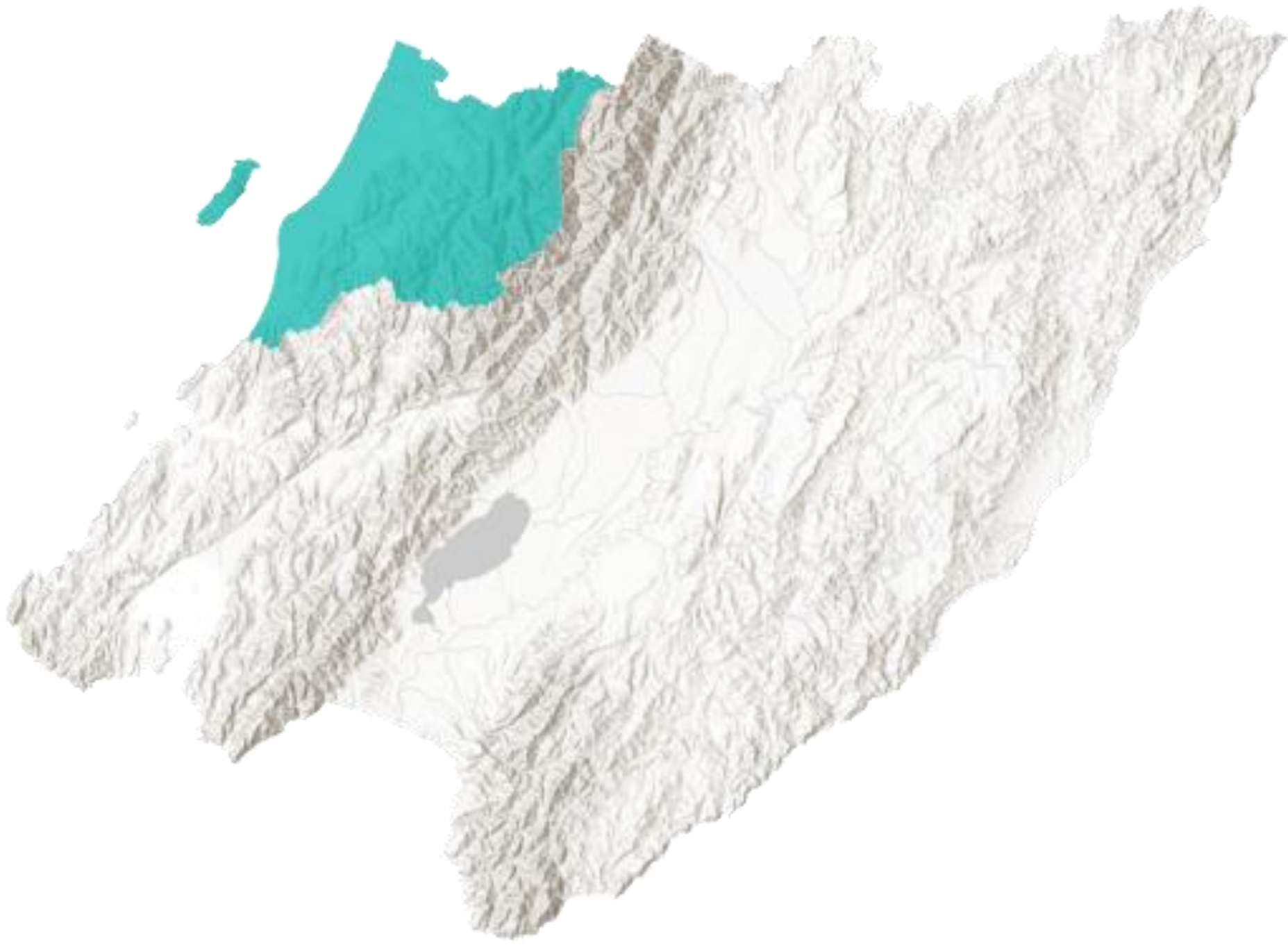
Whaitua Kāpiti Programme Progress Report – November 2025



The Kāpiti Whaitua implementation document was published in 2024 and is the newest of the whaitua documents. Work over the past six months has focused on forming a new partnership group to guide WIP delivery. Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki chairs the group and senior leaders from Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira, Kāpiti Coast District Council, and Greater Wellington are members. The group has set its Terms of Reference and named kaimahi from each partner to undertake prioritisation of recommendations for implementation. Initial prioritisation workshop was completed in January 2026.

Several projects now support Kāpiti Whaitua Implementation. The summer monitoring programme is in its third year and focuses on establishing a baseline for mahinga kai attributes. Groundwater modelling scoping has begun with aims to update the ground water GIS modelling. The Wharemauku education programme has been evaluated with Enviroschools. Waikanae Ki Uta Ki Tae partners are developing cross organisational work programmes. Key challenges relate to coordination across many agencies and the need to embed Whaitua recommendations in core work. These steps will take shared focus and clear planning.

