



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Environment Committee

Thursday 10 August 2023, 9.30am

Taumata Kōrero, Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

Quorum: *Seven Members*

Members

Cr Gaylor (Chair)

Cr Bassett

Cr Kirk-Burnnand

Cr Lee

Cr Ponter

Cr Saw

Cr Woolf

Cr Duthie (Deputy Chair)

Cr Connelly

Cr Laban

Cr Nash

Cr Ropata

Cr Staples

Barbie Barton

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

Environment Committee (A Committee of the Whole)

1 Purpose

Oversee the development, implementation and review of Council's:

- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators to improve environmental outcomes for the Wellington Region's land, water, air, biodiversity, natural resources, parks and reserves, and coastal marine area
- b Regional resilience priorities in the delivery of plans, programmes, initiatives and activities for flood protection, erosion control, and regional parks and forests
- c Regulatory systems, processes and tools to meet Council's related legislative responsibilities
- d Plans, programmes, and efforts to increase volunteer uptake, community involvement and mahi tahi with others seeking to improve environmental outcomes in the Wellington Region.

2 Specific responsibilities

The Committee's environmental responsibilities include the areas of land use management, air quality, water health and quality, regional natural resources, river control, flood protection, regional parks and reserves, coastal marine environment, maritime navigation and safety, biosecurity and biodiversity.

- 2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Committee's business and making decisions.
- 2.2 Oversee the development and review of Council's:
 - a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators
 - b Regional resilience prioritiesand recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.
- 2.3 Review periodically the effectiveness of implementing and delivering Council's:
 - a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators
 - b Regional resilience priorities.
- 2.4 Consider regional, national and international developments; emerging issues and impacts; and changes in the legislative frameworks for their implications for Council's:
 - a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators
 - b Regulatory systems, processes and tools.

- 2.5 Recommend to Council changes to improve the effectiveness of Council's:
- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators
 - b Regional resilience priorities
 - c Regulatory systems, processes and tools.
- 2.6 Review Greater Wellington's compliance with Council's related legislative responsibilities¹, and the monitoring and enforcement of compliance.
- 2.7 Ensure that the Committee's decision making:
- a Considers climate change-related risks (mitigation and adaptation)
 - b Is consistent with Council's plans and initiatives to give effect to Council's declaration of a climate emergency on 21 August 2019, including agreed emissions reduction targets.
- 2.8 Review, after each Farming Reference Group meeting, a written report of the business conducted at that meeting.

3 Delegations

- 3.1 Subject to sections 3.3 to 3.7, Council delegates to the Committee all the powers, functions and duties necessary to perform the Committee's responsibilities (except those that must not be delegated, have been retained by Council, have been delegated to another committee, or have been delegated to the Chief Executive).
- 3.2 The Committee has the authority to approve submissions to external organisations for matters pertaining directly to the Committee's purpose.
- 3.3 The Committee may make decisions on matters with a financial impact only where the related costs are:
- a Budgeted for in the relevant business group's budget
 - b Not budgeted for in the relevant business group's budget, but can be met from savings within that budget.
- 3.4 Where the Committee considers a decision with a material financial impact is needed², the Committee must refer the matter to Council for its decision.
- 3.5 The Committee may not make a decision that is materially inconsistent with Council's Annual Plan or Long Term Plan.
- 3.6 Where a matter proposed for consideration by the Committee (including during the development of proposed Greater Wellington plans and policies) is of strategic

¹ These responsibilities include those under the Resource Management Act 1991 and for the granting of resource consents, the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1967, the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Reserves Act 1977, and the Maritime Transport Act 1994.

² That is, where savings are identified from other business groups' budgets to meet the related costs; or no savings are identified across Greater Wellington's overall budget to meet the related costs.

importance to the Wairarapa Constituency, that matter shall first be referred to the Wairarapa Committee or its members for their consideration.

- 3.7 The Committee shall ensure that it acts under the guidance of the Memorandum of Partnership in working with Greater Wellington's mana whenua partners of the Wellington Region to ensure effective Māori participation in the Committee's deliberations and decision-making processes.

4 Members

4.1 All thirteen Councillors.

4.2 The Chair of the Farming Reference Group.

5 Voting entitlement

The Chair of the Farming Reference Group sits at the table and has full speaking rights, but has no voting rights at any Committee meeting.

6 Quorum

Seven Committee members.

7 Meeting frequency

The Committee shall meet six times each year, with additional meetings as required.

Environment Committee

Thursday 10 August 2023, 9:30am

Taumata Kōrero, Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

Public Business

No.	Item	Report	Page
1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
4.	Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 15 June 2023	23.205	6
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Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Environment Committee meeting on 10 August 2023.

Report 23.205

Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on Thursday 15 June 2023

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.31am

Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)
Councillor Duthie (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ponter (from 10.08am)
Councillor Ropata
Councillor Saw (from 9.49am)
Councillor Staples
Councillor Woolf

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Nash

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Barbie Barton, and for lateness from Councillors Ponter and Saw.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 27 April 2023 - Report 23.170

Moved: Cr Bassett / Cr Laban

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 27 April 2023 - Report 23.170

The motion was **carried**.

5 Environment Update – Report 23.3 [For Information]

Lian Butcher, Group Manager, Environment, spoke to the report.

Jack Mace, Director, Delivery, provided an updated on the Cyclone Recovery task force categorisation of properties impacted by the CycloneProcess:

1. Houses – residential properties – can rebuild
2. Rebuilding or repair but house would require mitigation to protect from floods
3. Cannot rebuild – voluntary buy out – council and central government.

Greater Wellington will drive the categorisation of the affected properties, while the relevant territorial authority will act as a liaison with the affected parties.

The Floodplain Management Plan Implementation Team received a Highly Commended award for “Te Tohu Waka Hourua – the Buddle Findlay Award for Māori-Crown Partnerships at the Taituarā awards on 8 June 2023.

Noted: The Committee congratulated the Floodplain Management Plan Implementation Team on this recognition.

Noted: The Committee requested that:

- a The dates of river walkovers be circulated to members
- b An update on the control and prevention of marine pests be provided at a future meeting
- c A timeline on the programme of Te Reo on signage at Greater Wellington’s parks be provided to members

Councillor Saw arrived at meeting 9.49am, during the above item.

6 Whaitua Implementation Update – Report 23.249 [For Information]

Nicola Patrick, Director, Catchment, and Gareth Edwards, Project Manager, Whaitua Implementation spoke to the report.

Councillor Ponter arrived at the meeting at 10.08am, during the above item.

7 Whaitua Development Update – Report 23.250 [For Information]

Nicola Patrick, Director, Catchment, and Tim Sharp, spoke to the report.

The meeting adjourned at 10.30am and resumed at 10.56am. Councillors Connelly and Ropata were not present when the meeting resumed.

8 Environmental Outcomes Platform – He Kākano– Report 23.247 [For Information]

Sue McLean, Group Manager, Corporate Services, Sam Gundersen, and Ross Lynch, spoke to the report. Provided a live demo.

Councillors Connelly and Ropata returned to the meeting at 10.57am, during the above item.

9 Farming Reference Group Chair update – Report 23.235 [For Information]

Councillor Staples spoke to the report.

10 Proposed Timeline for the Natural Resources Plan Public Notification – Report 23.270 [For Information]

Fathima Iftikar, Director, Strategy, Policy, and Regulation, and Matt Hickman, Manager, Policy spoke to the report.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 11.37am.

Councillor P Gaylor

Chair

Date:

Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Report 23.347



For Information

DEVELOPING A MARINE BIOSECURITY PROGRAMME FOR THE WELLINGTON REGION

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To provide an update to the Environment Committee (the Committee) on the development of a Marine Biosecurity Programme for the Wellington Region.

Te tāhū kōrero/Te horopaki

Background/Context

2. New Zealand marine ecosystems are highly vulnerable to incursions by introduced pest animals and plants. This was highlighted recently in 2021 when the seaweed, *Caulerpa*, was discovered for the first time at Great Barrier (Aotea) and Great Mercury (Ahuahu) islands. In 2023 this invasive seaweed was found to have spread to the Bay of Islands, and Kawau Island in the Auckland Region. It grows rapidly to form large blankets which smother indigenous plants and animals. Even with an established regional Marine Biosecurity Programme, actions were slow with no exclusion or incursion plan for this pest species.
3. In December 2022, Mediterranean fan worm (*Sabella spallanzii*) was located on a vessel in Seaview Marina, Wellington, highlighting the risk of incursion by species from elsewhere in the country. This species spreads rapidly, outcompeting indigenous organisms and is of great concern as it is notorious for smothering aquaculture facilities.
4. Marine pests pose uncalculated financial and ecological risk to marine biodiversity, recreation, the Blue Economy (aquaculture, fishing, shipping), and Māori cultural values nationally.
5. Regional leadership for marine biosecurity lies with regional councils under Section 12B of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (See [Attachment 1](#) - National and regional marine biosecurity framework). This includes risk mitigation and threat management once a harmful organism **already present** in New Zealand arrives in a region. Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ) steers national responses should a marine pest species **not previously introduced** to New Zealand be detected.
6. Regional councils can use their Regional Pest Management Plans (RPMP), or adopt a Regional Pathway Management Plan, to control specific marine pests that require regulatory backing and a long-term work programme. Half of the regional councils in New Zealand have active marine biosecurity programmes and have made provision for

management of some marine species within their Regional Pest Management Plans; however, Greater Wellington does not currently list any marine pest species in our RPMP and we have no incursion response plans.

