



Rangitāiki River Forum Rārangi Take (Agenda)

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the next meeting of the Rangitāiki River Forum will be held in Mataatua Room, Bay of Plenty Regional Council Building , 5 Quay Street, Whakatane on:

THURSDAY 23 MARCH 2023 COMMENCING AT 10:30 AM

The Rangitāiki River Forum is a permanent joint committee made up of representatives from:



Fiona McTavish
Chief Executive, Rangitāiki River Forum
15 March 2023

Rangitāiki River Forum

Membership

Chairperson	Bronco Carson (Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare)
Deputy Chairperson	Terewai Kalman (Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa)
Tangata Whenua Members One appointed representative each: Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) Settlement Trust Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa Hineuru Iwi Trust Tūhoe Te Uru Taumatua Te Kotahitanga o Ngāti Tūwharetoa	Karito Paul (<i>Alternate</i>) Jane Nicholas (<i>Alternate</i>) Shaneen Simpson-Almond Miro Araroa Mihipeka Sisley (<i>Alternate</i>) Ngawai Crawford Tracy Bush (<i>Alternate</i>) Ngapera Rangiaho Whakaeke Ritete Ngatoru Wall (<i>Alternate</i>)
Council Members One appointed member each: Whakatāne District Council Taupō District Council Up to five appointed members: Bay of Plenty Regional Council	Cr Tuwhakairiora O'Brien Cr Wilson James (<i>Alternate</i>) Cr John Williamson Cr Yvonne Westermen (<i>Alternate</i>) Cr Malcolm Campbell Cr Toi Kai Rākau Iti Cr Kat Macmillan Cr Ken Shirley Cr Kevin Winters
Quorum	Three iwi members and three Council members and must include a Ngāti Whare member and a Ngāti Manawa member.
Meeting frequency	Quarterly

Other iwi and local authorities through consensus of the Forum, may join the Forum.

Vision

Te Mana o Te Wai – The First Right to Water is to the Water.

Mission

Te Reo o Te Wai - Te Mana – The voice of the Water, restoring Te Mana o Te Wai.

Purpose

To protect and enhance the environmental, cultural, and spiritual health, wellbeing and sustainable use of the Rangitāiki River and its resources, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Scope

The Rangitāiki River Forum's scope covers the geographical area of the Rangitāiki River Catchment including the Rangitāiki River, Whirinaki River, Wheao River and Horomanga River as referenced in the following Settlement Acts: Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012; Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012; Tūhoe Claims Settlement Act 2014; Hineuru Claims Settlement Act 2016; Ngāti Tūwharetoa Claims Settlement Act 2018.

This is a permanent joint committee under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), and co-governance partnership between local authorities and iwi that share an interest in the Rangitāiki River, and must not be discharged unless all of the appointing organisations agree to the discharge.

Role

- Prepare and approve the Rangitāiki River Document for eventual recognition by the Regional Policy Statement, Regional Plans and District Plans.
- Promote the integrated and coordinated management of the Rangitāiki River.
- Engage with and provide advice to:
 - Local Authorities on statutory and non-statutory processes that affect the Rangitāiki River, including under the Resource Management Act 1991.
 - Crown agencies that exercise functions in relation to the Rangitāiki River.
- Monitor the extent to which the purpose of the Rangitāiki River Forum is being achieved including the implementation and effectiveness of the Rangitāiki River Document.
- Gather information, disseminate information and hold meetings
- Take any other action that is related to achieving the purpose of the Forum.

Decision Making

The Forum must make its decisions by a vote at a meeting and must seek to achieve consensus, be consistent with and reflect the purpose of the Forum and acknowledge the interests of iwi in particular parts of the Rangitāiki and its catchments.

Power to Act

The Forum has the discretion to determine in any particular circumstance whether to exercise any function identified and to what extent any function identified is exercised.

Power to Recommend

To the partner organisations on any matters within the Forum's delegated role as it deems appropriate.

Rangitāiki River Forum members report directly to their respective organisations.

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as policy until adopted.

Rārangi Take

Agenda

**1. Karakia Whakatuwhera
Opening Prayer**

**2. Ngā Hōnea
Apologies**

**3. Whakawhanaungatanga
Introductions by Members and Overview of the Forum**

An opportunity for new, existing and returned members to introduce themselves and receive a brief background on the Forum and its purpose.

**4. Wāhanga Tūmatanui
Public Forum**

**5. Ngā Take Tōmuri
Items not on the Agenda**

**6. Raupapa o Ngā Take
Order of Business**

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

**8. Ngā Meneti
Minutes**

**Kia Whakaūngia Ngā Meneti
Minutes to be Confirmed**

8.1 Rangitāiki River Forum Minutes - 2 September 2022

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**9. Whakahoutanga Kōrero
Verbal Updates**

9.1 Forum Members' Updates

This is a standing item and opportunity for Forum members to provide an update on any matters of interest.

9.2 Rangitāiki River Festival Update

Presented by: Annie Tangata, Manawa Energy and Bill Clark, Edgecumbe Lions Club

10. Whakaaturanga Presentations

10.1 Wheao Dam Reconsent Update

Presented by: Lisa Mead, Senior Environmental Advisor, Manawa Energy

10.2 Establishing a Netting Programme for Tunaheke downstream of Matahina Dam

Presented by: Caleb Sjardin, Lead Advisor – Environmental Performance, Manawa Energy

Caleb Sjardin will present Manawa Energy’s efforts alongside Ngāti Awa to establish a netting programme to provide downstream passage for tunaheke past Matahina Dam.

10.3 Department of Conservation/Te Papa Atawhai Update on Whitebait Regulations and Current State of Inanga within the Tarawera and Whakatāne Rivers

Presented by: Hayden Loper, Principal Compliance Officer and Eriora Park, Biodiversity Ranger supported by Merenia Sawrey, Senior Advisor Treaty Partnerships, Department of Conservation/Te Papa Atawhai

The presentation on current state of inanga within the Tarawera and Whakātane rivers will discuss potential opportunities for the Rangitāiki awa.

11. Ngā Pūrongo Reports

Ngā Whakatau e Hiahiatia Ana Decisions Required

11.1	Change of Membership	18
	Hei Pānui Anake Information Only	
11.2	Rangitaiki Catchment Programme December 2022-February 2023 Dashboard Report	21
11.3	Secretariat Update	23
11.4	Update from the Rangitaiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group	27
11.5	Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Update	31
	Attachment 1 - Essential freshwater policy programme update - Te rārangi wā - timeline	35
	Attachment 2 - DRAFT Engagement activities for Essential Freshwater Policy Programme 2023	36

**12. Ngā Take Tōmuri Hei Whakaaroaro
Consideration of Items not on the Agenda**

**13. Karakia Kati
Closing Prayer**

Rangitāiki River Forum

Ngā Meneti Open Minutes

- Commencing:** Friday 2 September 2022, 10:30 am
- Venue:** Mātaatua room, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 5 Quay Street, Whakatāne and 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:
Cr Bill Clark, Cr Kevin Winters
- Hineuru Iwi Trust
Mei Winitana, Brenda Lewis (Alternate)
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa
Miro Araroa, Tuwhakairiora O'Brien (Alternate)
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa
Karito Paul (Alternate)
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare
Jane Nicholas (Alternate) (Via Zoom)
- Tūhoe Te Uru Taumatua
Ngapera Rangiaho
- Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Bay of Plenty) Settlement Trust
Shaneen Simpson-Almond
- Whakatāne District Council
Cr Alison Silcock, Cr Wilson James (Alternate)
- Te Hunga i Tae Ake
In Attendance:**
- Bay of Plenty Regional Council: Chris Ingle - General Manager Integrated Catchments, Charles Harley - Team Leader Eastern Catchments, Mieke Kapa - Land Management Officer, Gemma Moleta - Senior Planner (Water Policy), Reuben Gardiner - Senior Advisor, Andrew Pawson - Area Engineer, Shari Kameta - Committee Advisor
Jane Waldon - Co-Governance Secretariat;

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa: Maxeen Newton – Pou Taiao, Te Mana o Te Wai Project team members: Himiona Nuku, Wiremu Nuku, Hunter Mellon;
Whakatāne District Council: Cr Lesley Immink, Astrid Hutchinson - Infrastructure Compliance Specialist
Externals: Chris Pye, Projects & Development Manager and Melany Hunt (Todd Corporation); Craig Rowe (Southern Generation Partnership Limited/Pioneer Energy)

Ngā Hōnea Apologies:

Cr Toi Kai Rākau Iti (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
 Cr John Williamson (Taupō District Council)
 Cr Tangonui Kingi (Alternate) (Taupō District Council)

1. Karakia Whakatuwhera Opening Karakia

A karakia was provided by Miro Araroa.

