spans for 100 years, and the enduring relationship whanau and hapu have with the Waipapu River and its tributaries, it is proposed that the Waipapu Catchment Plan includes long-term visions for a 100-year period. These visions should be developed to align with the views of whanau, hapu and community as well as the shared vision of Waipapu Koka Huhua:

“Ko te mana ko te hauora o te whenua, ko te hauora o nga awa, ko the hauora o te iwi – Healthy land, healthy water, health people”

Draft 100-year long-term visions for consideration have been included as follows:

- *Changes in land use practices have reduced erosion and improved the level of sedimentation and slash or woody debris in waterbodies and the takutai moana as the ultimate receiving environment;*
- *Land use practices enable freshwater bodies including rivers, streams, wetlands, lakes and springs to support native ecosystems that are connected from the mountains to the sea.*
- *Mahinga kai species are abundant and diverse due to the restoration of habitats within aquatic ecosystems and adjacent riparian zones. Mahinga kai practices are carried out regularly in accordance with tikanga and kawa of local hapu and intergenerational transfer of traditional mahinga kai practices is passed on. The water quality of freshwater bodies have improved so that kaimoana species are less impacted by sedimentation.*
- *Water quality within the catchment is improved to a level that supports the health and wellbeing of people within the catchment.*
- *Waahi tapu are protected and respected. Access to waahi tapu is not impeded and korero tuku iho remains within respective whanau and hapu.*
- *Flourishing diverse native aquatic habitats and interconnected environments strengthens matauranga-a-whanau and matauranga-a-hapu. Decision making is guided by matauranga and whakapapa links to wai are maintained. Whanau and hapu are empowered to be the kaitieki over their wai.*
- *Infrastructure development and maintenance is resilient, supports the connectivity and function of communities while minimising the impacts on freshwater bodies.*
- *Ahi kaa are supported to live at home and can sustain themselves with the traditional natural resources throughout the year e.g. drinking water and mahinga kai.*