7. If regional councils need powers to manage a pest that has been detected after the RPMP was established, they can develop a five-year Small Scale Management Programme (SSMP) under section 100V of the Biosecurity Act.
8. Greater Wellington is currently partially meeting these legislative requirements by initiating a Marine Biosecurity Programme in September 2022; however, resourcing is limiting the functionality it provides. We have limited resource available for marine biosecurity, with only one Knowledge and Insights (K&I) marine scientist, and no marine biosecurity delivery support. Current resource includes a day a month of K&I Senior Environmental Scientist time with ad hoc support from relevant functions and teams within Greater Wellington as required (e.g., Delivery, Harbours, Strategy, Policy and Regulation).
9. Greater Wellington has had limited marine resource for over a decade and has relied on Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ) to support past marine pest incursions in the Wellington Region, with the view of future support being provided through BNZ's development of a National Inter-Regional Pathway Plan. However, this national plan has been slow in development and, under limited funds, has recently been staggered to include a 'pilot' project based at the top of the North Island, which will inform whether a national plan will in fact be delivered.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

Marine biosecurity risks and threats in the Wellington Region

10. Ongoing habitat mapping surveys have identified unique, and regionally rare indigenous habitats and species that are vulnerable to the impacts of marine pest incursions. This threat is growing, primarily due to climate change warming ocean waters, making them suitable for a greater range of international species.
11. At present, two marine species listed as Unwanted Organisms (UO) by Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ) under the Biosecurity Act 1993 are established in the Wellington Region: Wakame (*Undaria pinnatifida*) and the clubbed tunicate (*Styela clava*). They foul structures such as jetties, mooring ropes and floating buoys, increasing maintenance costs. They also occupy hard substrate that would otherwise be available to native species, potentially decreasing their abundance.
12. Following the discovery of Mediterranean fan worm (*Sabella spallanzii*) on a vessel in Seaview Marina in December 2022, Greater Wellington contributed \$40,000 to BNZ to undertake a survey of the wider Seaview Marina. The boat was cleaned, the organisms destroyed, and fortunately, the survey did not locate any *Sabella* in the marina area despite a spawning event likely occurring before containment. Should another incursion occur, future establishment of *Sabella* would pose risks to indigenous biodiversity in the Wellington Region and substantial risk to marine farming in the Marlborough Sounds from vessels travelling across the Cook Strait.

13. The risks of introduction of harmful and unwanted organisms come from both national and international vector mediated transport. The primary vector is *hull fouling* followed by *gear*, *ballast*, and *bilge* fouling. *Gear* is equipment that remains in the water for extended periods, including anchors, ropes, and marine farming equipment. *Ballast* water is used to stabilise larger vessels, while *bilge* water leaks into a vessel and is pumped out from within the hull. Viable marine organisms have been found in all these mediums during scientific investigations.
14. Commercial vessels follow stringent hull cleaning regulations and are regulated by Maritime New Zealand; however, rules around recreational vessel biosecurity differ between regions. Risk reduction can be achieved by ensuring recreational vessels entering the Wellington Region have clean hulls. Data from a range of sources shows that the probability of a vessel carrying a harmful organism increases as hull fouling increases; therefore, some regions active in marine biosecurity have put substantial effort into developing clean hull regulations and educational material to minimise this risk. Ballast water, another major vector of marine pests, is managed under regulations within the Maritime Transport Act (1994) and the Marine Protection Rules Part 300, whereby ballast water must be exchanged at sea in deep water before entering coastal areas to mitigate incursion risk.
15. Regular surveillance and marine biosecurity awareness and pest identification will increase the likelihood of incursions being identified at an early stage, increasing the chances of eradication and decreased costs.
16. Should a harmful organism or high-risk vector be detected within a region, established threat management plans and actions are essential for quick and effective response ([Attachment 4](#) – Biosecurity action in regions with active marine biosecurity programmes).

Current position of Greater Wellington

17. Greater Wellington currently has a reactive approach to our marine biosecurity response due to limited resourcing.
18. Currently Greater Wellington does not have any programmes targeting marine organisms in its RPMP. We are also not exercising our leadership in marine biosecurity within our region or between regions as required under Section 12B of the Biosecurity Act 1993. Greater Wellington is required to develop our programme of work to address these shortcomings.
19. Marine pest surveillance currently conducted in the Wellington Region is under the National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance (NMHRS) programme, funded by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). The programme is undertaken in Wellington Harbour but only includes selected port and marina areas (i.e., CentrePort, Seaview, Evans Bay). Refer to [Attachment 2](#) – National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance Programme and [Attachment 3](#) – Marine biosecurity in the Wellington Region for details.
20. Existing Marine Biosecurity work is led by our K&I function and our project lead is the Senior Environmental Scientist – Marine and supported by our Delivery function. Should an incursion occur, we will need to halt existing terrestrial biosecurity work for the duration of the marine biosecurity response. We will also be supported by BNZ and Top

of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership (TOS), of which Greater Wellington will become financial partners this financial year.

The Top of the South Partnership offers an opportunity to build our marine biosecurity response.

21. TOS coordinates efforts to prevent and manage marine pest invasions. Led by BNZ and their financial partners (Nelson City Council, Marlborough District Council, and Tasman District Council), the Partnership is open to any organisation or industry wanting reduced marine biosecurity risk. Supporting partners currently include Iwi Eight Fisheries Forum, Department of Conservation, Aquaculture New Zealand, Marine Farmers Association, and Cawthron Institute.
22. The vision of TOS is a marine environment where the top of the South Island is protected from damaging marine pests and diseases; but supporting the North Island with their services is within scope as this will reduce their incursion risk from vessels travelling from North Island. Currently TOS run marine biosecurity awareness at several marinas in the Wellington Region.
23. In response to the gap in regional response capability, the TOS initiated conversations with the Greater Wellington Biosecurity Team in September 2022, forming the initial stages of the development of a Marine Biosecurity Programme for Greater Wellington. The first step in rapidly developing a fit-for-purpose Marine Biosecurity Programme in Wellington is to leverage off this existing information and expertise by accepting the invitation to join the TOS Marine Biosecurity Partnership.
24. Joining TOS will show regional leadership in marine biosecurity and give Greater Wellington access to a range of services and expertise (i.e., education and awareness, and regional operational support) as Greater Wellington grows capacity in marine biosecurity. See [Attachment 5](#) - Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership for a summary of what is delivered to financial members.
25. Given the vulnerability of the Wellington Region to incoming risks from other regions and our position as a gateway to the top of the South Island, investment in TOS this financial year will help minimise long term costs. This investment provides the following services (which are further detailed in [Attachment 5](#)):
 - education and advocacy at marinas, enabling integration of regional and national initiatives, and providing regional resources.
 - a quarterly meeting to coordinate national information sharing.
 - a baseline training programme for Greater Wellington staff in the areas of pest identification and public education, or other topics as required.
26. We propose additional resourcing through the Long Term Plan (LTP) to ensure our marine biosecurity response meets our statutory obligations.
27. We need to do more to meet our legislative obligations and sufficiently reduce incursion risk (See [Attachment 1](#) for statutory requirements), hence additional work will be progressed in the 2024-2034 LTP). It is expected that Greater Wellington Harbours Function would become equipped for marine biosecurity enforcement, in time.

28. A Marine Biosecurity Programme will be developed in 2024/25 with surveillance monitoring jointly designed by K&I and Delivery. The Programme will include appropriate reporting, development of marine pest surveillance and incursion response programmes, supporting regional marine biosecurity education, and amending the Greater Wellington RPMP to include marine biosecurity provisions. This will be implemented by the Delivery teams with support from K&I, Harbours, Strategy, Policy and Regulation (SPR), and Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

29. Te Moana o Raukawa (Cook Strait), Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Wellington Harbour) and Te Awarua-o-Porirua (Porirua Harbour) are significant taonga as they hold great traditional and spiritual significance, are crucial navigational routes, and provide political and economic assets and a rich source of resources.
30. These areas were identified in the Natural Resources Plan (Schedule B - Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa), which states that kaitiakitanga shall be recognised and provided for by managing natural and physical resources in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Māori as exercised by mana whenua.
31. There are close relationships across the Cook Strait between three iwi (Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Rangitāne, Te Ātiawa/ Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika a Maui) who are located on both islands; however, all six iwi (including Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngāti Raukawa, and Ngāti Kahungunu o Wairarapa) in the Wellington Region may be affected by degradation of mahinga kai and cultural values should a pest incursion occur along the region's coastline. Mana whenua with commercial interests are also likely to be severely affected should a marine pest incursion occur.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

32. A marine heatwave occurs when seawater temperatures are warmer than the 90th percentile of the local 25-year average for at least five consecutive days. In December 2022 NIWA measured a marine heatwave event on the north and west of both islands, which experienced their “warmest November sea surface temperatures (SSTs) on record, since at least 1981”. Earlier this year, NIWA released research showing that marine heatwaves are to get longer and hotter through the rest of the century. Localised marine heatwave events have been occurring in coastal waters of New Zealand more frequently: “The average temperature of the ocean is now 1.5°C higher than it was 100 years ago, and in the past 30 years, the frequency of marine heatwave events has doubled”.
33. NIWA's Sea Surface Temperature Update gives regular sea surface temperature forecasts for months ahead, combining predictions from eight different climate models from institutes around the world for more localised information (See <https://niwa.co.nz/climate/sea-surface-temperature-update> for more information). This shows that SSTs in the Wellington Region are also predicted to rise.
34. With marine heat waves becoming more prevalent causing elevated water temperatures around the Wellington Region, conditions are becoming more favourable

for the establishment of marine pests from warmer waters. This, coupled with their superior reproductive success and fast growth rates, and the fact that local species are temperature stressed, increases the likelihood that pest species will survive and establish in our waters and outcompete indigenous species for space and food. Marine pest risk will continue to increase over time as waters warm, putting more stress on native biodiversity, fisheries and mahinga kai.

35. Environmental concerns that impact on mana whenua and Māori interests are important, and it is necessary to understand how decision making may need to be communicated back to mana whenua to provide a level of transparency on the establishment of processes and to maintain connections on matters of interest to them. This provides opportunities to discuss roles and responsibilities of mana whenua and Māori in planning, incident training and responses, and involvement in educational, research and monitoring, and risk management activities where rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga may be exercised by mana whenua. Key contacts/communication pathways need to be clarified and established and followed during an incursion response.
36. Part of our Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations and responsibilities will be enabling mana whenua to be involved in decision making that upholds their rangatiratanga and access to their mātauranga Māori to inform, advise and guide the protection of their customary rights and interests.

Te whakatūtakitaki

Engagement

37. Engagement to date has included conversations with MPI, BNZ, and Top of the North (TON) and TOS Marine Biosecurity Partnerships respectively. This included attendance at partnership meetings to discuss Greater Wellington's role in marine biosecurity surveillance and response. Feedback from these meetings led to the creation of a proposal to initiate a Marine Biosecurity Programme at Greater Wellington.
38. Kōrero included Te Hunga Whiriwhiri who reviewed the draft Marine Biosecurity Paper. Further engagement will include our mana whenua partners as kaitiaki of Raukawa Moana, Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Te Awarua-o-Porirua and the coastline around the Wellington Region. Next steps will be determined in consultation with Te Hunga Whiriwhiri that will focus on opportunities for mana whenua and Māori across decision making and developing an Incident Response Plan. Key will be to identify communication pathways during an incursion response.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

Current work: 2023-2024 Financial Year

39. Join the TOS Marine Biosecurity Partnership to gain access to developed resources and systems.
40. Work with TOS to include Wellington in its Incident Response Plan by providing documentation of contacts and response resources in Wellington.

