



Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Advisory Group

Hui #7 agenda, minutes, and actions

Held at Te Reinga Marae on Thursday 23 April 2026 at 10am

Advisory Group members present	Mayana Daniels, Jazmine Burgess, Topsy Steele, Bryan McCavana, Jess Kawenga, Kerry Proctor, Soraya Pohatu-Stone
Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa/Te Wairoa iwi and hapū reps	Liz Palmer, Sonya Smith, Arna Galvan, Mere Whaanga, Te Paea Whakatope, Darden King, Richard Niania, Katarina Kawana, Christina Marshall
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Nathan Heath
Gisborne District Council/Consultant	Sarah Thompson, Ariel Yann le Chew, Charlotte Knight, Wolfgang Kanz
Apologies	Wings Waihi, Marlene Skeet, Charlie Baty, Bella Hawkins, Tangiwai Wilson, Samuel Lewis

Agenda

1. Karakia and Whakawhanaungatanga
2. Housekeeping
3. Catchment planning process – recap
4. Discussion on regulatory changes, next steps
5. Draft catchment plan - overview
6. Wrap up, Close
7. Lunch

Supporting documents

- Draft Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Plan

Summary of actions

Notes:

Each task is allocated a unique identifier e.g. T2 for ease of reference

The numbering continues from previous hui minutes

Task ID	Actions	Responsible	Due
ST-T10	Staff to share past hui collateral and draft catchment plan with new attendees	GDC	Actioned 24/4/2026
ST-T11	Attendees (where interested) to have internal workshop/discussion on the draft catchment plan, before sharing feedback with Council to be incorporated into the draft catchment plan.	All attendees Iwitea have offered to host and Liz Palmer is working with	As soon as possible



		attendees on setting the date.	
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Minutes

1. Mihi Whakatau

- 1.1. Staff, Advisory Group members and Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa kāhui reps to the marae were welcomed onto Te Reinga Marae at 10AM. Following karakia and whakawhanaungatanga, attendees broke for morning tea.
- 1.2. The agenda of the day included a recap of the catchment planning process, an overview of the draft catchment plan, and discussing next steps with the advisory group as Resource Management reforms are still at play.

2. Session 1: Recap of catchment planning process, implications of national reform

- 2.1. Staff recapped the catchment planning process over the past 6 hui, where the 8 key matters in the National Objective Framework (NOF) were covered in the series of hui to date. Despite delays to the establishment of the Advisory Group, discussions to date have been used to develop the draft Southern Tairāwhiti catchment plan.
- 2.2. Staff updated the status of the Resource Management reforms to date, resulting in Gisborne District Council revising its work programme on reviewing the Tairāwhiti Resource Management Plan (TRMP), including developing the Southern Tairāwhiti catchment plan. Staff briefly mentioned that councils will be preparing to develop the Regional Spatial Plan (RSP), of which tangata whenua may be interested to divert their focus to, with the freshwater catchment planning to be revisited once the RSP is completed and the new national direction is released. Discussions through the advisory group to date will be preserved, however the advisory group process would be on hold until the new legislation is released.
- 2.3. In response, Advisory Group members and Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa kāhui reps were keen to not lose momentum and continue meeting, recognising that any decision made upstream (i.e. through this catchment planning process) will impact downstream in the Wairoa area.
- 2.4. Attendees raised the following suggestions for staff to:
 - 2.4.1. summarise discussions captured in the draft catchment plan into a separate, non-regulatory document, e.g. a Calls to Action document for communities and catchment groups for awareness and action (where feasible).
 - 2.4.2. incorporate mātauranga from te Wairoa iwi, including names of culturally significant waterbodies in the catchment context, into the draft catchment plan.
 - 2.4.3. acknowledge and provide further opportunity for hapū involvement in the draft catchment plan.
 - 2.4.4. recognise the relationship between environmental management plans (developed by tangata whenua) and the draft catchment plan, and how Gisborne District Council ought to ensure implementation consistency across these plans.

3. Session 2: Draft catchment plan



- 3.1. Staff provided an overview of the draft Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Plan. Two Management Areas have been proposed for the Southern Tairāwhiti Freshwater Management Unit (i.e. the Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Plan area):
 - 3.1.1. **Wharerata South MA** – consists of river catchments that flow into the Hawke's Bay/Wairoa district area. Because these rivers traverse the regional council boundary, the management approach for these rivers will require collaboration of parties across the boundary. Parties include councils, catchment groups, mana whenua, taiao roopu, landowners and communities.
 - 3.1.2. **Wharerata North MA** – consists of river catchments that flow into Tairāwhiti coastal waters. The riverbeds of these catchments are soft bottom.
- 3.2. Staff noted 26 actions have been identified in the draft catchment plan. Attendees suggested to prioritise actions, including focusing on targeted areas that will achieve the most results rather than a widespread action to achieve minimal result.

4. Wrap up and close

- 4.1. Staff thanked all attendees for their contributions.
- 4.2. Staff asked that the attendees to provide feedback on the draft catchment plan. Attendees agreed to have further separate workshops to discuss the draft catchment plan, prior to providing feedback to staff.
- 4.3. Once staff received feedback and incorporated the feedback into the draft catchment plan, staff will look to reconvene another hui.
- 4.4. Iwitea Marae has been proposed as the venue for the next hui. Staff will be in touch with attendees once logistics have been finalised, with at least one month notice.
- 4.5. The hui closed with a karakia at 1:11PM.