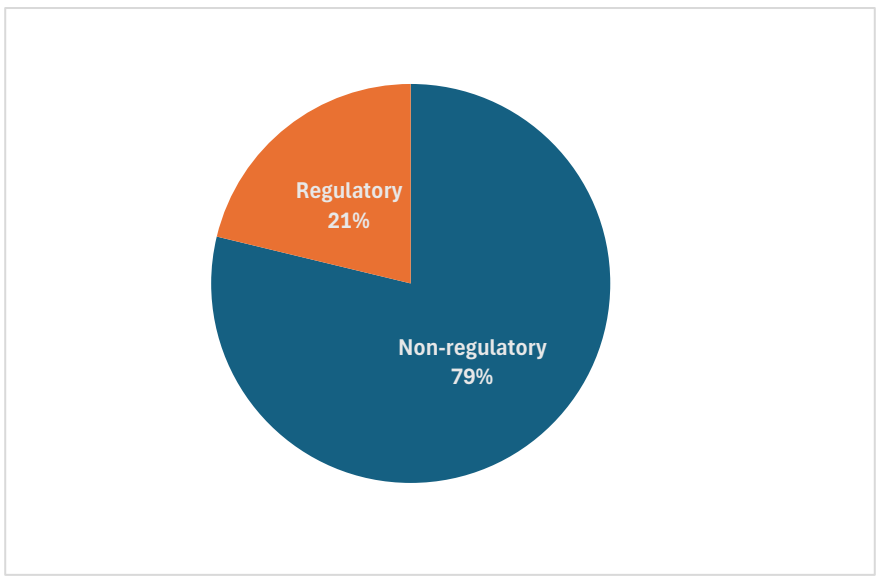


Figure 1 Regulatory Status

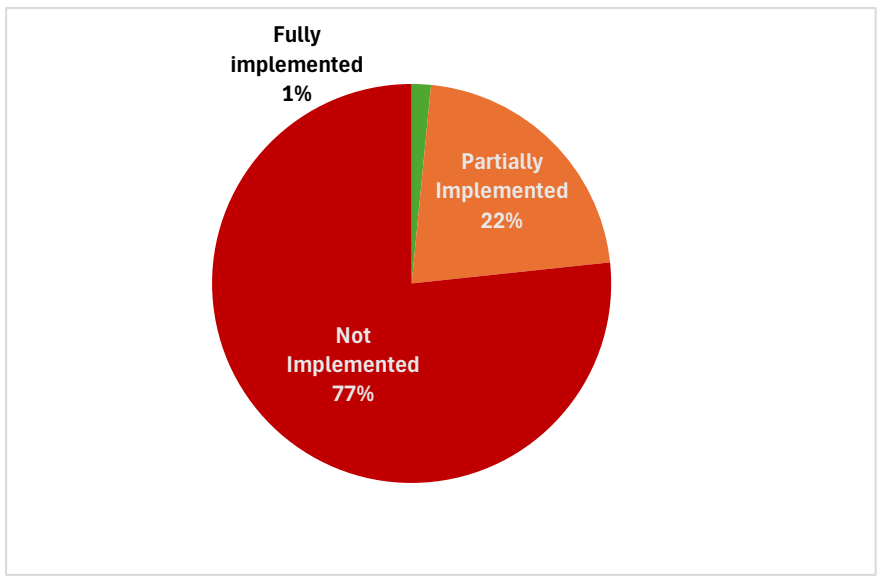


Figure 2 Non-regulatory Recommendations - Implementation Status

The Kāpiti Whaitua document sets out 43 recommendations. The set is smaller than other whaitua, yet many recommendations contain several sub actions for implementation. These have been split into 246 actions for tracking and reporting, and Greater Wellington has actions for 236 of these. 52 of these are regulatory and would require a plan change focused on the Kāpiti Whaitua to fully implement. Of the 185 recommendations not requiring regulatory change, 3 have been fully implemented and 42 have been partially implemented. Greater Wellington Kāpiti Whaitua staff have been working to implement recommendations where feasible with focus on supporting the standing up of the Whaitua Partnership group. This group will be responsible for prioritisation. Kāpiti Whaitua is the newest whaitua document, so implementation progress sits behind the older ones.

The latest update comments are compiled into the table below.

Fully Implemented	***No additional change or new work is required/cannot be further implemented***
Fully Implemented: Completed project	*Recommendation was implemented through a project that was completed*
Fully Implemented: Embedded in BAU	*Recommendation integrated into ongoing business-as-usual processes.*
Fully Implemented: By regulatory change	*Recommendation implemented by plan change*
Partially Implemented	***Implementation is underway, but not yet completed***
Partially Implemented: Paused	*Work started but is currently on hold.*
Partially Implemented: Planning	*Work is in planning (e.g., project plan, business case, risk assessment, regulation change being developed).*
Partially Implemented: Delivery	*Work is in delivery (e.g., on-site work, contractors or staff executing tasks, regulation change approved and being rolled out).*
Partially Implemented: Developing regulatory change	*Regulation change being developed / in proposed stage*
Not Implemented	***No progress to implement has been made, but is still possible to implement if situation changes***
Not Implemented: Prerequisite needed	*No progress due to a barrier (e.g., legal, technical, funding).*
Not Implemented: Scoping needed	*Work on this has not yet started and needs scoping*
Not Implemented: Future regulatory change	*Future regulatory change is required to implement*
Won't Implement	***Decided not to implement***
Won't Implement: Governance decision	*Decision from governance not to implement.*
Won't Implement: Outside GWRC mandate	*Recommendation is outside GWRC responsibility or authority.*
Won't Implement: Not feasible	*Recommendation isn't feasible to implement in any capacity*
Unknown Status	*Unable to determine status*
Unknown Status: Awaiting update	*Status unclear; awaiting information from responsible organization.*
Unknown Status: Responsibility undefined	*Status unclear; responsible organization not yet assigned.*

Table of explanations for the 2025 implementation status

Kāpiti Whaitua

Recommendation ID	Recommendation Description	2025 Implementation Progress	2025 Comment(s)
K1	Greater Wellington upholds the mana of the WIP by: • Receiving and considering the adoption of the Recommendations in this WIP and the accompanying section 32 content and acknowledging Te Tiriti framework in which the Recommendations were developed. • Directing their staff to read this WIP and proactively use it to inform all advice and decision-making across all its functions, including Biosecurity, Emergency Management, Environment, Flood Protection, Harbours, Land Management, Parks and Forests, Pollution control, Transport, and Water supply. • Providing resourcing to support staff to understand the WIP, including resourcing to engage with mana whenua. • Undertaking immediate proactive communication of the WIP with stakeholders, community, and partners through a variety of channels, including a video, to promote the Committee's vision and long-term outcomes including their expression of Te Mana o te Wai. This is to enable ongoing dialogue and accountability for implementation and will involve Committee members and mana whenua partners (to the extent they wish to be involved). • Enabling Te Whaitua o Kāpiti Committee members to retain oversight for the delivery of WIP Recommendations and ensuring the Committee is formalised and funded for its implementation by Greater Wellington by 31 August 2024; and • Developing and maintaining a WIP monitoring programme to support the delivery of this WIP and the Committee oversight process.	Fully Implemented: Embedded in BAU	Catchment staff support implementation through programmes that place Whaitua recommendations at the forefront. Mana of the WIP is upheld by embedding it in key internal frameworks, Decision-making is strengthened through a dedicated Kāpiti Catchment team of three FTE. Their job descriptions include WIP responsibilities and accountability for coordinating action delivery within GWRC. WIP documents and supporting information are publicly available on the GWRC website. Governance and oversight are provided through the Whaitua Implementation Partnership Group. A kaimahi working group will be established in 2026 to support delivery. Monitoring is enabled by appointing a WIP Advisor within GWRC to oversee all WIPs. Kāpiti reporting is aligned with other WIPs to ensure consistency.
K2	Notify changes to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (RPS) and Te Tikanga Taiao o Te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui/the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region (NRP) to implement the Recommendations contained in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti WIP including: • Te Mana o Te Wai and long-term freshwater vision objectives for Te Whaitua o Kāpiti into the RPS; and • Freshwater management units and part freshwater management units, monitoring sites, environmental outcome objectives, target attribute states, environmental flows and levels, limits, rules, and methods for Te Whaitua o Kāpiti into the NRP.	Not Implemented: Future regulatory change	Future plan changes are required to meet WIP recommendations. Plan changes to the Wellington Regional Policy Statement are on hold pending direction from central government. The process will resume when there is certainty on the amended National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. This is expected after Cabinet decisions and before gazettal.
K3	Identify, develop, and implement further necessary regulatory and non-regulatory actions to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) and to achieve target attribute states, and environmental outcomes in this WIP. This shall include: • Establishing baseline information for all new target attribute states. • Identifying additional primary contact monitoring sites, in addition to existing monitored primary contact sites. • Setting target attribute states for the coli attribute as per Table 22 in Appendix 2B of the NPS-FM.	Not Implemented: Future regulatory change	Future plan changes are required to meet WIP recommendations. The government has signalled its intention to review and replace the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. This makes committing to actions that support its implementation problematic. Further information on the government's intentions for the review is available here: https://www.regulation.govt.nz/assets/RIS-Documents/Interim-RIS-Replacing-the-NPS-for-Freshwater-Management.pdf. Freshwater farm plans are on pause due to central government policy reforms. There are currently no standard freshwater farm plans in the region. An exception applies to three farms in the Lake Waitawa catchment, which require a Certified Farm Environment Plan under rules in the Natural Resources Plan.

