

If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Environment Committee

Thursday 12 August 2021, 9.30am

Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington

Members

Cr Gaylor (Chair)

Cr Blakeley

Cr Hughes

Cr Laban

Cr Lee

Cr Ponter

Cr van Lier

Barbie Barton

Cr Connelly (Deputy Chair)

Cr Brash

Cr Kirk-Burnnand

Cr Lamason

Cr Nash

Cr Staples

Environment Committee

Thursday 12 August 2021, 9.30am

Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington

Public Business

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11.	Wainuiomata Mainland Island Sanctuary Update	Oral Report	

Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Environment Committee meeting on 12 August 2021.

Report 21.277

Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on Thursday 17 June 2021

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

Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)
Councillor Connelly (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand (from 10.13am)
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Ponter
Councillor Nash
Councillor Staples
Councillor van Lier
Barbie Barton

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Connelly to open the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr van Lier

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillors Brash and Lamason and lateness from Councillor Kirk-Burnnand.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Viola Palmer spoke on Canada Geese and pest management.

Noted: The Committee requested that Councillors Ponter and Gaylor speak during the public forum at a Kāpiti Coast District Council meeting on Canada Geese and pest management.

Mike Alexander spoke on Queen Elizabeth Park and the restoration of Yorktown lagoon.

Thane Maxwell spoke on the restoration of wetlands and Yorktown Lagoon and the impacts on wildlife habitat restoration.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers investigate what modifications have been done in the Queen Elizabeth Park area, and where they sit in the Parks Network Plan for wetland restoration.

Noted: The Committee requested information on the consent of the bore at Queen Elizabeth Park.

Barbie Barton provided an update on the Farming Reference Group.

Noted: The Committee requested that an update from the Farming Reference Group be on the agenda for future Committee meetings.

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand arrived at the meeting at 10.13, during public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 12 May 2021- Report 21.193

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Nash

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 12 May 2021 - Report 21.193.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee – Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws hearing meeting on 25 May 2021 – Report 21.218

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Nash

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee – Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws hearing meeting on 25 May 2021 - Report 21.218.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Update on progress of action items from previous Environment Committee meetings – June 2021 – Report 21.201 [For Information]

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager Catchment Management, and Al Cross, General Manager Environment Management, spoke to the report.

7 Plan Change Work Programme to implement National Direction – Report 21.148 [For Information]

Al Cross, General Manager Environment Management, Miranda Cross, Team Leader Environmental Policy and Fleur Matthews, Team Leader Environmental Policy spoke to the report.

Noted: The Committee requested a briefing on the progress of mediation and court proceedings on the proposed Natural Resources Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 10.45am and resumed at 11.01. Councillor Laban returned to the meeting at 11.02am.

8 Whaitua Implementation Programme – action planning – Report 21.242

Al Cross, General Manager Environment Management, Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager Catchment Management and Tim Porteous, Manager, Biodiversity, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Lee / Cr Blakeley

That the Committee requests that officers report to the Committee, identifying specific gaps in the current responses to whaitua implementation programme recommendations, including in relation to recommendations that sit with organisations other than Greater Wellington.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Proposed Natural Resources Plan Effects Management Guidance – Report 21.248 [For Information]

Jamie Steer, Senior Biodiversity Advisor and Pam Guest, Senior Policy Advisor, spoke to the report.

10 Crown Funded Projects and Programmes update – Report 21.270 [For Information]

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

11 Wainuiomata Mainland Island Sanctuary update – oral report

Councillor Nash updated the Committee on the progress of the Wainuiomata Mainland Island Sanctuary.

Councillor Nash recapped Council decisions supporting the establishment of the sanctuary. Jim Lynch was commissioned to work on a feasibility study and this work is progressing.

The fence route was trimmed to 28.7km, which will enclose 3,310ha. The fence type assessment and design continues. A solution has been identified to make the river crossing predator proof.

The initial biodiversity assessments on the threatened species value is underway and suggests a high biodiversity value for three threatened species. These are the hihi, rowi kiwi, and kākāpō.

Taranaki Whānui, who are the mana whenua in the area, have completed a draft cultural impact assessment. This is being considered by Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust. Taranaki Whānui have expressed support for the project as a foundation partner.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) is working to understand the benefits for threatened species, should the proposed sanctuary be constructed. DOC is using their own internal experts to do this, as well as co-funding the feasibility study with Greater Wellington.

As the sanctuary would be a national biodiversity asset, funding will need to come from central government. If the feasibility study is favourable and if DOC decided to take on the project, Greater Wellington would be in a position to support a Budget 2022 bid to provide funding for construction, eradication and the first five years of operational work. The preliminary costings of this are:

- Fence construction: \$13 million
- Eradication and clean up: \$2.5 million
- Equipment, vehicles and buildings: \$1.5 million
- Five years operational expenditure: \$7.5 million
- Total estimate for Budget bid: \$24.5 million
- Ongoing annual operational expenditure: \$1.5 million

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Connelly to close the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 11.54am.

Councillor P Gaylor

Chair

Date:

For Information

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS – AUGUST 2021

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Environment Committee (the Committee) on the progress of action items arising from previous Committee meetings.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Items raised at the Committee's previous meetings, which require action by officers, are listed in **Attachment 1** – Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings. For all action items, the current status and a brief comment is provided on progress to date.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

3. There are no financial implications from this report, but there may be implications arising from the actions listed.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

4. All completed items will be removed from the action items table for the next report. Items not completed will continue to be progressed. Any new items will be added, following this Committee meeting, and circulated to the relevant business group/s for action.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachment

Number	Title
1	Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writer	Al Cross – Kaiwhakahaere Matua mo te Taiao/General Manager, Environment Management Wayne O’Donnell – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Whaitua/General Manager, Catchment Management
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**He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga
Summary of considerations**

Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference

The action items are of an administrative nature and support the functioning of the Committee.

Implications for Māori

Known implications for Māori are identified to the extent advised in Attachment 1.

Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies

Action items contribute to Council's or Greater Wellington's related strategies, policies and plans to the extent identified in Attachment 1.

Internal consultation

There was no additional internal consultation in preparing this report and updating the action items.

Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.

There are no known risks or impacts.

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
18 February 2021	<p>Wainuiomata Mainland Island threatened species sanctuary update</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that a standing item on the Wainuiomata Mainland Island threatened species sanctuary (Report 20.466) be added to the agenda for future meetings.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Completed.</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Now an ongoing standing update to Environment Committee.</p>
18 February 2021	<p>Crown Funded Covid Recovery Projects – progress update – Report 21.51</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>That the Committee requests officers to explore and report back to Council of a targeted rate to support predator free efforts in the Wellington City and the viability of inclusion in the draft Long Term Plan consultation document.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Discussed at Council Workshop on 27 May.</p> <p>Regional Pest Management funding review programmed for 2021/22.</p>
1 April 2021	<p>Transmission Gully Project</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The General Manager, Environment Management, will provide Councillors with the Transmission Gully Project mitigation planting plans within Belmont Regional Park.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>The information requested may encompass a significant amount of work to collate.</p> <p>Councillors were consulted suggesting a meeting with officers to work through information required.</p> <p>A report has been prepared for 12 August 2021 committee meeting.</p>

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

<p>12 May 2021</p>	<p>Whaitua Implementation update – Report 21.167</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>That the Committee requests officers to prepare two reports, with input from mana whenua, assessing Greater Wellington’s progress against Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Ruamāhanga WIPs, including current gaps.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>First report (Report 21.242) to 17 June Environment Committee.</p> <p>Workshop item on the emerging programme structure and arrangements prepared for Environment Committee workshop on 12 August.</p>
<p>12 May 2021</p>	<p>Whaitua Implementation update – Report 21.167</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>That the Committee requests officers to assess the resourcing implications of fully implementing the Whaitua Implementation Programme recommendations for which Greater Wellington is responsible.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Has been tasked to new Whaitua Programme Manager, to progress.</p>
<p>12 May 2021</p>	<p>Whaitua Implementation update – Report 21.167</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>That the Committee requested officers to compile a schedule of Whaitua Implementation Programme recommendations across all responsible organisations, identifying progress, proposed timing and phasing, and estimated completion.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>The schedules have been prepared and presented to the Committee on 17 June 2021.</p> <p>A presentation is prepared by the Whaitua Project Manager for 12 August workshop.</p>
<p>12 May 2021</p>	<p>Whaitua Implementation update – Report 21.167</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>That the Committee requests officers to advise on the ongoing implications for Whaitua implementation of the Resource Management and Three Waters reform programmes, and the Local Government Review.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Report to the Environment Committee to be prepared by October 2021.</p>

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

<p>17 June 2021</p>	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that Councillors Ponter and Gaylor speak during the public forum on Canada Geese and pest management at a Kāpiti Coast District Council meeting.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>The Chair’s office is setting up a meeting with Mayor Gurunathan to discuss a joint approach to geese management across the Kāpiti District.</p>
<p>17 June 2021</p>	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that officers investigate what modifications have been done in the Queen Elizabeth Park area, and where they sit in the Parks Network Plan for wetland restoration.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>No physical modification works are currently underway.</p> <p>All wetland restoration work at present is focussed on research into the peat areas and hydrology.</p> <p>This will all inform a wetland restoration plan for the wetland/peatland restoration This is consistent with actions A327 (part) A328, A329, A330, A331 contained within the PNP.</p>
<p>17 June 2021</p>	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested information on the consent of the bore at Queen Elizabeth Park.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Comment – Consent no. WGN170082 [34339] was granted on 31 January 2017 and expires on 31 January 2027 and permits the take and use of groundwater from two existing bores (R26/6503 and R26/7238) for use in the operation of QEP.</p>
<p>17 June 2021</p>	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that an update from the Farming Reference</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Completed.</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Update from Chair of FRG will be a standing item to the Environment Committee</p>

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

	Group be on the agenda for future Committee meetings.	following each FRG meeting” (next meeting 22 September).
17 June 2021	<p>Plan Change Work Programme to implement National Direction – Report 21.148</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested a briefing on the progress of mediation and court proceedings on the proposed Natural Resources Plan.</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Miranda Cross emailed all councillors on 29 June with the information that they requested.</p>
17 June 2021	<p>Whaitua Implementation Programme – action planning – Report 21.242</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>That the Committee requested that officers report to the Committee, identifying specific gaps in the current responses to whaitua implementation programme recommendations, including in relation to recommendations that sit with organisations other than Greater Wellington.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Has been tasked to new Whaitua Implementation Project Manager to progress.</p>

For Decision

PLAN CHANGES 2022 SCOPES AND FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise the Environment Committee of the scopes and forward work programme for the August 2022 changes to:
 - a The Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (RPS)
 - b The Natural Resources Plan (NRP).

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1 **Agrees** to the initial scope of each workstream proposed in Regional Policy Statement Change 1 and Natural Resources Plan Changes 1 to 3, as set out in Attachment 1.
- 2 **Requests** officers to report to each meeting of the Environment Committee through to August 2022 on the proposed plan changes.
- 3 **Agrees** to establish the 2022 plan changes working group to work with officers in review of plan change research and approach prior to Committee meetings and in between Committee meetings.
- 4 **Agrees** that the 2022 Plan Changes Working Group comprises of Councillors Gaylor, Connelly, Brash, Lee and Staples.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Committee was briefed at the 17 June 2021 meeting (Plan Change Work Programme to Implement National Direction - Report 21.148) on the context of the RPS and Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP). This included the current status of the PNRP with resolving appeals, and the PNRP/RPS change work programme to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) and National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD).
3. The work programme through to August 2022 notification involves RPS Change 1 and NRP Plan Changes 1, 2 and 3. This will address the NPS-UD required changes, and some

of the NPS-FM required changes. The remaining elements of the NPS-FM will be given effect to in the next round of plan changes to be notified before 31 December 2024.

4. The 2022 package of plan changes also includes items that are separate from the national direction response. These are items that have arisen through PNRP consent orders, anomalies identified in PNRP implementation, and other priority items that are appropriate to include with this package of work.
5. Engagement for these plan changes will be focused on key stakeholders/interested parties, and on elements not addressed through the whitua processes. Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) needs to partner with mana whenua in responding to the NPS-FM in particular. As the plan changes predominantly respond to national direction, the reduced scope for local policy options is a driver for a more limited engagement approach. A coordinated approach to engagement with mana whenua, stakeholders and community is currently under development.

Te tātāritanga Analysis

6. RPS Change 1 and NRP Changes 1 to 3 each include a package of related items. The current scope of each item is listed in this table and described below with the more detailed scope statements provided in **Attachment 1**. The identified scope is based on initial work for each workstream and will continue to be checked and confirmed as each of the key plan change steps progresses.

Change	Workstream	Scope summary
RPS Change 1	NPS-UD – New/updated provisions for intensification	Attachment 1a
	NPS-FM – New/updated provisions to implement Te Mana o te Wai objective through visions for completed whitua	Attachment 1b
	New Climate change chapter for RPS	Attachment 1c
	Update natural character provisions for CMA	Attachment 1d
	Update indigenous ecosystems provisions	Attachment 1e
	Update definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure	Attachment 1f
NRP Change 1 – freshwater management	NPS-FM – National objectives framework	Attachment 1g
	NPS-FM / NPS-UD – Urban stormwater and wastewater	Attachment 1h
	NPS-FM / NPS-UD – Rural and earthworks	Attachment 1i
	Te Mana o te Wai objective	Attachment 1b
NRP Change 2 – water allocation	Water allocation objectives	Attachment 1j
	Supplementary takes	
	Claw back mechanisms	
	Non-consumptive takes	
	Water races	
	Te Whanganui-a-Tara	
NRP Change 3 – other	Municipal water takes	Attachment 1k
	Amendments for addition of areas of natural character in the coastal environment	

Change	Workstream	Scope summary
topics and updates	Update to Schedule C sites – significant sites Ngāti Toa	Described below
	Updates to Schedule A sites – outstanding waterbodies	Attachment 1l
	Updates to Schedule F1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 – rivers and biodiversity areas /species	
	New schedule for fish passage species and areas	
	New provisions to manage environmental effects of marine fishing	Attachment 1m
	Updates to Schedule M – community drinking water supply	
	Miscellaneous issues/errors to be addressed	Described below

RPS Change 1

7. The NPS-UD requires provisions for more intensive housing to be embedded in the RPS and also requires the RPS to set out criteria to direct territorial authorities in considering district plan changes for urban development. The Change will incorporate related items to implement the Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF) to give the WRGF statutory weight.
8. The NPS-FM requires freshwater visions and objectives to be embedded into the RPS. The Te Mana o te Wai objective needs to be embedded into the RPS and visions for each freshwater management unit are required as objectives in the RPS.
9. The NZ Coastal Policy Statement requires that the RPS and plans assess and preserve natural character of the coastal environment. Work has been completed to identify areas of outstanding natural character and provisions will be introduced or amended in the RPS and the NRP. The Change would be focused on the Coastal Marine Area and public land areas.
10. The RPS does not reflect current knowledge and statutory requirements for management of resources supporting mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. This update to the RPS is likely to introduce a new chapter to provide an integrated framework for aspects relevant under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The RPS can support related outputs of the WRGF, and the Wellington Regional Climate Change Strategy.
11. Changes to the Indigenous Ecosystem provisions are to better provide for the maintenance and restoration of indigenous ecosystems, including setting strategic targets and priorities to achieve multiple objectives, linking to the identification of nature-based solutions to climate change.

NRP Change 1

12. NRP Change 1 will continue the work towards the implementation of the National Objectives Framework (NOF) as required by the NPS-FM for Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Te Awarua-o-Porirua whitua. The whitua process is the beginning of this work and Change 1 will translate the relevant components of the Whitua Implementation Programmes (WIP) into a plan change.
13. The NOF process requires regional councils to identify values for fresh water bodies, environmental outcomes for each value and set attributes to achieve these outcomes.

Change 1 will include objectives, policies, rules (including limits) and methods that set objectives for fresh water and coastal environments and manage activities to achieve these objectives. It will build on the existing plan framework.

14. There are four key workstreams in Change 1:
 - a The NOF workstream is focused on identifying the values (note the dependency with the Te Mana o Te Wai RPS workstream), environment outcomes and translating them into Plan objectives and identifying and setting the attributes for each value
 - b The urban development, stormwater and wastewater workstream
 - c The rural activities and earthworks workstream is focused on the policies, rules (including limits) and other methods required for these activities to achieve the objectives. These changes will also give effect to the RPS
 - d Change 1 also has a Te Mana o Te Wai workstream which will be driven by the direction provided at the RPS level. The Plan will be changed to give effect to the RPS.