41. Attend quarterly TOS meetings and provide science input as required (next meeting Sept/Oct 2023).
42. Relevant Greater Wellington staff to attend a one-day baseline training programme in marine biosecurity incident response, enforcement, organism recognition, vessel inspections, and awareness activities provided as part of membership to the TOS Partnership.
43. The Delivery teams will be responsible for Greater Wellington representation at TOS Marine Biosecurity Partnership quarterly meetings and continued support of marine biosecurity awareness for recreational boat users in the Wellington Region. They can potentially take the lead in education and outreach, which will reduce the annual membership fee contributed to TOS by reducing the services required.

Long Term Plan – the next 3 years (2024-27)

44. The Greater Wellington Marine Biosecurity Programme will be ramped up as appropriate in line with incursion requirements.
45. The Programme will include appropriate reporting, and development of marine pest surveillance and incursion response programmes.
46. The current baseline of non-native marine organisms in the Wellington Region will be documented using the High-Risk Site Surveillance Programme data and by performing a literature review of relevant published and unpublished material.
47. The Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) will be amended to include marine biosecurity provisions and pest exclusion programmes (e.g., Mediterranean fan worm and *Caulerpa* seaweed), and aligned with other regional plans to ensure consistency.
48. A Small-Scale Surveillance and Management Programme will be implemented for habitat at key locations identified to be of high incursion risk. This will require the contracting of consultants to provide appropriate diving services.

Beyond 2027

49. Continue to build capability in marine biosecurity.
50. Harbours will become equipped for marine biosecurity enforcement which will require substantial hull inspection and cleaning facilities.
51. Ensure that all marinas implement clean hull requirements for resident and visiting vessels.
52. Design ongoing surveillance of resident vessels and facilities such as port areas, marinas, travel lifts, and hard stands.
53. Document current vessel maintenance facilities and identify limitations that will prevent the enforcement of future standards (should they be developed).

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments**

Number	Title
1	National and regional marine biosecurity framework
2	National Marine High Risk Surveillance Programme
3	Marine biosecurity in the Wellington Region
4	Biosecurity action in regions with active marine biosecurity programmes
5	Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Megan Melidonis – Senior Environmental Scientist – Knowledge Water Richard Romijn – Team Leader Environment Restoration
Approvers	David Hipkins – Director Knowledge and Insights Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

<p>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>This report supports the Environment Committee purpose <i>to oversee the development, implementation, and review of Council's Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives to address environmental issues in the region</i> (including issues relating to the coastal marine environment, biosecurity, and biodiversity) <i>and regulatory systems, processes, and tools to meet Council's related legislative responsibilities.</i></p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>This report provides an update on the progress of Greater Wellington's Marine Biosecurity Programme (e.g., joining the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership), and highlights the limitations that our current resource places on future growth of this Programme. To progress essential work, including delivery of Greater Wellington's marine biosecurity response, we will be including future marine biosecurity work as a separate budget item in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>Internal consultation involved the Biosecurity Team (before stand-up of Rōpū Taiao – Environment Group), Knowledge and Insights (K&I), Delivery, Harbours, Organisational Development, Strategy, Policy and Regulation, and Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>Greater Wellington is not currently meeting legislative requirements under Section 12B of the Biosecurity Act 1993 with only limited resource available to develop a Marine Biosecurity Programme. Current resource includes K&I Senior Environmental Scientist – Marine (two days a quarter; and ad hoc support from Delivery; Harbours; and Strategy, Policy and Regulation respectively.) This poses massive uncalculated financial and ecological risk to marine biodiversity, the Blue Economy (aquaculture, fishing, shipping), recreation, and Māori cultural values nationally.</p> <p>The perceived risk of continuing with business as usual is overstressing existing resource in K&I and Delivery to the point that other work (e.g., regulatory and consent advice, policy support) may be delayed or deprioritised should a marine pest incursion occur.</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 23.347

National and Regional Marine Biosecurity Framework

**Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Attachment 1 to Report 23.347**



For Information

Attachment 1: National and regional marine biosecurity framework

National

1. The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) and associated legislation provide the legislative framework for New Zealand's biosecurity system. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) oversees administration of the Act, and under Section 12A of the Act provides overall leadership for pest management within the biosecurity system.
2. Biosecurity New Zealand (BNZ) is the business unit of MPI responsible for delivering MPI's biosecurity operational activities. BNZ manages biosecurity risks offshore and at the border, leads and delivers a range of programmes (i.e., surveillance, readiness, incursion investigation, response and pest management), and maintains significant laboratory capability.
3. BNZ provides a National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance Programme (NMHRSS) at major ports to detect marine pest introductions.
4. BNZ has established a new National Marine Biosecurity Programme focusing on delivering a national behaviour change campaign to support recreational vessel owners to adopt good biosecurity practices.
5. Under this Programme, BNZ are developing a National Marine Biosecurity Strategy to provide better guidance and ensure consistency of standards, guidelines, authorising inspections, and enforcement. The Programme will also provide funding support for development of new and improved marine pest and pathway management tools and capability. This Programme will support existing regional marine biosecurity partnerships (Top of the North, Top of the South, and Fiordland), pest management programmes, and the National Pathway Management Plan. The new national behaviour change campaign will be co-designed with councils and other marine stakeholders in 2023-24.
6. As a first step, BNZ are piloting a regional pathway plan with the Top of the North Island, which should be operational by the end of 2024.

Regional

7. Regional leadership for marine biosecurity lies with regional councils under Section 12B of the Biosecurity Act^[1]. This includes risk mitigation and threat management once a harmful organism already present in New Zealand arrives in a region.
8. Regional councils can use their Regional Pest Management Plans or adopt a Regional Pathway Management Plan to deliver the key programmes to control specific marine pests that require regulatory backing and a long term work programme.

Attachment 1 to Report 23.347

9. If regional councils need powers to manage a marine pest that has been detected after the RPMP was established, they can develop a five-year Small Scale Management Programme under section 100V of the Biosecurity Act.
10. Regional councils also have powers under maritime law to deal with vessels that are creating a risk.
11. The Pest Management Plan of Action^[2] outlines maritime regional council leadership responsibilities related to:
 - Population management of pests
 - Pathway/vector management of pests
 - Site/place management to protect values
12. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) Policy 2010 guides regional policy statements and plans about harmful aquatic organisms^[3].
13. Greater Wellington's Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) was made operative on 28 July 2023. It has two relevant policies:
 - Policy P30: Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai – To manage the adverse effects of use and development on biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai to:

Pests

(h) avoid the introduction, and restrict the spread, of aquatic pest^[4] plants and animals.

- Policy P36: Restoring Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson) and Wairarapa Moana – The ecological health and significant values of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour (Port Nicholson) and Wairarapa Moana will be restored including by:

(a) managing activities, erosion-prone land, and riparian margins to reduce sedimentation rates and pollutant inputs, to meet the water quality, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai objectives set out in Tables 3.4 to 3.8, and

(b) undertaking planting and pest management programmes in harbour and lake habitats and ecosystems.

^[1] Biosecurity Act 1993. 12B Regional council provides leadership regionally. (1) A regional council provides leadership in activities that prevent, reduce, or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms that are present in New Zealand (pest management) in its region.

^[2] The ways in which the regional council provides leadership in the region include—(a) promoting the alignment of pest management in the region: (b) facilitating the development and alignment of regional pest management plans and regional pathway management plans in the region: (c) promoting public support for pest management: d) facilitating communication and co-operation among those involved in pest management to enhance effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of programmes.(3) A regional council also provides leadership by promoting co-ordination of pest management between regions.

^[3] MAF Biosecurity New Zealand. 2011. Pest Management National Plan of Action. Pest Management National Plan of Action. This was agreed to and supported by the collective regional council Chief Executives at the time.

^[4] The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement – Policy 12 Harmful aquatic organisms. Provide in regional policy statements and in plans, as far as practicable, for the control of activities in or near the coastal marine area that could have adverse effects on the coastal

Attachment 1 to Report 23.347

environment by causing harmful aquatic organisms to be released or otherwise spread, and include conditions in resource consents, where relevant, to assist with managing the risk of such effects occurring. Recognise that activities relevant to (1) include: the introduction of structures likely to be contaminated with harmful aquatic organisms; the discharge or disposal of organic material from dredging, or from vessels and structures, whether during maintenance, cleaning or otherwise; and whether in the coastal marine area or on land; (i) the provision and ongoing maintenance of moorings, marina berths, jetties, and wharves; and (ii) the establishment and relocation of equipment and stock required for or associated with aquaculture.

^[5] Pests for the Wellington region are defined in the Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy.

Pest Management Plan of Action under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Type	Circumstances	Decision maker	Reason for role
Population management (Species-led management)	Pest already present in New Zealand and there has been a decision not to eradicate or contain nationally. Pests affecting public goods, and either not previously in the region or established, but tools to manage are available.	Regional council to coordinate joint decision making with Crown agencies and interested parties (depending on nature of the pest).	Accountable for regional public interest and has regional capacity to act, but multiple interests and beneficiaries will likely be involved.
Pathway/ vector management	Risk to any national or regional value associated with intra-regional movement of vectors (for example, of structures, equipment and vessels).	Regional Councils	Have regional capacity and powers to act in the public interest.
	Risk to any national or regional value associated with development of marinas, wharves, jetties and moorings and ongoing maintenance.	Regional Council	Have powers under the Resource Management Act (for example, can include conditions in resource consents).
	Risk to any national or regional value associated with dumping of organic material from vessels (within the 12 nautical mile limit and on land).	Regional Council	Administer the Resource Management (Marine Pollution) Regulations 1998.
Site/place management (Management to protect values of specific places)	Places recognised by formal regional policy as being of special value to regional communities (not Marine reserves, marine parts of wildlife management reserves and sanctuaries, reserves and national parks administered by DOC).	Regional councils	Accountable to regional community and have regional capacity and powers to act in the public interest.