Chair's Opening Statement

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Forum members to Dean Flavell, Chair of Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority. Mr Flavell attended the meeting briefly to speak about the joint co-governance secretariat role, plans to hold a symposium in early 2023 and the opportunity for the two forums to work collectively in the future on potential matters of interest.

2. Ngā Hōnea Apologies

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Accepts the apologies for absence from Cr Toi Kai Rākau Iti, Cr Tangonui Kingi and Cr John Williamson tendered at the meeting.**

**Silcock/Simpson-Almond
CARRIED**

3. Raupapa o Ngā Take Order of Business

Agenda Item 8.1 - Noted a correction in the table of contents, which should have read: Todd Corporation/Nova Energy Solar Power Plant at Otamatea River

Members were advised that the following items were withdrawn from the agenda:

1. Agenda Item 8.2 - Presentation on Department of Conservation/Te Papa Atawhai Whitebait Conservation Regulations was withdrawn due to further details requiring to be worked through by the agency.
2. Agenda Item 8.5 - Presentation on Fonterra Edgecumbe Wastewater Treatment Plant Update would be provided as an informal 'closed' briefing for Forum members at the conclusion of the meeting.

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 - 3 June 2022

Matters Arising

1. In relation to Minute Item 7.1 – Karito Paul provided a progress update on the Bill Kerrison Memorial Sculpture at Aniwhenua Reserve. Currently was still trying to source materials both locally and further afield. Due to the additional time needed for this, a funding application had been prepared to submit to the next round of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council’s Environmental Enhancement Fund, and a list of other potential funding streams had been identified.
2. In relation to Minute Item 7.2 – it was requested that staff follow-up to investigate the installation of a fish passage at an irrigation scheme in the South Island.

Resolved

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 **Confirms the Rangitāiki River Forum Minutes - 3 June 2022 as a true and correct record.**

Kalman/Rangiaho
CARRIED

6. Whakaaturanga Presentations

6.1 Nova Energy - Solar Power Plant at Otamatea River

Presentation: Rangitāiki Solar Power Plant - Chris Pye, Nova Energy: Objective ID A4189982

Presented by: Chris Pye, Projects & Development Manager, Nova Energy and Melany Hunt

Chris Pye and Melany Hunt provided a presentation on Todd Corporation/Nova Energy’s solar power project in the Otamatea Awa at the headwaters of the Rangitāiki awa/river.

Key Points:

- Background introduction of Todd Corporation.
- New Zealand’s electricity generation 30-year forecast needed to move to renewable energy to achieve decarbonisation by 2050.
- Overview of the solar power plant project at Rangitāiki, State Highway 5.

- Outlined the project's strong alignment with Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki, respect for the significance of the Rangitāiki awa, initial plans including restoration plans for Otamatea Awa, project update, stages and engagement.
- Wished to build genuine relationships with mana whenua, those that had a connection with the whenua/land, and to have further conversations in relation to the project's design.
- Provided a progress update on:
 - Consent applications lodged in April 2022
 - Hearing scheduled in September in Taupō
 - Working with local partners to develop a work readiness/career pathway in solar energy
 - Initiating environmental improvement programme.
- Provided contact details for any queries.

In Response to Questions:

- Plans for wetland retirement would include identifying areas that would naturally revert back to watercourses.
- Various land conversion options from dairy were being considered, such as sheep grazing and were still to be decided and were open to suggestions and ideas.
- Nova had engaged with local iwi and hapū of Ngāti Hinerau, Hineuru, Hineuri and Tutemahuta of Tūwharetoa.

Key Points - Members:

- Sought consideration in regard to the identification of taonga species within the Rangitāiki awa.
- Ngāti Hineuru had discussed wetland revitalisation in that area and wished to be involved in the consent process.
- Thanked the presenters for their presentation and looked forward to further engagement regarding the project

6.2 Ngāti Manawa - Te Mana o Te Wai Project

Presentation: Te Mana o Te Wai Project: Objective ID A4207286

Presented by: Himiona Nuku, Wiremu Nuku and Hunter Mellon – Te Mana o Te Wai Project Team, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa

Key Points:

- Background on Te Mana o Te Wai (TMoTW) Project team and their mahi which included: planting projects, eco-tourism, forest restoration, Kani Rangi plant .project, implementing community walking tracks.
- Outline of Ngāti Manawa values and principles: mana whenua, kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and kotahitanga; and primary principles for Wai Māori (natural water).
- Ngāti Manawa had important knowledge and Mātauranga Māori to bring to the management of natural resources and their tupuna awa/ancestral river and ensure the continued transmission of traditional knowledge.
- TMoTW Project kaupapa:
 - Succession planning and building freshwater management capacity and capability
 - Develop freshwater monitoring framework utilising Mātauranga tools
 - Develop and implement tuna restoration plan

- Inform Regional Council of Ngāti Manawa aspirations for their waterways and Wai Māori as mana whakahaere (authority/mandate)
- Develop an agreed monitoring programme with Regional Council.
- Summary of mana whakahaere for Ngāti Manawa iwi/hapū.
- Aspirations: safe swimming and drinking water from the awa, plenty of koura, hinaki full of tuna, aiding the migration of tuna and placement of fish passage.
- The Project team had a lot to offer and wished to continue their mahi for the taiao and passing on knowledge to future generations.
- Showed a video of the project team's training and daily operations.
- Acknowledged the support of Ministry for the Environment, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Department of Conservation, JFN Roopu and individuals.

In Response to Questions:

- Providing fish passage and natural passageways for tuna migration was the primary priority and aspiration for tuna for Ngāti Manawa.
- The Forum could support the project team's mahi and aspirations through funding advocacy for implementing fish passage which was a key barrier.

Key Points - Members:

- Commended and thanked the project team for their work to protect tuna and restore Wai Māori and the taiao.
- Queried the cost of maintaining the project team to sustain the mahi for the tuna and awa.
- Noted there were wider funding avenues and science expertise available that had been noted at the recent Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference.

6.3 Rangitāiki Wetlands Project update

Presentation: Rangitāiki Wetlands Murupara Update - Mieke Kapa: Objective ID A4207276

Presented by: Mieke Kapa, Land Management Officer, Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Key Points:

- Rangitāiki wetland restoration project was a five-year project (2018-2023) that was 50:50 co-funded by the Ministry for the Environment's (MfE) Freshwater Improvement Fund and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC).
- Key objectives: improve indigenous habitat, reduce pest plant/animals and build capacity and capability.
- Provided background and progress at the three sites between Murupara and Aniwaniwa at Rangipō, Karamuramu and Hinengāwari wetlands.
- Project team made sure the project contributes to the local economy, mentorship and training.
- Future considerations:
 - The environmental programmes (EPs) were due to finish in June 2023 and were currently being renegotiated with the landowners.
 - No further funding was indicated from MfE, but a funding application was underway with Bay Trust.
 - Overall funding would be substantially less and include \$20K contribution from BOPRC per year and any funding from the landowners.

- Unless specific funding was found, Place Group consultants' project management role would cease in June 2023 and be taken over by BOPRC or a nominated landowner representative.
- Acknowledged the landowners that had been involved in the project and funding contributors.
- With permission from the landowner, Mieke would be happy to take a visit to the wetlands for Forum members who were interested.