	• Developing a new social attribute to understand the wider community's values in connecting with the environment.
	• Developing, setting, and notifying target attribute states for ecosystem metabolism to achieve the environmental outcomes of this WIP.
	• Developing and implementing Freshwater Action Plans.
	• Remove the permitted activity rule in the Natural Resources Plan, except for those provided for under section 14(3)(b) of the RMA, which allows water to be taken from a water body within Te Whaitua o Kāpiti without resource consent. This process will consider:
	  ○ The inclusion of a controlled activity rule for small water takes, to enable monitoring, reporting, and cost recovery.
	  ○ Any one-off or infrequent uses of water where water takes should be enabled as permitted activities, or where permitted volumes should be reduced; and
	  ○ Any transition period, if appropriate, to phase in the requirement for resource consents under (a).
	• Investigating regulatory or non-regulatory actions on matters such as:
	  ○ Setting limits on resource uses necessary to achieve target attribute states and action plans.
	  ○ Rural land use including agriculture, horticulture, and forestry to reduce contaminant loads including nutrients and sediment.
	  ○ Sediment control through earthworks rules, and identification and management of works on erosion-prone land.
	  ○ Stormwater and wastewater networks.
	  ○ Activities in and adjacent to streams such as flood control works, open channel clearance, and gravel extraction.
	  ○ Expanding the requirement for Freshwater Farm Plans, or similar management plans, to smaller properties such as lifestyle blocks and market gardens with disproportionate impact on surrounding waterways.
	  ○ Phasing out any over-allocation and avoiding future over-allocation.
	  ○ Further restrictions to prevent the loss of existing natural inland wetlands, including preventing the use of the offsetting and compensation elements of the effects management hierarchy to progress land development; and
	  ○ The need for nutrient and pathogen discharge quality standards for new on-site wastewater systems, rather than relying on the AS/NZS On-site domestic wastewater management.
			Additional properties or property types can only be added to regulatory requirements for farm plans through a plan change, which cannot proceed at present. Indirectly, a targeted non-regulatory programme for high-impact properties could achieve similar outcomes. This option has been considered by the environmental restoration team but is not fully implemented.

K4	Improve coordination of freshwater management and restoration work and budgets across organisations involved in freshwater management in Kāpiti to contribute to achieving the long-term freshwater visions, environmental outcomes, and target attribute states laid out in this WIP in time to influence each organisation's 2025-26 annual budget and then ongoing Long-Term Plans.	Partially Implemented	This recommendation is supported through the establishment of the Whaitua Implementation Partnership Group, the working group, and the stocktake process. The WIP Partnership Group and Waikanae ki uta ki tai coordination planning day took place on 21

			October. Priority projects have been identified, and a planning meeting was scheduled for 19 November. Jointly funded positions with Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai are in place. There is an opportunity to align GW Kāpiti community and Environment Group funding with Kāpiti Coast District Council community grants. This will be raised at the meeting with Kāpiti Coast District Council on 6 November. An external funding portal is being developed to streamline grant information for the community. It will form part of a community hub that includes links to relevant resources and expertise. An internal hub will provide resources and systems to enable a consistent, strategic, and coordinated approach for GW kaimahi supporting community restoration.
K5	Ensure that consent compliance, monitoring, and enforcement practices are improved by: • Improving monitoring and enforcement of stock exclusion requirements under the NRP and the Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2020. • Undertaking monitoring of compliance with permitted activity standards in the NRP. • Developing improved protocols by December 2025 for regularly sharing information on contaminated and potentially contaminated land to ensure that the Selected Land Use Register best reflects up to date knowledge of contaminated land. • In relation to water sensitive urban design: o Compliance monitoring of resource consents that require the use of water sensitive urban design practices to ensure those practices are successful, focusing on correct installation and ongoing maintenance to ensure effective operation. o Reviewing the Kāpiti Coast District Plan provisions requiring rainwater tanks on new developments to ensure they are fit for purpose with regard to lot size and infrastructure needs, reducing costs and adverse environmental effects, and improving water security. • In relation to natural wetlands (which includes coastal wetlands): o Improved compliance and enforcement of conditions on resource consents relating to the management of natural wetlands and coastal wetlands; and o Improved methods to evaluate the success of any natural wetland offsetting projects undertaken as part of the effects management hierarchy are implemented where appropriate	Not Implemented: Future regulatory change	GW is working with mana whenua through Kaupapa investment agreements to build capability and enable active involvement in compliance, monitoring, and enforcement activities. This work currently involves Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki and Ngāti Toa. In October 2024, the Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Bill repealed the low slope map and associated requirements from the Stock Exclusion Regulations. As a result, beef cattle and deer that are not intensively grazing—such as those not break-feeding or grazing annual forage crops or irrigated pasture—are no longer required to be excluded from lakes and rivers more than one metre wide under the Stock Exclusion Regulations. Other enforcement activities under the Natural Resources Plan are currently a higher priority. The Selected Land Use Register (SLUR) is continually reviewed and updated using information gathered through consent processes, which are often triggered by land-use changes and incorporate territorial authority knowledge of historical land use. The SLUR is publicly accessible, with links provided on its webpage for users. Information from the register is used to inform consent processing, which is then shared with iwi through consent notifications, including the Te Wāhi portal.
K6	Advocate for funding and resourcing from Central Government to undertake research into aquifer ecosystem health in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti, including into the risks of emerging contaminants on groundwater and human health.	Partially Implemented	PHF Science conducts a national assessment of contaminants in groundwater every four years. The survey supports district and regional councils in assessing the quality of their groundwater resources. In 2022, well locations included two sites in Kāpiti: R26/6503 and BN32/0063.
K7	Ensure mana whenua and agencies are partners in the management of freshwater by developing and implementing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or similar by December 2024 to: • Provide mana whenua with the technical and resourcing support from Greater Wellington to undertake mahinga kai monitoring, as well as	Not Implemented: Future regulatory change	Kaupapa investment plans set delivery mechanisms and allocate resources to progress joint management. This includes support for monitoring, with the summer monitoring programme exploring incorporation of mahinga kai in year three of the programme. It also includes resourcing for iwi to engage and respond to resource consenting.

	monitoring of any other attributes in this WIP where they want to or are able to lead this monitoring
	• Review, improve, and establish protocols on the following:
	  ○ Collaboration on State of the Environment monitoring and reporting.
	  ○ Collaboration on pre-application meetings.
	  ○ Assessment and processing of resource consent applications.
	  ○ Compliance, monitoring, and enforcement of resource consents.
	  ○ Developing standard resource consent conditions to be applied to relevant resource consents to implement the Recommendations of this WIP.
	  ○ Communication between mana whenua and councils for resource consenting and the use of Te Wahi portal; and
	  ○ The use and interpretation of te ao Māori values, including where they form part of the planning framework.
			The resource management review may affect formal partnership mechanisms, which could influence delivery of recommendations related to consents (7bii, 7biii, 7bv, and potentially 7bvii).
			
			Ngā Hapū operations meetings occur monthly to improve communication between Ngā Hapū, GWRC, and KCDC on live consents.

K8	Provide for mana whenua rights and interests in freshwater in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti, including by: • Establishing a specific water allocation for mana whenua to use and administer, as a right of first refusal of 20% of the allocation set as part of Obligation 3 of the hierarchy in Te Mana o te Wai, after the health and well-being of the awa, freshwater ecosystems, and mahinga kai species (Obligation 1), and the health needs of people (Obligation 2), are provided for; • Embedding the principles of mana whakahaere, kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, and mātauranga Māori in freshwater allocation and the consenting process, including through active involvement of mana whenua in decision-making (to the extent they wish to be involved); and • Recognising papakāinga, kōhanga, and kura in Obligation 2 of the hierarchy.	Not Implemented: Prerequisite needed	GW is undertaking a programme of work to examine mana whenua rights and interests in freshwater. This work will provide context and an overview that supports this recommendation. Greater Wellington's approach to freshwater allocation is set out in the Resource Management Act, the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, and the Regional Policy Statement. Both the Resource Management Act and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management are proposed for reform. More information on the national legislative context is required before these recommendations can be progressed.
K9	Design and implement a knowledge programme, including state of the environment and plan effectiveness monitoring, to track progress towards targets and reevaluate regulatory and non-regulatory responses. The monitoring programme shall: • Be equally informed by mātauranga Māori and Western science knowledge collection, including frameworks, protocols, and practices so that the knowledge collected provides the benefit of both knowledge systems. • Incorporate new and confirmed monitoring sites recommended in this WIP, including new primary contact monitoring sites identified in accordance with Recommendation 3. • Identify and implement additional investigations, interventions, and monitoring needed to better understand the causes and effects of poor water quality to inform future management. • Ensure information is gathered to create a baseline state for any target attributes without sufficient information to determine a baseline, and new target attributes introduced by the WIP from 2024. • Develop a programme to undertake monitoring surveys of cultural and social attributes including:	Partially Implemented	Greater Wellington runs a monitoring programme that investigates freshwater surface water resources. The programme includes several core monitoring networks to enable long-term trend assessment, monitor plan and policy effectiveness, and provide public health alert services. Specific knowledge and insight requirements that cannot be addressed through core monitoring networks are met through targeted investigations. This includes a Whaitua Support workstream for monitoring WIP and priority catchment projects. Other related workstreams include: • River water quality and ecology • Lakes water quality and ecology • Recreational water quality and mahinga kai • Fish populations and distribution (TAS, wetlands, threatened species, and compliance monitoring) • Species detection method development and evaluation (eDNA surveys and data management)