Attachment 2 to Report 23.347

National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance Programme

**Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Attachment 2 to Report 23.347**

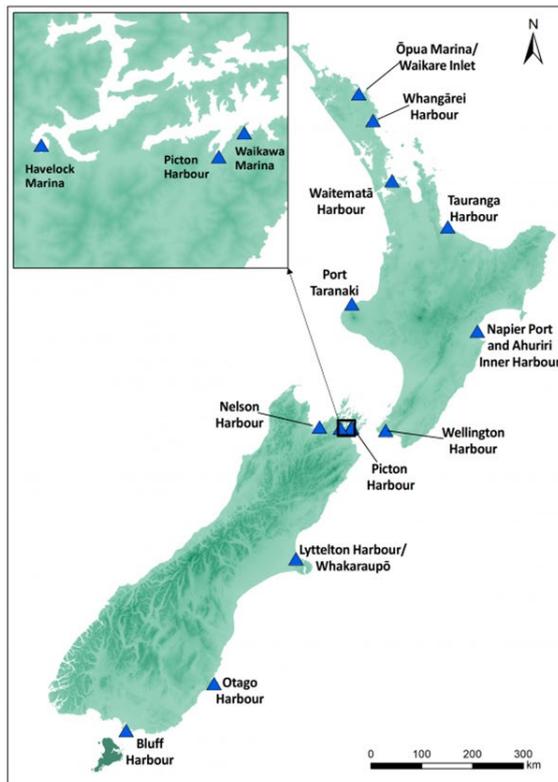


For Information

Attachment 2 - National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance Programme

1. The National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance Programme is a national programme of surveys targeted at the early detection of high-risk non-indigenous marine species and is part of Biosecurity New Zealand's (BNZ) wider marine biosecurity system undertaken by NIWA. The primary objective of the Programme is to detect incursions of new-to-New Zealand non-indigenous species (NIS) listed on the Unwanted Organisms Register (UOR). The programme surveys New Zealand ports and marinas which have previously been identified as the highest risk for the introduction and establishment of marine NIS.
2. Each High-Risk Site is surveyed bi-annually. The programme is currently undertaken at Wellington Port, Seaview Marina, and Evan's Bay Marina in Wellington Harbour.
3. Biosecurity New Zealand has identified five primary target species which are listed on the UOR. These species have not yet been detected in New Zealand coastal waters.
 - Northern Pacific seastar (*Asterias amurensis*)
 - European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*)
 - Aquarium Caulerpa (*Caulerpa taxifolia*)
 - Chinese mitten crab (*Eriocheir sinensis*)
 - Asian clam (*Potamocorbula amurensis*)
4. Additionally, four secondary target organisms are known to be established in New Zealand coastal waters.
 - Asian date mussel (*Arcuatula senhousia*)
 - Australian droplet tunicate (*Eudistoma elongatum*)
 - Mediterranean fanworm (*Sabella spallanzanii*)
 - Clubbed tunicate (*Styela clava*)

Attachment 2 to Report 23.347



The 12 locations surveyed by the National Marine High Risk Site Surveillance (NMHRSS) every six months. Picton, Havelock and Waikawa are surveyed as a single location. Napier Port and Ahuriri Inner Harbour was added as a high risk site in 2021.

Source: marinebiosecurity.org.nz.

Attachment 3 to Report 23.347

Marine Biosecurity in the Wellington Region

**Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Attachment 3 to Report 23.347**



For Information

Attachment 3: Marine biosecurity in the Wellington Region

1. Surveillance is currently undertaken at the main Port, Seaview Marina, and Evan’s Bay Marina in Wellington Harbour.
2. The marine biosecurity status of the Region’s marinas and moorings are listed below.

Marina	Owner	Berth capacity	Service facilities
Mana Marina	Managed by Mana Marina Board. Land owned by Porirua City Council.	316	Mana Cruising Club operates a 35 tonne travel lift and unsealed hardstanding area complete with cradles. Room for about 35 vessels. Not biosecure.
Seaview Marina	Owned by the Hutt City Council, which established the marina company as a Council Controlled Trading Organisation.	398	50 tonne travel lift and sealed hardstanding for around 25 vessels. Not biosecure.
Chaffers Marina	Wellington Waterfront Limited with a Deed of Licence to Chaffers Marinas Limited to 2058.	185	50 tonne travel lift with small integrated hardstanding usually one vessel at a time. Not biosecure.
Clyde Quay Marina	Wellington City Council	72	Pole moorings only.
Evans Bay Marina	Wellington City Council	141	35 tonne travel lift and sealed hardstanding for about 20 vessels operated by Evans Bay Yacht and Motor Boat Club. Not biosecure.

Attachment 3 to Report 23.347

Marine Biosecurity in the Wellington Region

Marina	Owner	Berth capacity	Service facilities
Evans Bay Moorings	Privately owned	16	Nil
Porirua Harbour south arm pole moorings and swing moorings	Privately owned	20	Nil
Porirua Harbour Ivey Bay Pauatahanui Arm swing moorings	Privately owned	6	Nil
Lowry Bay swing moorings	Privately owned	3	Nil
<u>Total</u>		<u>1,157</u>	4 service facilities up to 50 tonne

3. Possible vectors of Marine Unwanted Organisms (UO) in order of priority are:
- Visiting or returning recreational vessels from out of the region.
 - Slow moving domestic commercial vessels such as barges.
 - Other commercial vessels such as coastal shipping.
 - Gear associated with marine farming.
 - Domestic fishing vessels and their gear relocating from risk areas (fishing vessels operating out of the port and returning pose little risk unless they operate in risk areas).
 - Other vectors such as research operations and material discarded from marine aquaria.

Attachment 4 to Report 23.347

Biosecurity Action in Regions with Active Marine Biosecurity Programmes

**Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Attachment 4 to Report 23.347**



For Information

Attachment 4: Biosecurity action in regions with active marine biosecurity programmes

Risk reduction

1. To reduce risk of a marine pest incursion, some regions active in marine biosecurity:
 - have regulations under the Biosecurity Act and/or Resource Management Act that require vessels to have clean hulls, either all the time or when they sail.
 - gather intelligence through marine authorities and industries such as ship brokers, or track vessel movements using Automatic Identification Systems (AIS).
 - encourage marinas to have requirements for hull cleanliness in berth agreements. Some regions enforce the 6 or 1 programme for visiting vessels.
 - run awareness programmes for boat owners and marina managers.
 - conduct surveillance of recreational vessels, marinas, ports, service facilities and mooring fields.
 - support the development of adequate facilities for hull maintenance.
 - participate in inter-regional cooperation programmes.
 - sponsor research and monitoring.

Managing threats

2. Should a harmful organism or high-risk vector be detected within a region, threat management actions may commence.
3. If the harmful organism is on a vessel, the threat can be mitigated by cleaning the vessel in a biosecure manner. Usually this involves slipping the vessel and treating it on land in a biosecure facility. To meet Biosecurity Standards for border biosecurity facilities vessels must be cleaned on a sealed hardstand where the washdown water is captured and treated or discharged to sewer. Capture and treatment at Wellington facilities do not consistently meet these standards.
4. In some cases, in-water treatment with divers, remote cleaning units, or wrapping the vessel and dosing with biocide may also be appropriate. The regional council has power to direct treatment if they have created legal instruments through the Biosecurity Act or Resource Management Act, unless the vessel poses a navigation and safety risk, in which case the Harbourmaster may have powers to act.

Attachment 4 to Report 23.347

Biosecurity Action in Regions with Active Marine Biosecurity Programmes

5. If the harmful organism has established on structures or the seabed, effective elimination options are drastically reduced with very little evidence of interventions at this point being successful. An effective intervention would depend entirely on the specifics of each incursion.
6. In some regions, marinas have put measures in place to ensure they protect their structures from marine pests. For example, to visit a marina in Northland, boat owners need to provide evidence of complying with the 'Six or One' Programme that requires either an antifoul within the previous six months, or a lift-and-wash within one month of leaving an area infected with marine pests. Receipts of boatyard maintenance or a commercial diver inspection are accepted as proof of compliance.

Attachment 5 to Report 23.347

**Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Attachment 5 to Report 23.347**



For Information

Attachment 5: Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership

1. The Top of the South Island, Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka a Maui, is a place of great environmental diversity and immense cultural and economic value. This marine area shares ecological characteristics of both northern and southern New Zealand making it susceptible to Unwanted Organisms (UO) from many areas of New Zealand and also other parts of the world. With two regional ports and some of the best recreational boating areas in New Zealand, the area experiences significant vessel traffic. It also has the largest concentration of marine farming in New Zealand, and Nelson is New Zealand's busiest commercial fishing port.
2. The vision of the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership (TOS) is a marine environment where the top of the South Island is protected from damaging marine pests and diseases. The partnership includes financial partners (Nelson City Council, Marlborough and Tasman District Councils, and the Ministry for Primary Industries) and supporting partners (Iwi Eight Fisheries Forum, Department of Conservation, Aquaculture New Zealand, Marine Farmers Association, and Cawthron Institute).
3. The financial partners provide resources and make decisions on how these will be used. This work is outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The financial and supporting partners attend quarterly forum meetings to discuss the delivery of council/MPI programmes, science updates and the delivery of the centrally contracted services. The Partnership relies on, but is not part of, the national border control regime.
4. The Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership enables integrated management of marine biosecurity through:
 - clear leadership and role clarity.
 - consistent and coordinated operations.
 - efficient, effective and sustained action.
 - wide public support and community engagement.
5. The brief of the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership is to:
 - undertake coordinated marine biosecurity education and advocacy activities.
 - provide integration across regions with national marine biosecurity initiatives.
 - provide partners with access to regional intelligence, resources and organisational structures.
 - facilitate the provision of operational resources for nationally-led activities (e.g., personnel and boats).
 - coordinate local surveillance programmes including stakeholder involvement.