In Response to Questions:

- Opportunities for community or care groups to contribute and assist with ongoing maintenance was an option that BOPRC was happy to work with.
- With reduced funding the same activities would still occur, but not at the same intensity.
- The wetlands were on private land therefore access was subject to the landowners' permission.

Key Points - Members:

- Noted there was opportunity for other contributions to support the wetlands' restoration.
- Discussion needed to be held with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa to consider how Ngāti Manawa could support ongoing maintenance in the wetlands on their privately owned land.
- Regarding the need to seek landowner approval to access the wetlands, noted that Hinengawari and Karamuramu wetlands had cultural significant sites within and around those area.
- Acknowledged the work that had been undertaken, as well as the funding contributions and support that had launched the restoration work.
- Commended Mieke Kapa, who would be leaving the Regional Council in December 2022, for her work and passion that she had applied to her mahi.

7. Whakahoutanga Kōrero Verbal Updates

7.1 Forum Members' Verbal Updates

Karito Paul - Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa

- Ngāti Manawa would be holding a Tuna & Taiao Expo Day at Kani Rangi Park during Conservation Week on 9 September 2022.

Tu O'Brien - Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa

- Rangitāiki Hapū Coalition were involved with the following mahi/work being carried out in lower Rangitāiki awa:
 - River & Drainage work and riparian planting by Tāne Mahuta contractors below Te Teko bridge.
 - Flood protection bylaw implementation and geotechnical work with Hemi Barsdell (Regional Council) around Kōkōhināu urupa and the adjoining stopbank.
- Noted that Te Mana o Te Wai/freshwater reforms were placing substantial workload and pressure on iwi/hapū and all involved.
- Commended Ngāpera Rangiaho's presentation (representing Kokopū Trust) at the 2022 Māori Freshwater Fisheries Conference held in Taupō on 31 August - 1 September 2022.

8. Ngā Pūrongo Reports

Hei Pānui Anake Information Only

8.1 Rangitāiki Catchment Programme: Annual Report 2021-2022

Presented by: Charles Harley, Team Leader Eastern Catchments

Key Points:

- A correction was noted in the financial table headings on agenda page 38, which should read 2021-2022 (not 2020-2021).
- Progress and timing of fish passage and science work had been put on hold to ensure it aligned with changes made to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and Resource Management Act reforms. This work was anticipated to proceed in the coming year.
- Due to insufficient updates, the Dashboard report had not been reported to this meeting but would be circulated to members in December 2022 for information.

In Response to Questions:

- Work was scheduled to identify fish passage barriers in the lower reaches of the Rangitāiki awa/river.

Key Points - Members:

- Ngāti Manawa did not support the use of electric fish survey methods in the Rangitāiki awa/river.
- In the interest of taonga species, Fish & Game, Department of Conservation and Ministry of Primary Industries needed to collaborate and integrate on these matters rather than working in silos, noting it was difficult to navigate and work on desired outcomes.
- Fish & Game needed to speak with the respective iwi.

Key Points - Staff:

- All proposed activities and methods within the Ngāti Manawa rohe needed to be discussed and approved by Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa, including any work/mahi in relation to Te Mana o Te Wai.

Items for Staff Follow Up:

- Advise if population surveys for shortfin and longfin tuna can be undertaken and provided for the lower Rangitāiki awa; as well as whitebait inanga migration numbers upstream at Matahina Dam. It was noted that Kokopu Trust may have some information.
- Follow-up with Fish & Game to seek trout populations for the river system.
- Requested an invitation be extended to Fish & Game to present to the next meeting on their work and responsibilities within the awa.
- Requested an update on Rivers & Drainage stopbank flood protection works at the Matahina block near Waiohau.

Resolved**That the Rangitāiki River Forum:**

- 1 Receives the report, Rangitāiki Catchment Programme: Annual Report 2021-2022.**

**Simpson-Almond/Araroa
CARRIED**

8.2 Rangitāiki Catchment Programme: Annual Work Plan 2022-2023

Presented by: Charles Harley, Team Leader Eastern Catchments

The report was taken as read and comments were provided by members alongside the previous item, Rangitāiki Catchment Programme: Annual Report 2021-2022.

Resolved**That the Rangitāiki River Forum:**

- 1 Receives the report, Rangitāiki Catchment Programme: Annual Work Plan 2022-2023.**

**Simpson-Almond/Araroa
CARRIED**

8.3 Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Update

*Presentation: Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Update - Gemma Moleta:
Objective ID A4207280*

*Tabled Document 1 - Rangitāiki values, visions and environmental outcomes:
Objective ID A4212695*

Presented by: Gemma Moleta, Senior Planner (Water Policy)

Key Points:

- Outlined draft policy options that were currently available for feedback.
- The Kaitiakitanga chapter review would be available soon followed by Rangitāiki specific policy at the end of the year.
- An early draft working copy of a long-term vision, alternative (abridged) vision option, freshwater values and environmental outcomes was tabled (refer Tabled Document) and would circulate electronically to members for consideration and feedback.
- The alternative (abridged) vision had been drafted following previous hui with iwi and was based on the Regional Policy Statement objectives and Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki and highlighted the most important goals that were wanted within the Rangitāiki catchment.
- Elements of Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy of obligations had been incorporated.
- Outlined feedback received from the 'Participate' online engagement tool, which also included the protection of Whirinaki forest park natural character and community to keep awa clean and available to all people - 10-50 years to achieve vision.

In Response to Questions:

- The assessment of values and their hierarchy would be established through limit setting and actions, which needed to be worked through before plan change notification in 2024.
- Provided clarification around National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management mahinga kai compulsory values, which provided more substantial and holistic values in regard to tangata whenua relationships to taonga species and environmental values.
- Regional Council had funding set aside to assist tangata whenua to define and establish mahinga kai values and provide support post-implementation.

Key Points - Members:

- Noted that whitewater rafting and kayak access had been provided below Aniwhenua Dam by Pioneer Energy.
- Wished to see tuna passage given the same priority as recreational access.

Resolved**That the Rangitāiki River Forum:**

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

**Rangiaho/Silcock
CARRIED**

8.4 2022 Local Government Elections Update

Presented by: Chris Ingle, General Manager Integrated Catchments

Key Points:

- Noted the Local Government elections process, which would require a hiatus to the Councils' and Forum's meeting schedules until early 2023.
- Staff would advise Forum members when the 2023 meeting dates were set.

Key Points - Members:

- The Chair noted that Cr Clark was not standing in the upcoming election and on behalf of the Forum, thanked him for his contribution to the Forum over the past six years.

Resolved**That the Rangitāiki River Forum:**

- 1 Receives the report, 2022 Local Government Elections Update.**

**Kalman/Araroa
CARRIED**

9. General Business

Forum members requested the actions be followed up by staff:

1. Request a written letter/update from the Department of Conservation on the whitebait regulations.
2. Extend an invitation to Forum members and Chair of Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority to attend the LakesWater Quality Society Conference symposium being held on 10-11 November 2022 at the Millennium Hotel, Rotorua; and advise members if registration and accommodation will be funded.
3. A Forum Workshop in early 2023 to revisit Te Ara Whānui and refocus the Forum's purpose. A pre-lwi hui to be scheduled prior to the workshop.

10. Karakia Kati Closing Karakia

A karakia was provided by Miro Araroa.

12:35 pm - the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED

Bronco Carson
Chairperson, Rangitāiki River Forum



Pūrongo Ki: Report To:	Rangitāiki River Forum
Rā Hui: Meeting Date:	23 March 2023
Kaituhi Pūrongo: Report Writer:	Shari Kameta, Committee Advisor
Kaiwhakamana Pūrongo: Report Authoriser:	Yvonne Tatton, Governance Manager Chris Ingle, General Manager, Integrated Catchments
Kaupapa: Purpose:	To advise and update the Rangitāiki River Forum on membership changes

Change of Membership

Whakarāpopototanga Executive Summary

This report is to advise and update the Rangitāiki River Forum (Forum) of changes made to the Forum's membership following the 2022 local body triennial elections and Hineuru Iwi Trust's trustee elections held in October 2022.