NRP Change 2

15. The NPS-FM requires implementation of water allocation provisions. The Change will implement WIP outcomes on water allocation and flows management for Ruamāhanga, Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara whaitua.
16. Change 2 will include a number of complementary workstreams to develop a package of workstreams that appropriately consider supplementary takes, claw-back mechanisms, non-consumptive takes, groundwater cease takes, water races and municipal supply takes. Water allocation and quantity objectives, in accordance with NOF (NRP Change 1) will provide direction within the NRP.
17. An analysis of existing resource consents will be undertaken to understand the implications of the proposed changes for existing users.

NRP Change 3

18. A number of updates to schedules in the PNRP are proposed. Schedules A and F will be reviewed and updated to reflect current knowledge on rivers and lakes with outstanding indigenous ecosystem values, rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems, inanga spawning habitat, significant habitats for indigenous birds, significant natural wetlands and sites/habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area. In updating the schedules, the related policy framework will also be reviewed to ensure it meets the intent for managing these sites. In implementing the NPS-FM, nationally threatened species locations will also be identified and mapped, with provisions relevant to identified attributes.
19. Change 3 will also consider adding schedules related to outstanding or significant natural character in the coastal environment, and amendments to relevant NRP objectives, policies and rules. This additional schedule(s) would be in response to the new work completed identifying significant areas and would support the proposed update to the RPS.

20. Update to Schedule C3 sites with significant mana whenua values will be developed through the direction of Ngāti Toa. Due to timing of the identification of sites in the development of the PNRP only sites on public land were included; timeframes in 2015 did not allow for the necessary consultation with landowners for those sites on private land.
21. Update to Schedule M will update the spatial extent of some groundwater sourced community drinking water supply protection areas. This change will also check consistency of the drinking water protection provisions with updated NES Drinking Water, WIP outcomes, and NPS-FM values.
22. Fish species and locations relevant for providing fish passage or preventing fish passage will be identified for a possible new schedule.
23. Change 3 will also include scoping the issue of marine fishing environmental effects on indigenous biodiversity values and natural character, and assess if provisions are appropriate to introduce into the NRP.
24. The miscellaneous workstream is a collection of minor updates which have been identified through the implementation of the PNRP (unintended consequences of existing provisions) or noted during the appeals process. For example, the wording of Rule R117: New structures – permitted activity needs to be updated to clarify the wording and conditions, and ensure consistency with the NPS-FM. This rule was intended to allow minor and/or discrete structures such as pipes and monitoring equipment, to be placed within a river or lake, in a similar manner to rules in the Regional Freshwater Plan. Through the PNRP process, the rule has been expanded to include erosion protection structures which are not adequately managed by the conditions within the permitted activity rule. Other examples include updates to definitions for clarification and to better align with the definitions in the National Planning Standards, and updates to wording in rules to achieve consistency with how activities are described in the RMA (for example R129A Gravel extraction).

Forward work programme

25. A proposed Committee meeting and workshop forward work programme for the period up to August 2022 is provided to outline the Committee involvement and decision making points as each of the four plan changes progress. This will culminate in Council making a decision whether to notify the RPS and Plan changes in August 2022.
26. The forward work programme includes staggering of the four plan changes. This reflects the nature of work required for each plan change and the status of current work. It also enables the Committee consideration to be spread over a number of meetings.

Plan Change	Stage 1: Initiation and Scope	Stage 2: Draft issues statement, update on context and engagement	Stage 3: Draft objectives, preferred approach, update on science and analysis	Stage 4: Draft provisions and section 32	Stage 5: Final documents for notification
RPS Change 1	12/08/2021	2/12/2021	March/April 2022	June 2022	August 2022
NRP Change 1 – freshwater management	12/08/2021	2/12/2021	March/April 2022	June 2022	August 2022
NRP Change 2 – water allocation	17/06/2021 12/08/2021	21/10/2021	2/12/2021	February 2022	June 2022
NRP Change 3 – other topics and updates	12/08/2021	2/12/2021	February 2022	March/April 2022	June 2022

2022 plan changes working group

27. Following initial discussion at the June 2021 Committee meeting on the upcoming plan change work programme, a working group of councillors was proposed to support timely ongoing progress with the work programme through to August 2022.
28. The key points of involvement, and any additional ‘subject matter experts’ allocated to workstreams, will be established following confirmation of workstream scopes in this report.

Risks

29. There is a substantive work programme ahead of officers and the Committee between now and August 2022 to achieve the timeframe of notifying the RPS and Plan Changes by August 2022. The large volume of work is compounded by the interconnected nature of the workstreams. The Committee work programme is reported in this report and will be regularly reported to the Committee. The Committee has also established a smaller working group to work with officers between Committee milestones.
30. Meeting engagement expectations of stakeholders and achieving successful partnership arrangements with mana whenua in a way that ‘gives effect’ to Te Mana o te Wai is a risk due to the contracted timeframe through to August 2022. Focused coordinated engagement with clear messaging about the scope of engagement (e.g. due to national direction) will clarify engagement opportunities and timeframes.
31. The upcoming reforms of the RMA also present an unquantifiable risk. Direction from the Minister for the Environment is to continue work on implementing national direction, and a significant transitional period to any new arrangements is anticipated.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

32. There are no immediate financial implications associated with this report. The tasks identified in the scope statements with an associated cost are all accounted for in the current resourcing for the environmental policy work programme.

Ngā tikanga whakataurua

Decision-making process

33. Council's core decisions will be in determining whether to notify the plan changes, having had regard to RMA section 32 matters in August 2022. Interim steps are proposed as each of the four plan changes progress (Stages 1 to 5 in table above), to endorse the approach within each workstream towards the formal plan change documentation in August 2022.
34. The working group confirmed by the Committee will be involved regularly and between Committee meetings as the workstreams progress.

Te hiranga

Significance

35. Officers have considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of this matter, taking into account Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington's *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers consider the decision to agree to recommendations for workstream scope, further reporting requirements and process for committee involvement, to be of low significance due to it being of process and preliminary in nature to shape the workstreams for the forward work programme.

Te whakatūtakitaki

Engagement

36. The RMA Schedule 1 process for preparation of changes to a policy statement or plan requires consultation with local authorities, tangata whenua, relevant Ministers of the Crown, and other relevant parties. Consultation within the previous 36 months may meet the purpose of the consultation on the plan change. The whaitua processes are relevant within this timeframe.
37. The NPS-FM requires that freshwater is managed in a way that 'gives effect' to Te Mana o te Wai, fundamentally through involving mana whenua in all elements of that management.
38. A number of the workstreams are responding to national direction and the purpose and nature of engagement will be limited. This is because the Government has directed that certain provisions or approaches must be adopted.
39. The stakeholders, land owners and community interests relevant for engagement vary depending on the topic and nature of each workstream. The scope statements provided in **Attachment 1** identify key stakeholders known at this scoping stage. Officers are

managing an overall engagement programme and coordinating engagement with stakeholders for efficiency.

40. Engagement with stakeholders has commenced and will continue through to August 2022 as relevant information and decision points are reached.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

41. Regular reporting to Environment Committee as set out in this report, in order to meet an August 2022 notification date.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachments

Number	Title
1	Scope statements/summary for each RPS and NRP Change workstream (13 included)

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writers	Fleur Matthews, Team Leader, Environmental Policy Miranda Cross, Team Leader, Environmental Policy
Approvers	Matthew Hickman, Manager, Environmental Policy Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management

**He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga
Summary of considerations**

Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference

The Environment Committee has responsibility to consider changes in the legislative frameworks and the implications these changes have on Council's environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives.

Implications for Māori

The NPS-FM requires that freshwater is managed in a way that 'gives effect' to Te Mana o te Wai, fundamentally through involving mana whenua in all elements of that management. The RMA Schedule 1 process requires that tangata whenua, through iwi authorities, are consulted on proposed plan changes in accordance with a Mana Whakahono a Rohe.

Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies

Implementation of the national direction including the NPS-FM is a core resource management activity of the current Long Term Plan (LTP). Additional resources were allocated in the new LTP to meet Council's statutory obligations under the RMA.

Internal consultation

The Proposed Natural Resources Plan Steering Group is responsible for overseeing and delivering on the plan change project. Input to the plan change workstreams is provided from across the organisation.

Wellington Regional Growth Framework structures will also be used in development of the RPS plan changes.

Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.

There are legal risks if Council does not meet its statutory obligations by August 2022 (for NPS-UD). There is reputational risk associated with the timing and phasing of the remaining whitua processes, and associated plan changes.

A. SCOPING STATEMENT RPS URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Context	
Workstream	RPS Change 1 – NPS-UD Implementation
GW team	Policy team lead: Fleur Matthews GWRC core team: Hamish Wesney and Charles Horrell (Boffa Miskell Limited)
Other organisations	Iwi partners, Kāpiti Coast District Council, Carterton District Council, Masterton District Council, South Wairarapa District Council, Porirua City Council, Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council, Upper Hutt City Council
Key stakeholders	Waka Kotahi, Wellington Water, KiwiRail
Background	
<p>The National Policy Statement for Urban Development (“NPS-UD”) sets requirements to both the regional and city/district councils to enable greater supply of land for urban development and ensure that planning is responsive to changes in demand, while seeking to ensure that new development capacity enabled by councils is of a form and in locations that meet the diverse needs of communities and encourages well-functioning, liveable urban environments. Being a Tier 1 region, the NPS-UD requires the regional and city/district councils to give effect to intensification provisions (Policies 3 and 4) no later than 20 August 2022. The NPS-UD also requires provisions generally to be given effect to “as soon as possible”.</p> <p>In addition, it is proposed to change the Regional Policy Statement to implement the Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF). This change would give the direction in the WRGF statutory weight, and provide the framework for regionally consistent implementation of the land and resource use components of the WRGF.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	The operative RPS currently does not give effect to the intensification provisions of the NPS-UD as well as additional provisions that will need to be given effect to through the RPS. Giving effect to intensification provisions and other relevant provisions of the NPS-UD will ensure a regionally consistent direction is provided for urban development, in particular to Tier 1 (Wellington City; Porirua City; Hutt City; Upper Hutt City; and Kapiti Coast) city/district councils. In conjunction with giving effect to the NPS-UD, this change also provides the opportunity to implement the direction from the WRGF on the same matters.
Purpose and outcomes	The purpose is to review chapter 3.9 of the RPW to give effect to the NPS-UD and provide for the WRGF.

Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	This RPS change is directly linked and aligned to the WRGF as well as implementing national direction in the form of the NPS-UD.
Specific NPS requirements	<p>The Plan change is to give effect to the NPS-UD therefore all provisions will be relevant. Being a Tier 1 region, the intensification provisions as outlined in subpart 6 are required to be given effect to and must be given effect to by 20 August 2022. In addition, there are a number of other provisions relevant to the Council that will need to be given effect to as soon as possible. A summary of the relevant requirements of the NPS-UD as they relate to changes to the RPS are provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend current objective and policy framework to enable more land and infrastructure supply, growth (up and out) of urban centres and support well-functioning urban environments (Policy 1); • Provide for intensification provisions in relation to building heights and density in various zones (Policies 3 and 4); • Set housing bottom lines in both short-medium term and long term (Policy 7); and • Provide for and include criteria for determining what district plan changes (and resource consent applications) will be treated as adding significantly to development capacity including out of sequence or unplanned private development proposals (Policy 8).
Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	Give effect to the requirements of the NPS-UD and WRGF as outlined above.
Components not included	Introduce new provisions in relation to urban development that are not required by the NPS-UD or the WRGF.
Previous and related work	
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<p>Wellington Regional Growth Framework.</p> <p>Planning and analysis already undertaken or in progress such as city- and district-scale spatial plans (including Wellington City's Planning for Growth), district plan changes (for instance in Porirua City and Hutt City) and updated Housing and Business Capacity Assessments.</p>
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<p>Alignment and integration with the other changes to the RPS, including climate change, freshwater, indigenous biodiversity and regionally significant infrastructure.</p> <p>Alignment with the WRGF projects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kapiti-Horowhenua greenfield

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West-east investigations • Lower Hutt Structure Plan • Upper Hutt Structure Plan • Regional approach to planning for and managing climate change impacts • Regional Housing Plan. 	
Examples from other councils or national strategies	A number of regions have proposed changes to their RPS to effect (or partial effect) to the NPS-UD. Otago for instance has recently notified their RPS which gives full effect, albeit the region is Tier two and not subject to giving effect to intensification provisions. Other Tier one regions are yet to notify any plan change to give effect to intensification provisions and are at varying stages.	
Next steps and tasks		
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing RPS provisions against the requirements of the NPS-UD • Stocktake of WIPs; • Engage with other Regional Councils (in particular Tier 1 regions) to understand different approaches; • Engaging with Territorial Authorities and iwi authorities; • Drafting provisions (objectives and policies); • Workshop provisions with Territorial Authorities, Council and iwi authorities; • Prepare s32 evaluation report; • Notify plan change. 	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<p>This project requires considerable input from all territorial and iwi authorities.</p> <p>Potential for differing direction to recent intensification direction from lower order documents e.g. Wellington Spatial Plan.</p>	<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>High</i></p>
Key uncertainties	This is a new area of policy, and GW will be one of the first Councils to develop the provisions.	<p>Overall uncertainty level:</p> <p><i>Medium</i></p>
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	Ensure that adequate resourcing and processes are in place for territorial authority and iwi engagement. Can rely on existing information and feedback through other forums with territorial authorities and iwi authorities.	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	Give effect to the NPS-UD	

Target completion date	Draft: February/March 2022 Notified by: 20 August 2022
Budget requirements	External planning support.
Date and author	Charles Horrell and Hamish Wesney July 2021

B. SCOPING STATEMENT RPS FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT

CONTEXT	
Workstream	RPS Change 1 – Freshwater NPS-FM (note: includes values and possible Te Mana o te Wai objective for PC1)
GW team	Policy team lead: Alastair Smaill GWRC core team: Rachel, Heather
Other organisations	Mana whenua
Key stakeholders	TAs
Background	
<p>The NPS-FM requires the Council to add a Te Mana o te Wai <u>objective</u> to the RPS, and <u>visions</u> (as <u>objectives in RPS</u>) for each FMU. Integrated management of land use is a continuing gap in freshwater management. The NPS-FM seeks to fill this by requiring the RPS to have directive policies in this area.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	The introduction of the Te Mana o te Wai requirements in the NPS-FM is a significant shift in freshwater policy direction. Freshwater visions are also a new requirement. The opportunity is to embed these in higher order documents (RPS) from which all lower order documents (both regional and district) must give effect.
Purpose and outcomes	The purpose is to add objectives and policies to the RPS as required by the NPS-FM.
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	Directly driven by NPS-FM. Links between 3.5 Integrated Management with WRGF. Policies in RPS to give effect to 3.5 will direct both regional and district plans particularly in the space of land use change particularly (2) and (3), and direct how TAs might give effect to (4).
Specific NPS requirements	<p>NPS-FM</p> <p>2.1 Objective, Policies 1 and 2 in particular</p> <p>3.2 Te Mana o te Wai (3) objective in RPS</p> <p>3.3 Long term visions (1)-(4)</p> <p>3.5 Integrated Management</p> <p>3.9 Identifying values</p>
Setting boundaries around this work	

Components of this workstream	<p>Te Mana o te Wai objective in RPS (and any subsequent objectives for NRP)</p> <p>A least 5 visions – one for each Whaitua.</p> <p>Identification of values for each FMU (required for Plan Change 1)</p>	
Components not included	<p>Any components that would better fit in the PNRP e.g. plan objectives, target attribute states etc. (but does include values)</p>	
Previous and related work		
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<p>Components of visions can be found in WIP reports and Ngāti Toa Statement. Iwi have already prepared a lot of rich information, much of which will be in iwi documents e.g. treaty claim documents, iwi management plans</p>	
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<p>PNRP changes that relate to freshwater must give effect to the Te Mana o te Wai and vision objectives in the RPS. Requires to be closely linked with PNRP PC1</p> <p>The integrated management provisions need to align with NPS-UD provisions in the RPS.</p>	
Examples from other councils or national strategies	<p>Otago is well advanced in RPS. Southland and EBOP are currently working in this space. We will be one of the first Council's to notify these changes.</p>	
Next steps and tasks		
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check existing RPS objectives to see if any are “vision-like” • Stocktake of vision or vision-like statements in WIPs • Engaging with iwi on Te Mana o te Wai objective and visions • Drafting provisions with iwi (objectives and policies) • Check existing RPS policies for consistency with Te Mana o te Wai • Identifying values • Analysis of the integrated management provisions of NPS-FM, identify gaps and fill them (new policies?) • Consulting with TAs. 	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<p>This project requires considerable input from all iwi authorities. Our iwi engagement model needs to be up and running for this project to succeed.</p>	<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>High</i></p>
Key uncertainties	<p>This is a new area of policy, and GW will be one of the first Council's to notify these changes. .</p>	<p>Overall uncertainty level:</p> <p><i>Medium</i></p>

