



This brochure explains Greater Wellington's approach to the Waikanae Catchments:
1. Floodplain management plan
2. Flood risk management measures
3. Environmental strategy and values

A floodplain management plan emphasises the need to leave room for the river and keep people away from floodwaters rather than floodwaters away from people

Waikanae floodplain management plan

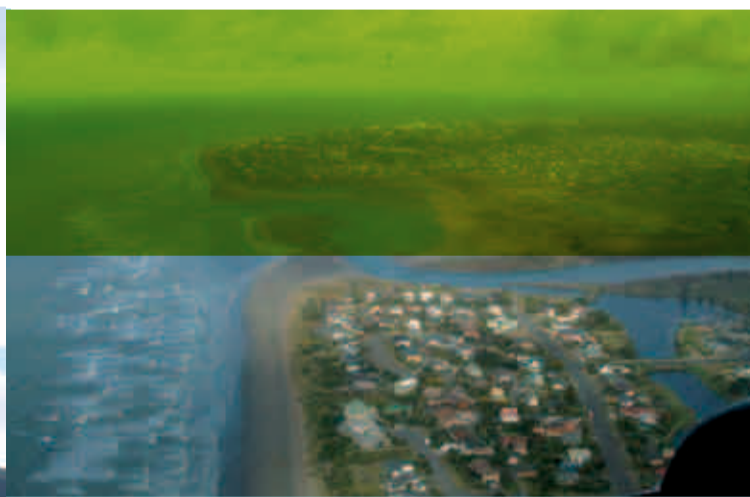
GREATER WELLINGTON WORKS WITH OUR REGION'S COMMUNITIES TO MANAGE THE FLOOD RISK FROM RIVERS IN OUR CATCHMENTS.
Our approach to managing flood risk is to understand river and floodplain processes and provide a coordinated response through our floodplain management plans in partnership with the community.



DRICON SITE – PART OF THE WAIKANAE RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY



Waikanae Floodplain Management



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NON-STRUCTURAL MEASURE –
OTAIHANGA HOUSE RAISING



SLIP IN REIKORANGI



STRUCTURAL MEASURE –
KAURI/PURIRI ROAD STOPBANK

Non-structural measures

Defining the flood hazard

This helps raise awareness of the nature of the flood hazard, and a flood's impact on land use and development.

The Kapiti Coast District Council's District Plan includes five categories that focus on this – River Corridor, Overflow Path, Ponding, Residual Overflow, Residual Ponding and Cliff Top Erosion.



NON-STRUCTURAL MEASURE –
FLOOD HAZARD LAYERS

Protecting and enhancing the Waikanae River's environmental values

The floodplain management planning process has highlighted the need to protect and enhance the environmental values of the Waikanae River.

Greater Wellington is committed to achieving the following four environmental principles through its floodplain management plans and environmental strategies:

1. Minimise any negative effects of flood risk management works on the community, including landscape, cultural, heritage, ecological or recreational values
2. Identify opportunities to enhance landscape, recreational and ecological values as part of flood risk management works within the river corridor
3. When designing works within the river environment, ensure a wide range of habitats remain, providing for native fish, plants, birds and invertebrates, and trout
4. Where possible, retain and enhance public access to and along the river.

Waikanae River environmental strategy

Long-term vision

The Waikanae River Environmental Strategy (1999) provides a framework for enhancing the environmental values of the river corridor from the water treatment plant to the river mouth.

The strategy hopes to restore and maintain the ecological integrity of the Waikanae River while providing for its sustainable use and enjoyment by the community.

We can achieve the vision by:

- Enhancing the natural character and heritage of the river environment
- Enhancing mauri (life force) and maintaining wairua (ecological balance) of the river environment
- Ensuring the community's relationship is sustainable in its interaction with the river landscape through access, and historical and spiritual values
- Ensuring the integrity and visual value of the environment is protected when undertaking flood risk management activities.

Structural measures

Stopbanks

- Waikanae River stopbanks are designed to protect existing homes and properties from a 1 in 100-year flood event.
- Stopbank works (which are part of the Waikanae Floodplain Management Plan) include Jim Cooke Park and Waimeha Golf Course stopbanks.

How can we achieve the vision?

The strategy makes recommendations that include environmental enhancement and plant selection.

Recommendations are also made about particular river reaches (sections of a river) along the river corridor, such as this Dricon Site example:

Parikawau/Edgewater Park reach – Dricon Site area

General recommendations:

- Evaluate and carry out wetland restoration
- Continue to gradually phase out the poplar plantings and regenerate with native species, extending up the terrace edge to link up with the native vegetation on the private property and beyond to the forest remnant across SH 1
- Keep some of the lower ground where the pines have been cleared as an open glade for informal picnic use. Some willows will need to be retained adjacent to the river to control bank-edge erosion
- The kohekohe forest remnants in or near this reach are of high ecological value due to their comparative rarity
- Steps to maintain their health and extend this area locally are recommended
- Near the Dricon site on the south bank there is an area of former wetland down by Kebbels Bend, which represents an opportunity for wetland restoration.