Attachment 5 to Report 23.347

6. The relevant regional agency partners:
 - explore the appropriate use of regional powers of regulation under the Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and/or Local Government Act 2002 to support regional marine biosecurity programmes.
 - use their roles as managers of local ports, marinas and other areas of intense marine activity to enhance marine biosecurity, where appropriate.
 - provide funding.
 - explore opportunities for domain-based integration (e.g., navigational safety, coastal science, scientific monitoring) to support regional marine biosecurity.
7. Services provided by the TOS Marine Biosecurity Partnership:
 - a Partnership Management & Coordination (funded by Biosecurity New Zealand)
 - Administration - including project management, administration of correspondence, setting up meetings, keeping minutes and keeping records.
 - Tangata whenua engagement - engaging with tangata whenua iwi to keep them connected to the work programme.
 - b Education and Awareness (funded by the Partnership Councils):
 - Workshops - providing face to face and online training for stakeholders in recognising and minimising marine biosecurity risks.
 - Partnership activities - including events for the wider Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership (including Wellington).
 - Website and other media - maintaining and enhancing the Partnership website and extending this to other media as appropriate.
 - Newsletters - providing quarterly newsletters and distributing this to stakeholders.
 - Engagement - regular connection with a network of stakeholders within the TOS and Wellington regions.
8. Regional Operational Support (funded by the Partnership Councils):
 - Providing timely intelligence on matters relevant to the Partnership, including risk vectors.
 - Science advice – providing science advice as required and connecting the Partnership to research and research providers.
 - Regional Surveillance and Survey – in-water inspection of 450 vessels with at least 200 active vessels and 450 structures across the TOS and Wellington regions
 - Gathering information from the skippers of all active vessels to improve understanding of risk vectors.
 - Data analysis – analysing the data from the summer survey and providing it to the Partnership in forms suitable to the Partners purposes.
 - Incident response – providing a first response capability for marine biosecurity incidents as appropriate.
 - Readiness – maintaining the Partnership Incident Response Manual.

Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Report 23.353



For Information

WHAITUA DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Environment Committee about the progress of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee and development of the Wairarapa Coast-Eastern Hills Whaitua approach.

Te horopaki

Context

Kapiti

2. The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee (the Whaitua Committee) was established by Council (*Establishment of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee – Report 22.374*) in August 2022 to support Council giving effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM). Appointments to the Whaitua Committee were completed in February 2023.
3. The Whaitua Committee is using a Tiriti House model, which proposes a Tiriti approach to decision-making providing for equal recognition of and input from each house (Mana Whenua House and Kāwanatanga House). This partnership recognises both types of authorities (rangatiratanga and kāwanatanga) functioning together.
4. The Terms of Reference provides for at least 12 Whaitua Committee meetings.

Wairarapa Coast

5. The Wairarapa Coast Whaitua is scheduled to begin in late 2023 with the purpose of giving effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) by the December 2024 deadline.
6. The accountabilities for Whaitua development now sit with the Catchment function as of 22 May 2023.

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

Kapiti

7. The Whaitua Committee has held its fifth and sixth meetings.
8. A key outcome has been to determine a draft local expression of Te Mana o te Wai for Kāpiti grounded in te Tiriti. These statements will underpin the Whaitua Committee's

deliberations and inform the development of Te Mana o te Wai objectives for inclusion in the Regional Policy Statement. The Whaitua Committee is available to present this to a future Council meeting.

9. The Whaitua Committee has developed and is beginning to populate a WIP template.
10. Content for the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) section 32 report that will underpin the plan change to the Natural Resources Plan currently scheduled for next year is also being captured.
11. Options to support the Whaitua Committee's request to develop the section 32 report and plan provisions as well as the WIP are being explored by council officers.
12. The Kāwanatanga House and Mana Whenua Houses both have resourcing challenges causing frustration while solutions are being explored by council officers, given the time constraints of the process. If these requests trigger a change to the Terms of Reference, this will be brought to a future Council meeting with urgency.

Wairarapa Coast

13. The approach for the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua will be determined with mana whenua and community and this discussion has not begun in earnest yet although a number of early connections have occurred.
14. The Wairarapa Coast Whaitua is in its early design phase that includes but is not limited to:
 - a Handover from Policy to Catchment
 - b Assessment of preliminary, existing science monitoring data and analysis
 - c Development of the work programme addressing resourcing and capacity requirements and learning from previous Whaitua development processes
 - d Deepening understanding of previous directions received from our Wairarapa mana whenua partners
 - i Te Mana o te Wai statements
 - ii Previous values/visions statements from the Ruamāhanga Whaitua process.
15. The weather this year has been challenging for the farming community. They are under stress from cyclones Hale and Gabrielle. This is compounded by new national regulations regarding rural land use, and both are impacting people's capacity and wellbeing.
16. The current pre-design work is looking at identifying key NPS-FM requirements and what is achievable within the timeframes with a strong emphasis on an implementation-focused, wider catchment planning process. The approach must enable the community to be engaged in a practical and meaningful way while keeping environmental outcomes at the fore front. This Whaitua process will look different from other Whaitua processes. Meetings are likely to be less frequent but still aim to build the same trusted relationships, which may mean different approaches.
17. Other work within Greater Wellington is happening in parallel to the Whaitua development pre-design. The roll out of the Freshwater Farm Plans is likely to "go live"

in the Wairarapa Coast from December 2025. This may mean there is time to align the impact on Wairarapa Coast landowners and the impact on Greater Wellington processes, systems, and support can be aligned with this later timing.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

Kapiti

18. As noted in paragraph 12, and raised at the previous Environment Committee meeting on 15 June 2023, the Whaitua Committee may require additional meetings to be scheduled with potential funding implications. This is yet to be determined.

Wairarapa Coast

19. The financial and wider resourcing implications are still to be determined.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

Kapiti

20. The Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee were drafted in conjunction with, and approved by, Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and the wider Whaitua Committee.
21. In upholding the Terms and our Tiriti House commitments, the Whaitua Kāpiti process is developed in conjunction with mana whenua representatives.

Wairarapa Coast

22. The approach for the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua will be determined with mana whenua.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

23. The next two Whaitua Kāpiti Committee meetings are scheduled for 9 and 21 August 2023.
24. Discussions with Wairarapa Coast mana whenua partners are to be scheduled.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Michele Frank – Catchment Manager - Kapiti Tash Styles – Catchment Manager – Wairarapa Coast Nicola Patrick – Director, Catchment
Approver	Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

<p>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>The Environment Committee has wider responsibility to consider all matters across the development and implementation of Greater Wellington's Environment Group's work programmes. Although the Whaitua Programme is specifically the responsibility of the Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee, while that Committee is not meeting, updates on the programme will be provided to the Environment Committee.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>The Whaitua Programme contributes to Council's obligations to give effect to the NPS-FM through engagement with mana whenua and the community.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>This report was prepared by Catchment and reviewed by Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>There are no known specific risks and impacts related to this report beyond the constrained circumstances as outlined.</p>

Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Report 23.348



For Information

FARMING REFERENCE GROUP CHAIR UPDATE REPORT

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Environment Committee on the items discussed at Farming Reference Group held 17 July 2023.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Terms of Reference for the Environment Committee and the Farming Reference Group state that a written report will be provided to the Environment Committee after each Farming Reference Group meeting. The Chair of the Farming Reference Group is a member of the Environment Committee and will speak to the written report at each meeting.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachments

Number	Title
1	Farming Reference Group Chairs report

Signatories

Writer	Barbie Barton – Chair, Farming Reference Group
Approvers	Jack Mace – Director Delivery Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The Environment Committee's terms of reference state that they will review, after each Farming Reference Group meeting, a written report of the business conducted at that meeting.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The Farming sector is a key demographic within the Greater Wellington Region with a focus on environmental matters.
<i>Internal consultation</i> There was no internal consultation.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks and impacts related to this report.

Attachment 1 to Report 23.348

Farming Reference Group report to Environment Committee 10 August 2023

Farming Reference Group Report

Report of the Farming Reference Group meeting on 17 July 2023 to the Environment Committee meeting on 10 August 2023

I am writing this report on behalf of the Greater Wellington Farming Reference Group.

As you will have been aware I have been away for two months in which time I had five days of rain and the Wairarapa has struggled to have five days of sunshine.

In contrast the West Coast of the Greater Wellington region has had a good period of settled weather and to quote one of our members, Kerry Walker, it is hard to be a bad farmer in the Kapiti region.

At our recent meeting we started off with a round table feedback from the members present and the theme was MUD making access around properties challenging. Stuck bikes were quite a theme along with tracks completely gone. The term 'rain anxiety' was coined with respect to lying in bed and hearing rain on the roof yet again.

The upside is there is reasonable feed reserves, but the challenge is utilizing the feed without it getting too dirty. Most sheep and beef farms have had high pregnancy scanning so fingers crossed this weather eases by late August.

It was also noted that the boarding hostel at Wairarapa College is set to close. This will be a sad option for Wairarapa schooling that due to geographic challenges the region relies on boarding options, especially in attracting staff to remote areas.

The GWRC management staff at the table were also invited to contribute and we were made aware of the big settling period required as the new structure gets up and running. Confidence given that our landowners will notice little change in the one-to-one land management space.

We had good discussion around the place for willows and poplars in the landscape around erosion control and would like to progress further discussion about the use of poplar as a harvestable timber with good building properties along with educating landowners that some varieties of willow are good to use.

Whaitua updates for Kapiti and the proposed Wairarapa Coast start. Whilst the Kapiti Whaitua is progressing well it has involved considerably more time commitment per member than was envisioned. Concern was raised that the East Coast Landowner base is already over committed with on farm cyclone repairs and realise there will be a challenge in getting good balanced representation on the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua. The FRG to be given an overview of the Treaty House approach employed by the Kapiti Whaitua with the intent of informing and getting prepared for the upcoming Wairarapa Coast Whaitua.

The FRG were presented with the new Whaitua reporting process.

David Boone and Jack Mace updated us with the new management structure's within GWRC. Whilst these changes are significant for the organisation there should be little change for the farming community. The main contact personnel that a landowner interacts with is staying the same and they are confident the new structure will provide better connectedness across the different departments as envisioned in the original strategy for change.

Attachment 1 to Report 23.348

Farming Reference Group report to Environment Committee 10 August 2023

Inevitably the conversation came round to the new farm planning regulations and the requirement for all landowners over 20ha to have a Certified Freshwater Plan. This will be the largest GWRC to landowner contact we have ever seen.

In a recent farming publication, it was mentioned that the Waikato who along with Southland are the first areas required to have these plans in place and are faced with no certifiers, no template (MFE duty), and no comms and are feeling very strongly that the government has dropped them in it. To give deserved credit to GRWC they already have a proposed template on their website despite the roll out not happening till later 2024. This is available to landowners to look at the best guess of what is going to be required to be compliant. FWFP's need to be certified within 18 months of the regulation commencing followed by an audit within 12 months. Breakdown of costs will be \$8000-\$10000 per standard plan, another \$3-4000 for certification and another \$2-3000 for the 12-month audit.