Key responses to risks and uncertainties	Ensure that adequate resourcing and processes are in place for iwi engagement. A lot of rich material already exists; iwi will expect us to use this and in some instances no additional input may be required.	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	Add Te Mana o te Wai objective (and policies) and freshwater visions (as objectives) to the RPS. Identify values for PC1 (and possible Te mana o te Wai objectives for NRP).	
Target completion date	This is a priority; to ensure that the other workstreams are aligned to this.	
Budget requirements	Iwi engagement budget	
Date and author	Alastair Smail July 2021	

C. SCOPING STATEMENT RPS CLIMATE CHANGE

CONTEXT	
Workstream	<p>Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region – new Climate Change Integration chapter</p> <p>Develop a new Climate Change Integration chapter to establish strategic regional priority actions and a statutory framework that drives the integrated management of natural and physical resources to support the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.</p>
GW team	<p>Policy Team leads: Pam Guest and Iain Dawe</p> <p>GW Core Team: Suze Keith, with input from Alex Pezza and Jake Roos (Strategy) and subject specialists from Flood Protection, Land Transport, Parks, Biodiversity, Land Management, Environmental Regulation.</p>
Other organisations	Iwi partners, Regional councillor climate change working group, Wellington Region Climate Change Forum, Wellington Regional Climate Change Strategy Working Group, Wellington Region Natural Hazards Steering Group.
Key stakeholders	<p>Wellington Regional Growth Framework Committee, Waka Kotahi, Ministry for the Environment (MFE), Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</p> <p>Individuals and groups interested in climate change (e.g. GenZero)</p>
Background	
<p>The operative Regional Policy Statement 2013 (RPS) makes limited mention of climate change, referring to it only briefly across a number of topics, with specific provisions limited to the Natural Hazards Chapter. Since the RPS was notified there has been a significant increase in knowledge on the rate and extent of climate change, combined with a much greater acceptance of the significance of its impacts and the urgent need for action. This has been highlighted in the Climate Change Commission’s recent recommendations to Government (May 2021¹), calling for all New Zealanders to take “proactive and courageous climate action today, not the day after tomorrow.”</p> <p>Greater Wellington declared a Climate Emergency in 2019, pledging to become carbon neutral by 2030 and take a leadership role in developing a Regional Climate Emergency Response Programme. In 2019 the Government enacted the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act to provide a framework by which NZ can develop and implement climate change policies that allow NZ to prepare for, and adapt to, the effects of climate change.</p> <p>In 2020 the RMA was amended to enable councils to consider greenhouse gas emissions in planning and consenting decisions and create alignment between central government’s national climate change plans for emissions reductions and adaptation and local government’s RMA policy statements and plans. From 31 December 2021, councils will need to consider discharges to air of greenhouse gas emissions and have regard to central government’s emissions reduction plans. From August 2022 councils will need to have regard to central government’s national adaptation plan.</p>	

¹ Ināia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa

<p>The Government is now repealing the RMA and replacing it with three new acts, including a Climate Change Adaptation Act, all intended to be passed by late 2022. Given that a large focus of the reform is to better address climate change, it is highly likely it will have major implications for the role and responsibilities of local government in respect of climate change.</p>	
<p>Setting out the purpose of the plan change</p>	
<p>Issue or opportunity description</p>	<p>The RPS needs to be updated to identify climate change as a significant resource management issue for the region, recognising that almost all local government roles and responsibilities are in some way affected by climate change and/or could influence the achievement of desired climate change outcomes².</p> <p>The RPS provides an important regulatory vehicle for establishing clear strategic priorities and a statutory framework that drives the integrated management of those aspects of natural and physical resources that can be addressed under the RMA to support the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change</p> <p>The current focus on adaptation to hazards that will be exacerbated by climate change needs to be broadened, for example to identify opportunities for mitigation strategies and emission reductions, with particular recognition of the opportunities offered by natural ecosystems and habitats ('nature-based solutions') to mitigate climate change.</p> <p>A separate climate change integration chapter will provide a higher profile for this issue, with linkages made to relevant chapters and new sections on mitigation and adaptation to ensure that actions are integrated and perverse outcomes are avoided where mitigation and adaptation are at odds.</p> <p>The RPS provides a regulatory policy framework to direct, and subsequently implement some of the outputs from, the Wellington Regional Growth Framework/Future Development Strategy and the Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response Programme.</p>
<p>Purpose and Outcomes</p>	<p>Prepare a proposed new Climate Change Integration chapter for the RPS, with amendments to relevant chapters³, with new and revised issue statement(s), objectives, policies and methods including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A specific climate change issue statement that links the many areas affected by climate change • A climate change objective(s) • Identification of pathways for achieving carbon reduction budgets • Climate change criteria to be used as part of the evaluation for defining areas suitable for new/intensified urban growth as part of

² "How climate change affects local government: A catalogue of roles and responsibilities" Local Government New Zealand, June 2017
<https://www.lgnz.co.nz/assets/Uploads/b1225adc8d/44476-LGNZ-How-climate-change-affects-localgovernment.Pdf>

³ *Related chapters that may require changes to address climate change include: Fresh water; Energy, infrastructure and waste; Indigenous ecosystems; Natural hazards; Regional design, form and function; and Resource management with tangata whenua*

	<p>the Wellington Regional Growth Framework (links to the RPS Regional form, design and function chapter)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A set of principles and methods to be applied by regional/district climate risk assessments • Principles/criteria for greenhouse gas emissions assessments in consenting required by the RMA amendment⁴ • Objectives, policies and methods to identify how protecting, using and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity can help to mitigate and adapt to climate change (link to amendments to the Indigenous ecosystems chapter) • Provisions to support the use of green infrastructure to help to mitigate and adapt to climate change e.g. the use of constructed wetlands to hold water in the landscape • Objectives, policies and methods to address the potential impacts of climate change on natural and physical resources and their values. • Updated provisions in the Natural Hazards chapter related to adaptation and retreat, and soft engineering and nature-based hazard reduction options • Outputs should be ‘fit for the future’ in terms of addressing the principles promulgated through RMA reform (e.g., spatial, environmental limits and outcomes), as well as being adaptable as new evidence and innovations come to light. • Process and outputs need to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi obligations and support a just and equitable transition to a low carbon economy.
<p>Ensuring alignment with other legislation, national and international direction and regional strategy</p>	
<p>Direction from Other Legislation (non-RMA)</p> <p>(The figure in Appendix 1 shows some key legislative linkages to be considered)</p>	<p>The Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 requires the Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set national greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, to be enforced by the use of 5-yearly emission reduction budgets. The Government has until 31 December 2021 to set the first three emissions budgets out to 2035 and release the country’s first emissions reduction plan detailing the policies it will use to achieve the budgets • develop and implement policies for climate change adaptation and mitigation; National adaptation plans must be prepared to guide how New Zealand will adapt to the effects of climate change over the next six years. This plan will respond to the risks identified in the National Climate Change Risk Assessment released in August 2020. The first national adaptation plan is due in August 2022 • establish a Climate Change Commission to provide expert advice and monitoring to help successive governments meet long-term goals. The Climate Change Commission can request a range of information from

⁴ May sit better in the PNRP

	<p>councils related to mitigation and adaptation measures in their jurisdictions.</p> <p>This Act affects all local and regional authorities, and will be relevant to local government in the context of adaptation and planning to address risks associated with climate change.</p>
<p>Requirements of International Agreements</p>	<p>The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change adopted by nearly every nation in 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016. Its goal is to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels. While not binding on local government, it does set the context for the quantum of change required across New Zealand to meet the commitments made by the New Zealand Government.</p> <p>The agreement includes commitments from all major emitting countries to cut their climate pollution and to strengthen those commitments over time. The pact provides a pathway for developed nations to assist developing nations in their climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, and it creates a framework for the transparent monitoring, reporting, and ratcheting up of countries' individual and collective climate goals.</p>
<p>Alignment with WRGF, WRCCS and national direction</p>	<p>Two of the six objectives of the Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF) are particularly relevant to climate change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable growth that protects and enhances the quality of the natural environment and accounts for a transition to a low/no carbon future • Build climate change resilience and avoid increasing the impacts and risks from natural hazards. <p>A Climate Change Strategy for the Wellington Region is being prepared in liaison with the region's district and city councils. The RPS provides an important regulatory vehicle to direct the approach and outputs of this strategy. A further RPS change (2024) may be used to secure the outcomes identified by this strategy.</p> <p>Transport is currently the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emission in New Zealand. The discussion document Hakina te Kohupara – Kia mauri ora ai te iwi - Transport Emissions: Pathways to Net Zero by 2050 sets out policies that may be included in the forthcoming Emissions Reduction Plan.</p>
<p>Specific NPS requirements</p>	<p>The NPS-UD includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective 8: New Zealand's urban environments: support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and are resilient to the current and future effects of climate change • Policy 1 states that well-functioning urban environments must support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and be resilient to the likely current and future effects of climate change. <p>The NPS-FM includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 4: Freshwater is managed as part of New Zealand's integrated response to climate change • Requirements to:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have regard to the foreseeable impacts of climate change when setting limits on resource use, and environmental flows and levels (3.14 and 3.16) ○ prepare and publish predictions of changes, including the foreseeable effects of climate change(3.30). <p>The NZCPS includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective 5: ensure coastal hazard risks are managed taking account of climate change. <p>The draft NPS-IB includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Policy 3: to support the resilience of indigenous biodiversity to the effects of climate change. <p>The Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Objective 13: Biodiversity provides nature-based solutions to climate change and is resilient to its effects (see table in Appendix 2)
<p>Setting boundaries around this work</p>	
<p>Components of this workstream</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mitigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opportunities and priorities for the reduction of regional greenhouse gas emissions ○ Opportunities and priorities for natural systems to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. ● Adaptation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural hazards (sea level rise, river flooding, drought, fire, etc.) ○ Access to water (potable and for irrigation) ○ Natural ecosystems and biodiversity.
<p>Components not included</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Confine the scope to address priorities and areas where we will have sufficient information and community/political mandate to develop objectives, policies and methods within next 12 months ● Note that the scope will become clearer as we work through where the priority opportunities are for the RPS to make a difference.
<p>Previous and related work</p>	
<p>Summarise existing work that is relevant (Note – also work available from TAs – listed in Project Brief - Regional Climate Change Risk Assessment)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>WRGF-FINAL-Constraints-Report 0.10.pdf</u> ● <u>GWRC Climate Change Models</u> ● <u>Climate Change and Variability Report Wellington Region 2017</u> ● <u>Wellington Region climate change extremes and implications 2019</u> ● <u>Preparing Coastal Communities for Climate Change</u> ● Research sitting under the Regional Natural Hazards Management Strategy ● GWRC desktop assessment of GW assets at risk to natural hazards and climate change impacts ● <u>Greater Wellington Regional Council Response under CCRA Section 5ZW</u>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellington Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-31 • https://mapping1.gw.govt.nz/gw/slr/Sea Level Trends in the Wellington Region Update 2018.pdf • Regional storm tide analysis and modelling including projected coastal inundation risk due to sea level rise • Climate change science for specific catchments e.g. Waiōhine Flood Plain Management Plan – Tonkin and Taylor Report on geomorphic processes, including influence of climate change. “Impact of climate change on inflows to the Ruamāhanga groundwater management zone” • Wellington Region Climate Change Working Group (and/or Forum) reports • Territorial authority climate change strategies and plans • Regional adaptation/natural hazards work • Regional sea level trends reports • Regional storm surge modelling and mapping • Regional coastal vulnerability assessment • Biodiversity threatened species reports • National climate change risk assessment • MfE Guidance • <i>WIP provisions</i> Ruamāhanga WIP Recommendation 5: The Ruamāhanga whitua integrated land and water management system should: Create resilience to the pressures of changing weather systems under climate change Porirua WIP Recommendation 50: WCC and PCC have consistent bylaws and guidance for silt and sediment control within the Whitua. Consideration must be given to the effects of climate change to ensure control measures are designed to meet increasing intensity and duration of rainfall events.
<p>Summarise related work/interdependencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GW Climate Emergency Response Programme • Wellington Region Climate Change Forum work • Wellington Region Climate Change Strategy working group (working on a climate change risk assessment project for the region) • RPS Change 1: Changes to the chapters on Regional form, design and function, Indigenous ecosystems (priorities and targets), Natural Hazards. • RPS Change 1: Criteria for district plan changes (NPS-UD) • PNRP PC1: Freshwater and sediment objectives, environmental outcomes and limits • Natural hazard strategies • National Climate Change Risk Assessment (NCCRA) work - Climate Change Commission • National Adaptation Plan work – MfE, DOC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOC Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan.
Examples from other councils or national strategies	A number of other councils have included, or are working towards, RPS climate change chapters, with climate change considerations also woven throughout the document, including Waikato, Hawke’s Bay, Otago, Taranaki, Nelson, Tasman, Canterbury, and Marlborough.
Next steps and tasks	
<p>Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change</p> <p><i>(Note that the timeframe for notifying the RPS change predates the introduction of the Natural and Built Environments, Strategic Planning, and Climate Change Adaptation Acts)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify relationships with the WRCC and WRGF strategies and council committee(s) and the most effective way to interact with this work and existing engagement strategies • Prepare a climate change issues statement that links the many areas affected by climate change⁵ • Identify scope/ability to influence a range of climate change drivers and manage impacts under the RMA • Develop climate change integration objectives and assess whether changes are required to RPS issue statements and objectives for other topics in order to provide an integrated response • Evaluate any existing RPS provisions on climate change and natural hazards – identify strategic gaps, especially in light of any directives from the NPS-UD and NPS-FM • Carry out a stocktake of existing technical work and prepare gap analysis • Prepare scoping paper, including the climate change issues statement, objectives, opportunities and priorities, for Council approval • Develop provisions to direct the development and assist implementation of a regional climate change risk assessment • Section 32 assessment of all new issues, objectives, policies and methods. <p>Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify role of local government in managing regional greenhouse gas emissions. Within this context, identify opportunities and priorities for emission reductions • Identify the value of indigenous ecosystems in the Wellington Region (including freshwater, wetlands, coastal and marine, and terrestrial,) to store carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, identify priorities for protection and opportunities for mitigation offered by habitat restoration. Define associated environmental targets/outcomes and priorities • Develop a policy framework to align biodiversity and climate change targets and solutions (link to Indigenous Ecosystems chapter review) • Identify climate change criteria to be used as part of the evaluation to define areas suitable for new/intensified urban growth in the Wellington

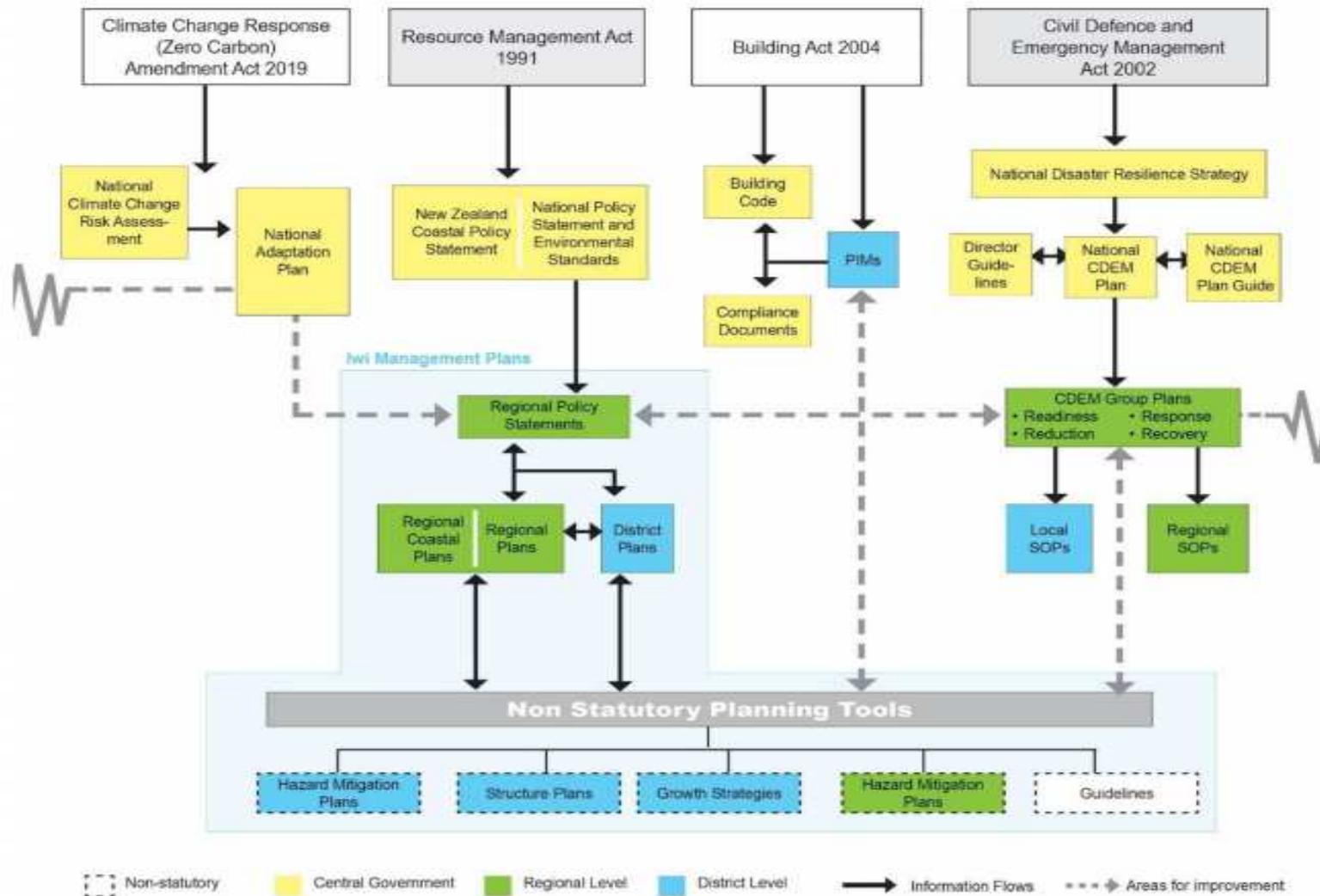
⁵ To include required text to show that this is a regionally significant issue