	○ Monitoring mahinga kai cultural aggregate attributes identified in this WIP. ○ Monitoring the wider community social attribute; and • Require the results of RMA section 35 monitoring relating to freshwater management in Te Whaitua o Kapiti are proactively communicated with mana whenua, the Kāpiti Coast community, and Kapiti Coast District Council, both through workshops led by relevant staff and the publication of easily digestible reports including online content.		Oral histories from mana whenua kaumātua are being used to develop historic baselines for waterway attributes. Mana whenua has requested five interviews undertaken by iwi, informed by the framework developed by Mahina-a-Rangi Baker for Waikanae ki uta ki tai. The FMUs identified in the Whaitua are not yet formally adopted through the plan change process. Progress on the plan change process and related monitoring requirements depends on the national legislative context set out in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. It is not practical to invest in developing baselines for all FMU states until further information about the national legislative context is available. During WIP development, monitoring data gaps were identified, and an initial summer monitoring programme was initiated with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki. This has extended to winter monitoring. Development of a wider and ongoing monitoring programme is underway, including defining mahinga kai attributes. The summer monitoring programme has included two years of dissolved oxygen monitoring in collaboration with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, Ngāti Toa, and Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, as well as fishing activities undertaken by iwi. The third year of the programme will focus on mahinga kai. Information about Greater Wellington's monitoring programme is available online in a variety of formats. Key links include: https://www.gw.govt.nz/environment/environmental-data-and-information/water-monitoring/ https://www.lawa.org.nz/ https://graphs.gw.govt.nz/envmon?view=map
K10	Develop and implement a specific long-term monitoring programme to provide the data required to determine the needs of freshwater ecosystems and mahinga kai and inform the ongoing management of environmental flows and levels (including groundwater and lakes). This monitoring programme will incorporate measures of mātauranga Māori and take into account several matters, including but not limited to: • Mana whenua cultural connections with the awa. • The presence, distribution, and habitat requirements of mahinga kai and other taonga species. • Potential impacts of climate change. • Algal blooms. • Fish deaths. • The relationship between water quality and quantity, including concentrations of contaminants.	Partially Implemented	Targeted investigations for lamprey and tuna are underway with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, with some expansion into Waikanae for short jaw kōkopu in partnership with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai. Bram and Shyam Morar completed all winter lamprey fishing between June and August 2025 and are planning the short jaw kōkopu work scheduled for early next year.
K11	Improve knowledge of freshwater environments and methods necessary to support the achievement of environmental outcomes and target attribute states by: • Investigating a mechanism of defining and/or delineating lakes in the region for the purposes of prioritising monitoring and environmental management. • Identifying and mapping streams that were historically cobble-bottomed that are incorrectly classified as being naturally soft-bottomed in accordance with Appendix 2C of the NPS-FM. • Enhancing information about the connectivity of groundwater and surface water, including natural wetlands, to understand the influence of groundwater on the target attribute states. This should include: ○ Identifying areas in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti where groundwater connectivity with surface water bodies is high, prioritising	Partially Implemented	Kaimahi have proposed four lakes for setting target attribute states: Waiorongomai, Waitawa, Ngārara, and Ngātōtara. Maps showing the locations are available here: https://gwrc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=06465a0e3ec24b7fa33f8cb2c293edf5 Water quality and ecological assessments for Waiorongomai, Ngārara, and Waitawa lakes are available here: https://lake-water-quality-and-ecology-2023-24-gwrc-esci-3922e33f1f3321.gitlab.io/components/assets/2021-22-lakespi-survey.pdf Greater Wellington will introduce the SEDNET model in April to help identify sources of erosion to soft-bottom streams. Local knowledge of streams that were formerly soft-bottomed will provide a starting point for exploring how SEDNET outputs could inform interventions.

	areas where nitrate concentrations in groundwater or surface water pose risks to ecological health, or where there is saline intrusion. ○ Undertaking additional targeted investigations necessary to understand the interaction between groundwater and surface water and/or management responses required to achieve target attribute states. ○ If acceptable amounts of surface and groundwater quality and quantity data exist, then the Whaitua Kāpiti groundwater model rebuild should be expanded to be an integrated surface and groundwater flow and quality model to better understand the transport of contaminants such as nitrate-nitrogen. ○ Identifying any actions, including regulatory changes necessary to ensure target attribute states are achieved; and • Improving data on existing private wells, including permitted takes, by December 2025 in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti, including their location, depth, and water quality, including through actions such as: ○ Using social media or other education programmes to encourage landowners to supply information and data to Greater Wellington. ○ Undertaking targeted leaflet drops to properties in areas where there is limited information currently held; and ○ Conducting site visits with the permission of landowners to locate private wells and test water quality.		A new groundwater model is needed to support this work at a level that meets future plan change standards. Initial steps included a recent meeting with ĀRT, KCDC, and GW to scope data needs. This will be followed by a report that identifies objectives, existing data, additional data requirements, and associated costs. This may require development of a business case and resourcing through the Long-Term Plan process.
K12	Develop and implement protocols to ensure appropriate access and sharing, to ensure Māori data sovereignty is upheld with respect to any data produced by Māori, and data that are about Māori and the environments they have relationships with.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	Greater Wellington is at an early stage of understanding the internal protocols required to uphold Māori data sovereignty. Initial engagement with Rangitāne to learn about their Iwi Data Strategy has helped identify key issues that need to be addressed. Further work is required to build institutional capability and to understand the constraints and opportunities within current ICT systems before broader engagement can occur. This will require detailed scoping, which could be supported through Kaupapa investment plans as a mechanism for engaging with another iwi.
K13	Ensure that knowledge is available to inform decision-making, including but not limited to policy and consenting decisions and mahinga kai tikanga by: • Giving mātauranga Māori the same weight as Western science in decision-making, so that it is embedded in policy and consenting processes of both councils. • Ensuring appropriate availability of knowledge and information via a living map that provides successive and current data and information to support kaitiaki decision-making and integrated management of risk in the catchment. • Ensuring the management of freshwater takes into account the modelled impacts of climate change, as well as any adaptation works undertaken in the catchment such as managed retreat/planned relocation, and soft and hard engineering. • Designing and managing a database of natural wetland offsetting projects undertaken as part of the effects management hierarchy to monitor and evaluate the success of implementation, including a	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	GIS and the Catchment team collaborated to develop a prototype living map that captures information relevant to Ngā Hapū using data from KCDC and Greater Wellington sources. Feedback is being sought from Ngā Hapū on its usefulness to determine the path forward for future development.