The final presentation was from the Aerial mapping Survey (SkyTEM) and was very enlightening about the scope of the research and future information to be available once the data is fully analysed. Knowing where our water reservoirs are will be vital for future planning of water allocations within the region.

The farming environment on the East Coast is finding things very tough at the moment with so many variables affecting their business- a lot of these they have no control over- interest rates have doubled in the last 6 months, on farm inflation is high, the lamb schedule for winter trade has dropped and the on-farm repair bill keeps growing with each rain event. The local dairy farmers are in the midst of calving so are doing long days and also wishing for a run of fine sunny weather.

At a personal level I am also looking for a dry spell just to get the lawn mown without getting the ride-on stuck!

Thank you

Barbie Barton
Chair, GW Farming Reference Group

Environment Committee
10 August 2023
Report 23.6



For Information

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Environment Committee (the Committee) of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) activities relating to the Committee's areas of responsibilities.

Te horopaki

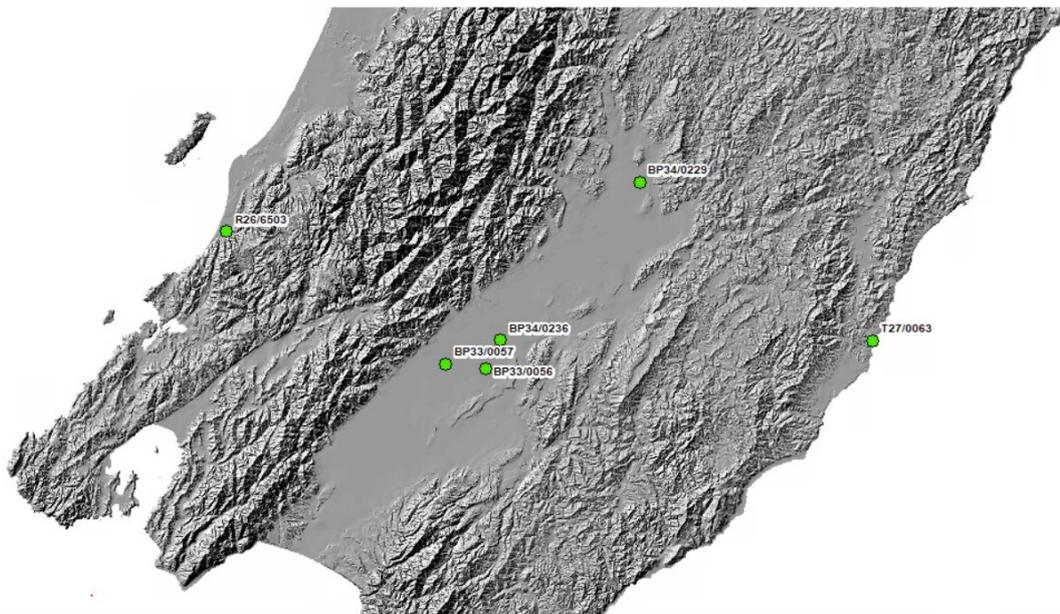
Context

Regional issues

2. Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings are being progressed. For an update on specific action items, please refer to [Attachment 1](#).

National Pesticide Survey

3. Greater Wellington participated in the ESR 4-yearly National Pesticide Survey which included polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) testing this year. PFAS sources are widespread and include firefighting foams, protective coatings, and surfactant applications. Some PFAS are known or suspected to be associated with adverse human-health effects.
4. Low levels were detected in 6 of the 8 wells sampled in Greater Wellington (see well locations below). The concentrations are very low compared to drinking water guideline values elsewhere in the world. There are no New Zealand guideline values.
5. The PFAS detected could be due to contamination during sampling (tubing, pumps, etc). We are undertaking further testing of the sampling equipment to establish possible contamination levels. In addition, we are planning to re-sample the bores.
6. Greater Wellington is working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on communications around the report release.



Air quality project

7. Knowledge and Insights was involved in a project monitoring air quality onboard in-service buses to assess the levels of CO₂ from passenger breath as an indicator of respiratory infection risk (eg, COVID-19) <https://www.gw.govt.nz/document/20825/pilot-study-indoor-air-quality-monitoring-on-metlink-buses-202223>

Remote camera network

8. A network of remote cameras is being installed as a safer and more accurate way of collecting high river flow/flood data. This project is part of the Flood Monitoring Network Upgrade programme to upgrade Greater Wellington's flood monitoring network to allow for resilient flood monitoring across the region. The cameras record short video clips of the river when in flood which can be converted into an accurate estimate of the flow rate using space time image velocimetry (STIV).
9. The new methodology is a "game changer" for collecting river flow data during flood events. Flow gauging methods currently used by Greater Wellington staff are labour intensive and require more equipment to collect data. The cameras can be operated by staff without needing to visit the sites and removes the Health and Safety risk associated with monitoring staff being near and/or wading and kayaking across swollen rivers. A Privacy Threshold Assessment (PTA) has been completed and installation of cameras has begun at a number of river locations.

Regional Policy Statement Change 1

10. Regional Policy Statement Change 1 hearings continue; Hearing Streams 1 (Overarching and General) and 2 (Integrated Management) have been completed and Hearing Stream 3 (Climate Change) begins late August. In addition, a Variation will be brought to Council that brings in Te Mana o Te Wai / freshwater visions into the process that emerged through submissions.

Summer boating safety campaign

11. Our Maritime NZ funded, summer boating safety campaign was reported on and submitted to Maritime NZ. An application has been made for funding for the coming summer and the result of that application will be provided in August 2023.
12. One of the standout successes from the past summer was the 'Fred and Sid' video that featured two gentlemen from Ngawi that were rescued by helicopter, very near to being hypothermic, late last year. They told their story in a very genuine way, and honest about what they could have done differently; this obviously resonated and was one of the most watched and shared videos that Greater Wellington have produced. This was made in house by our Comms and Marketing team.

Climate Resilience programme team highly commended

13. The Floodplain Management Plan Implementation Climate Resilience Programme team received 'Highly Commended' at the Taitaura Local Government Awards in recognition of our excellent work in broader outcomes.
14. The Climate Resilience Programme team are also finalists (one of three) in the Engineering New Zealand ENVI Awards, in the Engineering Impact Award Category. The Awards will be announced at the ENVI Awards Dinner on 28 July in Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland.

Environment Restoration programmes update

15. Environment Restoration Programmes are on track to plant 340,000 native seedlings on private land across the Region this winter despite challenges due to wet conditions and cyclone damage. Follow-up pest plant and pest animal, integrated services are being planned to support these planting sites regionally.
16. The improving Fish Passage project has also completed all its annual activities and reporting requirements. Governance group members approved the annual report in July 2023. The previous year has seen the project meet all its targets for structural assessments, remediations and training sessions. The partnership with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira has been strengthened and several joint projects have been completed.
17. Recloaking Papatūānuku Restoration Guide (a supporting document for place-based restoration planning with Iwi, hapū and whanau) is in its final draft. Mahi continues to develop partnerships with mana whenua for planning and delivery of restoration under Toitū Te Whenua implementation guidance. This winter, we are aiming to plant 400,000 natives in our Parks!

Catchment-specific issues

Kāpiti Coast

18. The Te Roto Link project track is complete. We are progressing reinstatement works and fulfilling consent conditions. This includes planning and establishment of native plants over three to four years. Figure 1 shows where the new track is and how it fits in with the Peka Peka to Ōtaki Expressway shared path.

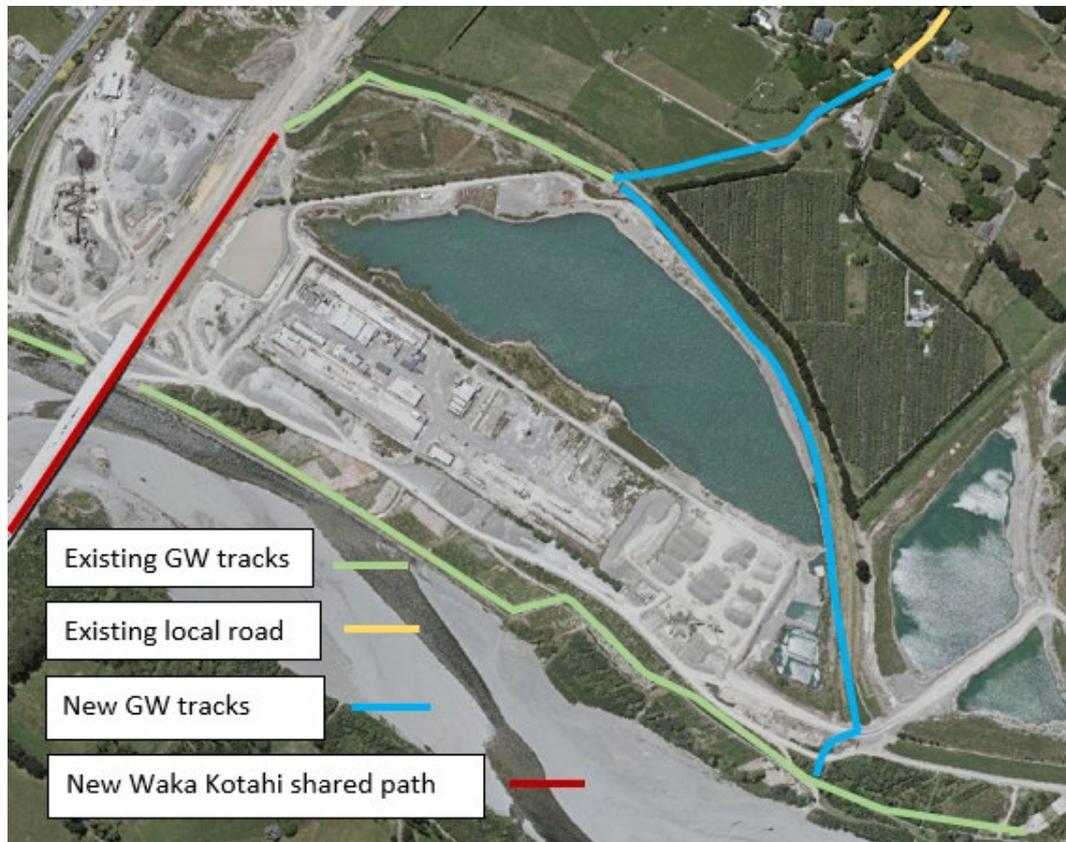


Figure 1: Location of Te Roto Link shared path

19. We have had a successful application to the Environment Court to obtain an Enforcement Order against a residential property owner for diverting a river on his property to reclaim land. Pursuing the enforcement order rather than prosecution achieved a fast and positive environmental outcome. The offender was required to pay for the ecological report commissioned during the investigation and then to undertake work to mitigate and restore the land. The remedial work is underway.