	<p>Regional Growth Framework (links to the RPS Regional form, design and function chapter)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions to support the use of green infrastructure to help to mitigate and adapt to climate change e.g. the use of constructed wetlands to hold water in the landscape • Develop a set of principles/criteria to be applied when considering greenhouse gas emissions assessments as part of resource consent applications • Identify other opportunities for mitigation within the scope of local government functions. <p>Adaptation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a set of principles and methods to be applied by regional/district climate risk assessments • Develop a set of objectives, policies and methods to address the potential impacts of climate change on natural and physical resources and their values. • Amend the provisions in the Natural Hazards chapter related to adaptation and managed retreat, soft engineering and nature based hazard reduction options
<p>Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity</p>	
<p>Key risks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope is too ambitious for August 2022 notification • Scope is not supported by Council functions under the RMA • Confine scope to what the RPS can do versus what a broader Greater Wellington response might involve • Provisions are not supported by Wellington Region Climate Change Forum or the Wellington Region Climate Change working group – RPS work seen to prejudice decisions anticipated by these groups.
<p>Key uncertainties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertainty about future requirements/council responsibilities provided under replacement resource management acts.
<p>Key responses to risks and uncertainties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work collaboratively with Council’s Climate Change team in the Strategy Department , the WRCC Forum and the officers’ working group • Stay up-to-date with exposure drafts of the Climate Change Adaptation Act and liaise with key officials from MFE, MBIE, MPI (as part of above working groups).
<p>Planning - deliverables and milestones</p>	
<p>Scope of the work</p>	<p>Text for new RPS Climate Change Integration Chapter and changes to other relevant chapters as required - notified August 2022, with section 32 report.</p>

Target completion date	Draft: April 2022 Notified: 20 August 2022
Budget requirements	New technical work required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of ecosystems and habitats in the Wellington Region that offer 'nature-based solutions' to climate change • Identification of adaptation measures required to maintain and restore biodiversity.
Date and author	Pam Guest, with Iain Dawe and Suze Keith, July 2021

Appendix 1: Legislative linkages across key legislation for management of natural hazards and climate change in Aotearoa New Zealand

From Saunders *et al* (2020)



Appendix 2: Framework for Action for Objective 13 from the Te Mana o te Taiao - Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020

OBJECTIVES	2025 GOALS	2030 GOALS	2050 GOALS
<p>13. Biodiversity provides nature-based solutions to climate change and is resilient to its effects</p>	<p>13.1.1 The potential for carbon storage from the restoration of indigenous ecosystems, including wetlands, forests, and coastal and marine ecosystems (blue carbon), to contribute to our net emissions targets is understood</p>	<p>13.1.2 Carbon storage from the restoration of indigenous ecosystems, including wetlands, forests, and coastal and marine ecosystems (blue carbon), contributes to our net emissions targets</p>	<p>13.1.3 Carbon storage from the restoration of indigenous ecosystems, including wetlands, forests, and coastal and marine ecosystems (blue carbon), is a key contributor to achieving net-zero emissions for Aotearoa New Zealand</p>
	<p>13.2.1 The potential for indigenous nature-based solutions is understood and being incorporated into planning</p>	<p>13.2.2 The restoration of indigenous ecosystems is increasingly being used to improve our resilience to the effects of climate change, including coastal protection against rising sea levels</p>	<p>13.2.3 The restoration of indigenous ecosystems is mitigating the effects of climate change and natural hazards (e.g. flooding)</p>
	<p>13.3.1 Potential impacts from climate change have been integrated into ecosystem and species management plans and strategies, and a research and rangahau strategy has been developed to increase knowledge and understanding of climate change effects</p>	<p>13.3.2 Risks to biodiversity from climate change, including cascading effects (e.g. increases in introduced invasive species, water abstraction, fire risk, sedimentation) have been identified and assessed, and indigenous ecosystems, habitats and species are being managed to build resilience where possible</p>	<p>13.3.3 Adaptive management is addressing the impact of climate change on biodiversity, including cascading effects, and is building resilience to future risks</p>

References

Saunders, W.S.A., Kelly, S., Paisley, S., Clarke, L.B.: Progress Toward Implementing the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals: Policy from Aotearoa New Zealand. In Int J Disaster Risk Sci (2020) 11:190–205
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s13753-020-00269-8.pdf>

D. Scoping statement RPS Natural character

CONTEXT	
Workstream	RPS Change 1 – Natural Character
GW team	Policy team lead: Tim Blackman GWRC core team: Tim Blackman
Other organisations	Iwi authorities (across the full Wellington region);
Key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial authorities; and • • Community.
Background	
<p>Natural character in the Coastal environment</p> <p>Policy 3(c) of the RPS does not accurately not give effect to Policy 13 of the NZCPS.</p> <p>The options have been assessed in regards to how this inaccuracy could be addressed, these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Option 1 – delete Policy 3(c) of the RPS; - Option 2 – amend Policy 3(c) of the RPS; and - Option 3 – status quo, to retain Policy 3(c). <p>The options have been assessed (note the section 32 has not yet been drafted) and the most reasonably practicable option is to delete Policy 3(c). The rationale is that social values are more so associated with the assessment criteria for outstanding natural features and landscapes; the values that you are required to have regard to in the assessment for outstanding natural features and landscapes are set out in Policy 15(c) of the NZCPS. Furthermore, the remaining parts of Policy 3 of the RPS give effect to Policy 13 of the NZCPS and therefore should be retained.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	Natural character in the Coastal environment Policy 3(c) of the RPS (social values of natural character) does not give effect to Policy 13 (natural character) of the NZCPS.
Purpose and outcomes	To delete Policy 3(c) of the RPS, given it does not give effect to Policy 13 of the NZCPS.
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	There are no direct linkages.
Specific NPS requirements	There is no direction in Policy 13 of the NZCPS 2020 to consider the social values of natural character in the coastal environment.
Setting boundaries around this work	

Components of this workstream	<p>The change to the RPS will include deleting Policy 3(c).</p> <p>Components: section 32 assessment, community/iwi engagement (which also includes territorial authorities) and public notification; further details of workstream components are set out below under 'next steps and tasks'.</p>			
Components not included	<p>There are no requirement to re draft the entirety of Policy 3 of the RPS, given only one amendment is required to ensure the policy approach gives effect to Policy 13 of the NZCPS.</p>			
Previous and related work				
Summarise existing work that is relevant	Section 32 for the coastal environment (including public access) (2009).			
Summarise related work/interdependencies	Plan change 3 – natural character in the coastal environment (plan change to the proposed Plan).			
Examples from other councils or national strategies	The change to the RPS is consistent with the policy approach taken in the Northland Regional Policy Statement 2016.			
Next steps and tasks				
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	Stage	Tasks	Date commenced	Date delivered
	Stage 1 – Drafting the plan change	Make amendment to Policy 3 of the RPS	August 2021	June 2022
		Agree on template for section 32 assessment	Late June 2021	Late July 2021
		Prepare draft section 32 assessment	August 2021	June 2022
	Stage 2 – Engagement on plan change with iwi and community	Agreement on approach to involving iwi and engagement with community (including each of the TAs in Wellington Region)	June 2021	Late August 2021
Involvement of iwi and engagement with community (including with the other TAs)		TBC	Late June 2022	

	Stage 3 – Final plan change for notification	Incorporate feedback to come out of engagement into final cut of Policy 3 of the RPS and section 32 assessment	TBC	Late July 2022
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity				
Key risks	<p>Minor risk of ‘back lash’ with the TAs; especially if TAs have done work to give effect to Policy 3(c) of the RMA.</p> <p>To mitigate this risk, the key control will be discussing this change to the RPS (and providing the rationale for the amendment) with each of the TAs, especially those about to undertake a plan change as a result of the natural character assessments; namely, Hutt City Council, Wairarapa District Councils and Kāpiti Coast District Council.</p>			<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>Moderate</i></p>
Key uncertainties	None identified at this point.			
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	To manage this this risk, GWRC has engaged a planner (Andrew Cumming) to provide some advice as to how GWRC could navigate the risks of the change to the RPS.			
Planning - deliverables and milestones				
Scope of the work	To delete Policy 3(c) of the RMA.			
Target completion date	July 2022			
Budget requirements	Any additional support for community engagement. The remaining parts of the plan change work (section 32, drafting plan change and GIS) can occur in house.			
Date and author	Tim Blackman July 2021			

E. SCOPING STATEMENT RPS INDIGENOUS ECOSYSTEMS

CONTEXT	
Workstream	Regional Policy Statement Plan Change 2022 – Indigenous ecosystems Changes to the RPS Indigenous Ecosystem Chapter to better provide for the maintenance and restoration of indigenous habitats and ecosystems, recognising multiple values such as for biodiversity, ecosystem services, and climate change mitigation.
GW Team	Policy Team lead: Pam Guest GW Core Team: Philippa Crisp, Roger Uys, Megan Oliver, Evan Harrison, Jamie Steer, Parks,
Other organisations	DOC, NIWA, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research
Key partners and stakeholders	Mana whenua, Territorial Local Authorities, Mauri Tūhono ki Te Upoko (Wellington Biodiversity Framework working group), Regional Biodiversity Strategy Planning Group, Forest and Bird, Federated Farmers and other landcare/environmental groups.
Background	
<p>Indigenous biodiversity in the Wellington Region, as in the rest of New Zealand and globally, is severely depleted and continues to decline, despite many national level strategies and policies aimed at halting and turning this around (e.g., Department of Conservation 2020⁶; Department of Conservation 2016⁷). Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 (ANZBS) states that the strategic protection and restoration of ecosystems is critical to tackle climate change, save species from extinction, and provide the basis for people to thrive. This is echoed by the United Nations which considers that, without a powerful 10-year drive for restoration, we can neither achieve the climate targets of the Paris Agreement nor the UN Sustainable Development Goals.⁸</p> <p>Protecting ‘everything everywhere’ is not possible, as our collective resources will be spread too thinly, but the fragmented approaches of current management are not making the difference that is required to halt the downward trajectory of ecological loss. A shift away from ad-hoc and scattered biodiversity management to strategic, evidence-based management and decision-making is required.</p> <p>RPS Objective 16 seeks to maintain and restore only those indigenous ecosystems and habitats which have significant biodiversity values. Amendments are required to provide for the maintenance of all indigenous ecosystems and habitats, recognising the benefit for multiple values, establishing a</p>	

⁶ Te Mana o Te Taiao. Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020

⁷ New Zealand Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-2020

⁸ Ecosystem Restoration for people, Nature and Climate, United Nations Environment Programme 2021
<https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ERPNC.pdf>

framework of strategic targets, priorities and limits to focus ecosystem management effort and decision-making, including the allocation of resources.

The proposed new RPS chapter on Climate Change recognises the identification of “nature based solutions” as a critical opportunity to respond to climate change; including protecting, restoring, and better managing ecosystems and habitats to maximise their carbon storage potential and help us adapt to the impacts of climate change. We also need to address the impacts of climate change on indigenous ecosystems, identifying those systems that are most at risk along with appropriate adaptation responses. Alignment between the Climate Change and Indigenous Ecosystems chapters is important to integrate management responses to both the biodiversity and climate ‘crises’, recognising their critically interconnected nature.

The outputs from this workstream will contribute directly to the identification of environmental outcomes and target attribute states for threatened species, one of the four compulsory values that must be provided for in the National Objectives Framework (NOF) required by the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) and to be included in Plan Change 1 of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP).

The spatial layers developed to identify regional priorities for ecosystem and habitat restoration will also inform the Wellington Regional Growth Framework, which includes an objective to ‘Enable growth that protects and enhances the quality of the natural environment and accounts for a transition to a low/no carbon future’.

Setting out the purpose of the plan change

<p>Issue or opportunity description</p>	<p>Indigenous habitats and ecosystems in the Wellington Region, and across New Zealand, have been severely depleted, with the decline in species diversity and robustness expected to not only continue, but to increase as a result of climate change.</p> <p>The current approach in the RPS to managing only indigenous habitats with significant biodiversity values has had a limited impact on the rate of habitat loss and ecosystem function decline, with regulation merely slowing the rate of decline, and non-regulatory approaches, while achieving the protection and restoration of some habitat types, doing so in a reasonably unfocused way, working with ‘the willing’ and often on habitat located on public land. If conservation activities are too dispersed, opportunities to halt biodiversity decline are lost.</p> <p>To achieve a step-change in outcomes, the RPS needs to shift its focus to an approach that recognises the importance of ecosystems, habitats and species for a range of values, establishing a set of strategic targets and priorities and associated measures to focus and drive protection and restoration efforts across the landscape.</p> <p>Evidence-based decision making to improve biodiversity outcomes is possible in the Wellington region, as data and scientific information that has been collected over many years can assist in identifying focussed conservation actions. The setting of quantitative biodiversity targets to achieve biodiversity</p>
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	<p>representation and persistence would provide an important tool in achieving the step-change required.</p>
<p>Purpose and Outcomes</p>	<p>Changes to the RPS Indigenous Ecosystems Chapter to maintain/protect and restore indigenous habitats and ecosystems in a strategic manner and to recognise the value of nature-based solutions to climate change, aligning with the vision of the ANZBS, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A revised issue statement and new objectives. • Policies and methods to support a framework of targets and priorities that will inform and direct strategic management, action-planning and decision making for indigenous habitats and ecosystems in the Wellington Region. These will inform PNRP Plan Change 1, the proposed new RPS Climate Change Chapter and amendments to the RPS Chapter on Regional form, design and function. • Provisions to support identified nature-based solutions to climate change and to respond to climate change driven risks to ecosystems and habitats (linked to the RPS Climate Change and Natural Hazards chapters).
<p>Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy</p>	
<p>Alignment with national policy direction and the WRGF</p>	<p>RMA – in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • s5(2)(b): safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems • s6(c): the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna as a matter of national significance • s7(d): have particular regard to the intrinsic values of ecosystems • s30(a) objectives, policies, and methods to achieve integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the region: and (c)(iiia) control of the use of land for the purpose of the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems in water bodies and coastal water. <p>Te Mana o Te Taiao - Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 (ANZBS)</p> <p>Vision: The life force of nature is vibrant and vigorous</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems and species are protected, restored, resilient and connected from mountain tops to ocean depths • Biodiversity provides nature-based solutions to climate change and is resilient to its effects. <p>NPS-FM 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective: Natural and physical resources are managed in a way that prioritises: first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems, second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)