	data management protocol to ensure data is appropriately shared with Kāpiti Coast District Council, mana whenua, and relevant stakeholders; and		
K14	Develop a programme to provide education and support to ensure that where planting and pest control will impact waterways, all restoration planting and pest control, including that which is required through consenting, will be informed by the local maramataka to ensure integrated and coordinated restoration efforts across Te Whaitua o Kāpiti so that the right plant is in the right place at the ideal time This education and support may include: • Annual production of a local maramataka, led by Kāpiti Coast mana whenua (ĀRT) in collaboration with Kapiti Coast District Council. • Training for Council staff, contractors, and community. • Education materials including investigating online resources such as GIS applications and a mobile app; and • Development of Council policies and processes to provide funding for pest management and planting in accordance with the maramataka	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	Supported by Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti, the Maramataka 2025/26 has been developed by the Rongoā Collective of the ĀRT Confederation under the guidance of their three pou Rongoā: Pania Solomon, Sharlene Maoate-Davis, and Heimaima Wiremu. The calendar incorporates information to support planting efforts. Further opportunities to advance this resource include training for Greater Wellington team members or local volunteers involved in planting in the Kāpiti region. Collaboration to incorporate pest control efforts into future editions of the calendar is also being considered.
K15	Establish reliable funding to implement an intergenerational healing and restoration programme premised in rongoā mātauranga-ā-iwi. The programme will continue to redress trauma associated with the degradation and disconnection to waterways, and instil wai ora across current and future generations, providing opportunities for learning from pēpi through to kaumātua. The programme is Taiao-based education, seasonal and mai uta ki tae. The programme will be funded and developed through a seasonal approach	Not implemented: Needs scoping	No additional update
K16	Develop and implement a programme to improve community and mana whenua understanding of their connection and obligation to the wai of Kāpiti. This should include: • Enhancing mana whenua understanding of their connection through sharing whakapapa kōrero tuku iho and the complexity and nuance of whakapapa relationships, including through the production of educational resources. • Educating the Kāpiti community about the value, uses, and state of freshwater in Kāpiti so they understand the hierarchy of obligations in and principles of Te Mana o te Wai and the decision-making approach of Greater Wellington and Kāpiti Coast District Council. • An education campaign including community education days and the production of educational resources, such as permanent and maintained on-site signage in prominent locations in each of the FMUs, a dedicated web page (including information on where drinking water is sourced and the history and significance of wai), and annual social media campaigns (for a minimum of three years). • Te reo me ngā tikanga and mātauranga is incorporated through all education strategies; signage, naming, community events/education days, and other resources. • Promoting Greater Wellington's established Wetlands Programme for landowners, which provides funding, advice, and support to restore and protect wetlands on private property and Māori land; and • Resourcing and promoting groups including Māori landowners and community groups undertaking wetland restoration and pest management.	Partially Implemented	KCDC and Greater Wellington have partnered with Enviroschools to pilot an educational approach starting with the Wharemauku FMU (see Recommendation 40). Resources will be developed for kaiako, including classroom materials, curriculum links, and takeaway questions. The approach involves moving down the watercourse to demonstrate interconnections and relationships—past, present, and future. Staging events throughout the year also provides opportunities to discuss seasons and the Maramataka.

K17	All decision-making on setting environmental flows and levels and take limits in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti must prioritise: • First, the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems including mahinga kai species (Obligation 1). • Second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water) (Obligation 2); and • Third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future (Obligation 3).	Not yet Implemented: Future regulatory change	No additional update
K18	Review and, where necessary, revise the environmental flows and levels and take limits within each FMU to implement the hierarchy of obligations identified in Recommendation 17. This process shall be guided by the following principles: • To achieve Obligation 1: o Set environmental flows and levels for all waterways by: ▪ Applying 80 percent of Mean Annual Low Flow (MALF) in all rivers and streams. ▪ Protecting mahinga kai species and tikanga tuku iho by applying an additional 35% of MALF buffer in addition to the environmental flow calculated under (1). ▪ Responding to the potential changes in flows and levels from climate change by applying an additional 35% of MALF buffer in addition to the environmental flow calculated in (1) and (2). o Avoid any new abstraction of groundwater from aquifers for the purpose of augmenting surface water flows to prevent adverse effects on cultural values from the mixing of waters. and prohibit the recharging of the Ōtaki River with groundwater. o Protecting and managing aquifer ecosystems to allow them to fulfil their role in the hydrological cycle, including connections to other water bodies. o Identifying specific water bodies where new water abstractions need to be restricted to provide for the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and mahinga kai. • To achieve Obligation 2: o Recognising and providing for immersion activities as additional health needs of people, including but not limited to swimming. o Investigating potential prioritisation of use under human health needs. If it is required, activities such as drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, health and harvesting of mahinga kai, fishing, essential community facilities, papakāinga, and others related to wairua, mauri, and spiritual sustenance will be considered. o Protecting and managing aquifers to prevent the intrusion of salt water and emerging contaminants, avoid consolidation, and ensure that pressures are suitable for water supply.	Not yet Implemented: Future regulatory change	Greater Wellington's approach to freshwater allocation is set out in the Resource Management Act, the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, and the Regional Policy Statement. Both the Resource Management Act and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management are proposed for reform. Additional information on the national legislative context is required before these recommendations can be progressed.

	○ Accommodating projected population growth and climate change where appropriate. • To achieve Obligation 3: ○ investigating opportunities and developing criteria for prioritising and incentivising certain uses of water that fall under this obligation, particularly where they are sustainable, efficient, and provide for the social, economic, and cultural well-being of people and communities, now and in the future; and ○ the investigation under (c)(i) will involve engagement with the community and stakeholders to ensure there are no unintended consequences in a prioritisation system.		
K19	Undertake the following actions in relation to water allocation and use: • To achieve Obligations 2 and 3 as identified in Recommendation 17, apply a take limit of 10 percent of MALF as part of water allocation regimes for all rivers and streams, and: ○ Within the take limit in (a), provide for an allocation for mana whenua as a right of first refusal as per Recommendation 8; and ○ Review takes limits at a minimum of every 10 years to ensure these are set to appropriately account for changing environmental conditions. • Improved data collection on water takes volumes and uses, including takes permitted under section 14(3)(b) of the RMA, in order to provide more accurate and transparent accounting of water use. This will involve requirements for metering on all water takes, including telemetry for takes from bores. • Requirements for common consent conditions on water permits, with a trigger to step down or cease abstraction in an FMU when an issue is identified in monitoring of another consent in the FMU (such as saline intrusion). • Aligning consent expiry dates and reviewing all water permits on a staged FMU-by-FMU (or part-FMU) basis to understand the impact of cumulative abstraction on the health of the awa and dependent ecosystems, and to transition to a more equitable allocation framework. Priority for reviews will be given to catchments with the highest level of over-allocation and/or adverse effects on water bodies. Review of consents should occur upon renewal in the first instance, or otherwise under s128 of the RMA if the FMU or part-FMU is over-allocated and there is no upcoming renewal within 5 years of the plan change becoming operative; and • Investigating a replacement to the "first-in-first-served" approach to processing water permits and allocating water. This will be informed by the water permit reviews undertaken under (c), and in investigating a replacement must consider alternative methods for providing more equitable allocation of resources, including but not limited to specific policy direction within FMUs to prioritise particular water uses or activities above others.	Not yet Implemented: Future regulatory change	Greater Wellington's approach to freshwater allocation is set out in the Resource Management Act, the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, and the Regional Policy Statement. Both the Resource Management Act and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management are proposed for reform. Additional information on the national legislative context is required before this recommendation can be progressed. It is unlikely that meters can be required on section 14 takes, as these are permitted by right. Metering and telemetry are currently required on all takes over 5 L/s under the regulations, and metering is required on most takes under 5 L/s. Common consent conditions are already applied and are included each time a consent is renewed. Applying these conditions when an issue is identified from another consent would require a section 128 review, which is costly and subject to specific parameters that must be met to trigger it. Greater Wellington has begun implementing common expiry dates. Section 128 reviews have specific parameters that need to be met before they can be undertaken. The current consenting framework under the Resource Management Act operates on a first-in, first-served basis.