Ngā tūtohutanga Recommendations

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Change of Membership.**
- 2 Confirms the following members appointed to the Rangitāiki River Forum:**
 - **Crs Malcolm Campbell, Toi Kai Rakau Iti (reappointed), Kat Macmillan, Ken Shirley and Kevin Winters (reappointed) as the appointed members for Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana.**
 - **Crs Tuwhakairiora O'Brien as the appointed member for Whakatāne District Council and Wilson James (reappointed) as the alternate member.**
 - **Crs John Williamson (reappointed) as the appointed member for Taupō District Council and Yvonne Westermen as the alternate member.**

- **Ngawai Crawford as the appointed member for Hineuru Iwi Trust and Tracy Bush as the alternate member.**
- **Mihipeka Sisley as the alternate member for Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa.**

1. **He Whakamārama Background**

Under the Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012, Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement 2012, Tūhoe Claims Settlement Act 2014, Hineuru Claims Settlement Act 2016 and Ngāti Tūwharetoa Claims Settlement Act 2018, the Forum is a permanent joint committee of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana, Whakatāne District Council and Taupō District Council.

Following the local body triennial elections held in October 2022, each local authority appointed their members to the Forum, as part of establishing their new committee structure and appointments.

In addition to the above, changes in representation have occurred for the following appointing entities:

- Hineuru Iwi Trust undertook a review of its representation on the Forum following their trustee elections in October 2022 and has had a change in representation.
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa have appointed a new alternate member due Whakatāne District Council's change in membership.

As this is the first meeting of the Forum since the above appointments were made, this report is to advise the Forum of these changes.

The Forum's Terms of Reference has been updated with the membership changes.

2. **Forum Membership**

Under the Ngāti Manawa and Ngāti Whare Settlement Acts¹, members are appointed and discharged by their appointing entities. A member appointed by an iwi may resign by giving written notice to their appointing entity; and where there is a vacancy on the Forum, the relevant appointer must fill that vacancy as soon as is reasonably practical.

2.1 **Alternate Members**

Although not specified in the legislation, alternate members may be appointed by each appointing entity. This is to ensure that if the primary appointed member is unavailable to attend Forum hui and workshops, their alternate can assume this role on their behalf.

Alternate members may attend and participate at Forum hui and workshops, but do not have voting rights or count as part of the quorum when the appointed member is present at the meeting.

¹ s108 Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012, s112 Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012

3. **Ngā Whakaarohanga Considerations**

3.1 **Ngā Mōrea me Ngā Whakangāwaritanga Risks and Mitigations**

There are no significant risks associated with this matter.

3.2 **Huringa Āhuarangi Climate Change**

The matters addressed in this report are of a procedural nature and there is no need to consider climate change impacts.

3.3 **Ngā Pānga ki te Māori Implications for Māori**

The matters addressed in this report are of a procedural nature and have no negative implications for Māori.

The Forum was established under the Ngāti Whare Claims Settlement Act 2012 and the Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Act 2012 and is a permanent joint committee, and co-governance partnership between iwi and local authorities under the Local Government Act 2002.

Forum membership provides for alternate members to attend meetings and vote when the primary member is absent, allowing for representation of both iwi and local authority partners at meetings.

3.4 **Whakawhitiwhiti ā-Hapori Community Engagement**



Engagement with the community is not required as the report is of a procedural nature.

3.5 **Ngā Pānga ā-Pūtea Financial Implications**

There are no material unbudgeted financial implications and this fits within the allocated budget. The establishment and implementation of the Forum's governance and decision-making structure is budgeted for in Council's Governance Services' activity.

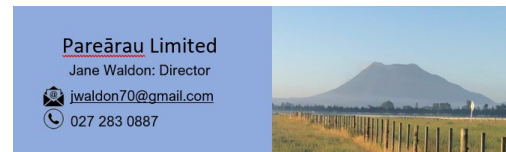
4. **Ngā Mahi Whai Ake Next Steps**

Membership update reports will be provided when changes are advised and fall due.

Rangitāiki Catchment Programme Dashboard December 2022-February 2023										
Programme Manager		Charles Harley	As of Forum Meeting	23 March 2023		Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki Actions		Programme Highlights		
Programme Sponsor		Chris Ingle	Previous Reporting Period	July – November 2022		Objective 7		Rivers & Drainage - Mahinga kai watercress areas were protected in the process of the spraying of plant pests along the length of the Waikokopu Stream and improving drainage of the Waiohau School fields. College Road floodwall construction is progressing well.		
Category	Previous RAG Status	Current RAG Status	Comment on any RAG where status is not Green			3.3		Science – a report ‘Baseline State, current state and trend in river attributes in the Bay of Plenty’ is available at https://www.boprc.govt.nz/your-council/documents-and-publications#2417-3		
Overall	Green	Green				2.3		Dama wallaby – Thermal camera installed on Matahina dam will monitor heat and movement over the dam and notify officers, this should enable early detection of any wallabies crossing the Rangitāiki River.		
Schedule	Green	Green	Amber – schedule slippage on 2 projects with WDC and 1 with BOPRC, Red – scope slippage on 1 project with BOPRC.			Objective 1, 7.4		Coastal Catchments - currently recruiting for the position of Fish Passage Officer (Native fish migration). As part of this role the Bay of Plenty Regional Council would like to establish and facilitate a BOP Fish Care Forum of stakeholders. This role will facilitate the new regulations and work towards best management practices with the establishment of new structures in waterway i.e., culverts, floodgates, and remediation of current structures (barriers or obstacles to native fish migration).		
Scope	Green	Green				Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki Actions		Overall Progress		
Resources	Green	Green				2.3		50%		
Budget	Green	Green				2.3		85%		
No.	Annual Work Plan Projects 2022/2023					2.3		85%		
Shared			Scope	Budget	Schedule	2, 3 & 4		75%		
1	Te Hekenga o Tuna Plan			Green	Green	Green	5.5, 8.6		0%	
Bay of Plenty Regional Council			Scope	Budget	Schedule	Objective 2		75%		
1	Biosecurity			Green	Green	Green	Objective 1, 7.4		80%	
2	Coastal Catchments Land Management			Green	Green	Green	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.6, 5.5, 7.5.		50%	
3	Engineering			Green	Green	Green	Objective 7		65%	
4	Integrated Planning			Green	Green	Green	Objective 7		20%	
5	Rivers & Drainage			Green	Green	Green	Objective 7		Choose an item.	
6	Science			Red	Green	Green	Objective 7		30%	
Whakatāne District Council			Scope	Budget	Schedule	Objective 7		65%		
1	Lake Aniwanuiwa (Aniwhenua) – Renewals budget (plus staff time)			Green	Green	Green	3.2		50%	
2	Edgecumbe Reserves – Renewals budget (plus staff time)			Green	Green	Green	3.2		10%	
3	Thornton Domain - Renewals budget plus staff time			Green	Green	Green	3.2		40%	
4	Murupara Wastewater Treatment Plan receiving environmental monitoring - \$128,000			Green	Amber	Green	3.2, 5.6, 7.5		20%	
5	Murupara, Te Mahoe, Otumahi Water Safety Plan Initiatives - \$490,000			Green	Amber	Green	3.2		50%	
6	Watermain renewals - \$51,000 Murupara, \$257,000 for whole of Rangitāiki Plains water supply network.			Green	Green	Green	3.2		20%	

Objective ID:

