



Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Advisory Group

Hui #3 agenda, minutes, and actions

Held at Rangiwaho Marae on Monday 14 July 2025 at 9:15am

Advisory Group members present	Marlene Skeet, Kerry Proctor, Jazmine Burgess, Topsy Steele, Soraya Pohatu-Stone, Bryan McCavana, Bella Hawkins, Tangiwai Wilson, Charlie Baty, Jess Kawenga
Council/Consultant	Sarah Thompson, Ariel Yann le Chew, Katrina Ungco Wolfgang Kanz
Apologies	Mayana Daniels, Wings Waihi, Samuel Lewis

Agenda

1. Karakia and Whakawhanaungatanga
2. Housekeeping
3. Draft Hui 2 minutes
4. Actions and updates
5. Outstanding waterbodies, Scheduled waterbodies
6. Freshwater Management Areas discussion
7. eDNA
8. Wrap up, Close
9. Lunch and hīkoi (Awa walk – Tarakihinui Stream)

Supporting documents

- Draft Hui 2 minutes
- Report 1: Data Sovereignty, Options for Management Areas

Summary of actions

	Future Action *Refer to Parked List for summary		Current task
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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-T01	Staff and Advisory Group to decide the meeting format for subsequent hui (e.g. in-person meetings at different venues, hybrid meetings etc)	GDC	Ongoing
ST-T03	Discuss how to connect interested Advisory Group members and their groups with Wairoa/Hawke's Bay counterpart (e.g. Tātau Tātau, taiao roopu) to ensure alignment in work programmes in the upper catchment with the lower catchment.	GDC	Ongoing
ST-T07	Staff to investigate how Council could redirect monitoring efforts to where there's need for data	GDC	Ongoing
ST-T08	Staff to share copy of geomorphology report on Te Arai	GDC	Actioned 16 July 2025

Minutes

1. Mihi Whakatau, Draft Hui 2 minutes, Actions and updates

- 1.1. Staff and the Group were welcomed onto Rangiwaho Marae with mihi whakatau. Staff took the opportunity to thank the hosts for extending hospitality to the Group for this kaupapa.
- 1.2. Staff and the Group then had morning tea before the hui commenced at 10AM.
- 1.3. Staff set out housekeeping matters and outlined the agenda for the day.
- 1.4. Staff sought feedback on the draft Hui 2 minutes. Hui 2 minutes were finalised with no further amendments needed.
- 1.5. Staff provided an update on actions from Hui 1 and 2:
 - 1.5.1. **ST-T03 Connecting with Wairoa/Hawke's Bay counterpart** – Staff will be meeting with Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa and the kāhui end of July to gauge their interest and approach for Southern Tairāwhiti catchment planning. Once details are finalised, staff will reach out to this Group on a date (most likely mid- or late-August) and venue.
 - 1.5.2. **Protection Management Areas** – Staff confirmed that work is underway to update the Protection Management Areas, however the map in Council's GIS system can only be officially updated through a plan change process.
 - 1.5.3. **Data sovereignty** – Staff led a discussion on information shared in the briefing paper '**Data sovereignty, Options on Management Areas**'. The Group shared their experience of misuse/mis-sharing of data leading to unwanted outcomes, noting that some work will be needed for better management of data. Staff asked that the Group share their additional comments and suggestions via email or at the next hui.

- 1.6. Staff handed out promotional material of the recently published [Transition Guidelines](#), a non-regulatory document which sets out general information and outlines site-specific transition steps for different scenarios, while making sure the solution works well with adjoining land. The 4 scenarios are:
 - 1.6.1. Pastoral land use transition in the presence of stock.
 - 1.6.2. Pastoral land use transition involving stock exclusion.
 - 1.6.3. Forestry land use transition involving harvest.
 - 1.6.4. Forestry land use transition without harvesting.
- 1.7. A member of the Group shared that farmers are required to develop and submit Farm Environment Plans along with other industry documents as a means of achieving best practice across the sector. The member acknowledged the difficulty and challenges involved to achieve the best environmental outcomes, which includes requiring a change in mindset and subsequently practices.
- 1.8. Another member of the Group shared the importance of identifying each person's skills in relation to their role in the wider taiao network. The Group did a brief exercise identifying where each person's skills and strengths lie in the Southern Catchment Advisory Group while also in support of a wider environmental initiative.

2. Session 1: Outstanding waterbodies, Scheduled Waterbodies

- 2.1. Staff recapped the purpose of scheduled waterbodies and explained the different schedules listed in the Hui 2 briefing paper '**Values, FMUs and Outcomes**'. Staff demonstrated where the scheduled waterbodies are on [Tairāwhiti Maps](#), Council's publicly accessible online map platform.
- 2.2. Staff sought feedback on how culturally significant waterbodies, e.g. a stream along the marae, could be recognized in the Plan. Options include developing a schedule of culturally significant waterbodies, or identifying Wai Tapu as a value for those culturally significant waterbodies.
- 2.3. Staff will come back to this Group when more thinking has been done with the criteria for scheduled waterbodies. Staff also asked that the Group send through names of rivers and streams that should be included in any of the schedules.

3. Session 2: Options for Management Areas

- 3.1. Staff recapped the previously discussed options for Management Areas (MAs) in the Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Plan Area (see briefing paper '**Data sovereignty, Options on Management Areas**').
- 3.2. The Group discussed how MAs should be defined, and what difference there would be to justify the boundary of the MAs. The Group agreed that a strong rationale is required to justify the MAs in the Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Plan.
- 3.3. Staff asked the Group to provide their comments or draw outlines on map before the next hui.

4. Session 3: eDNA, NZ Freshwater Fish Database

- 4.1. Staff shared maps displaying eDNA data used to populate species found in the Southern Tairāwhiti Catchment Plan area. The data used is public data from [Wilderlab](#) website. Most sampling was done on the eastern river catchments of the FMU.
- 4.2. Staff also shared data taken from NZ Freshwater Fish Database (NZFFD), managed by NIWA. Interested members can download the data from the [NZFFD](#) website.

5. Wrap up and close

- 5.1. Staff thanked members for their contributions.
- 5.2. The Group discussed and agreed that the next hui will be on Wednesday 13 August, with Te Muriwai Marae as the proposed venue. Staff will liaise with members representing Te Muriwai Marae to confirm logistics.
- 5.3. The hui closed with a karakia at 12:36PM.