

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS INVESTIGATION

Ōroua and Pohangina Rivers GOVERNANCE GROUP MEETING

Thursday 1st August 2024 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Massey University Sport and Event Centre, 56 Albany Drive, Palmerston North and Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Te Kenehi Teira (Chair), Ian Strahan, Shane Carroll, Matt Carroll, Alana Nuku, Kathy Dever-Tod, Paul Arcus, Julia Jung, Bruce Potaka, Phil Teal, Ruby Stevens (Minutes), Logan Brown, Stewart Harrex, Oriana Paewai (Zoom), Danielle Harris (Zoom), Robert Martin (Zoom).

1. KARAKIA AND WELCOME

Meeting opened at 1:13PM with karakia from Te Kenehi Teira.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Aoife Broad, Alan Taylor, Ami Coughlan, Dan Tuohy, Ian Rasmussen, Jon Roygard, Jason Griffin, Lucretia Mason, Manahi Paewai, Mariah Petera, Mike Taylor, Moana Smith-Dunlop, Sara Bell, Shayne Harris, Shelley Dew-Hopkins, Tom Coogan, Utiku Potaka, and Will Silk.

RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.

Ian Strahan/Paul Arcus
CARRIED

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were raised.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA AND NOTIFICATION OF ANY ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Addition of confirmation of minutes from previous meeting.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Monday 25th March 2024 meeting be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Phil Teal/Stewart Harrex
CARRIED

Oriana Paewai advised that Ngāti Kauwhata will be sending someone to replace Dennis Emery.

The group discussed whether the Governance Group is an appropriate size, and whether the quorum required as stated in the Terms of Reference is appropriate. It was decided that the quorum requirements should remain unchanged at a minimum of one more member than half of the Governance Group, so as to be representative.

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference be updated, to note that the Governance Group shall still meet if the quorum requirements are not met, but any significant decisions will require a quorum to be valid.

Phil Teal/Ian Strahan
CARRIED

6. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE (Logan Brown)

· Lower Manawatū Natural Character Index;

Logan Brown provided an example of a Natural Character Index (NCI) report (the NCI ratio for a river quantifies channel confinement and a range of other river characteristics over time). When this report becomes available, it will be circulated to the group.

Dr Russell Death is being contracted to create a similar report, including Habitat Quality Index (HQI). The HQI will look at 10 sections of the Ōroua River and 10 sections of the Pohangina River as part of this project. The NCI report will look at historic aerial photographs to quantify changes to the river channel over time; these historic channel lines will be added to a publicly available online map.

Danielle Harris raised that the current work stream is approached solely through Western science, and there is a need to embed Mātauranga Māori now.

Action: Logan Brown will contact iwi by the 15th of August 2024, to discuss the overlay of Te Ao Māori.

- Reporting to MfE.

A report to MfE is due to be submitted shortly.

7. COMMUNICATION & RELATIONSHIPS (Logan Brown)

- Website;

Oriana Paewai has been in touch with Ruby Stevens regarding incorporating Mātauranga Māori into the project webpage. It was recommended that the webpage include further clarification around gravel extraction regulations, as well as access to iwi and hapū management plans. Phil Teal requested that the group be notified when changes are made to the webpage.

- Public Consultation;

The need for consultation with the wider community was discussed. It was noted that this should include recreational/historical/cultural users of the rivers as well as landowners. Logan Brown requested that the Governance Group provide guidance to the Project Team as to how best communicate to communities.

Recommendations included using the mailing lists for the Manawatū River Users Group/Leaders' Accord and catchment groups, as well as the Tōtara Reserve project, to reach the wider community.

Networking of this project by Governance Group members is key – please advise the Project Team of any upcoming opportunities e.g., meetings.

It was decided that Logan Brown will attend the Pohangina-Ōroua Scheme Meeting on 16th August 2024 in Cheltenham, and present a short overview of the project (including an example from the Manawatū River NCI report of channel changes over time, and a link to the NBS website). The Project Team will contact the Horizons Communications Team regarding creating video content for the project – Te Kenehi Teira nominated Alan Taylor for this.

- Mātauranga Māori;

It was decided that Jon Proctor/Hone Morris will present the Mātauranga Māori Framework created for the Manawatū River Leaders' Accord to the group, to show how it could be applied to this project. Te Kenehi Teira and Utiku Potaka may also present. Oriana Paewai and Ruby Stevens will work together to ensure everyone is aware of this and has opportunity to contribute.

- Other.

Phil Teal requested that the monthly project updates are reinstated.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Finalise Governance Group member list

Te Kenehi Teira recommended to reduce the number of Governance Group members by contacting members who have not attended a meeting/given apologies for three meetings in a row, starting from this meeting, asking if they still wish to be a part of the group.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- Jobs for Nature

Te Kenehi Teira apprised the group of some of the work being carried out under the Horizons contracted Jobs for Nature (J4N) projects.

- Project Objectives

Ian Strahan raised concerns around the lack of land/property protection within the project principles; Ian will draft an additional objective acknowledging landowner livelihood, and will respond with this by the Pohangina-Ōroua Scheme meeting. It was also recommended that the final paragraph on the "Project Details" section of webpage be moved above the purpose.

RESOLVED that Project Objective (j) be updated to include "economic" connection and resilience.

Ian Strahan/Matt Carroll
CARRIED

10. KARAKIA AND MEETING CONCLUSION

The next meeting will ideally be booked for Thursday 7th November 2024, from 1:00PM-3:00PM, at the Manawatū Community Hub Libraries in Feilding.

Meeting closed at 2:44PM with karakia from Te Kenehi Teira.