7	Murupara Wastewater Network Inflow and Infiltration Strategy - \$20,000	Green	Green	Green	8.3, 8.5	90%	WDC – licence to occupy 33 College Road reserve was granted to Waka Ama o Rangitāiki in order to establish a Waka Ama ramp; a concrete ramp to launch Waka Ama is pending resource consent and installation. Installed new BBQ facilities, drinking fountain and beach shower in each toilet block at Thornton Domain in December 2022.
Taupō District Council		Scope	Budget	Schedule	2.3, 2.4, 6.2, 6.3, 7, 8.4	65%	TDC – District Plan Review – Plan changes were notified in October 2022, will be notified for further submissions in March. Anticipating hearings mid 2023 depending on Commissioner availability.
1	District plan review	Green	Green	Green	3.3	100%	Science – NERM SOE Monitoring – routine monthly WQ sampling has continued at 7 sites in the Rangitāiki as well as routine invertebrate monitoring at 13 sites; results are available on the Councils WaterEcologyTool (WET) https://boprcsoftware.shinyapps.io/Water_Ecology_Tool/
2	Maintenance of the northern part of Taharua Road, Matea Road, Matea Bridge and Rangitāiki School Road	Green	Green	Green	3.3	100%	Science – Rangitāiki Catchment Fish Surveys – the current survey data 2019-2022 will be analysed and written up for presentation in mid-late 2023; however, no more fish surveys will be conducted due to local iwi opposition to electric fishing methods.
3	Biodiversity Strategy	Green	Green	Green	3.1, 4.1, 4.2	25%	NPS-Freshwater – preparing for engagement, including developing the Rangitāiki FMU freshwater engagement document and schedule; letters inviting consideration of draft policy issues and options were shared with iwi organisations in December 2022.
						20%	Eastern Bay Spatial Planning – the scope is still being refined, Governance and partnership structure and membership is being determined in March-April 2023.
Te Ara Whanui o Rangitāiki Actions		Programme Upcoming Activities					
	Objective 7	Rivers & Drainage - operations team plans to return to schedules maintenance works such as weed spraying, planting and flood gates replacements; consultation with the Rangitāiki River Forum and the Rangitāiki-Tarawera River Scheme Advisory Group about spillway construction costs; Lower Rangitāiki River left bank stopbank raising contract will be tendered.					
	2, 3 & 4	Coastal Catchments - Pest animal control operations for Environmental Programmes are due to start in March eg Pūtauaki and Omataroa (Puhikoko).					
	3.1, 4.1, 4.2	NPS-Freshwater - Raising awareness in March of upcoming engagement on the Essential Freshwater Policy Programme; the engagement will take place in April and September and expect to include reconvening the Rangitāiki Freshwater Community Group once more; two hui-a-rohe in the Eastern Bay (May and a later date) and two community workshops for Rangitāiki.					
	8.3, 8.5	WDC – Rangitāiki River Festival and installation of Waka Ama ramp for use by Waka Ama o Rangitāiki.					



Pūrongo Ki: Rangitāiki River Forum
Report To:

Rā Hui: 21 March 2022
Meeting Date:

Kaituhi Pūrongo: Jane Waldon, Co-Governance Secretariat
Report Writer:

Kaiwhakamana Pūrongo: Chris Ingle, General Manager Integrated Catchments
Report Authoriser:

Kaupapa: Secretariat Update
Purpose:

Secretariat Update

Whakarāpopototanga Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the work undertaken by the Secretariat for the iwi members of the Rangitāiki River Forum since the last hui held in 2022.

- Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki – Pathways of the Rangitāiki review
- Tuna Plan
- Charitable Trust
- Website development
- Communications Strategy

Ngā tūtohutanga Recommendations

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

- 1 Receives the report, Secretariat Update;**
- 2 Agrees that the timeframe for reviewing Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki for the iwi within the Forum is brought forward to begin in 2023;**
- 3 Agrees to create a working party to review the Tuna Plan.**

1. **He Whakamārama Introduction**

The last meeting of the Rangitāiki River Forum was held on Friday 2 September 2022. This report outlines mahi undertaken since that hui on behalf of the iwi members of the Forum.

2. **Secretariat Actions**

2.1 **Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki**

The creation of Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki – Pathways of the Rangitāiki (Te Ara Whānui, the river document) was a legislative requirement under the Ngāti Whare and Ngāti Manawa Claims Settlement Acts 2012. It provides a vision, objectives and desired outcomes for the Rangitāiki River to provide direction for work to improve the river's health and guide its future management. The document was finalised and released in February 2015. It has a 10-year life cycle through the Regional Council planning cycle and is due to be reviewed in 2025.

Since the document was made operative, another iwi has been added to the Rangitāiki River Forum, Ngāi Tūhoe. Due to timing, they (and to some extent Ngāti Hineuru) have not had the same level of input into the creation of the document as other iwi within the Forum. The Rangitāiki River Forum are trailblazers being the first co-governance regime over a river to be created through Treaty settlement legislation. Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki was therefore, ground-breaking. However, this meant during the creation stage of the River document, the plane was being built as it was being flown. Most Iwi members now have a much better understanding of Regional Council planning processes and the work Council undertakes on the river and are therefore in a better position to engage with Council staff for the review.

At the last meeting of the Forum, the Forum requested a workshop in early 2023 to revisit Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki and refocus the Forum's purpose. A pre-iwi hui is to be scheduled prior to the workshop. The intent is to undertake engagement with the iwi in the Forum now rather than waiting for the 2025 review date. This will give iwi members on the Forum ample time to have input into the review of the document rather than trying to squeeze it all into the standard planning cycle timeframe.

2.1.1 **Tuna Plan**

Work on the Tuna Plan has yet to begin. Prior to Christmas we were given a Summer Student as a part-time, short-term resource to begin work around capturing information on cultural environmental indicators used by iwi/hapū practitioners working on the river. These would be used to create bespoke Cultural Health Indices for different parts of the river(s). As the Rangitāiki and some of its tributaries have dams, the behaviour (and therefore the cultural indicators) of the river is quite different, depending on which part of the river we are looking at. Therefore, a bespoke Cultural Health Index for each part of the river would ensure we are capturing data from a Mātauranga Māori lens that is specific to that part of the river.

This mahi was to begin with a hui with the Chair in December 2022 to help guide a project plan for the mahi to be undertaken (i.e. approval to begin mahi, who we should be working with, any particular interview questions required etc). Unfortunately, due to tangihanga, illness, bad weather and capacity issues, the hui was unable to be held and the Summer Student has now returned to her studies.

However, if a review of the River document is to begin this year, this would be the perfect time to revisit the Tuna Plan to determine if it is still fit for purpose. It would be useful to form a working party (either using Forum members or representatives nominated by their Forum member) that meets regularly. The working party members would act as a conduit for information between the working party and iwi. Their mahi would be funded from the Secretariat budget.

2.1.2 Charitable Trust

One of the issues regarding funding iwi environmental projects is the inability of the Rangitāiki River Forum to apply for and administer funding for environmental projects. Unfortunately the ability to apply for environmental funding is not included in the Treaty Settlement legislation that created the Forum. This means that iwi within the Forum are unable to apply for funding under the Forum, for environmental projects i.e. funding to undertake the mahi required under the River document and the Tuna Plan.

Te Maru o Kaituna (Te Maru) is the co-governance committee for the Kaituna River. They do have the ability to apply for funding under the Tapuika Treaty Settlement legislation. Last year they applied for and received funding from Te Wai Māori and the Western Bay of Plenty District Council. The funding was received and is administered by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council on behalf of the iwi members of the committee. However Te Maru have found Council approval processes for administering the funding onerous and this has led to contractors being paid late. This can make it difficult to reach funding milestones on time.

Legal advice sought has advised that a Charitable Trust (covering both committees) is the best mechanism for applying for and distributing funding for environmental projects. The Charitable Trust's purpose would need to align with the purposes of both River documents (i.e. Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki and Kaituna He Taonga Tuku Iho). The Charitable Trust would apply for funding and administer that funding based on what the funding was required for. This would remove the need to involve Regional Council in the administration of the funding, streamlining the process and giving control back to iwi.