	<p>and third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 6: There is no further loss of extent of natural inland wetlands, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted. • Policy 7: The loss of river extent and values is avoided to the extent practicable. • Policy 9: The habitats of indigenous freshwater species are protected. <p>NZCPS 2010:</p> <p>To safeguard the integrity, form, functioning and resilience of the coastal environment and sustain its ecosystems, including marine and intertidal areas, estuaries, dunes and land, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintaining or enhancing natural biological and physical processes in the coastal environment and recognising their dynamic, complex and interdependent nature; • protecting representative or significant natural ecosystems and sites of biological importance and maintaining the diversity of New Zealand’s indigenous coastal flora and fauna. <p>Wellington Regional Growth Framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective: Enable growth that protects and enhances the quality of the natural environment and accounts for a transition to a low/no carbon future.
<p>Specific NPS requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS-FM requires specific objectives, environmental outcomes and limits to protect threatened species.
<p>Previous and related work</p>	
<p>Summarise existing work that is relevant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Priority Biodiversity Conservation Actions for the Wellington Region – A Think-piece”, 2020 by Philippa Crisp ESci • DOC strategic planning for conservation priorities e.g. Marine Protected Area work (3 years of science) • Regional threat lists for species (birds, lizards & plants) • Assessment of the conservation status of forest habitats in the region. • National species threat assessments • Assessment of the threat status of rare (e.g. dunelands & wetlands) and naturally uncommon (e.g. marine mammal haulouts) ecosystems. • Global Aichi biodiversity targets • Spatial constraint layers developed as part of the Wellington Regional Growth Framework project • ANZBS workstreams on setting biodiversity targets and nature-based solutions to climate change (DOC/MFE) • Use of systematic conservation planning software, Zonation, to identify terrestrial and freshwater priorities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macroinvertebrate community index and water quality monitoring programs running in freshwater habitats.
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This work will contribute to the identification of priority areas to be identified by GW for climate change mitigation and adaptation as part of the RPS Natural Hazards and proposed new Climate Change Chapters (with links to work to be undertaken by the Wellington Region Climate Change Forum) and constraints to development as part of Regional Growth Framework (RPS Regional form, design and function chapter) • Regional state of the environment monitoring programs, including the terrestrial SOE monitoring programme and the duneland, forest and wetland health monitoring programs • The GW Coastal monitoring programme recognises the need, amongst other things, to develop a framework to promote ecosystem based management and protect and enhance the health of marine ecosystems through identifying clear environmental limits • Work being considered by the Regional Biodiversity Strategy Planning Group • Workstreams to revise the PNRP schedules of habitats and sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and that fulfil the monitoring requirements of national legislation (e.g. mapping natural inland wetlands) • Regional Council, DOC, NIWA & Coastal Special Interest Group (CSIG) Research Strategies; e.g. DOC marine protected areas workstream.
Examples from other councils or national strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021 – Objectives are for healthy, and thriving indigenous biodiversity, with a net increase from restoration and enhancement.
Next steps and tasks	
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare discussion paper: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify key issues (state, trends, key risks and implications) ○ Refine RPS issue statement ○ Prepare new RPS objective(s) (with a focus to maintain and restore processes necessary to maintain ecosystems/habitats and ecosystem services) ○ Develop an approach/methodology to determine indigenous habitat and ecosystem targets and priorities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Principles/approach ▪ Options for identifying and framing targets (e.g. for species, habitats, ecosystem processes or ecosystem services) ▪ A prioritisation process ○ Carry out a stocktake of existing information to inform target and priority setting across different domains (freshwater, coastal/marine, terrestrial) and a gap analysis (liaise with DOC, NIWA, Manaaki Whenua)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For each ecosystem/habitat summarise how much remains, how much is already 'protected', how much more 'protection' is required.⁹ ○ Prepare a case study exemplar (e.g. examples of targets and priorities for forest ecosystems) ○ Identify pathways to achieve targets and priorities, including opportunities such as implementation of biodiversity offsets, biobanking, the targeting of habitats for programmes such as The Billion Trees, GW Key Native Ecosystems, and for management of public conservation land ● Prepare engagement plan: with relevant technical experts and key stakeholders ● Carry out further information collation, modelling, analysis ● Prepare a set of targets, priorities and thresholds, with an accompanying spatial layer ● Prepare new RPS policies and methods ● Environment Committee to discuss/endorse new provisions (engage at key decision points e.g. Scoping and Discussion papers, Draft targets and priorities and policy options). 	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of conflation with district council Significant Natural Area work and public reaction 	Overall risk level: <i>Medium-High</i>
Key uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Uncertainty regarding content and timing of NPS-IB (the exposure draft keeps being delayed) 	Overall uncertainty level: <i>Medium</i>
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stay up-to-date with exposure drafts of the NPS-IB ● Liaise with the Department of Conservation, the Regional Biodiversity Planning Group and Mauri Tūhono ki Te Upoko (Wellington Biodiversity Framework as part of developing new provisions and to co-ordinate engagement with key stakeholders 	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	Amendments to the RPS Indigenous Ecosystems Chapter to provide better outcomes for multiple objectives and to meet the requirements of the ANZBS, to support climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, and to inform PNRP PC1 and amendments to the RPS Regional form, design and function chapter.	

⁹ Ensure use of a common language and assessment methodology (work with DOC/NIWA/Manaaki Whenua domain experts)

Target completion date	Draft: April 2022 Final: 20 August 2022
Budget requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• External peer review of technical process and then outcomes reports
Date and author	Pam Guest July 2021

F. SCOPING STATEMENT RPS REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE

CONTEXT	
Workstream	RPS definition for regional significant infrastructure (RSI)
GW team	Policy lead: Paul Denton GWRC core team: Internal planning contacts for guidance and development of the definition of RSI
Other organisations	What other organisations will be directly involved in developing the plan change? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Territorial authorities in Region Spark/Chorus representatives as telecommunication infrastructure owners Radio NZ (or their representatives) as radio communications infrastructure owners
Key stakeholders	What interest groups or statutory bodies will need to be informed or engaged? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note key stakeholders will be involved as listed above. No other engagement planned.
Background	
<p>The Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (2013) (RPS) definition of Regionally significant infrastructure (RSI) refers to 'strategic' telecommunication and radio communication facilities. This reference refers to the respective Acts (Telecommunications Act s5 (2001) and Radio communications Act s2(1), 1989). However, there is no reference to 'strategic' in either of these two Acts. This inconsistency was not resolved during the RPS hearings or appeals and further identified during hearings and mediation on Plan Change 16 for the Porirua District Plan (2016). The issue was further raised in PNRP hearings. Infrastructure submitters have questioned the reference to 'strategic' and requested a meaning to the word 'strategic' or other amendment in the RPS definition. A consent order was issued as part of the PC16 requesting this work to be completed.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the definition of regionally significant infrastructure to correct an inconsistency in the reference to telecommunications and radio communications
Purpose and outcomes	<p>What are we aiming for with this plan change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To fulfil the requirements of the Consent Order and amend the definition of regionally significant infrastructure for telecommunications and radio communications <p>What is the expected result?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new reference to telecommunication and radio communications in the definition of regionally significant infrastructure

	<p>Why should we do this work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements of a Consent Order. The reference to telecommunications and radio communications has inconsistent references to the respective Acts for telecommunications and radio communications. This inconsistency has caused issues for the interpretation of regionally significant infrastructure and giving effect to district plans.
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Specific NPS requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no relevant higher order planning documents for this amendment to the RPS.
Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with key stakeholders Discuss new wording or other method that is agreeable to stakeholders Complete s32 assessment Add amendment to RPS PC1 Important amendment that needs to be accomplished to remove confusion and uncertainty and directed through Consent Order
Components not included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Previous and related work	
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 32 assessment for the RPS, and background reports for the RPS Decision report on RPS PC16 to the Porirua City Plan S42A report on Beneficial Use and development for the PNRP, and mediation summary reports for the topic 'Beneficial use and development'.
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None at this stage
Examples from other councils or national strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to February 2016 letter from GWRC to Spark, for the reasoning behind this issue PNRP hearing discussions and appeal mediation discussions
Next steps and tasks	
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with key stakeholders and develop new wording with their agreement Develop section 32 assessment in preparation for plan change

Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parties outside consultation do not accept the new reference to these utilities or alternative wording 	Overall risk level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Low</i>
Key uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No gaps as such but could end up as an Appeal matter depending background issues with appellants and the direction of the RPS in general Possibility of 'opening up' the definition of RSI to something completely difference such as above for the AUP 	Overall uncertainty level: <i>Low</i>
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parties to gain a resolution to the proposed wording changes 	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	Summarise the scope of this workstream in one sentence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Amend the reference to telecommunications and radio communications in the RPS definition of RSI</i> 	
Target completion date	April 2022	
Budget requirements	Are there identified budget needs? None	
Date and author	Paul Denton, July 2021	

G. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC1 NATIONAL OBJECTIVES FRAMEWORK

CONTEXT	
Workstream	Plan Change 1: NOF workstreams
GW team	Policy team lead: Rachel Pawson Science team lead: Brent King GWRC core team: Al Smaill and Hayley Vujcich & at least one other
Other organisations	Iwi and hāpu
Key stakeholders	Territorial authorities, Wellington Water Ltd, DOC, Forest and Bird, Fish and Game, agricultural and horticultural sector groups
Background	
<p>Greater Wellington is required to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) which includes implementation of the National Objectives Framework (NOF) by 31 December 2024. Greater Wellington has developed the Whaitua process to aid in the implementation of the NPS-FM. The result of this process, the Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP), is then required to be translated into a plan change as the final step to giving effect to NOF parts of the NPS-FM.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has completed the Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP which is accompanied by a statement from Ngati Toa Rangatira. The WIP for Te Whanganui-a-Tara is nearing completion. Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara are both predominantly urban whaitua with small areas of rural land uses. Greater Wellington proposes to notify the plan changes in two groups. The first group being notified in August 2022 and then the second group beginning notified before December 2024.</p> <p>The global local authority stormwater network consents held by Wellington Water Ltd for the Wellington City, Hutt City, Upper Hutt City and Porirua City council are all due for replacement renewal shortly (mid 2023). The replacement renewal and next stage of these consents specifically requires the NOF parts of the NPS-FM to be included in the PNRP. This makes introducing a plan change to give effect to the NPS-FM in these areas is a priority and is scheduled for 2022.</p> <p>The Kāpiti Coast, Ruamāhanga (remainder other than water quantity which is PC 2) and Wairarapa Coast whaitua will be notified in 2024. KCDC's global stormwater network consent also expires in 2023. Greater Wellington is going to have to work with KCDC to provide a smooth consenting pathway through this transition period.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the workstream within plan change 1	
Issue or opportunity description	Requirement to give effect to the NPS-FM particularly the NOF process.
Purpose and outcomes	This workstream and the other workstreams in Plan Change 1 will implement the NOF framework required by the NPS-FM within the Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara whaitua.

Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with Wellington Regional Growth Framework and national policy direction.	Links to the Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF), the National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD) and the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region (RPS).
Specific NPS requirements	<p>The specific requirements of the NPS-FM are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 3.7 NOF process • Clause 3.8 Identifying FMUs and special sites and features • Clause 3.9 Identifying values and setting environmental outcomes as objectives • Clause 3.10 Identifying attributes and their baseline states, or other criteria for assessing achievement of environmental outcomes • Clause 3.11 Setting target attribute states • Clause 3.12 How to achieve target attribute states and environmental outcomes • Clause 3.13 Special provisions for attributes affected by nutrients • Clause 3.14 Setting limits on resource use • Clause 3.15 Preparing action plans (regional plan direction for the plans) • Clause 3.18 Monitoring (regional plan direction for monitoring) • Clause 3.20 Responding to degradation (regional plan direction for degradation) • Clause 3.25 Deposited sediment in rivers (regional plan direction when setting target attribute states) • Clause 3.27 Primary contact sites • Clause 3.29 Freshwater accounting system (any regional plan direction) • Clause 3.32 Naturally occurring processes (regional plan direction when setting target attribute states)
Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	<p>This workstream will be for the Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara whaitua:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delineate FMUs • Identify NPS-FM required waterbodies (i.e. primary contact recreation sites, outstanding waterbodies, inland wetlands, threatened species) • Draft objectives (including those environmental outcomes) • Identify attributes (including baseline and current state) • Develop target attribute states • Identify limits, as necessary, to achieve target attribute states • Develop instream concentrations and exceedance criteria to achieve environmental outcomes dependent on nutrients

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a plan framework and logic for the elements of the NOF that will inform the other workstreams within Plan Change 1 (e.g. sediment policy and regulation) • Align with the other workstreams within Plan Change 1 that are developing policy and rule frameworks (including limits) to achieve the target attribute states and objectives • Draft plan provisions • Justify the new provisions against s32 of the RMA <p>This workstream is driven solely by the requirements of the NPS-FM.</p>
<p>Components not included</p>	<p>Implementation of the NOF framework for Ruamāhanga, Wairarapa Coast and Kāpiti Coast whitua. This will be included in a separate plan change to be notified in 2024.</p>
<p>Previous and related work</p>	
<p>Summarise existing work that is relevant</p>	<p>Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP, including the modelling project and other supporting reports</p> <p>Ngāti Toa Statement for Te Awarua-o-Porirua</p> <p>Te Whanganui a Tara WIP (still in preparation – to be released August 2021)</p> <p>Science and other supporting reports produced as part of the development of the WIPs</p> <p>Any Kāpiti Coast whitua development work that might be relevant</p> <p>PNRP and appeals work related to Objective O25</p> <p>s32 and s42A reports that relate to the development of the plan structure.</p>
<p>Summarise related work/interdependencies</p>	<p>Other Plan Change 1 workstreams which set policy and rule frameworks, including limits to achieve the target attribute states and environmental outcomes.</p> <p>Plan Change 1 – Te Mana o te Wai workstream</p> <p>RPS Change 1 will introduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives in the RPS for Te Mana o Tai Wai and vision statements for each completed Whitua. This workstream also will identify the values for each FMU/management area which the environmental outcomes in this workstream are seeking to achieve • Requirements of the NPS-UD which could potentially impact on the ability of Plan Change 1 to achieve the environmental outcomes identified through the NOF and outlined in the WIPs • Provisions directing integrated management • Policy direction to achieve the new objectives which will direct both the regional plans and the district plans

	<p>Plan Change 2 will amend the water allocation provisions within Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara which may also be driven by the environmental outcomes identified within Plan Change 1 and the NOF workstream.</p> <p>Plan Change 3 will also have provisions that give effect to other elements of the NPS-FM such as fish passage, protection of significant indigenous ecosystems and outstanding waterbodies.</p> <p>WRGF will direct urban growth which in turn has the potential to impact on water quality and the ability of the regional plan to achieve its objectives (environmental outcomes).</p> <p>Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP is currently under development and will provide the basis for Plan Change 1 in this whitua.</p>	
<p>Examples from other councils or national strategies</p>	<p>Greater Wellington will be the first major regional council to notify a plan change to give effect to the NPS-FM 2020.</p> <p>Southland, Bay of Plenty and Canterbury are the councils that are at similar stages of thinking.</p>	
<p>Next steps and tasks</p>		
<p>Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change</p>	<p>The tasks for this workstream are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the requirements of the NOF process as set out in the NPS-FM 2020 • Develop a GW understanding of the requirements of the NPS-FM and the implications for our regional plan • Map NPS-FM requirements against existing plan and WIPs to identify gaps and relationships • Describe conceptual framework of NPS-FM requirements against recommendations from the two relevant WIPs • Stocktake of existing work and gap analysis • Identify areas of additional work required to give effect to the NOF process • Infilling in the gaps where necessary – contracting new work • Draft the required provisions (objectives and policies) • Section 32 writing – including how the plan change gives effect to the NPS-FM 	
<p>Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity</p>		
<p>Key risks</p>	<p>Key risks described (listed in order of highest to lowest impact) that may apply to this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity and time to deliver all the requirements of the NPS-FM 2020 for notification of August 2022 	<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>High</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Whanganui-a Tara-component of the plan change is dependent on the completion of the Te Whanganui-a-Tara Whaitua Implementation Programme • Willingness and capacity of mana whenua to be involved in the plan change development and whether mana whenua support the plan change direction. • Will the plan change gain support from stakeholders at both ends of the spectrum • Outcome of appeals on Objective O25 • Dependent on the PNRP being operative at the time the plan change is notified 	
Key uncertainties	<p>Key uncertainties that may apply to this project including key gaps in knowledge or uncertainties in regulatory approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are gaps in our knowledge to implement the NOF including the new attributes and attributes to achieve mana whenua values – particularly in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua as the WIP was developed under the NPS-FM 2017. • Content of the Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP has not been confirmed, particularly the level of detail • Three waters reforms • Potential NPS-FM amendments • Local government reform • RMA reform 	<p>Overall uncertainty level:</p> <p><i>Medium</i></p>
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	<p>Consult with stakeholders if the plan change is departing from the recommendations of the WIPs.</p> <p>Involve mana whenua in all stages of development</p> <p>Any elements of the NPS-FM not given effect to through Plan Change 1 may need to be included in Plan Change 4. Scope may have to be reviewed.</p>	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	Implement the NPS-FM NOF framework for Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Te Awarua-o-Porirua.	
Target completion date	August 2022	
Budget requirements	<p>There will be budget requirements but these are yet to be finalised. They will include both planning and science external consultants.</p> <p>Existing contracts total approximately \$100,000 for the next year this will increase significantly over the next few months.</p>	
Date and author	Rachel Pawson July 2021	

H. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC1 URBAN STORMWATER AND WASTEWATER

CONTEXT	
Workstream	PC1 Stormwater and Wastewater (including other point source discharges)
GW team	Policy team lead: Rachel GWRC core team: Alastair, Michelle (+ at least one other)
Other organisations	Iwi, Wellington Water, Stu Farrant (consultant)
Key stakeholders	All TAs in the region, Stormwater Forum, other network providers
Background	
<p>Limits need to be set for stormwater and wastewater discharges in response to the NPS-FM 2020, and to implement the WIPs. It would be extremely useful to have these in place before the Wellington Water Stage II consents are lodged. While most discharges are associated with stormwater and wastewater networks, there could potentially be other point source discharges.</p> <p>There are places (e.g. Kapiti) where there are stormwater networks where limits will not be set in this plan change. These will be set in subsequent plan changes. Plan provisions to transition these places toward a limits regime will be required.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	There are no limits in place for stormwater and wastewater (or any point source discharges) in the PNRP. The regulatory drivers for these discharges are weak and largely relate to policy directives. The Wellington Water Stage II consents must be lodged by 2023. Having limits embedded in these consents is a significant opportunity for alignment with the NPS-FM. This will set the framework for other parts of the region (note that Wairarapa may be different)
Purpose and outcomes	Identify a stormwater and wastewater management framework for the region. Set limits for stormwater and wastewater (and other point sources) in Te Awarua o Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara whaitua. This is a NPS-FM requirement
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	Directly linked to WRGF and RPS. Limits will be a constraint on where urban development goes and its form.

