

Nature-Based Solutions Investigation – Ōroua and Pohangina Rivers Governance Group Meeting

Thursday 7th November 2024, 2:30PM – 4:30PM
Te Āhuru Mōwai/Manawatū Community Hub Libraries Feilding, and Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance: Alan Taylor (Chair), Te Kenehi Teira, Amy Weston, Matt Carroll, Stewart Harrex, Willie Silk, Craig O’Leary, Tom Coogan, Phil Teal, Paul Arcus, Ruby Stevens (Minutes), Oriana Paewai, Logan Brown, Shane Carroll, Ami Coughlan (Zoom), Sara Bell (Zoom).

Apologies: Kathy Dever-Tod, Ian Strahan, Danielle Harris, Mariah Petera, Lucretia Mason, Manahi Paewai, Shayne Harris, Jon Roygard, Jason Griffin, Michael Taylor, Utiku Potaka, Alana Nuku, Chris Shenton.

1. Karakia and Welcome

Meeting opened at 2:41PM, with karakia from Te Kenehi Teira. Roundtable introductions were made.

2. Apologies

RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.

Alan Taylor/Te Kenehi Teira
CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were raised.

4. Confirmation of Agenda and Notification of Any Additional Items

No new agenda items were raised.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Thursday 1st August 2024 meeting be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Te Kenehi Teira/Paul Arcus
CARRIED

6. Work Programme Update

A Natural Character Index study has been commissioned from Dr Russell Death (River Research) for the Ōroua and Pohangina Rivers. The Lower Manawatū River has been completed as part of a separate project, and this report is available on the project webpage.

Mapping of hard geological features is underway, and the historic channel lines have been digitized.

The design channels lines from the 2002 Scheme Review have also been digitized. Logan Brown demonstrated that river management lines have been in place for some time, but in some places the river has changed considerably since the lines were drawn. Going forward, the group will need to discuss how these lines should be redrawn.

Discussion was had around the potential impacts that gravel extraction can have in degrading conditions, such as undermining of key infrastructure and incising river channels.

7. Communication and Relationships

Letters and info-sheets have been posted to landowners whose properties are close to the rivers. The Horizons project team are happy to meet people individually or in groups to discuss the project, either during the week or in the evenings/weekends if preferred.

No feedback was received from the press release in the Farmers Weekly.

8. Mātauranga Māori

Rangitāne o Manawatū will be providing their own report on values and the inclusion of Mātauranga Māori in the project. Ngāti Apa and Ngāti Hauiti will provide a joint report. Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua will discuss their approach with Rangitāne o Manawatū. Yet to hear from Ngāti Kauwhata.

A new webpage will be published on the project page titled "Mātauranga Māori" and will include links to the 'Iwi and Hapū Management Plans' webpage on the Horizons' website.

ACTIONS		
No.	Description	Responsible
1	Discuss Mātauranga Māori and values etc. reports.	Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua, Rangitāne o Manawatū

9. Other Business

At the previous meeting, it was decided that a video about the project should be posted via social media. It was agreed that the video should state that: this project is just a feasibility study; that community engagement will be occurring, and that; river management lines are not a new concept.

Ruby Stevens has accepted a new position within the River Management Team at Horizons and will have reduced hours on this project (up to 8 hours per week). Phil Teal acknowledged the work done by Ruby on this project.

Discussion was had around identifying areas where floodwaters can safely flood at slow speeds and deposit sediment during flood events, and the impact of some private stopbanks on the behaviour of floodwaters in recent events.

Shane Carroll raised a suggested amendment to the Terms of Reference on behalf of Ian Strahan.

ACTIONS		
No.	Description	Responsible
2	Circulate draft social media video script for Governance Group feedback in two weeks' time.	Ruby Stevens
3	Forward Ian Strahan's suggestion for an amendment to the Terms of Reference to the Project Team, so a side-by-side comparison can be reviewed at the next meeting.	Shane Carroll

10. Karakia and Meeting Conclusion

The next meeting will be arranged for mid-February 2025.

Meeting closed with karakia by Te Kenehi Teira at 3:56PM.