It will cost between \$4K-6K to set up the Charitable Trust. This cost would be met through the Secretariat budget. I have received approval from the Chairs of both Committees to progress this mahi which is still in the early stages of development.

Legal advice received to date is:

- It is doable from a legal perspective to set up a separate legal charity
- Align objectives of the two groups and find ways to ensure they are all on board
- The most painful part will be the Anti-Money Laundering processes which can be painful for a new entity.

The Secretariat will commission Tuia Group from Wellington to undertake this work. They provide business consulting, commercial law, investment and economic development advice. They have been involved in setting up Post Settlement Governance Entities in the past and have a good reputation. Toko Kapea is a Director of Tuia Group and is the person I have been working with. More information about Tuia Group and Toko can be found on their website: [Tuia Group](#). Tuia Group are awaiting the green light from me to undertake this mahi.

There is currently funding available to set up a Charitable Trust. Ongoing funding for the administration of the Charitable Trust will need to be considered. If a

Charitable Trust is approved, iwi members will also need to consider who should be Trustees. Other considerations for a Charitable Trust include:

- Aligning the river documents' outcomes with the Charitable Trust Deed. This will potentially be written by Tuia Group and approved by the Forum.
- Undertaking appropriate Anti-Money Laundering checks
- Setting up a bank account and administrator for the Charitable Trust

More information around ongoing costs for administration will be provided to the iwi members as information is received. At this stage it is envisioned that these costs will be met through the Secretariat budget while it is available. Once the Trust Deed has been finalised and approved by the iwi members, the Charitable Trust can be created.

2.1.3 Website Development

A website for the Rangitāiki River is in the process of being designed, commissioned by the Secretariat on behalf of the iwi members of the Forum. This will provide an online presence specifically for the Rangitāiki River and its tributaries. A presentation will be provided at the meeting by Adria Green of Grahn Creative, who has been commissioned to create the website. This will be a sample of the design layout for consideration/feedback. We hope to have it up and running before the end of the financial year. The website will provide an online portal for any environmental projects undertaken that support/improve the health and wellbeing of the river.

2.1.4 Communications Strategy

As well as the website, the Secretariat has commissioned a Communications Strategy for the Forum. This will help ensure we have consistency with communications across a number of communication platforms (e.g. Instagram, Facebook etc), including the website. To ensure consistency, Grahn Creative have been commissioned to undertake this mahi.

3. Ngā Mahi Whai Ake Next Steps

There is currently funding available to create and maintain the website, create a Communications Strategy and set up a Charitable Trust. Long-term ongoing funding for these will need to be considered and may need to be applied for through Council's Ten Year and Annual Plan processes. If the Charitable Trust is set up, it may have other funding avenues available to help cover administrative costs.

More information around costs for the ongoing maintenance of the website, Communications Strategy and Charitable Trust will be provided to iwi members in due course, likely via email for consideration and feedback.



Pūrongo Ki: Report To:	Rangitāiki River Forum
Rā Hui: Meeting Date:	23 March 2023
Kaituhi Pūrongo: Report Writer:	Kirsty Brown, Rivers and Drainage Assets Manager
Kaiwhakamana Pūrongo: Report Authoriser:	Chris Ingle, General Manager, Integrated Catchments
Kaupapa: Purpose:	To provide an update from the Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group meeting.

Update from the Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group

Whakarāpopototanga Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to facilitate good communication between the Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group and the Rangitāiki River Forum by providing a high-level overview of key topics from the advisory group's recent meeting.

The Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group is scheduled to meet on Wednesday 22 March, and a verbal update of matters discussed at that meeting can be provided at the Forum meeting.

Ngā tūtohutanga Recommendations

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

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

1. He Whakamārama Background

The primary purpose of our river scheme advisory groups is to provide for scheme ratepayer input into decisions around annual maintenance operations, capital programme delivery and the management of scheme flood protection and drainage assets.

The purpose of this report is to facilitate good communication flow between the Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group and the Rangitāiki River Forum by providing a high-level overview of key topics from the advisory group's recent meetings.

2. Key Topics

2.1.1 Scheme Capital Works Programme 2022/23

Capital works programme for 2022/23 includes:

- Rangitāiki Floodway
- Rangitāiki Floodwalls upgrade – College Road
- Tarawera River left bank stopbank upgrade
- Lower Rangitāiki River left bank stopbank upgrade – Thornton Beach Road.

2.1.2 Scheme Maintenance Works Programme 2022/23

Scheme's maintenance works programme for 2022/23 includes:

- Upgrade switchboard and electronic – Old Rangitāiki Channel pump station.
- Repair of four high priority defects identified through asset condition inspections.
- Ongoing animal and plant pest management and clearing of fly tipping.
- Working collaboratively with iwi/hapū including Rangitāiki Hapū Coalition, Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Haka Patuheuheu and Ngāti Rangitahi.
- Implementing the objectives of the Rangitāiki River Forum, contained within the river document Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki – Pathways of the Rangitāiki.

2.1.3 Asset Management Planning

Overview of changing river management practices to be incorporated in the up-and-coming Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan review, with a focus on adaptation to climate change and maximising natural river processes while continuing to meet flood protection levels of service. Future solutions may involve providing more room for the river and using nature-based management solutions.

2.1.4 Gravel Extraction

Gravel management currently occurs in the upper Rangitāiki River catchment. No extraction is carried out in the reaches below Matahina Dam.

The principal extraction areas are the Horomanga River and the Kopuriki Stream. Extraction at both of these sites is supported by Council's Environmental Engineer,

due to perching of these river/stream beds, which creates a hazard situation for nearby landowners and public infrastructure.

Benefits to the river system of the extraction include:

- Reducing the potential for flooding from a severely aggraded stream.
- Reducing the potential for the stream to avulse (jump out of its bed and change course, across private land).
- Improving the flood carrying capacity of road bridges.

There has been no extraction from the Horomanga River and 7,928 m³ of material has been extracted from the Kopuriki Stream during 2021/22.

2.1.5 **General Business**

The General Business report including the following items:

- River Scheme Advisory Group's Terms of Reference review.
- Condition and performance assessments of flood protection and drainage assets.
- Settlement of the April 2017 flood repair insurance claim.

3. **Ngā Whakaarohanga Considerations**

3.1 **Ngā Mōrea me Ngā Whakangāwaritanga Risks and Mitigations**

There are no significant risks associated with this matter/subject/project/initiative.

3.2 **Huringa Āhuarangi Climate Change**

The local and regional impacts of climate change and the need to adapt to a changing climate are front of mind for the regional council. The purpose of the rivers and drainage and engineering teams is to ensure our communities are protected from flood hazards, as defined in the Asset Management Plan, and that includes the need to adapt to climate change forecasts. The Council has various programmes in place to address this. Council's climate change programme manager is available to speak to the committee if that is desired at any future meeting.

3.3 **Ngā Pānga ki te Māori Implications for Māori**

Iwi and hapū are significant landowners within the rivers and drainage schemes. Our flood protection and drainage infrastructure contributes towards protecting waahi tapu sites, marae and local housing from floodwaters, and maintains productive land from high ground water.

Building strong, effective, and meaningful partnerships with Māori helps ensure our infrastructure assets meet community needs. Improving the communication link between the Advisory Group and the River Forum will enable the opportunity to

adopt more of a Te Ao Māori lens and Mātauranga Māori approach in river scheme decisions and practices.

3.4 **Ngā Pānga ā-Pūtea
Financial Implications**

There are no material unbudgeted financial implications and this fits within the allocated budget.

4. **Ngā Mahi Whai Ake
Next Steps**

Updates from the bi-annual Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group meetings will be on-going.



Pūrongo Ki: Report To:	Rangitāiki River Forum
Rā Hui: Meeting Date:	23 March 2023
Kaituhi Pūrongo: Report Writer:	Nicola Green, Principal Advisor, Policy & Planning; Michelle Lee, Planner (Water Policy) and Gemma Moleta, Senior Planner (Water Policy)
Kaiwhakamana Pūrongo: Report Authoriser:	Namouta Poutasi, General Manager, Strategy & Science
Kaupapa: Purpose:	To update Rangitāiki River Forum on the engagement approach for the Essential Freshwater Policy Programme in 2023.

