

Rangitāiki River Forum

Ngā Meneti Open Minutes

Commencing: Friday 3 June 2022, 10:00am

Venue: Via Zoom (Audio Visual Meeting)

**Heamana
Chairperson:** Bronco Carson (Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare)

**Heamana Tuarua
Deputy Chairperson:** Terewai Kalman (Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa)

**Ngā Kopounga
Members:**

Bay of Plenty Regional Council
Crs Bill Clark, Toi Kai Rākau Iti and Kevin Winters

Hineuru Iwi Trust
Mei Winitana

Taupō District Council
Cr John Williamson

Te Rūnanga o Ngati Awa
Miro Araroa and Tuwhakairiora O'Brien (Alternate)

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa
Karito Paul (Alternate)

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare
Jane Nicholas (Alternate)

Tūhoe Te Uru Taumatua
Ngapera Rangiaho

Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) Settlement Trust
Shaneen Simpson-Almond

Whakatāne District Council
Crs Alison Silcock and Wilson James (Alternate)

**Te Hunga i Tae Ake
In Attendance:** Jane Waldon - Co-Governance Secretariat;
Bay of Plenty Regional Council: Chris Ingle - General
Manager Integrated Catchments, Mieke Kapa - Land
Management Officer, Michelle Lee - Planner (Water Policy),
Nassah Rolleston-Steed - Policy & Planning Manager, Julie
Bevan - Acting General Manager Strategy & Science, Shari
Kameta (Committee Advisor);

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa: Maxeen Newton – Pou Taiao;
Whakatāne District Council: Cr Lesley Immink, Astrid
Hutchinson - Infrastructure Compliance Specialist

Ngā Hōnea

Apologies:

Cr Tangonui Kingi (for absence)
Brenda Lewis (for absence)
Whakaeke Ritete (for late arrival/absence)

1. Karakia Whakatuwhera Opening Karakia

A karakia was provided by Miro Araroa, followed by a mihi to welcome Shaneen Simpson-Almond onto the Forum.

2. Ngā Hōnea Apologies

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Accepts the apologies from Cr Tangonui Kingi, Brenda Lewis and Whakaeke Ritete for late arrival/absence tendered at the meeting.

Rangiaho/Araroa
CARRIED

3. Raupapa o Ngā Take Order of Business

Agenda item 9.3 - Manawa Energy Update on the Matahina Dam Downstream Trap and Transfer Programme was withdrawn from the agenda by Ryan Piddington, Manawa Energy to enable a discussion to take place first with Ngāti Awa before an update is provided to the Forum.

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Accepts the withdrawal of Agenda item 9.3 Manawa Energy Update on the Matahina Dam Downstream Trap and Transfer Programme from the agenda.

Araroa/Simpson-Almond
CARRIED

4. Whakapuakanga o Ngā Take Whai Taha-Rua Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

5. Ngā Meneti Minutes

Kia Whakaūngia Ngā Meneti Minutes to be Confirmed

5.1 Rangitāiki River Forum Minutes - 4 March 2022

Matters Arising

1. In relation to Minute Item 5.2 – regarding the Wheao consent update – Ngāti Manawa would be engaging a consultant to undertake a Cultural Impact Assessment.
2. In relation to Minute Item 6.2 – the funding application made to the Lions Foundation to help fund a self-contained toilet on the eastern bank of the Thornton river mouth had been approved. It was noted that the application was amongst other funding sources being pursued.

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 **Confirms the Rangitāiki River Forum Minutes - 4 March 2022 as a true and correct record, subject to the following amendments:**
 - **Minute item 6.2 ‘November 2021-February 2022 Rangitāiki Catchment Programme Dashboard Report’ (agenda page 13) - Key Points members: last bullet point: “An application to Regional Councils Environmental Enhancement Fund had been unsuccessful...” should read: “An application to the Trustpower - Rangitāiki River Environmental Fund Trust was unsuccessful...”**

Rangiaho/Winitana
CARRIED

6. Whakaaturanga Presentations

6.1 Old Rangitāiki River Channel Projects

Presentation - Old Rangitāiki River Channel Projects: Objective ID A4119306

Presented by: Mieke Kapa, Land Management Officer

Mieke Kapa provided a presentation on two projects that were taking place along the old Rangitāiki River channel.

Key Points:

Smith Road Crossing Culvert Upgrade

- Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) and Whakatāne District Council (WDC) were working collaboratively together to upgrade the culverts underneath the Smith Road crossing, which go over the old Rangitāiki river channel.
- WDC had investigated the two culverts and flushed the 1800mm culvert that was partially blocked, however the 1200mm culvert was blocked and

found to be collapsing the road, therefore there was a level of urgency to have the culvert replaced.

- Photos taken in May 2021 showed the blockage impacts within the channel.
- Proposed options were being considered to upgrade the 1200mm culvert to 1800mm, or to replace both culverts with a single box culvert to create additional tidal flow and improve habitat on the eastward side. A decision on what the best option for the site is was yet to be determined.