K20	Develop and implement and provide ongoing funding for a programme for the enhancement and restoration of mahinga kai to achieve the long-term visions and environmental outcomes, and address issues outlined in this WIP for all water bodies:
	• Restore mauri so that there is a great abundance of mahinga kai.
	• Enhance mahinga kai, including for, but not limited to:
	  ○ Historic ngahere (forests).
	  ○ Repo (wetlands).
	  ○ Pā harakeke (flax plantings).
	  ○ Rongoā plants.
	  ○ Kai moana and kai awa including tuna, inanga, and piharau (lamprey).
	• This programme shall:
	  ○ Be developed by June 2025 (funding for programme development in 2025-26 financial year.
	  ○ Incorporate of measures of mātauranga Māori.
	  ○ Investigate and identify potential mahinga kai sites and species and any actions needed to establish habitat or species.
	  ○ Set a timeline for implementing all identified actions based on priority; and
	  ○ Outline a monitoring programme to assess the effectiveness of implemented actions.
		Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation is one of the priority areas for scoping.

K21	Investigate, develop, and implement a habitat restoration monitoring methodology that enables an assessment of habitat quality in order to measure progress of improving habitat outcomes including: • Considering using HQI to set targets for habitat restoration that align with outcomes articulated by the Committee. • Considering applying the measure as a target attribute state as an objective in the NRP along with any associated methods to achieve it. • Following best practice guidance on designs and practices to maintain and improve habitat in relation to river management works.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	Targets for habitat quality could be included as Natural Resources Plan objectives or Target Attribute States. Research is progressing on development of the Habitat Quality Index through global consents for the Ōtaki and Waikanae Rivers. This work could inform each river's flood management plan. The wetland programme supports landowners with restoration through advice and, in some cases, funding assistance for fencing, planting, and pest control. A review of the wetland monitoring programme is scheduled for 2026. The programme includes aspects of habitat monitoring, and there is potential to tailor it further to deliver on this recommendation. Scoping is underway to identify species for use in areas where Greater Wellington has river management responsibilities. Existing best practice guidelines—*Environmental Code of Practice and Monitoring Plan* and *Integrating Native Planting and Flood Protection*—partially address these issues.

K22	Develop, implement, and provide ongoing funding for a restoration programme for the enhancement of habitat of all water body types. This programme shall:
	• Be developed by June 2025 (funding for programme development in 2025-26 financial year).
	• Incorporate measures of mātauranga Māori.
	• Seek to enhance ecosystem health.
	• Investigate and identify opportunities and actions to protect, restore, or enhance habitats including:
	  ○ Potential for restoring the natural form of modified streams, for example re-establishing natural meanders and daylighting piped streams.
	  ○ Sites that require enhancement to meet habitat quality targets.
		Partially Implemented: Delivery	In 2025/26, 20 Kāpiti-based groups received $128,503 in funding through the Greater Wellington Community Environment Fund. Many of these groups include a focus on freshwater and wetland outcomes.
			
			The Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) programme aims to protect some of the best examples of native ecosystems in the region by managing, reducing, or removing threats to their values. Freshwater-related KNE sites in Kāpiti include:
			
			• Lake Waiorongomai and Stream
			• Waitohu Coast and Wetlands
			• Otepua-Parāuku Wetlands
			• Haruātai/Pareomatangi
			• Te Harakeke Wetland Complex

	○ Actions for effective habitat enhancement or species establishment that can be applied to identified sites over time, agreeing good practice management for stream and channel maintenance, gravel extraction, silt, and vegetation clearance, alteration or removal of structures and restoration planting. ○ Identifying species at severe risk of decline and identifying locally extinct species and the potential for reintroduction. ○ Set a timeline for implementing all identified actions based on priority; and ○ Outline a monitoring programme to assess the effectiveness of implemented actions.		• Ngā Manu Wetland Complex • Waikanae River Complex Individual KNE plans are available here: https://www.gw.govt.nz/environment/our-natural-environment/our-unique-ecosystem-types/key-native-ecosystem-programme/
K23	Design and initiate the following pest and weed control programmes, with actions including: • As a high priority, undertake active removal of exotic aquatic weeds (, hornwort, oxygen weed) with priority given to "hot spots" identified by the programme. • Active control of pest populations that contribute to poor water quality, including geese, carp, perch, rudd, gambusia, brown trout and tench; and • Active control of any other species identified in partnership.	Partially Implemented	Design and initiate pest and weed control programmes with actions that include: • Active removal of exotic aquatic weeds such as hornwort and oxygen weed, with priority given to hotspots identified by the programme. • Active control of pest populations that contribute to poor water quality, including geese, carp, perch, rudd, gambusia, brown trout, and tench. • Active control of any other species identified in partnership. Active removal of exotic aquatic weeds is partially implemented. Environment Restoration is obtaining consent to remove *Phragmites karka* from an estuarine environment in Ōtaki. *Phragmites* is a semi-aquatic weed that can grow terrestrially but is most commonly found in riverine and estuarine environments. Environment Restoration is working with Caleb to incorporate Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki perspectives, and delivery is planned for March 2026. Active control of pest fish species is not yet implemented. Fish & Game and others have challenged the designation of trout as a pest species. DOC has been removing carp from the Wharemauku. Active control of other species identified in partnership is not yet implemented.
K24	Progress the effective management and protection of natural inland wetlands in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti, including: • Providing support and advice on responding to changes due to climate change, including from rising or falling groundwater levels and interactions with flood management and flooding. • Investigating alternative models of management and ownership to protect wetlands from development. • Investigating options to adapt existing and future infrastructure design to allow natural processes to occur within natural inland wetlands without damaging infrastructure in wetlands. • Promoting best practice and educating developers on adding economic and aesthetic value when incorporating water sensitive urban design, such as incorporating existing or offset or constructed wetlands into new developments; and • Investigating where stormwater may be discharging into natural inland wetlands, assessing the effects on those wetlands including measures of mātauranga Māori, and alternative discharge options.	Partially Implemented	Identified wetlands are protected through policies and rules mapped in the Natural Resources Plan under Schedule A3 (Wetlands with outstanding indigenous biodiversity values) and Schedule F3 (Identified natural wetlands. The wetland programme supports landowners with restoration through advice and, in some cases, funding assistance for fencing, planting, and pest control.

