



Waiapu Catchment Technical Advisory Group

Hui 1 - Report 3 - Waiapu Catchment Values

1.0 Introduction

Understanding freshwater values and setting environmental outcomes for these is a key first stage of the catchment plan process, and a requirement of the NPS-FM.

Identifying the Values is an important first step in developing the catchment plan, as ultimately we are developing the plan to support these values. For each value an environmental outcome must be identified – with the catchment plan implementation intended to achieve those environmental outcomes.

The NPS-FM has two types of Freshwater Values – National Mandatory Values, and Values that must be considered. Alongside this, we can identify Tairāwhiti-specific and Waiapu-specific Values. The different types of values are outlined in the table below:

NPS-FM Compulsory Values	NPS-FM Other Values
Ecosystem health	Natural Form and Character
Human contact - swimming	Drinking water supply
Mahinga kai	Wai Tapu
Threatened species	Transport and Tauranga Waka
Tairāwhiti-specific Values	Fishing
Mauri	Animal drinking water

During 2022 -2023, a series of hui were held with hapū in the Waiapu catchment. This combined with the information from many previous engagements with the community was used to develop some draft Waiapu -specific Values for the Catchment. The tables over set out the values that work to date has identified.

Key Questions:

- Have we identified the Values of the catchment plan area?
- Are there any missing values?
- Are there values that you think we don't need to include?

Value	Values Description	Significance
Compulsory values		
Human Contact – Swimming	<p>Many of the rivers and streams within the Waipapu Catchment are used for swimming and bathing during the warmer months.</p> <p>Swimming and bathing is highly valued because it enables us to connect physically and spiritually with our awa and maintain whakapapa to wai and strong relationships at place.</p> <p>Water quality and quantity impacts our ability to maintain strong connections to waterways through swimming and bathing.</p>	High
Mahinga kai	<p>Mahinga kai is highly valued right across the Waipapu Catchment through providing sustenance for whanau and manaakitanga at whanau and hapu gatherings.</p> <p>Mahinga kai practices enable hapu members to maintain traditional practices and allow for intergenerational transfer of knowledge.</p> <p>Fundamental to mahinga kai is abundance. An abundant food source indicates a healthy waterway and reflects upon the ability and mana of hapū exercise mana motuhake, kaitiekitanga, and manaakitanga.</p>	High
Ecosystem Health	<p>The ability for our freshwater ecosystems and receiving coastal environment to support thriving aquatic ecosystems enables people to thrive.</p> <p>We recognise that freshwater ecosystems include puna, awa, repo, roto and their health is fundamentally connected to the health of the land. The wellbeing of people in the catchment is intrinsically connected to the health of these ecosystems.</p> <p>These ecosystems provide for connection/s, relationships and customary practices that are integral to our cultural identity.</p>	High

Value	Values Description	Significance
Threatened Species	<p>Many threatened species are present within the Waiapu Catchment and are a part of taonga ecosystems that sustain people within the catchment.</p> <p>Despite a decline in abundance, remnant populations of threatened species are still present in the catchment. The catchment is a stronghold for the nationally threatened tuna (longfinned eel). Other threatened species present in the catchment include Whio (Blue Duck), Hochstetter's Frog, and Shortjaw Kokopu amongst many others.</p> <p>Whanau and hapu have an obligation through whakapapa to protect and provide for these species so that they are abundant and available for use</p>	Moderate
Other important values		
Drinking Water	<p>Drinking water is typically sourced from traditional sites (e.g. springs) that have sustained our whanau and marae for generations. Accessing drinking water is essential to ensuring our ahi kaa can live at home.</p>	High
Mauri	<p>Mauri is intrinsic part of us as whanau and hapu who have uninterrupted use and occupation of our whenua, wai and rohe moana. Mauri connects us physically and spiritually to our wai and all aspects of the taiao and is fundamental to our relationship with wai.</p> <p>Mauri is reflected in the physical, spiritual and cultural wellbeing of our people. The relationship between whenua, ngahere, moana and our people is essential in the assessment of mauri of wai.</p> <p>Mauri through our whakapapa and tikanga guides us on how we interact with our wai, whenua, moana – and how we realise/ practice kaitiakitanga.</p>	High
Ahi Kaa	<p>Ahi kaa form a large proportion of the population within the Waiapu Catchment.</p> <p>Ahi kaa are the whanau and hapu members that uphold the kaitieki roles and obligations. Through our whakapapa and undisturbed use and occupation of our whenua and rohe moana, we view ourselves as a part of the taiao and not separate.</p> <p>Ahi kaa are interdependent with all other freshwater values identified in this plan. Ahi kaa rely on wai to maintain their wellbeing and in turn uphold a kaitieki role to protect and maintain these values</p>	High

Value	Values Description	Significance
Waahi Tapu	<p>Waahi tapu are areas of cultural, historical, and/or spiritual significance that whanau and hapu have an obligation to protect and share korero toko iho for future generations.</p> <p>Waahi tapu us to our whakapapa and matauranga Ngati Porou.</p>	High
Natural Form and Character	<p>Waterways within the Waipatu Catchment are valued for their natural form and character. They are largely unmodified and able to express natural processes and patterns. Matauranga Ngati Porou through placenames, whakatauki and history contribute further to better understanding natural form and character in place(informed by whakatauki/placenames etc). It . It is important that landuse activities are managed in a way that is sensitive to these processes.</p>	High
Commercial and Industry Use	<p>Local business provides jobs for our people. Water quality and quantity can provide for commercial and industrial use, including activities such as gravel extraction</p>	Moderate
Farming/Food Production	<p>Farming is a predominant landuse within the catchment.</p> <p>Farming enables tangata whenua to stay on their land.</p>	Moderate
Mana Motuhake	<p>Ngati Porou whanau and hapu practice their rights and obligations of whanau, hapu and iwi to manage freshwater resources.</p> <p>Statutory agencies recognise for Ngati Porou mana motuhake (and toitu principles?) through joint decision making.</p>	High