Specific NPS requirements	Limit setting requirements in the NOF (3.14)	
Setting boundaries around this work		
Components of this workstream	<p>Stormwater and wastewater discharges (plus any other point sources)</p> <p>Both public and private networks</p> <p>Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara Whaitua only</p>	
Components not included	<p>Sediment and earthworks not included (in another PC1 workstream)</p> <p>Other Whaitua not included</p> <p>Kāpiti and Wairarapa Coast whaitua in later 2024 plan change</p>	
Previous and related work		
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<p>WIPs</p> <p>Wellington Water (& KCDC) Stage I consent monitoring and investigations</p> <p>WCC Mayoral Forum on 3 waters</p>	
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<p>NOF workstream</p> <p>All Stage 2 stormwater consenting processes in the region.</p> <p>Alignment with WRGF</p>	
Examples from other councils or national strategies	We will be the first Council to notify plan changes, and as such there are no other current examples.	
Next steps and tasks		
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check WIPs provide enough detail/gap analysis • Fill in WIP gaps • Iwi engagement • Design management/consenting framework (with Wellington Water) integrating WSUD into framework • Map existing Plan provisions in framework (what do we keep?) • Test framework will actually achieve target attribute states • Draft policies and rules • Test with TAs 	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<p>Gaps in Te Wanganui-a-Tara WIP</p> <p>Wellington Water not engaged</p>	<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>Medium</i></p>

	The TAs support Iwi may want more significant pace of change	
Key uncertainties	Level of detail from Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP 3 Waters reforms	Overall uncertainty level: <i>Medium</i>
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	Relationship with Wellington Water is key Involve Stormwater Forum along the way Keep an eye on 3 waters reform Involve iwi in plan development	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	Setting stormwater and wastewater management framework for the region. Setting limits for stormwater and wastewater in Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara	
Target completion date	August 2022	
Budget requirements	External consultants (Stu Farrant)	
Date and author	Alastair Smaill July 2021	

I. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC1 RURAL AND EARTHWORKS

CONTEXT	
Workstream	Sediment
GW team	<p>Policy team leads: Paul Denton (earthworks)/Barry Loe (rural)</p> <p>GWRC core team: Michelle Conland (consultant, Environmental Regulation)</p> <p>Others to be consulted: Richard Percy and Dave Rennison (Environmental Regulation), Gregor McLean (consultant, Southern Skies Environmental), Jamie Peryer (Land Management), Brent King and Dougall Gordon (Environmental Science)</p>
Other organisations	Ngāti Toa and Taranaki Whanui/Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust (for Wgtn). Possibly Te Atiawa.
Key stakeholders	<p>Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, Hutt City Council and Upper Hutt City Council</p> <p>Property Development companies (Kāinga Ora, Prime Property Group, Carrus Developments)</p> <p>Forestry 360</p> <p>Aggregate and Quarry Association and Fulton Hogan</p> <p>Greater Wellington Regional Council - Regional Parks</p> <p>Federated Farmers of New Zealand</p>
Background	
<p>Suspended and deposited fine sediment are attributes in the National Policy Statement Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) (2020) that require target attribute states and limits to be achieved in rivers and streams in both whitua. The Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whitua Implementation Plan¹⁰ includes recommendations to set sediment load limits to significantly reduce the sedimentation rate in both arms of Te Awarua-o-Porirua and to reduce muddiness in intertidal areas of the Pauatahanui Inlet. Recommendations are to be achieved using a range of mechanisms, including amendments to the Natural Resources Plan policies and rules for earthworks, vegetation clearance, and rural land uses that contribute to the sediment load in the catchment. Plantation forestry is discussed in the whitua implementation plan, however there is no firm commitment to make any regulatory changes outside the national standard. There is a strong emphasis in the implementation plan to achieving the targets using non-regulatory methods such as environmental plans, and additional resources from Greater Wellington. As Plan Change 1 is also to implement the methods to achieve NPS-FM limits on sediment in rivers, the complementarity of the methods to achieve both sets of outcomes will be essential to success.</p>	

¹⁰ The Te Whanganui o Tara WIP has not been released, the outcomes of this WIP for sediment need to be included for PC1

Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	Reduce sediment (suspended fine sediment and deposited sediment) in rivers and streams and the sedimentation rate of the Pauatahanui Inlet, Porirua Harbour and Wellington Harbour.
Purpose and outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To update the Te Awarua-o-Porirua and Te Whanganui-a-Tara chapters in the Natural Resources Plan with new provisions (policies, rules and methods) for earthworks, vegetation clearance, roading and tracking, plantation forestry and Action Plans • In urban sub-catchments, a reduction in sediment entering streams from earthworks sites (large and small) • In rural sub-catchments a reduction in sediment entering streams from rural land uses (vegetation clearance and roading and tracking), and plantation forestry operations • A reduction in streambank erosion and hillside erosion
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS-FM (2020) requires limits be set to achieve target attribute states for sediment in rivers • Te Awarua-o-Porirua whitua Recommendations 49, 50, 59, 60, 61 and 64 • NPS-UD (2020) and links to urban development tiers • Policies and methods in the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region <p>Toitū Te Whenua – Belmont and Battle Hill Regional Parks are located within the Whitua, and land use management plans for the Parks recognise links to water quality</p>
Specific NPS requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subpart 2 – NOF objectives • Subpart 3 – Specific Requirements, 3.25, • Appendices 1A – compulsory values and Appendix 1B – other values to be considered • Appendix 2A Attributes requiring limits on resource use, and Appendix 2B Attributes requiring action plans • NPS sediment attribute Tables 8 and 16
Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See next steps below
Components not included	None

Previous and related work		
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, Section 32 plans, Hearing reports (s42a) and mediation (Summary statements) on the relevant provisions • National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry • Sediment modelling undertaken by Porirua City Council for the Harbour strategy, GWRC for the Statement of the Environment reporting, and the Te Awarua-o-Porirua whitua • Research undertaken for the Pauatahanui Inlet, Porirua Harbour, and Wellington Harbour 	
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOF process and Te Mana o Te Wai (PC1) • Stormwater and wastewater (PC1) • GWRC Land Management • GWRC Environmental Regulation – earthworks and vegetation clearance • GWRC Parks – Belmont, Battle Hill, Kaitoke 	
Examples from other councils or national strategies	Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Southland Regional Council, Otago Regional Council and Horizons Regional Council are in the process of undertaking similar work	
Next steps and tasks		
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake information gathering and assessment of previous studies • Discussions with key people, groups and stakeholders that were instrumental in the development of the Harbour Strategy, and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Implementation Plan • Map high priority erosion areas on hillsides and streambanks • Establish the planning options (part of the Section 32 assessment) to reduce sediment from land use activities and the formulation of Action Plans • Collaborate with mana whenua regarding regulatory and non-regulatory approaches • Consultation with key stakeholders over regulatory and non-regulatory approaches • Develop new provisions – policies, rules and other methods (Action Plans) for the whitua chapters in the Natural Resources Plan • Consult new provisions with key stakeholders • Finalise new provisions for notification in August 2022 	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing more stringent provisions • Restrictions on land uses (subdivisions) 	Overall risk level:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community response to restrictions including National Policy Statement for Urban Development • Council does not approve plan change as does not go far enough to 'fix the harbour' 	High
Key uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps in knowledge lead to unnecessarily stringent actions, or focus on less effective methods • WIP time horizon is some 15 years, NPSFM time horizon is 10 years • Are there other technologies, ways of doing things that are less stringent but have similar long term outcome 	Overall uncertainty level: Medium
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management/peers/Council • Clear and consistent messaging • Identify and clearly communicate with relevant groups • Use of the Technical Science Group for advice 	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	To update the NRP with sediment attribute targets and have limits in place to reduce sedimentation in the whitua.	
Target completion date	Develop planning options, December 2021 Consult key stakeholders with draft provisions, April 2022 Develop plan change ready for notification, June 2022 Notification, August 2022	
Budget requirements	Technical science working group budget	
Date and author	Paul Denton/Barry Loe/Michelle Conland, July 2021	

J. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC2 WATER ALLOCATION

CONTEXT	
Workstream	Plan Change 2 – Water Allocation
GW team	Policy team lead: Richard Sheild & Kat Banyard GWRC core team: Kat Banyard, Mike Thompson, Richard Sheild, Richard Peterson (consultant)
Other organisations	Cawthron Institute (technical advice/review) Mana whenua partners
Key stakeholders	Wairarapa Water Users Group, Federated Farmers
Background	
This plan change is required to fully give effect to the NPS-FM requirements for water allocation as well as Whaitua Implementation Programme recommendations on water allocation and flows management. A significant part of this process will be filling in gaps in our existing technical knowledge, especially regarding small streams in the Wairarapa.	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	This plan change aims to ensure that the technical underpinning for the water quantity and allocation framework is as robust as possible. It also aims to insert more specific/explicit provisions for issues that are currently not distinguished from generic water takes, but probably should be.
Purpose and outcomes	This plan change will fill in gaps in the existing policy framework for water quantity and allocation, give effect to the recommendations on the WIPs, and help future-proof the plan.
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	This plan change is linked to provisions in the NPS-FM 2020. In particular, it is linked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 3: Freshwater is managed in an integrated way that considers the effects of the use and development of land on a whole-of-catchment basis, including the effects on receiving environments. • Policy 9: The habitats of indigenous freshwater species are protected. • Policy 10: The habitat of trout and salmon is protected, insofar as this is consistent with Policy 9. • Policy 11: Freshwater is allocated and used efficiently, all existing over-allocation is phased out, and future over-allocation is avoided.
Specific NPS requirements	See above.

Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	<p>The following tasks make up the planning component of this work. Technical components have not been included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent impact analysis – to gain some understanding of the ramifications of the plan change for existing resource consents. • Water allocation objective assessment – to ensure that all water allocation and quantity provisions in the PNRP have direction provided by objectives, and that the NOF process set by the NPS-FM has been followed. • Supplementary takes – to review the policy and rule framework for supplementary takes to ensure the package as a whole is fit for purpose post-mediation. • Claw-back mechanisms – to develop and incorporate a policy/rule framework for phasing out over-allocation, as required by the NPS-FM and PNRP. • Planning assessment – to ensure that all higher order direction for water quantity and allocation has been given effect to. • Non-consumptive takes - to develop a policy and rule framework for non-consumptive takes, filling a gap in the PNRP. • Groundwater cease takes – to develop a policy and rule framework for ceasing groundwater takes, similar to existing provisions for surface water. This has been requested by the Environmental Regulation team. • Water races - to develop a policy and rule framework for water races, filling a gap in the PNRP. • Municipal supply takes - to develop a policy and rule framework for municipal supply takes, filling a gap in the PNRP. <p>This plan change will cover the first three whaitua: Ruamāhanga, Te Awarua-o-Porirua, and Te Whanganui-a-Tara.</p>
Components not included	<p>This workstream does not include any work relating to a wider review of the PNRP objectives and any changes to the objectives needed to give effect to Te Mana o Te Wai and the NPS-FM. With that exception, this work programme is almost totally self-contained.</p>
Previous and related work	
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<p>There is some detailed economic assessment completed by a consultant (Simon Harris) that can be drawn on for the s32, and also a draft s32 prepared by Richard Peterson that can be drawn on as well.</p>
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<p>This plan change will be relevant to work being done on water allocation/Te Mana o te Wai objectives for the RPS and the objectives work for the PNRP. Of particular relevance is the work on the integrated catchment management approach and mana whenua relationships to land and water.</p>

Examples from other councils or national strategies	While we have not examined what other councils have done for all the topic areas of this plan change, we have noted that there do not appear to be any examples of other councils adopting an explicit policy framework for phasing out water over-allocation. Other topics may or may not have examples from other councils we can draw on.	
Next steps and tasks		
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<p>The current water allocation plan change project plan has the following tasks that need to be completed once the technical and planning foundation is finished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S32 evaluation • Engagement with Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee • Updates to Council and approval of plan change by Council <p>Council direction and stakeholder engagement would be beneficial sooner rather than later on claw-backs and supplementary allocation, as these policies would link into other GWRC programmes.</p>	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<p>Describe any key risks that may apply to this project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaps in technical knowledge or technical work not being ‘water-tight’. • Community reaction in Wairarapa, especially for provisions aiming to phase out over-allocation of water or any changes to minimum flows. 	<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>Low</i></p>
Key uncertainties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aforementioned ‘water-tightness’ of the technical work underpinning this plan change. • Further regulatory changes introduced by central government over the next 18 months. 	<p>Overall uncertainty level:</p> <p><i>Low</i></p>
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	<p>Thorough peer-review of technical work will help mitigate that risk, and Cawthron has already been lined up to help with this. Meaningful engagement with the Wairarapa Water Users Group may reduce the risk of adverse reaction to the over-allocation phase-out provisions.</p>	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	To develop and notify a plan change for water quantity, flows, and allocation.	
Target completion date	The project plan for the plan change currently aims for a notification date of 16 August 2022.	
Budget requirements	Funding for planning consultants will come from EPol’s budget. Funding for technical consulting will come from the ESci budget.	