K25	Advocate to central government through annual correspondence and formal submissions for the protection and restoration of natural inland wetlands, coastal wetlands, and peatlands to be included in the Emissions Trading Scheme	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	In November 2025 the government announced the development of a voluntary nature credits market (VNCM), outlines an accreditation system for voluntary market status and pathway from there into the emissions trading scheme (ETS), that provides a pathway for wetlands to be included in the ETS, with a high burden of proof required to demonstrate emissions reduction.
K26	Investigate and implement actions to improve the ecosystem and cultural health of estuaries in Te Whaitua o Kāpiti. The investigation should consider necessary actions (beyond those identified in this WIP) to manage/resolve:	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	A short "Insights" document was produced for 2024/2025 year which outlines the key coastal habitats, environmental issues, coastal monitoring summary, insights, and recommendations for the coastal environments. This includes recommended next steps for improving coastal (including estuary) health. Unique recommendations were to. • Investigate salt marsh and estuarine restoration to support carbon sequestration, sediment trapping, and nutrient cycling, and improve biodiversity and sediment stability at Waikanae estuary and other key areas (Waitohu, Ōtaki and Whareroa). • Targeted investigations to map unique and key habitats and ecosystems and working with mana whenua to incorporate Mātauranga Māori into the design of these. • Consider performing 10 yearly synoptic subtidal surveys to create a picture of subtidal estuarine health and monitor estuary water column condition and vulnerability
K26.1	Habitat loss, including the reductions in the area of salt marsh, cockle beds, and other habitats. • Undertaking estuarine restoration. • Water quality degradation including issues caused by sediment inputs. • Catchment flow alterations including estuarine mouth management and stream course alterations. • The presence of introduced weeds and nuisance algae. • Human disturbance of wildlife. • Reductions in the area of salt marsh, including undertaking estuarine planting to restore salt marsh area; and • Investigating and implementing policies and rules to improve the health of estuaries.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	No additional update
K27	Develop and implement measures to acknowledge unnamed awa/streams, including establishing a programme of work to ensure that traditional names are returned to the awa, and ensuring Te Reo Māori is upheld through appropriate signage and respected as part of the community's identity.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	Work has been undertaken in Te Whanganui-a-Tara to acknowledge unnamed awa/streams, including establishing a programme of work to ensure that traditional names are returned to the awa. The approach and learnings from this process could be adopted in Kāpiti through a mentoring approach, and would be well suited to academic, or internship to deliver.
K28	Develop and implement a pollution prevention programme by December 2026 aimed at avoiding contaminants entering the public or a private stormwater system. The pollution prevention programme could include: • Identification of catchments or hot spots within catchments that contribute a high dissolved copper and/or dissolved zinc load in stormwater discharges. • Prioritising high contaminant loss catchments or hot spots for actions to reduce contaminant loads entering the stormwater network. • Working with specific industries or suppliers to raise awareness of the risks of certain activities or products to stormwater quality with the aim of avoiding discharges of contaminants into stormwater drains; and • Investigating new or expanded initiatives to reduce the contaminant load of heavy metals entering the stormwater system, or removing contaminants from the stormwater network, such as increasing street sweeping frequency, installing new treatment devices, and maintaining awareness of new innovative solutions.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	"Take Charge" pollution prevention programme undertaken in Grenada North assessed business activities, identify actual and potential pollution sources and worked to remove or reduce pollution inputs by providing advice to business on pollution control methods. The work provides a template that could be followed in industrial districts in Kāpiti.
K29	Investigate and implement a permitting system, such as a warrant of fitness system or bylaw, to ensure onsite wastewater disposal systems are correctly maintain This will be supported by an education programme for septic tank owners to raise	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This would have to be developed alongside KCDC; but consider it would not appear in a GWRC plan change. This work is also doable but would require significant extra resource and again, it does not necessarily need to be led by reg. WS | Exploring mapping of onsite wastewater systems.

	awareness of how to correctly use and maintain onsite wastewater systems. This could include, for example, a leaflet drops to all septic tank owners with guidance, a social media campaign, or a website with easy-to-follow guidance for correct use and maintenance		PHF Science has funding to map onsite wastewater systems for regional councils, and has to date completed this mapping in Auckland, Taranaki, and Canterbury. PHF have funding available in 2025; offer to map Greater Wellington with $5,000–$10,000 in-kind contribution. This would support development of a business case for a "safe septic programme" for the wellington region, modelled on the Auckland Council's Safe Septic Programme.
K30	Develop and implement an education programme for people undertaking open channel/modified waterways maintenance and clearance. The implementation programme should include actions such as: • Meeting with operators and landowners to provide advice on specific clearance sites; and • Promoting the application of Good Practices for the Mechanical Management of Highly Modified Waterways 2022.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	No additional update
K31	Review and update the Kāpiti Coast District Council 2003 Sustainable Water Use Strategy to better provide for relevant long-term visions, values, and environmental outcomes in this WIP, including providing for Te Mana o te Wai.	Not yet implemented:	No additional update
K32	Monitor and investigate the ecological health of the waterways of the Waiorongomai FMU and prepare and begin implementation of an action plan, incorporating measures of mātauranga Māori.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	Can be progressed pending sign-off
K33	Investigate the ecological health of Lake Waitawa and Ngātōtara Lagoon and tributaries, and prepare and begin implementation of action plans, incorporating measures of mātauranga Māori and including the following: • As a high priority, actions to reduce DIN levels especially where it is entering the Mangapouri. For example, investigating land use practice change to achieve nutrient limits including a potential nitrogen input cap and sinking lid approach to achieve targets. • Actions to ensure gravel extraction is conducted in a way that does not impede/delay the achievement of environmental outcomes; and • Education for the wider community about Lake Waitawa so that visitors to the lake understand that it is wāhi tapu and contains an urupā, and the significance of these to ensure cultural health and safety.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation can be progressed immediately. Initial water quality sampling has been completed at Lake Waitawa. The Waitohu Key Native Ecosystems review is scheduled for 2025/26, providing an opportunity to incorporate Whaitua objectives.
K34	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Ōtaki FMU, including: • Ensuring Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki are a decision-maker with regard to actions and proposed developments alongside the Ōtaki River and tributaries; and • As a high priority, reviewing and updating the Ōtaki Floodplain Management Plan to identify any changes required to achieve target attribute states.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed. A global consent for flood protection and control works on the Ōtaki River is being sought, with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki as a co-consent holder. Marine and Coastal Area protocols are being developed, and technical assessments to support the Assessment of Environmental Effects are underway. Roles and responsibilities for the Flood Management Plan, along with scheduling, are being determined within Greater Wellington.
K35	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Mangaone FMU, including: • Ensuring Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki are a decision-maker with regard to actions and proposed developments alongside the Mangaone Stream and associated wetlands and tributaries; and • As a high priority, undertaking actions to reduce DIN levels; for example, investigating land use change or other methods to achieve nutrient limits including a potential nitrogen input cap and sinking lid approach, as well as amending existing permitted activity rules.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed.

K36	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Waimeha FMU, including: • Developing a storehouse of kōrero to recognise, understand and strengthen collective ties to the Kōwhai, including recognising and acknowledging the importance of Kōwhai as a shared boundary between Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai and Ngāti Raukawa. • Creation of a network of iwi kaitiaki and community stewards to connect restoration and monitoring work so that Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki and the wider community feel connected to the Kōwhai, including the ability to undertake customary activities including mahinga kai and passing on mātauranga Māori. • Considering regulating for increased development setbacks for buildings, structures, and earthworks to improve natural character; and • Reestablishing rākau Kōwhai as key tohu along the banks.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed.
K37	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Kōwhai FMU, including: • Prioritising an investigation into the sources and nature of the contaminants discharged into the Ngārara tributary, and from the Ngārara Stream tributary into the Waimeha. Make the results available as part of the next State of the Environment Report and identify actions to be taken to address these contaminants; and • Ensuring Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai are a decision-maker, including for consent applications for proposed developments that may directly or indirectly impact waterways within the Waimeha FMU; and • Investigating pathways for climate change adaptation.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed.
K38	Investigate relocating the Wastewater Treatment Plant or alternative wastewater discharge locations from the Mazengarb catchment to a site that can have land-based treatment and ensures no waste is discharged to fresh or coastal water. Introduce the best option from this investigation into the KCDC Long Term Plan.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	Waikanae, Paraparaumu, and Raumati are serviced by the Paraparaumu wastewater treatment plant, which serves roughly 83% of Kāpiti's population (≈12,850 in Waikanae, 20,000 in Paraparaumu, and 10,750 in Raumati out of a total KCDC population of 53,673). Wastewater assets in the district are valued at $175,960,000 (see: https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/media/pu1nwhpe/kcdc-annual-report-202425.pdf), meaning assets associated with the Paraparaumu wastewater treatment plant are valued at roughly $150 million. Building an equivalent new treatment plant and configuring associated new piping would impose a significant financial burden on the community.
K39	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Waikanae FMU, including: • Developing a storehouse of kōrero-a-iwi and a-hapū alongside community information and data to recognise, understand, and strengthen collective ties to the Waikanae Awa to include generation of mātauranga and development of knowledge in mātauranga taiao indicators, knowledge, environmental monitoring and management, revitalisation, health, and wellbeing. • Creation of a network of mana whenua kaitiaki and community stewards to connect restoration and monitoring work in the waterways of the Waikanae FMU, including monitoring and reviewing tikanga for vehicle access.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed. Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai has submitted an application to the KCDC Heritage Fund for a $5,000 contribution toward iwi-led kaitiakitanga interviews and stories. Recent gravel movement in the Waikanae River mouth and estuary area was supported by Te Ātiawa's Taiao Committee. Input from Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai advised on minimising the impact of gravel abstraction, including fish rescue. Further develop the global consent is underway with Te Ātiawa, and future involvement from partners will provide an opportunity to progress this recommendation.