Old Rangitāiki River Channel Pond

- The river channel pond and island was situated on Department of Conservation (DoC) administered land to the left of Thornton Road.
- BOPRC had a community agreement with DoC for the site.
- Photos taken in early May 2022 showed water quality degradation in the pond.
- The culvert had now been replaced, a causeway constructed and the island mulched and sprayed in preparation for planting.
- The proposed plan was to plant the entire island with native plants over the coming years, with the first lot of planting taking place during the week by Tāne Mahuta Aotearoa Ltd.

In Response to Questions:

- The project was financially funded by the BOPRC with agreement and collaboration from DoC.
- Plant species that were being used included upoko-tangata, karamu, totara, harakeke, kauka, kiekie and Thornton kanuka.
- The specific harakeke species were unknown; however, all of the plants were grown locally by Coastlands nursery who would be open to sourcing species to collect and grow.
- Teresa McCauley and Pete Livingston were the DoC staff who were involved with the project and community agreement.
- The river channel pond was a site used by whitebait inanga spawning, but did not have any evidence of this at the Smith Road crossing; however, future invertebrate surveys may be able to provide further information.

Key Points – Members:

- Planting of locally sourced harakeke and kiekie would be beneficial for local iwi/hapū to gather for traditional resources to assist with local marae revitalisation projects.
- DoC administered land allowed mana whenua to have guaranteed access to the area for cultural material plans, therefore the respective iwi/hapū could contact the relevant DoC community ranger to enquire and discuss.

Items for Staff Follow Up:

- Follow-up with Mei Winitana regarding the sourcing of local plant species.

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Receives the presentation, Old Rangitāiki River Channel Projects.**

**Clark/Simpson-Almond
CARRIED**

7. Whakahoutanga Kōrero Verbal Updates

The following Agenda item 9.2 was received before Agenda item 9.1, Forum Members Verbal Updates.

7.1 Update on the Bill Kerrison Memorial Sculpture at Aniwhenua Reserve

*Presentation - Bill Kerrison Memorial - Concept sketches, design and themes:
Objective ID A4119308*

Presented by: Karito Paul (Alternate member, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa)

Key Points:

- Karito and Cr Silcock had worked together with artist Himiona Nuku on the overall design concept for Bill Kerrison's memorial.
- The design was textual, large in scale and based on the model of a hinaki that would incorporate a shelter, carved waharoa, tuna motifs, tuna life cycle information and a monument board dedicated to Bill's life mahi.
- The design concept had been shared with Bill's whānau and wife Ruby who were impressed with the concept and the continuation/recognition of Bill and his mahi.
- Personalised commemorations on the monument board would be shared with Bill's whānau before they were finalised.
- The monument's orientation would face north to reflect the tuna migration with its location yet to be determined.

10:30 am - Cr Silcock **entered** the meeting.

In Response to Questions:

- A funding application would be submitted to BOPRC's Environmental Enhancement Fund which opened in July 2022 and other funding avenues could be pursued if needed.
- Did not consider funding to construct the memorial would be an issue due to Bill's status and mana which a number of people, community groups and agencies held in high regard.
- General maintenance and upkeep would need to be a consideration however, noted that Holly's Playground was well maintained by the community.
- Envisioned that the kaitiaki/maintenance of the memorial would be held by the students of Bill; however, still needed to be discussed.

Key Points - Members:

- Commended the fantastic design concept that would keep the continuation of Bill's mahi alive; and seeking endorsement of it from Bill's whānau.
- Incorporating recognition of Trustpower and Mangu Clark from Uiraroa Marae to acknowledge their support of Bill's work and the establishment and operation of the Kokopu Trust was noted and acknowledged.
- Noted that the responsibility of maintenance and upkeep of the memorial needed further consideration. Initial thoughts envisioned the upkeep as a shared responsibility by Kokopu Trust students, tuna kaimahi and local hapū/whānau/community.
- Construction and maintenance needed to consider health and safety.

- Considered that the Regional Council may be able to support the shared maintenance of the memorial.

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Receives the Verbal Update on the Bill Kerrison Memorial Sculpture at Aniwhenua Reserve.**

**Rangiaho/Araroa
CARRIED**

7.2 Forum Members' Verbal Updates

Cr Bill Clark - Bay of Plenty Regional Council

- Referred to a published article about an irrigation scheme in the South Island that had installed fish passage at a cost of \$18M, which would be beneficial to investigate.

Ngapera Rangiaho - Tūhoe Te Uru Taumatua

- Provided an update on activities from Waiohau:
 - Civil defence emergency management workshop training was held with Justin Douglas and local Haumarū team at Waiohau Marae.
 - Willow clearance had been completed in the Waikokopu stream and was looking great.
 - Resource consent activity - roadworks, culvert replacement and restoration work was progressing well by Wilson Farm.
 - Quarry owner Jessica Wisemen consented activity was progressing well with regular engagement from local Kaumātua Tom Tupe and Tunihia Tupe regarding cultural assessment and safety management to ensure community safety is maintained.
- Update on Kokopu Trust activity:
 - Had visited Manawa Energy to observe Stage 2 of the elver elevator in-river installation trial. The first attempt had been unsuccessful and feedback/consideration given to the use of more natural materials that were being used by the current transfer operation.
 - Expressed thanks to Manawa Energy for providing a two-day boat and navigation training to Kokopū Trust representatives, which had been greatly received and appreciated. Further training opportunities was to be offered to other local iwi/hapū representatives.