Date and author	Richard Sheild, July 2021
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K. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC3 NATURAL CHARACTER

CONTEXT	
Workstream	Plan Change 3 – Natural character in the coastal environment
GW team	Policy team lead: Tim Blackman GWRC core team: Tim Blackman, Iain Dawe
Other organisations	Boffa Miskell (technical reporting, complete late July 2021), Andrew Cumming (engagement advice, ongoing) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iwi authorities (across the full Wellington region)
Key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community; and Land owners whose property falls within GWRC jurisdiction in the coastal environment and in areas of at least high natural character (if any).
Background	
<p>Greater Wellington Regional Council (Council/GWRC) will notify a plan change in regards to natural character in the Coastal Marine Area, in late 2022. This plan change will give effect to relevant provisions in higher order planning documents, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 6(a) of the RMA; Policies 13 and 14 of the NZCPS; and Policy 3 of the RPS. <p>This plan change will incorporate natural character ratings from assessments which have been undertaken in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington/Hutt (2016); Porirua (2018); Wairarapa (2020); and Kāpiti (2021). <p>Each of the assessments have been undertaken in collaboration with the relevant TAs across the full extent of the coastal environment.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	<p>There are provisions in the proposed Plan to manage natural character of the coastal environment, however there are no schedules in the plan that list areas of outstanding (or high) natural character in the coastal environment or provisions to protect these scheduled areas, to give effect to the relevant higher order planning documents.</p> <p>The key issues are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When applicants are looking at options as to where a proposed activity could be located, they cannot avoid areas of outstanding natural character, given these areas are not identified in the plan; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When applicants are undertaking an activity in the coastal environment they are required to undertake an assessment on a case by case basis to determine what the natural character rating of the area might be, to ensure the potential effects from a proposed activity do not impact the values.
Purpose and outcomes	<p>The purpose of this work is to give effect to the relevant higher order planning documents, as set out above.</p> <p>The key outcomes of this work (in the proposed Plan) is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a new schedule and mapping layer for (at least) areas of outstanding natural character (and possibly high natural character); Amend existing natural character objectives and policies; Add a new policy to give effect Policy 14 of the NZCPS, which is in regards to the restoration of natural character; and Amend Method M24, which is in regards to the identification of areas of high/outstanding natural character. <p>Overall, the anticipated results of this work are to ensure the proposed Plan can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> avoid adverse effects of activities on natural character in areas of the coastal environment with outstanding natural character; and avoid significant adverse effects and avoid, remedy or mitigate other adverse effects of activities on natural character in all other areas of the coastal environment.
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	No direct linkages to the WRGF.
Specific NPS requirements	<p>Section 6(a) of the RMA (not an NPS, but related)</p> <p>Policy 13 of the NZCPS</p> <p>Policy 3 of the RPS (not a NPS, but related)</p>
Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	<p>A plan change for natural character in the coastal marine area.</p> <p>Components: technical reports (to be completed by late July 2021), section 32 assessment, community/iwi engagement, public notification; further details of workstream components are set out below under 'next steps and tasks'.</p>
Components not included	The plan change will not include natural character in the beds of lakes and rivers and wetland's, given these assessments have not yet been commenced. As a result, the plan change for this work (natural character

	in the beds of lakes and rivers and wetland's) will be deferred to plan change 2024; this should provide ample time to complete this work.													
Previous and related work														
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<p>Previous work and existing knowledge to inform the proposed Plan change, includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 32 (2015) for the proposed Plan; • Section 42a (2017/2018) for the proposed Plan; and • Appeals on the proposed Plan (2021). <p>As discussed above, there is also a significant amount of work which has been undertaken in the relevant natural character assessments in the coastal environment (Wellington/Hutt, Porirua, Wairarapa and Kāpiti)</p>													
Summarise related work/interdependencies	RPS Change 1 - change to Policy 3 of the RPS. This change involves deleting Policy 3(c) (and retaining Policy 3(a) and Policy 3(b)), given social values do not give effect to the direction set out Policy 13 of the NZCPS; social values are a value which is used for the assessment of outstanding natural features and landscapes, as set out in Policy 15 of the NZCPS.													
Examples from other councils or national strategies	<p>As discussed above, GWRC have undertaken natural character assessments across the full extent of the coastal environment in collaboration with the relevant territorial authorities. At this stage, PCC is the only local authority who has notified a plan change to incorporate these recent natural character assessments, as part of their proposed District Plan, which was publicly notified in 2020.</p> <p>A number of other regional authorities have mapped areas of high and outstanding natural character and included these sites within regional coastal plans, alongside objectives, policies, rules and methods.</p> <p>The natural character focus group will be looking at the approach taken by Auckland Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Northland Regional Council, to inform recommendations as to how natural character should be managed within the proposed Plan as part of the 2022 plan change.</p>													
Next steps and tasks														
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<p>The key tasks are set out in the below table.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Stage</th> <th>Tasks</th> <th>Date commenced</th> <th>Date delivered</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Stage 1 – Drafting the plan change</td> <td>Work with the natural character focus group to develop provisions</td> <td>February 2021</td> <td>June 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agree on template for section 32 assessment</td> <td>Late June 2021</td> <td>Late July 2021</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Stage	Tasks	Date commenced	Date delivered	Stage 1 – Drafting the plan change	Work with the natural character focus group to develop provisions	February 2021	June 2022	Agree on template for section 32 assessment	Late June 2021	Late July 2021
Stage	Tasks	Date commenced	Date delivered											
Stage 1 – Drafting the plan change	Work with the natural character focus group to develop provisions	February 2021	June 2022											
	Agree on template for section 32 assessment	Late June 2021	Late July 2021											

		Prepare draft section 32 assessment	August 2021	June 2022
		Climate change consideration for Wellington, Hutt and Porirua assessments	May 2021	Late July 2021
		Finalise landscape atlas: Insert updated planning layers (re climate change consideration) to the landscape atlas	Early July 2021	Late August 2021
	Stage 2 – Engagement on plan change with iwi and community	Assessment to determine how many private properties fall within areas of high and/or outstanding natural character	Early July 2021	Late August 2021
		Agreement on approach to engagement with iwi and community	June 2021	Late August 2021
		Engagement with iwi and community	TBC	Late July 2022
	Stage 3 – Final plan change for notification	Include final maps (incorporate changes to come out of engagement) within GIS and/or new planning maps to the proposed Plan	Early August 2022	Late August 2022
		Incorporate feedback to come out of engagement into final cut of provisions and section 32 assessment	TBC	Late July 2022
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity				
Key risks	Community reaction (in regards to where the areas of outstanding natural character fall and the controls which may fall in these areas), similar to what happened as part of the Hutt City Council plan change process (prior to notification) in 2018.			Overall risk level: <i>High</i>

Key uncertainties	Not known at this point.	Overall uncertainty level:
Key responses to risks and uncertainties	To manage this this risk, GWRC has engaged a planner (Andrew Cumming) to provide some advice as to how GWRC could navigate the risks of the plan change.	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	To notify a plan change to the proposed Plan, to give effect to Section 6(a) of the RMA, Policies 13 and 14 of the NZCPS and Policy 3 of the RPS.	
Target completion date	August 2022	
Budget requirements	Any additional support for community engagement. The remaining parts of the plan change work (section 32, drafting plan change and GIS) can occur in house.	
Date and author	Tim Blackman – July 2021	

L. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC3 UPDATES TO SCHEDULES INDIGENOUS ECOSYSTEMS AND HABITATS

Workstream	Scope	Reason for work
Schedules A1 and A2: Rivers and lakes with outstanding indigenous ecosystem values	Review criteria in the Regional Policy Statement to identify outstanding rivers and lakes for indigenous ecosystem values and identify new rivers and lakes to add to Schedules A1 and A2	Required by PNRP Method M7(a)
Schedule F1: Rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems	Review Schedule F1 and associated policy framework to ensure it is fit for purpose	Questions raised during PNRP hearings about the effectiveness of Schedule F1 and the associated policy and rule framework
Schedule F1b: Inanga spawning habitat	Review inanga spawning map and plan provisions	Questions raised during PNRP hearings about the current schedule of sites and protection provided by the PNRP
Schedule F2 (a-c): Significant habitats for indigenous birds	Add new sites to Schedule F2 from the Regional bird survey (2021)	New technical information available
Schedule F3: Significant natural wetlands	Determine whether any new wetlands should be added to Schedule F3 (identified natural wetlands which require livestock exclusion)	A number of new wetlands have been identified post PNRP notification. Decisions on scheduling to recognise equivalent requirements of the National Stock Exclusion Regulations 2020
Schedules F4 and F5: Sites and Habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area	Add new sites to Schedules F4 and F5 as identified in the Review of significant sites in the coastal marine area (2021)	New technical information available
Fish passage	Prepare a list and map of rivers and receiving environments where instream structures must provide passage for “desirable” fish species; and where fish passage for “undesirable” fish species is to be impeded	Required by the NPS-FM 2020
PNRP policy support for restoration activities	Review PNRP policies and rules to provide support for aquatic restoration (as currently provided for wetlands)	Concerns raised by iwi that PNRP rules may be a disincentive to river restoration

Workstream	Scope	Reason for work
Managing the effects of marine fishing practices on marine habitats, biodiversity and natural character	Scope the effects of marine fishing on indigenous biodiversity and, if appropriate, draft new provisions to manage these	The Court of Appeal ‘Motiti’ decision clarified that fishing can be managed under the RMA in order to maintain indigenous biodiversity. This activity was not considered as part of the development of the PNRP.

M. SCOPING STATEMENT NRP PC3 COMMUNITY DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

CONTEXT	
Workstream	PC3 - Community Drinking Water Supply Protection Areas
GW team	<p>Policy team lead: Barry Loe</p> <p>GWRC core team: Barry Loe, Mike Thompson, Rebecca Morris, Paula Pickford</p> <p>GW GIS – Matt Verde</p>
Other organisations	<p>What other organisations will be directly involved in developing the plan change?</p> <p>GNS – Mike Taves (Groundwater modeller)</p>
Key stakeholders	<p>What interest groups or statutory bodies will need to be informed or engaged?</p> <p>Ministry of Health (pre Water Services Act commences, expected Aug 2021)</p> <p>Taumata Arowai (post Water Services Act commences)</p> <p>Community Drinking Water Suppliers: Wellington Water Ltd, Wairarapa TAs, KCDC</p> <p>Land owners in new or proposed additions to CDWSPA</p>
Background	
<p>PNRP established community drinking water supply protection areas (CDWSPA) for surface water and groundwater sourced water supplies to 500+ people. There are some errors in the spatial extent of some groundwater CDWSPA due to; inaccuracies in some maps notified in the PNRP, some wells were not identified or inaccurately located on the GIS. The protection areas could not be extended as necessary by the decisions on submissions due to limitations in the scope of submissions. Updated information exists which should be used to ensure the most accurate maps are included in the NRP.</p> <p>The Water Services Act is expected to require all water suppliers to communities of 500+ people to prepare risk management plans that identify and address risks to the quality of the source water for the supply. The source of the supply will need to be accurately defined, including the spatial extent of any groundwater source, so risks can be assessed, and managed.</p> <p>The NESDW is under review by MfE and is expected to identify 3 tiers of spatial source water risk management areas (SWRMA) for CDWS. Regional Councils likely to be expected to undertake the mapping of these areas. The methodologies used in PNRP to identify the CDWSPA are likely to be consistent with those required by the revised NESDW, but may need refining and the PNRP protection areas amended to identify the different tiers of protection.</p>	

<p>Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP development is expected to include recommendations relating to providing increased protection to the Hutt Valley aquifers that are the source of Wellington and Hutt cities drinking water.</p> <p>The RPS does not contain any objective, policy or direction to local authorities in respect of protecting the quality of sources of CDWS from the effects of land use and discharge of contaminants. In contrast, RPS Policy 17 is a regulatory policy directing regional plans to contain provisions to ensure that when water is being allocated for use, sufficient water is made available for health (drinking water) needs of people.</p> <p>The provisions of Regional and District Plans could be used to provide protection to the quality of source water, and protocols established between authorities, to ensure a consistent and integrated approach the managing activities that could affect the quality of source water for CDWS.</p>	
Setting out the purpose of the plan change	
Issue or opportunity description	Protecting the quality of source water for CDWS
Purpose and outcomes	<p>The second priority of NPSFM2020 is health needs of people (including drinking water) and drinking water quality is a value that must be considered (NPSFM Appendix 1B).</p> <p>The RPS does not contain provisions to give effect to the NPS-FM.</p> <p>The PNRP has established the concept of protection areas, but the information needs to be as accurate as possible, to provide certainty to Plan and resource users. To have the Plan accurately identify, and appropriately manage activities in, CDWSPA.</p> <p>The NESDW will likely expect regional Councils to map the SWRMA for CDWS.</p> <p>To implement the recommendations of the Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP relating to protection of sources of human drinking water.</p>
Ensuring alignment with national direction and regional strategy	
Alignment with WRGF and national policy direction.	<p>Approach aligns with NPS-FM 2020 – drinking water quality a value of some FMUs</p> <p>Implementation of expected changes to NES-DW</p>
Specific NPS requirements	Drinking water is 2 nd priority in NPS, and a value that must be considered
Setting boundaries around this work	
Components of this workstream	<p>Review of PNRP CDWSPA to identify scope of errors in mapping.</p> <p>Schedule 1 process to amend areas.</p>

	<p>Consultation with the relevant water supply authority about new or amended CDWSPA, and with landowners who will have a zone identified on their land.</p> <p>Review of new NES-DW (when gazetted) to assess consistency with PNRP. Propose changes to PNRP as necessary to give effect to NES-DW.</p>	
Components not included	None	
Previous and related work		
Summarise existing work that is relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GNS modelling for PNRP • PNRP Hearings on CDWSPA – s42A reports, decisions • TWT WIP recommendations under development 	
Summarise related work/interdependencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC1 – NPS NOF implementation 	
Examples from other councils or national strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not aware of any other RPS that implement specific (cf generic) CDWSPA 	
Next steps and tasks		
Summarise the key tasks to get to a draft plan change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESR modelling for CDWSPA for CDWS wells not identified in notified plan • Updating PNRP mapping of CDWSPA • Mapping NPS/NES/WIP requirements against existing plan to identify gaps and relationships • Developing policy and rule framework to implement WIP recommendations and to align rules with NES. New policy may be required in respect of aquifer protection in TWT, and amendments to existing rules in respect of excavation over aquifers in this Whaitua. • Engagement with stakeholders and landowners • Council to decide on PC content 	
Level of risk, uncertainty, and complexity		
Key risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverse response from landowners of new areas identified to be within a CDWSPA • Gazettal of NES-DW delayed 	<p>Overall risk level:</p> <p><i>Medium</i></p>
Key uncertainties	None	<p>Overall uncertainty level:</p> <p><i>Low</i></p>

Key responses to risks and uncertainties	Can anticipate NES-DW content.	
Planning - deliverables and milestones		
Scope of the work	To ensure that PNRP supports and implements policy and regulation relating to CDWS	
Target completion date	August 2022	
Budget requirements	GNS science advice costs – not huge	
Date and author	Barry Loe July 2021	

For Information

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Environment Committee (the Committee) concerning the Wellington Region's vulnerability to flooding and the Flood Risk Management Programme being jointly undertaken by the Flood Protection and Environmental Science departments, and the Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO) to improve our warning and response capability.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Flooding is considered New Zealand's number one hazard in terms of frequency, losses and declared civil defence emergencies estimated to have cost \$17 million a year in insurance payments and \$15 million in emergency management expenditure between 1968 and 2017.
3. This is no different in the Wellington Region where it is estimated that over 60,000 properties are within modelled flood hazard areas. The majority of our major towns are located on the floodplains of the region's major rivers including: Otaki, Waikanae, Porirua, the Hutt Valley, Wainuiomata, and the Wairarapa communities of Featherston, Carterton, Greytown and Masterton. In addition to this, there are significant areas of productive farmland that rely on flood hazard advice and warnings to enable them to continue operation.
4. A significant flood can result in:
 - a Loss of life either directly from flood waters or indirectly from debris, infection, etc.
 - b Significant damage to infrastructure such as roads and bridges
 - c Significant damage to homes and businesses
 - d Loss of stock and damage to agricultural assets
 - e Damage to riverside recreational and amenity assets
 - f Damage to flood protection assets
 - g Knock on impacts on the social fabric of communities including disruption, depopulation and heightened anxiety.

5. Flood risk is currently managed by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington), territorial authorities, and the WREMO. Greater Wellington's Flood Protection department (Flood Protection) has the mandate to deliver key flood risk management work on behalf of the region on certain watercourses.
6. Flood Protection manages flood risk for a number of the Region's most significant and high risk watercourses through a range of activities including: improving the understanding of flood risk through modelling and mapping programmes; maintaining flood protection through river management and asset maintenance; and by delivering new capital schemes to improve flood security.
7. Flood Protection currently use four main risk management techniques:
 - a **Planning controls** – Elimination of flood risk by preventing development in flood prone areas and reduction of risk through development advice. This is delivered by the Flood Protection department.
 - b **River management** – Reduction of risk through channel maintenance. This is delivered by the Flood Protection Operations team.
 - c **Engineering controls** – Reduction of risk through the construction of engineering flood defences such as stop banks or through allowing the river more room. This is delivered by the Flood Protection Implementation team.
 - d **Flood Warning & Response** – Reducing the risk, particularly the residual risk, through emergency readiness, response, and recovery procedures. This is delivered by a combination of Flood Protection, WREMO, and the Environmental Science department's Hydrology team.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

8. Flood Protection conducted a review of the existing arrangements for Flood Warning & Response which in 2019 concluded three key challenges:
 - a **Limited alignment in response procedures across Greater Wellington and WREMO:** Current procedures are not aligned and do not support an effective, regionally consistent emergency response.
 - b **Limited forecasting capability currently:** Greater Wellington has limited capability to provide flood warning across the region which will enable proactive emergency management.
 - c **Low level of risk awareness within communities:** Limited awareness within communities that have been identified as being at risk of flooding on what the risk is and how to respond.
9. To address the three key challenges, Greater Wellington partnered with WREMO to deliver the 'Flood Risk Management Programme' (FRM Programme). This programme commenced in 2019 with the goal to reduce the risk to life and damage to property from flooding through proactive emergency management. Our aim is to provide a step change in our approach to responding to major flood events anywhere in the region.
10. The objectives of the FRM Programme are to:

- a Establish a clear, consistent, cross agency response procedure to prepare, respond and recover from flood events.
 - b Establish a warning system that allows for proactive flood risk management by communities and emergency management.
 - c Build awareness in communities at risk of flooding to the risk they face and the actions they can take to protect themselves and their property.
11. This can be summarised as providing: *‘The right Information, in the right way, to the right people, at the right time.’*
12. The FRM programme supports the vision of Greater Wellington: ‘An extraordinary region, thriving environment, connected communities, resilient future’ and in particular supports these strategic priorities:
- a **Strong, prosperous and resilient communities** – providing flood warning and response to support all communities across the region.
 - b **Responding to the climate emergency** – by providing flexible and scalable flood warning and response procedures capable of adapting to a changing climate.
 - c **Building stronger partnerships and engagement** – with communities, local authorities and Civil Defence all who play a role in flood warning and response.
 - d **Striving for organisational excellence** – by developing an approach that is nation leading.
 - e **Communities safeguarded from major flooding** – by providing a regional flood warning and response service.
13. This programme also supports the delivery of the Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Plan 2019-2024 which is to create a ‘A resilient community: ready, capable and connected’.