	• Actions to ensure gravel extraction is conducted in a way that contributes to the achievement of environmental outcomes in this WIP. • Investigating the ecological health of Ngārara Lagoon and prepare and implement an action plan incorporating measures of mātauranga Māori and including direction for Greater Wellington, Kāpiti Coast District Council, and mana whenua to partner to conduct monitoring to ensure that the ecological health of Ngārara Lagoon is on a trajectory of improvement by 2030. • Educating the wider community about Waimanu Lagoon so that visitors understand that it is wāhi tapu and contains an urupā and the significance of these to ensure cultural health and safety. • Investigating naturalising the Tikotu stream, including daylighting; and • Ensuring that any relevant outputs of the Waikanae Ki Uta Ki Tai programme are considered and investigating if additional provisions need to be incorporated in plan provisions in the change to the Natural Resources Plan for Te Whaitua o Kāpiti.		There is strong alignment between Waikanae ki uta ki tai objectives and WIP recommendations. A delivery plan for 2026 has been produced to align partner activities. A review of ecological monitoring on the Waikanae River was recently undertaken. Key findings include: • Water quality monitoring is unevenly distributed, with many sites in the lower urban reaches and limited marine environment monitoring. • While there are 62 freshwater monitoring sites, data is not easily accessible as it is contained within reports. • There is a clear picture of current trends and states, and some information on habitat and macroinvertebrates. Fish data is limited to presence/absence monitoring and does not assess fish health. Greater Wellington is working with Waikanae ki uta ki tai partners to explore options for a monitoring portal using ArcGIS Experience Builder to display this information.
K40	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Wharemauku FMU, including: • Restoring natural character values that have been lost due to historical flood engineering works, while retaining or increasing flood storage capacity. • Prioritising climate change adaptation measures in the Wharemauku, including managed retreat/planned relocation with the aim to limit the need for stream excavation, avoiding further wetland loss, and improving habitat; and • Undertaking an investigation to characterise contaminants in stormwater from hotspots, such as impervious surfaces and parking areas, that tests for a full range of contaminants including organic chemicals. Using the results of this investigation and the pollution prevention programme specified in Recommendation 28, identify, and prioritise actions necessary to improve stormwater quality.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed.

K41	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Whareroa FMU, including:
	• As a high priority, develop and deliver a knowledge plan which includes:
	  ○ Generation of mātauranga and development of knowledge in mātauranga taiao indicators, environmental monitoring and management, revitalisation, health, and wellbeing.
	  ○ A storehouse of kōrero to recognise, understand and strengthen collective ties to the Whareroa and its cultural landscape.
	  ○ A combined, culturally responsive GIS information management platform to inform integrated management.
	  ○ The creation of a network of iwi kaitiaki and community stewards to connect restoration and monitoring work in the waterways of the Whareroa FMU; and
	  ○ Establishment of a base for volunteers and rangatahi to work from.
		Partially Implemented: Planning	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed.
			
			Delivery is supported by Toitū te Whenua action A327 for Queen Elizabeth Park, which has commenced development of a landscape master plan contracted to Thrive Consulting. The plan considers:
			
			• Restoration of wetlands, dune lands, and vegetation throughout the park following science-led priorities and KNE plans
			• Site-specific guidance for restoration where required
			• Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai aspirations for land they own within the park
			• Natural hazard management, including fire, flooding, buried ordnance, and tsunami
			• Additional key destinations and facilities such as trails, bird hides, storytelling, and relocation of equestrian facilities out of low-lying areas
			• Adaptive conservation, recreation, and community reuse of park buildings
			• Non-native amenity plantings where appropriate
			• Cultural site considerations in liaison with mana whenua

	• Using measures of mātauranga Māori, improve the Whareroa catchment, including by the following:
	  ○ Undertaking significant riparian planting to help mitigate discharges from the highway and ensuring that water temperature remains cool enough to sustain aquatic life.
	  ○ Improving dissolved oxygen levels.
	  ○ Protecting, maintaining, and restoring wetlands in the FMU.
	  ○ Enhancing connectivity throughout the catchment, especially for migratory tuna, inanga, and kōkopu; and
	  ○ The development of education programmes to support positive behavioural change and enable rongoā? maramataka, and mahinga kai.
			• Opportunities for art in the park, including community initiatives, sculpture, nature play, and mana whenua storytelling
			• Opportunities for camping
			
			Toitū te Whenua action A339 continues to support QEP restoration groups and others to grow plants for restoration efforts through co-design of planting plans, technical advice, promotion of volunteering, and provision of infrastructure such as aquatic plant growing facilities or relocation to a green hub. The park has an established nursery supporting three community groups and the Rongoā Collective. The nursery consists of 12 bays, a potting room, equipment storage, a growing-on room, irrigation, and a toilet. One volunteer oversees operations and recently secured Community Environment Fund support.
			
			Toitū te Whenua action A329 focuses on restoring native riparian habitat along all waterways, considering pocket plantings of nursery species for birds. Kelly Brenner, project lead for parks restoration, oversees planting at QEP within Recloaking Papatūānuku. Progress depends on peat rewetting; some areas have been planted, and work is ongoing.
			
			Toitū te Whenua actions A328 and A331 aim to progressively reduce grazed areas classified as wetlands, restore hydrological functions and native flora, rewet peatlands, and undertake riparian planting. Wetlands in previously farmed areas have been retired, and planting has begun through Recloaking Papatūānuku. Weed and pest control improvements have been made, and rewetting investigations are underway.

K42	Develop and implement an action plan to achieve outcomes in the Wainui and Paekākāriki FMU, including: • As a high priority, investigate and restore fish passage and enhance connectivity throughout the catchment, especially for migratory tuna, inanga, and kōkopu, prioritising actions in the Te Aranui o Rangihaeata/Transmission Gully; and • Monitor and if necessary, review consent conditions for Te Aranui o Rangihaeata/Transmission Gully relating to awa restoration to ensure that these are restored and/or left in a better state in a way that preserves their natural character.	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	This recommendation requires an action plan to be developed.
K43	Develop and implement the following for the Kāpiti Island FMU: • Appropriate protocols for monitoring which take into account the cultural sensitivity of Kāpiti Island; and • An education programme about Kāpiti Island with specific reference to places of cultural significance in relation to the importance of wai	Not yet Implemented: Scoping needed	No additional update