Essential Freshwater Policy Programme Update

Whakarāpopototanga Executive Summary

Toi Moana's Essential Freshwater Policy Programme to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 continues to progress according to the overarching timeline, although there is slippage. This year, the focus is primarily on continuing to involve tangata whenua, community engagement and also continuing to develop draft policy options. The timeline to publicly notify proposed changes to the Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan is December 2024. Tangata whenua involvement continues to be invited. Letters inviting consideration of draft policy issues and options were sent to iwi organisations late 2022.

During February and March 2023, public awareness raising of upcoming engagement is being delivered through various forms of media, and at some community events including at the Rangitāiki River Festival on 11 March.

During April - September 2023 engagement will begin with three sub-regional hui around the region, as well as reconvening the Freshwater Futures Community Groups for Rangitāiki once more. This will be followed by 2-3 community workshops in each Freshwater Management Unit (FMU). Dates are in the draft calendar (in Attachment 2) but are not yet confirmed.

1. Rangitāiki River Forum (RRF) members are invited to advise on the approach to engagement, any potential clashes or issues associated with the draft engagement schedule, events, or venues.
2. The finalised engagement calendar will be shared with RRF.
3. Hui-a-rohe and community workshops will be advertised. Toi Moana staff encourage RRF members to promote participation at relevant events.
4. The copy of the Rangitāiki FMU freshwater engagement document will be made available to Rangitāiki River Forum members.

Ngā tūtohutanga Recommendations

That the Rangitāiki River Forum:

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

1. He Whakamārama Background

The Essential Freshwater Policy Programme (EFPP) is Toi Moana - Bay of Plenty Regional Council's work programme to implement the requirements of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPSFM) and review the Regional Natural Resources Plan (RNRP). Overall, the EFPP continues to be implemented according to Toi Moana's agreed programme, although some parts are behind schedule.

Tight timeframes are necessary to achieve notification of freshwater changes to the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) & RNRP in 2024 as required by legislation. The timeline - Te rārangi wā is shown in Attachment 1. This year, the focus is primarily on continuing to involve tangata whenua, community engagement and continuing to develop draft policy options, prior to Toi Moana making decisions about what proposed changes to publicly notify in 2024.

This report provides an update on implementation progress most relevant to the Rangitāiki.

2. Implementation update

Letters inviting consideration of draft policy issues and options were sent to iwi organisations late last year. A briefing can be arranged if requested.

3. Ngā Whakaarohanga Considerations

3.1 Ngā Mōrea me Ngā Whakangāwaritanga Risks and Mitigations

There are no significant risks associated with this matter.

3.2 **Huringa Āhuarangi Climate Change**

The matters addressed in this report are of a procedural nature and there is no need to consider climate change impacts. Climate change impacts will be considered by Toi Moana as part of implementing the NPSFM and reviewing the RNRP.

3.3 **Ngā Pānga ki te Māori Implications for Māori**

Freshwater is a taonga for tangata whenua. The NPSFM clearly sets out increased expectation of the active involvement of tangata whenua in freshwater management, and provision for cultural values and mātauranga Māori. In the Rangitāiki FMU, there are iwi initiated freshwater projects.

Toi Moana staff continue to invite and support iwi and hapū involvement to the extent they want to be involved or have capacity to be involved. The challenges of tangata whenua engagement will continue into 2023 and staff are maintaining a good faith approach to implementing the aspirations of the NPSFM.

Relevant key tangata whenua engagement activities include:

- The engagement plan includes three hui-a-rohe. It is anticipated that Toi Moana Māori constituency councillors will provide leadership for these.
- The engagement plan includes each FMU having at least one event at a kaupapa Māori related venue such as a kura, marae, trust board office. Suggestions are welcomed.
- The draft dates for the engagement plan to be shared with tangata whenua via the Relationship Managers and the iwi/hapū contact lists.
- Relationship Managers and the iwi/hapū contact lists are being used to distribute communications and material. These lists are continuously updated as required.
- Work continues on establishing Kaupapa Māori EFPP projects.
- EFPP updates to joint committees, co-governance committees and advisory groups.
- All communications contain invitations to contact Toi Moana as a way to get involved in the freshwater work of Council.

3.4 **Whakawhitiwhiti ā-Hapori Community Engagement**

Toi Moana staff are preparing for public engagement throughout 2023. Tangata whenua engagement will continue to occur alongside the wider community engagement process for 2023.

During February and March, public awareness raising of the upcoming engagement will be delivered through various forms of media, and at some community events including at the Rangitāiki River Festival on 11 March.

Communication publications are being prepared for each FMU. The copy for the Rangitāiki FMU will be made available for RRF members.

The active engagement period will start in April until September 2023 and will include three sub-regional hui around the region, as well as reconvening the Freshwater Futures Community Groups for Rangitāiki, Kaituna and Pongakawa once more to let

them know where we have got to since they provided their advice throughout 2015-2017. Followed by 2-3 workshops in each FMU. A draft calendar is provided in Attachment 2. This is subject to change until all potential event clashes are identified and venues are booked. This represents a large commitment for Toi Moana staff, which will stretch capacity, and yet still may not be as much engagement as some tangata whenua or wider community members would like.

Structure and content of the engagement events is yet to be developed. Rangitāiki River Forum, and iwi are welcome to discuss or provide advice on the approach or potential venues.

3.5 **Te Hāngai ki te Pou Tarāwaho Rautaki Alignment with Strategic Framework**

NPSFM implementation is a non-discretionary Toi Moana function. This freshwater work will also assist with delivering on the objectives and policies in the Treaty Co-governance Rangitāiki River section of the Regional Policy Statement (RPS), which is based on *Te Ara Whānui o Rangitāiki - Pathways of the Rangitāiki* river document.

3.6 **Ngā Pānga ā-Pūtea Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications for Rangitāiki River Forum associated with this report. Engagement activities mentioned in this report fit within the Toi Moana EFPP allocated budget.