Mei Winitana - Ngāti Hineuru

- An invitation would be extended to Forum members towards early 2023 for a rescheduled visit and pōwhiri to Te Haroto marae, Lake Pouarua and other sites.
- Noted that litigation with Hawke's Bay Regional Council was pending in relation to a Mohaka river tributary and resource consent process for aggregate river takes.
- Geothermal feasibility studies were being undertaken for the Tarawera Hot Springs (located on Taupō-Napier Highway).

Shaneen Simpson-Almond - Ngāti Tūwharetoa (BOP) Settlement Trust

- Noted that Tūwharetoa mai Kawerau ki te Tai had a geothermal team which Ngāti Hineuru's Board may wish to seek advice from.

8. Ngā Pūrongo Reports

Ngā Whakatau e Hiahiatia Ana Decisions Required

8.1 Change in Membership

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Change in Membership.
- 2 Confirms the appointment of Shaneen Simpson-Almond as the appointed member for Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) Settlement Trust, replacing Clifford Te Riini (Appointed Member) and Paora Hunia (Alternate member).

Winitana/Araroa
CARRIED

Hei Pānui Anake Information Only

8.2 Rangitāiki Catchment Programme Dashboard - March-May 2022

Presented by: Chris Ingle (General Manager Integrated Catchments)

Key Points:

- Noted there was a significant amount of work taking place and the majority of projects were progressing well.

In Response to Questions:

- Peter Mulvihill (Consultant for Southern Generation Partnership Limited) and Charles Harley (Team Leader Eastern Catchments) were investigating methods for lake weed control at Lake Aniwaniwa. Some discussions had been held with Ngāti Manawa and potential engagement of NIWA being pursued and to be confirmed.
- River scheme maintenance programme (action under Objective 7) included native plant restoration and clearing that was currently taking place around the Te Teko bridge.

Items for Staff Follow Up:

- Actions 5.5 and 8.6 - provide an update on progress made with engaging NIWA to review weed control methodology at Lake Aniwaniwa.
- Action 2.3 Upper Rangitāiki wilding conifer programme work – Miro Araroa queried if local rangatahi were or could be involved in this mahi.
- Requested a timeframe indicator within the Dashboard report to identify where programmed works were at in terms of their completion.

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Rangitāiki Catchment Programme Dashboard - March-May 2022.**

**Silcock/Winters
CARRIED**

8.3 Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Update

Presentation - EFPP Update and Visions: Objective ID A4119307

Presentation - Rangitāiki Freshwater Update Online Tools Demo: Objective ID A4119311

Presented by: Michelle Lee (Planner (Water Policy))

Key Points:

- Essential Freshwater Policy Programme (EFPP) work was currently on schedule for the Rangitāiki.
- Current focus was engaging with iwi/hapū who were willing to engage.
- Expressed thanks for the feedback that had been shared by Iwi members in the last few months on incorporating perspectives of Mātauranga Māori.
- Demonstrated the interactive tools (i.e. WET) that was now available online at www.participate.boprc.govt.nz/vision-and-outcomes/rangitāiki-feedback for people to express thoughts on Rangitāiki freshwater values that would help inform long term visions alongside tangata whenua input.
- Feedback could be submitted online by 29 June and would be eligible to enter a draw for \$200 gift vouchers.
- Baseline indicators related to the bands within the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM).
- Encouraged members to use the WET tool to provide feedback.

Resolved**That the Rangitāiki River Forum:**

- 1 Receives the report, Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Update.**

**Rangiaho/Clark
CARRIED**

8.4 Update from the Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group

Presented by: Chris Ingle (General Manager Integrated Catchments)

Key Points:

- The aim of the report was to provide a better level of understanding and communication of what was being discussed by the River Scheme Advisory Group and to determine if Forum members wished to become involved or seek further information.
- Noted that Councillors Bill Clark and Toi Iti were members of the advisory group and provided a good link between the two groups.

Key Points - Members:

- Ngapera noted that Tūhoe's Tribal Authority Chair Patrick McGarvey had shown an interest to attend the Whakatāne River Scheme Advisory Group hui, which was good to see.

Resolved**That the Rangitāiki River Forum:**

- 1 Receives the report, Update from the Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group.**

**Silcock/Simpson-Almond
CARRIED**

**9. Karakia Kati
Closing Karakia**

A karakia was provided by Miro Araroa.

11:30 am - the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED

Bronco Carson
Chairperson, Rangitāiki River Forum