Porirua

20. On 21 June 2023, the Independent Hearing Panel, appointed by Greater Wellington, released their decision on the renewal of consents for the Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Panel granted consents to discharge treated wastewater to coastal water, and the associated discharge to air from the treatment plant for 18 years (to 2041).
21. The maximum duration that can be set for a discharge consent is 35 years. The Applicant, acknowledging concerns from Ngāti Toa Rangatira and the community, sought a 20-year term. The Decision can be found on our website <https://haveyoursay.gw.govt.nz/poriruaawwtp>. No appeals were received.
22. Development continues for Natural Resources Plan Change 1 which will include significant changes to the Te Awarua-o-Porirua whitua chapter as part of whitua and NPS-FM implementation. A number of sessions have been held with the councillor working group as we look towards (limited) engagement on a draft plan change in August.
23. Transmission Gully – we are continuing to look at all our options to ensure compliance going forward and acknowledgement of historic non-compliances. Legal discussions between the parties are ongoing in this regard.
24. Wetland assessments (to understand wetland types and potential retirement areas into the future) have finished at Battle hill.
25. This winter’s planting programme was achieved through mahi from our team, contractors and the community. In parallel to this work, firebreaks were established to reduce fire risk, and pine trees were removed at Waitiangirua.
26. To minimise impact on the land and allow more public access through lambing season, changes have been put in place to the grazing license at Belmont Park to exclude breeding cattle.

Ruamāhanga

27. Ruamāhanga Valley electromagnetic groundwater survey (SkyTEM) data analysis is on track, with the team at GNS now cleaning the data collected from the helicopter flights and building profiles of underlying geology to provide a 3D representation of the Ruamāhanga valley floor’s hydrogeology (a 2D map with depth added). So far it has been confirmed that the data collected from the helicopter flights is of good quality and it is being calibrated against field data from groundwater surveys, bore hole logs and petrochemical exploration. Figure 2 shows a flight path from near Lake Ferry and Figure 3 shows a cross section that has been generated showing the underlying sedimentary material.

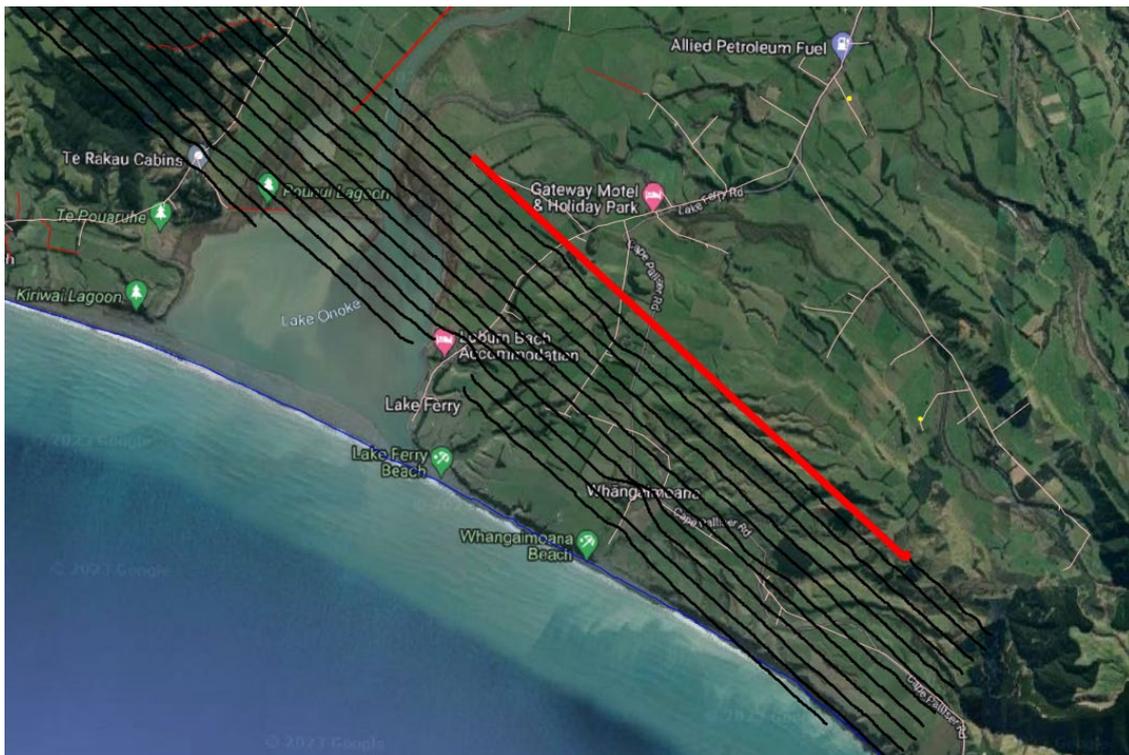


Figure 2: Example flight path

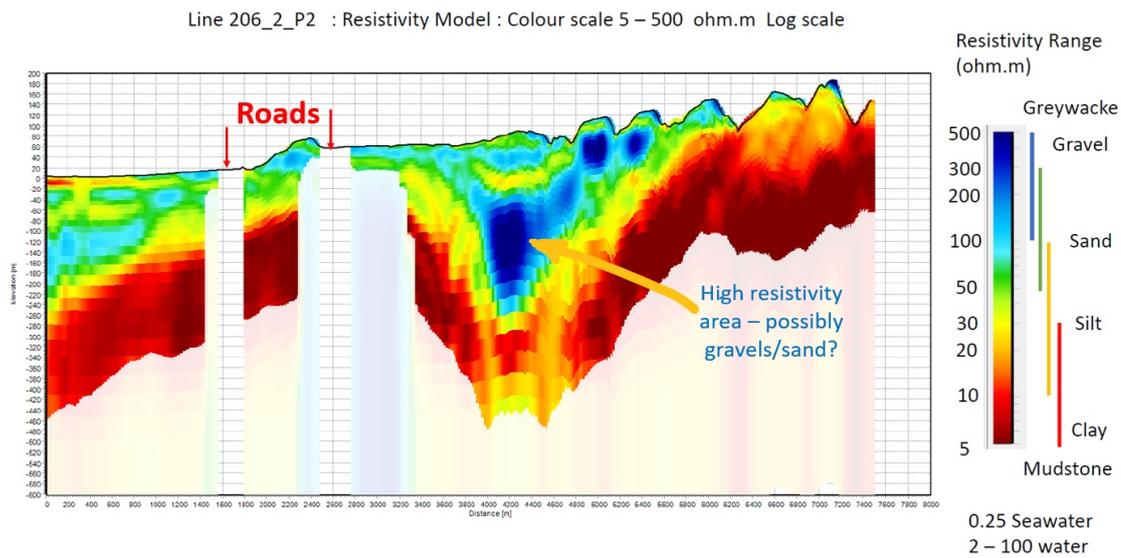


Figure 3: Example cross section showing sedimentary material

28. Implementation of the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan is starting to take shape. At present the following projects are underway:
- a Erosion protection works at River Road, Masterton. Stage two – 150m rock revetment to protect residential properties on River Road.
 - b Erosion protection works at River Road, Masterton. Stage three – 11 rock groyne to protect the cemetery.
 - c Paierau Road, Masterton. Flood warning road signage. Layout of the signage is shown in Figure 4.

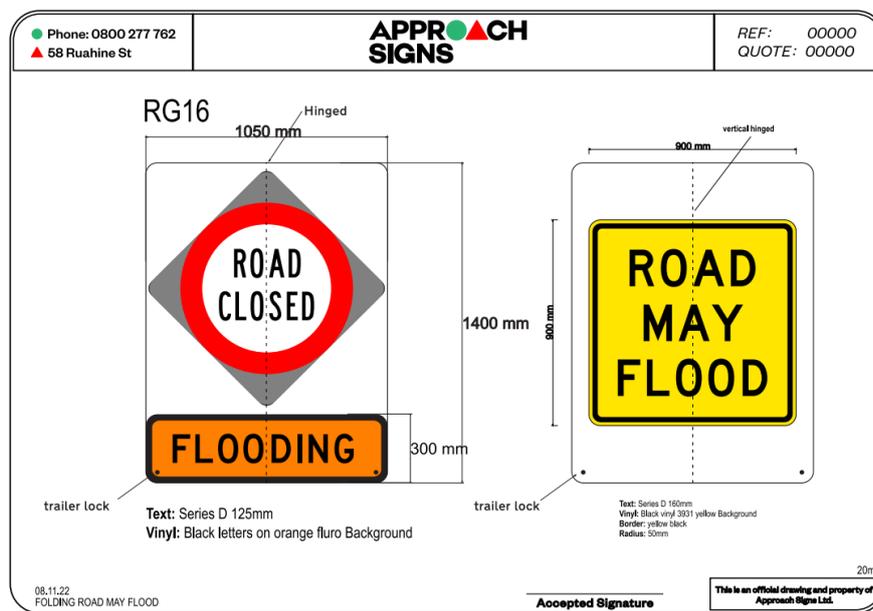


Figure 4: Paierau Road signage layout

- d Early discussions with Rathkeale College with regards to the flood and erosion protection options.
 - e Masterton District Council’s Homebush Wastewater Treatment Plan resilience works.
 - f Drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding with Masterton District Council around each parties’ responsibilities for protecting the Masterton raw water supply pipeline.
29. Greater Wellington has secured funding from the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) ‘Nature based solutions to resilience planning’ fund. This will resource a two-year feasibility assessment of nature-based solutions to reduce flood risk in the Waipoua catchment, near Masterton. It is the intention to engage with mana whenua regarding research scope.
30. Implementation of the Waiōhine River Plan has now commenced. The first stage of the implementation is to establish the Waiōhine River Plan Advisory Committee (WRPAC). The WRPAC and its Terms of Reference went to Council on 23 February 2023 (Report 23.5)