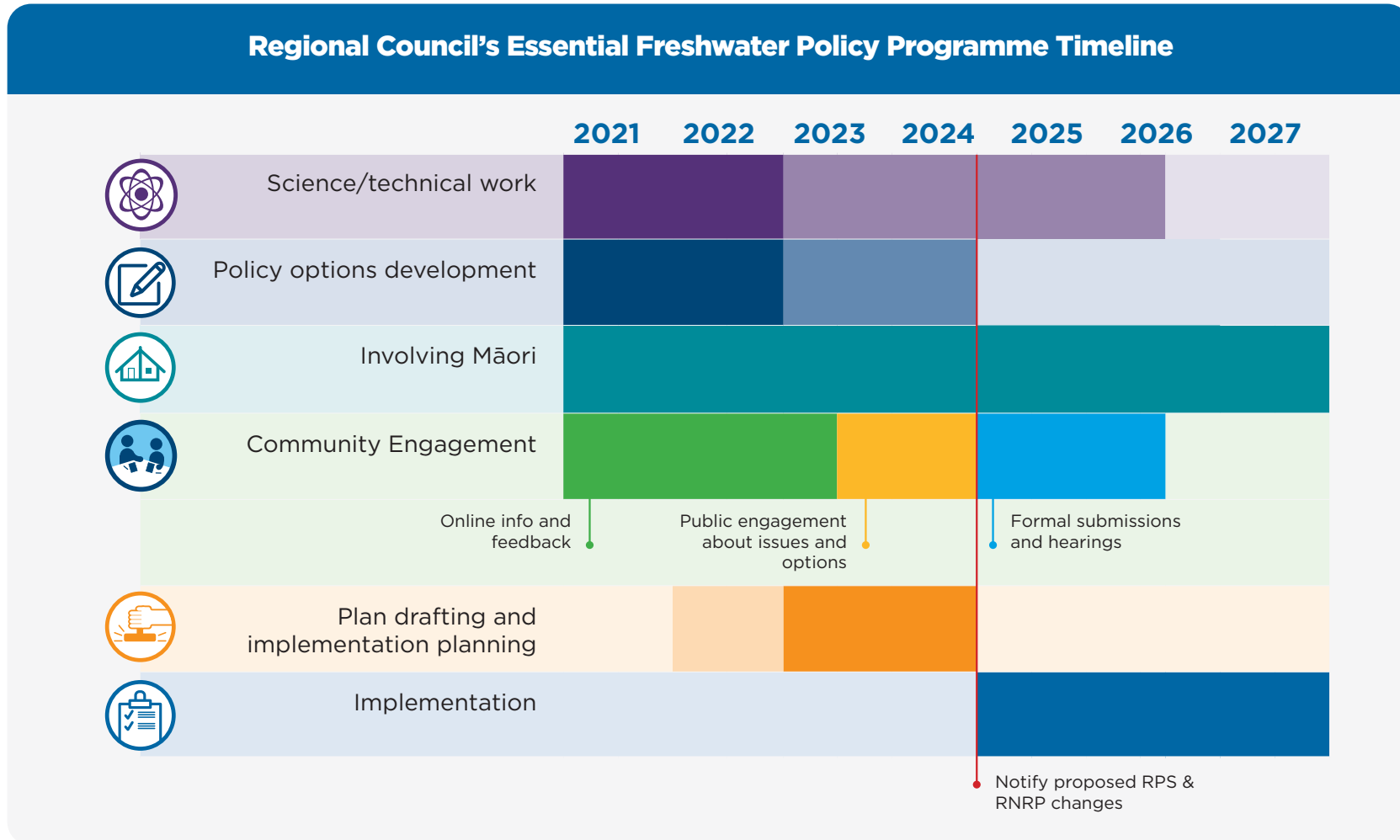
4. **Ngā Mahi Whai Ake Next Steps**

1. Rangitāiki River Forum members are invited to advise on the approach to engagement events, any potential clashes or issues associated with the draft engagement schedule, events, or venues.
2. The finalised engagement calendar will be shared with the Rangitāiki River Forum.
3. Hui-a-rohe and community workshops will be advertised, and Toi Moana staff encourage Rangitāiki River Forum members to promote participation at relevant events.
4. The Rangitāiki Freshwater Management Unit freshwater engagement document will be made available to Rangitāiki River Forum members.

Tuhinga Tautoko Attachments

Attachment 1 - Essential freshwater policy programme update - Te rārangi wā - timeline [↓](#)

Attachment 2 - DRAFT Engagement activities for Essential Freshwater Policy Programme 2023 [↓](#)



Notes: Dark coloured blocks show when the bulk of work occurs. Light coloured blocks show activity continuing.
 RPS = Regional Policy Statement & RNRP = Regional Natural Resources Plan

2023 DRAFT EFPP Engagement Calendar (Version 12 January 2023)													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Mon	30 Auckland Anniversary						29						Mon
Tue	31 No meetings after Public Holiday						30 Tarawera						Tue
Wed		1	1				31 Whakatāne						Wed
Thu		2	2			1		1					Thu
Fri		3	3 Rangitāiki River Forum			2	Rangitāiki* (Rangitāiki River Forum)			4	Kaituna* (TMOk)	1	Fri
Sat		4		4		3			2	Whakatāne		2	Sat
Sun	1 New Years Day	5 Kaitikati A&P Show		2 Daylight savings ends		4			3			3	Sun
Mon	2 Day after New Years Day	6 Waitangi Day		3 Rangitāiki Freshwater Futures Community Group	1 RESOF	5 Kings Birthday	3		7	No EFPP meetings	4		Mon
Tue	3 New Years Day Observed	7		4 Kaituna Freshwater Futures Community Group	2	6	4 Tauranga Moana	8	No EFPP meetings (Strategy and Policy)	5		7 TLA Forum	Tue
Wed		8		5 Waioeka-Otara RSAG	3 Waitahanui	7	5	9	No EFPP meetings	6	Additional Focus Group (Kaituna Catchment Control)	4	Wed
Thu		9		6 Pongakawa-Waitahanui Freshwater Futures	4 TLA Forum	8	6	10	No EFPP meetings	7	Ōhiwa* (OHIF)	5	Thu
Fri		10 Te Maru o Kaituna	10 Tauranga Moana Advisory Board	7 Good Friday	5 Waihi Estuary	9 Tauranga Moana* (TM Advisory Group)	7	11	No EFPP meetings	8	Rangitāiki* (Rangitāiki River Forum)	6	Fri
Sat		11 Te Puke A&P Show	11 Rangitāiki River Festival	8	6 Kaituna	10	8	12 Rotorua	9			7	Sat
Sun		12		9	7	11	9	13	10			8	Sun
Mon		13 TLA Forum		10 Easter Monday	8 No EFPP meetings	12	10	14 TLA Forum	11			9	Mon
Tue		14	14 Ōhiwa Harbour Implementation Forum	11 No EFPP meetings	9 No EFPP meetings (AP Hearings)	13	11	15 Katikati Allocation	12	Waihi Estuary		10	Tue
Wed		15	15 Kaituna Catchment Control	12 No EFPP meetings	10 No EFPP meetings (AP Hearings)	14	12	16	13	Waitahanui		11	Wed
Thu		16		13 No EFPP meetings	11 No EFPP meetings (AP Hearings)	15	13	17 Tauranga Moana	14			12	Thu
Fri		17		14 No EFPP meetings (Te Maru o Kaituna)	12 No EFPP meetings	16	14	18 Matariki	15	Kaituna		13	Fri
Sat		18 Tauranga A&P Show		15	13	17	15	19	16			14	Sat
Sun		19		16	14	18	16	20	17			15	Sun
Mon		20		17 Hui a Rohe	15 Ōhiwa	19 Mōtiti	17	21 Mōtiti	18	Additional Focus Group (Kaituna Catchment Control)		16	Mon
Tue		21		18 Hui a Rohe	16 Strategy and Policy	20	18	22 Waiotaha	19	Hui a Rohe		17	Tue
Wed		22	22 Rangitāiki- Tarawera RSAG	19 Hui a Rohe	17 East Coast	21	19	23 Waioeka-Ōtara	20	Whakatāne-Tauranga RSAG		18	Wed
Thu		23		20	18 Waioeka-Ōtara	22	20	24 East Coast	21			19	Thu
Fri		24	24 RTALSG	21 Contingency for Hui a Rohe	19 Waiotaha	23 Rotorua* (RTALSG)	21	25 Ōhiwa	22	Contingency for Hui a Rohe	20 Rotorua* (RTALSG)	20	Fri
Sat		25		22	20	24	22	26	23			21	Sat
Sun		26		23	21 Tauranga Moana	25	23	27 Rangitāiki	24	Daylight savings		22	Sun
Mon		27	27 Waka Ama- Lake Tikitapu	24	22	26 RESOF	24	28 RESOF	25	No EFPP meetings	23 Labour Day	25	Mon
Tue		28 Te Arawa Restoration Group	28	25 ANZAC Day	23 Rotorua	27	25	29 Te Arawa Restoration Group	26	No EFPP meetings (NSB Hearings)	24 RESOF	26	Tue
Wed			29 Whakatane-Tauranga RSAG	26 Whakatāne	24	28	26	30 Tarawera	27	No EFPP meetings (NSB Hearings; Waioeka-Otara RSAG)	25	29 Te Arawa Restoration Group	Wed
Thu			30	27 Rangitāiki	25	29	27	31 Kaituna	28	No EFPP meetings (NSB Hearings)	26	30	Thu
Fri			31	28 Tarawera	26	30	28	Whakatāne	29	No EFPP meetings	27	29	Fri
Sat				29	27	29	29		30			30	Sat
Sun	29 Farming like Grandad			30	28	30	30		31			31	Sun