31. A nomination process for non-elected members was undertaken through late May to 15 June 2023. In total we received 25 nominations, which was a fantastic response. The next step in the process is to establish a Nominations Evaluation Group (NEG) as per Greater Wellington's 'Policy on the appointment of non-elected members to committees, subcommittees, and advisory groups'. Once the NEG is established it will then assess each nomination and determine who is best suited according to the criteria outlined in the Terms of Reference.
32. The Waiōhine River Plan outlines the installation of two inland stopbanks, one on North Street and one on Kuratawhiti Street. Work is commencing shortly on finalising the design and applying for resource consent.
33. A South Wairarapa farmer has been convicted and fined for taking groundwater from a bore in breach of resource consent conditions, and for breaching an abatement notice requiring him to cease this unauthorised extraction of water. The decision to take prosecution action was not taken lightly and was the culmination of a long history of non-compliance by this offender. The offender applied for a discharge without conviction but was ultimately convicted and fined \$26,000 in total. The Judge noted a 'poor attitude to compliance'. The highly technical circumstances of this case highlighted the difficulty with Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) prosecutions and to achieve the guilty pleas shows that Greater Wellington investigating staff reached the high burden of proof required by Court.
34. Greater Wellington staff presented on catchment communities and rural regulations at an integrated farm planning workshop facilitated by consultancy BakerAg and funded by MPI.
35. The Wairarapa Moana project has completed its project activities and reporting for the 22/23 year. Governance Group members were given a presentation on progress at a meeting at Pāpāwai marae on 27 July 2023. This is scheduled to be the final gathering of this group as partners respond to the establishment of a Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board, which will see a change in Governance arrangements once established. The group will still be able to reconvene if needed and are approaching this transitional period with flexibility and responsiveness.
36. We are working closely with the Wairarapa Cyclone recovery steering group to assist with the recovery work. Specifically, we are assisting with meeting the Government's request to categorise severely affected land following the recent extreme weather events in the north island. A report to the Wairarapa Committee (Categorisation of Buildings Affected by Severe Weather – Report 23.330) covers this work in more detail. We have worked with HBRC to understand the process and technical work undertaken by them so as to apply that to the work needing to be done in the Wairarapa. We are also working with Horizon's to assist where possible on the categorization in its region (Tararua and Palmerston North).

Te Whanganui-a-Tara

37. Development continues for Natural Resources Plan Change 1 which will include significant changes to the Te Whanganui-a-Tara whitua chapter as part of whitua and NPS-FM implementation. Sessions have been held with the councillor working group as we look towards (limited) engagement on a draft plan change in August.

38. Work is progressing on the Te Ara Tupua work. One of the new offshore habitats is completed and the other is just breaking the surface. The northern temporary staging wharf is completed and work on the Ngauranga platform is progressing.
39. Negotiations are underway between Upper Hutt City Council, Greater Wellington staff and the developer, to establish an alternative route for accessing the cannon point walkway. We are hoping to have a temporary diversion in place by mid-August 2023.
40. New Park signage has been agreed by the Rōpū Tiaki for the Parangarahu lakes, incorporating designs from Taranaki Whānui Artists.
41. Lighthouse complex house 1 works at Baring head are progressing well and are on target to open for public accommodation this summer.
42. Riverbed recontouring work between Melling Link and Kennedy Good Bridge has been successfully completed to address the vulnerable sites where erosion has led to a sufficient reduction in the performance level of service. The second stage of the operation will commence shortly, and will involve extracting approximately 15,000m³ of gravel material to improve the river channel flow capacity and support river management for erosion mitigation. Te Wai Takamori o Te Awa Kairangi (RiverLink) will use the extracted material and initially place the gravel against the existing eastern stopbank (river side face) upstream of Melling Bridge. Te Wai Takamori o Te Awa Kairangi (RiverLink) has worked through the statutory requirements with both Greater Wellington and Hutt City Council. This work will commence as soon as the site establishment and plant can be mobilised.

Wairarapa Coast

43. Two people were rescued from a yacht in distress just north of Flat Point on the evening of 21 June. The yacht grounded in an area with very poor access from either land or sea. The Harbours team engaged a local helicopter operator to remove the diesel and batteries from on board to reduce the pollution risk.
44. The owner has investigated recovery options and none of these have proven viable. The owner has since been back to remove any items that were loose or could become loose to prevent future pollution, including engine fluids. In doing so they discovered the vessel had been subject to some looting and removal of parts.
45. Harbours have spoken to the various parties involved about the difficulty of removing the remains of the vessel and agree that it may not be feasible to do so. It is not likely to refloat on its own and so is no longer a hazard to navigation. This means future considerations for the wreck move from the Maritime Transport Act 1994 to the RMA.

Crown Funded Projects – Flood Protection Resilience

46. The Floodplain Management Plan Implementation Teams Climate Resilience Programme team received the Highly Commended award for “Te Tohu Waka Hourua – the Buddle Findlay Award for Māori-Council Partnerships” at the Taitaurā Local Government awards on 8 June 2023. The category was won by Tauranga City Council. The Climate Resilience Programme team's entry can be viewed on Taituarā's website.¹

¹ <https://taituara.org.nz/building-climate-resilience>

47. The Floodplain Management Plan Implementation Team's 'Climate Resilience Programme – Broader Outcomes' is a finalist at the Engineering New Zealand Te Ao Rangahau ENVI Awards. The awards are held every two years and are spread across nine categories. The winner of each category will be announced at a ceremony on Friday 28 July 2023 and will also be in the running for the Supreme Award announced at the end of the night.

Site 1 – Stokes Valley Stream weir repair

48. Construction of the Climate Resilience Programme Site 1: Stokes Valley Weir Construction and Fish Passage is now complete. The project required temporary diversion of the Stokes Valley Stream to enable repair of the damaged weir and construction of fish passage to enable fish to access the stream bed above the weir. The stream diversion was removed, and the stream training bank reinstated when the fish passage was completed. Figure 5 shows the repaired weir and fish passage.



Figure 5: Site 1 - Stokes Valley Stream fish passage and repaired weir

Site 11 – Port Road, Seaview rock revetment

49. Although a little difficult to see in Figure 6 below, the Contractor advises that site visits post construction completion show that at least one penguin has moved into the new penguin motels at Port Road.



Figure 6: Port Road penguin motel with new resident down the back - in yellow circle.

50. *Site 12 – Ruamāhanga River, River Road:* Stage one has now been completed. All five rock groyne have been constructed along with one extra groyne that forms part of stage two.



51. Stage two (150m rock revetment at the confluence of the Waipoua and Ruamāhanga Rivers) sits under the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan, with pre-construction works currently underway. Construction will commence this coming summer.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments**

Number	Title
1	Action items from previous meetings

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Approver	Lian Butcher Group Manager, Environment Group
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He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The Environment Committee has responsibility to consider all matters across the development and implementation of the work programmes of Greater Wellington's Environment Group
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Development and implementation of related work programmes fall under the core activities of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan
<i>Internal consultation</i> Internal consultation was limited to officers of Greater Wellington's Environment Group
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> This report covers the full breadth of work programmes, and equally a broad range of environmental, reputational, legal, financial and health safety and wellbeing risks and associated implications.

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

Date	Action item	Status and comment
9 February 2023	<p>Environment/Catchment Update – Report 23.1</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that:</p>	
	<p>a A report to be presented at a future Committee meeting on the responsibilities that Greater Wellington has in marine biosecurity and how this may be addressed going forward</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>In progress</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Item being presented to Environment Committee 10 August 2023 “Marine biosecurity – actions for an effective response”, led by the Knowledge and Insights Team</p>
	<p>b Staff organise communications to inform communities about alligator weed and where it is found across the region</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Alligator weed has been eradicated from two sites, both on private land.</p> <p>As part of our summer comms campaign for 2023, we ran paid social media ads about relevant invasive plants, including a paid Facebook post about Alligator Weed, targeting people interested in gardening. This reached nearly 45,000 people. In parallel we also featured Alligator Weed on GWTV.</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 23.6

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

		To distinguish the difference between Alligator Weed and Joyweed (one toxic, one edible), a paid Facebook post was run June-July 2023, targeting expats that use Joyweed in cooking (reaching 76,500 people) with a call to action to get in touch if a pest plant is discovered.
	c More information is provided about reported environmental incidents	<p>Status: Complete</p> <p>Comment: More information on the type of incidents we receive was provided in the Compliance review workshop item on August 10th</p>
27 April 2023	<p>Environment/Catchment Update – Report 23.2</p> <p>Noted: The Committee requested that:</p>	
	a an update on Transmission Gully and the wetlands in Queen Elizabeth Park in future reports	<p>Status: In progress</p> <p>Comment: We are currently working through our regulatory approach for Transmission Gully. This is still under active consideration, and we will update the Committee once an approach has been confirmed.</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 23.6

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

	<p>b a workshop to discuss the role of councillors in a flood event</p>	<p>Status: In progress</p> <p>Comment: Flood readiness for the Greater Wellington region is an item on the Environment Committee agenda 10 August 2023</p>
	<p>c that officers include ungulate culling in the 2023-33 Long Term Plan</p>	<p>Status: In progress</p> <p>Comment: Ungulate culling is included in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan and aligns to one of the Environment Group’s strategic focus areas.</p>
15 June 2023	<p>Environment Update – Report 23.3</p> <p>Noted: The Committee requested that:</p>	
	<p>a The dates of river walkovers be circulated to members</p>	<p>Status: Complete</p> <p>Comment: Calendar events have been distributed for the following Ōtaki – 27 September 2023 Waikanae – 4 October 2023</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 23.6

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

	b An update the on control and prevention of marine pests be provided at a future meeting	<p>Status: In progress</p> <p>Comment: Workshop item on pest management scheduled for Environment Committee 12 October 2023</p>
	c A timeline on the programme of Te Reo on signage at Greater Wellington’s parks	<p>Status: In progress</p> <p>Comment: Programme began in 2021 with the adoption of Toitū te Whenua. Input from mana whenua is vital, and any use of te reo Māori on signage must be official gifted. The list of parks in the programme include Battle Hill, Belmont, QEP and East Harbour Regional Park.</p> <p>This work will continue in FY23/24. The Parks Master Plan, hoped to be launched together with mana whenua, will provide another opportunity to progress the programme.</p>