The Programme

14. To deliver the required outcome the FRM Programme has been broken into four projects. Three of these projects have been developed to directly address the three key challenges described in paragraph 8. A fourth project was added as it was recognised that the physical gauging and monitoring infrastructure underpinning our ability to provide flood warnings required significant upgrades. Table 1 provides an overview of the programmes components. A summary of the programme is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Table 1 – Programme Components

Challenge	Project	Goal
Limited alignment in response procedures across Greater Wellington and WREMO	Flood Response	Review, update and alignment flood response procedures across key agencies.

Challenge	Project	Goal
Limited forecasting capability currently	Flood Warning	Improve Greater Wellington’s flood forecasting and warning capability
	Flood Monitoring Network Upgrade	Review and upgrade the flood monitoring network infrastructure to improve coverage and resilience.
Low level of risk awareness within communities	Flood Awareness	Raise community awareness of the risk posed by flooding.

Flood Response

15. The goal of this project is to produce clear, consistent procedures for managing a flood event on any watercourse managed by Greater Wellington. Procedures will be scalable to any event, and will provide the same outcomes regardless of duty officer. Procedures will provide a clear decision making framework and enable timely communications between agencies involved in flood response.
16. Through a series of joint workshops, facilitated by experts from the United Kingdom, that brought together officers from Environmental Science, Flood Protection, and WREMO new scalable flood response procedures have been developed that provide a regional coordination and communication framework to support a proactive response. Links have been made to the wider organisation to build relationships with Information Communications and Technology (ICT), Human Resources, and the Customer Contact Centre.
17. Figure 5 displays the event stages considered in the new procedures.

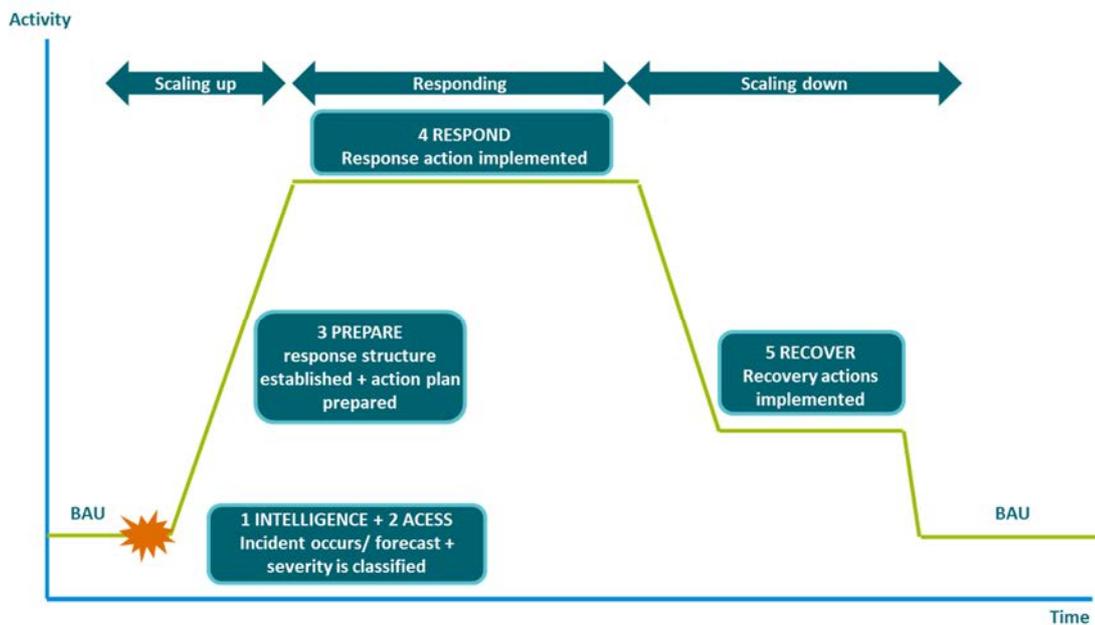


Figure 1 – Flood Event Stages

18. The Flood Response project is now moving into the next phase which is:
- a Providing training for all duty officers in the new procedures ahead of the proposed go live date of 1 October 2021.
 - b Developing training for support officers and the Greater Wellington Crisis Management Team (CMT) to provide support for the core duty officers during an event.
 - c Review and update of all catchment specific procedures including trigger levels, return periods, communication points, and flood impacts.
 - d Development of supporting procedures including duty officer payments, reporting protocols, key messages and briefing information for Customer Contact Centres.
 - e Developing exercises to test the procedures and systems developed, including working with WREMO to develop a regional flood exercise.

Flood Warning

19. The goal of this project is to establish a pre-emptive warning system for every catchment managed by Greater Wellington where people and property are at risk. Warning systems must provide useable degrees of confidence and provide enough time for proactive response actions to take place.
20. The first stage has, with the support of international experts, prepared a strategy for developing our flood forecasting capability which is critical for providing effective flood warning. The strategy identified the need for a flood forecasting platform to operationalise Greater Wellington's existing models and allow the integration of future models.

Flood Monitoring Network Upgrade

21. To support the gains made through the Flood Response and Flood Warning projects an additional work stream has been initiated to assess and improve the Flood Monitoring Network (the Network)
22. The condition of Greater Wellington's flood monitoring network has deteriorated over time due to lack of maintenance and repair, attributable to resourcing constraints over many years. At a number of sites there is no longer the ability to measure flow under flood conditions. This means that there is low confidence in estimating the magnitude of large flood flows. This puts downstream communities at risk.
23. In response Flood Protection and Environmental Science have established a joint programme associated with the Flood Risk Management programme to deliver a five year programme of work to improve Greater Wellington's ability to measure water levels and flow across the region. The goals of this programme are to:
 - a Provide, upgrade or repair infrastructure at key sites to enable gauging of high flows to be undertaken in a safe and technically acceptable manner
 - b Obtain specialist technical equipment to facilitate gauging (i.e. cameras, motorised travellers, acoustic doppler current profiler etc.)
 - c Improve the resilience of the network at critical flood management sites
24. A business case and delivery plan is currently being produced for this programme. This will be presented to the Committee in a future paper.

Flood Awareness

25. To support improvements in flood response and warning it is recognised that an increased level of awareness from the community is also required. The Flood Awareness project seeks to raise the level of risk awareness in the community so that they are able to act on the receipt of a flood warning message to protect life and property.
26. The aims of this project is to align the work programmes of WREMO and Greater Wellington to deliver community awareness programmes, utilising Greater Wellington's technical knowledge and WREMO's expertise in community resilience.
27. This project has so far delivered a set of aligned key messages for use by all parties before during and after a flood event and is now working to turn those key messages into collaterals for use at community events. The key messages are included in **Attachment 2**

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

28. Flood Protection has so far invested \$250,000 across the three core projects and are proposing continued investment for the coming financial year including:
 - a Approximately \$200,000 in finalising the procedures as well as training and exercising Duty Officers
 - b Approximately \$200,000 in improving flood forecasting capability
 - c Approximately \$60,000 in developing community flood awareness material

This is allowed for within the current Long Term Plan budgets.

29. Flood Protection and Environmental Science are also combining budgets to provide for a five year regional improvements programme in the flood monitoring network. These budgets again are in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

30. Adapting to a changing climate is at the heart of this programme. Climate change is predicted to significantly impact the frequency and severity of flooding from rivers and streams. There is sufficient certainty that climate change will cause an increase in flooding due to more extreme rainfall. These increases will make it harder for infrastructure solutions managing flood risk to keep pace, placing a heavier reliance on forecasting and warning systems to reduce the loss of life.
31. The Flood Response project will provide a scalable, flexible response which will be able to adapt with increasing rainfall intensity and changing weather patterns.
32. The Flood Warning project will provide a flexible platform and series of forecasting models that will be able to adapt over time to increasing rainfall intensity and changing weather patterns.
33. The Flood Awareness project will provide flood awareness messaging that is applicable to those areas impacted by sea-level rise and climate change.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

34. Flood Protection recognises that such a step change in warning and response capability will take time to develop, mature and embed. We are targeting a 'go live' date in October 2021 for the new procedures and a longer period of upgrades for both the flood forecasting and gauging network infrastructure.
35. We are working to incorporate as much of the new procedures and improvements in our current ways of working including building stronger links with WREMO and working to raise the profile of this critical service within Council.
36. The next steps for each of the projects in the programme are as follows.

Flood Response

37. Providing training for all duty officers in the new procedures ahead of the proposed go live date of 1 October 2021.
38. Developing training for support officers and CMT to provide support for the core duty officers during an event.
39. Review and update of all catchment specific procedures including trigger levels, return periods, communication points, and flood impacts.
40. Development of supporting procedures including duty officer payments, reporting protocols, key messages and briefing information for Customer Contact Centres.

41. Developing exercises to test the procedures and systems developed, including working with WREMO to develop a regional flood exercise.

Flood Warning

42. Develop jointly with ICT a flood forecasting platform to have in place by the end of this financial year.
43. Conduct a catchment assessment of each of Greater Wellington’s managed catchments and identify a specific flood forecasting approach for each and procure the first flood forecasting model.
44. Develop a regional flood forecast model to provide early warnings.
45. Work with the Wairarapa community to develop a text based warning system to replace the phone trees currently in operation.

Flood Monitoring Network Upgrade

46. Develop and gain approval of the improvements programme and commence implementation.

Flood Awareness

47. Work with WREMO to develop basic flood awareness collateral both in print and digitally.
48. Develop a longer term campaign for preparedness messaging.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachments

Number	Title
1	Flood Risk Management Programme One-pager
2	Flood Awareness Key Messages

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writer	Andy Brown – Team Leader Investigations, Strategy and Planning, Flood Protection
Approvers	Graeme Campbell – Manager Flood Protection Wayne O’Donnell – General Manager Catchment Management

**He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga
Summary of considerations**

Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference

The subject of this paper aligns to the Environment Committee's overview of flood protection and regional resilience responsibilities.

Implications for Māori

There are no known impacts for Māori through the delivery of the programme but the outcomes will provide benefits for the entire region.

Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies

The FRM programme supports the vision of Greater Wellington: 'An extraordinary region, thriving environment, connected communities, resilient future' and in particular supports these strategic priorities:

- **Strong, prosperous and resilient Māori communities** – providing flood warning and response to support all communities including Māori communities across the region.
- **Responding to the climate emergency** – by providing flexible and scalable flood warning and response procedures capable of adapting to a changing climate.
- **Building stronger partnerships and engagement** – with communities, local authorities and Civil Defence all who play a role in flood warning and response.
- **Striving for organisational excellence** – by developing an approach that is nation leading.
- **Communities safeguarded from major flooding** – by providing a regional flood warning and response service.

This programme also supports the delivery of the Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Plan 2019-2024 which is to create a 'A resilient community: ready, capable and connected'.

Internal consultation

The following internal teams have been consulted.

- Legal and Procurement
- ICT
- Customer Engagement
- Environment Group
- CMT
- WREMO

Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.

The programme presented in this paper is aiming to reduce the safety and legal risk to GW by improving flood warning and response and providing a step change in our ability to respond to significant flooding.

Flood Risk Management Programme

Our Goal – Reduce the risk to life and damage to property from flooding through proactive emergency management – providing the right information, in the right way, to the right people, at the right time.'



The Problem

Flooding is considered New Zealand's number one hazard. In the Wellington Region a number of the key urban areas are considered to be at risk of flooding including the Hutt Valley, Masterton, Greytown and communities on the Kāpiti Coast.

Flooding causes damage to property and risk to life. It also disrupts transport and travel and presents a public health risk through contamination.



Our Challenge

- Low level of risk awareness within communities;** limited awareness within communities that have been identified as being at risk of flooding and what the risk is and how to respond.
- Limited forecasting capability, currently;** GWRC has limited capability to provide flood forecast warning across the region to enable proactive emergency management.
- Limited alignment in response procedures across GWRC and WREMO;** current procedures have limited alignment and as a consequence do not support an effective, regionally consistent emergency response.



Our Response

WREMO and GW have teamed up to deliver a programme of work to address the challenges.

- Flood Awareness** – Raise flood risk awareness in communities across the region.
- Flood Warning** – investigate flood forecast modelling and develop scopes for implementation.
- Flood Response** – Review and update operational response procedures across WREMO, hydrology and flood protection.



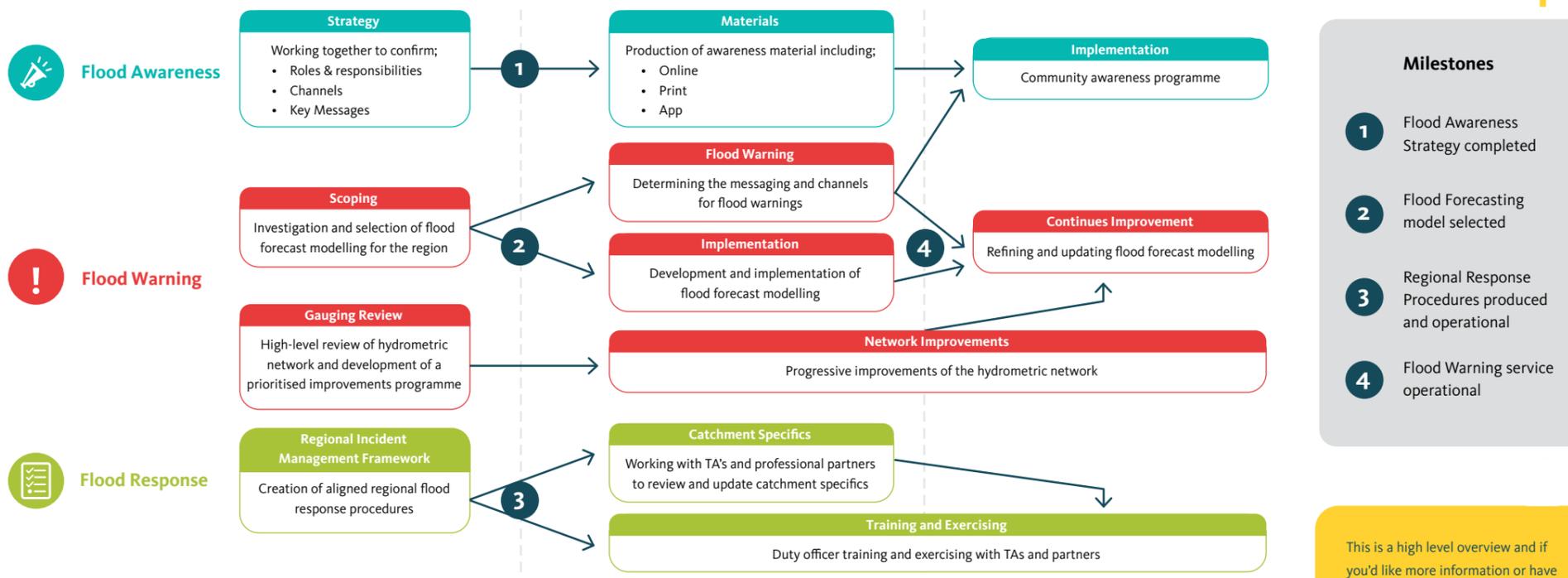
The Programme

In the current financial year (Jul 19 – Jun 20) we are establishing longer term work programmes and strategies to progressively improve our community awareness, warning, and response capabilities. In subsequent years we will be looking to work with each of the Territorial Authorities on catchment specific responses. Alongside this we will be exercising our updated procedures through scenario based workshops, implementing the flood forecasting system, and delivering community awareness programmes.

GW is responsible for a number of the Region's major rivers. Some of the smaller streams are managed by local authorities. This programme supports GW's management of flood risk across the region by managing a hydrometric gauging network, assessing and modelling flood hazard and constructing and maintaining flood defences. This programme has been established to progressively improve our community awareness, warning, and response capabilities.



Stage	Business as usual	Warning	Response	Recovery
GWRC	Maintaining stop banks, developing flood hazard models etc.	Monitoring water levels and providing warnings and forecasts	Providing technical advice to responders. Gathering data and monitoring flood defences.	Repairing flood defences and gauging infrastructure
WREMO/Civil Defence	Building community awareness and resilience	Preparing to respond	Leading the response	Assisting recovery



- ### Milestones
- 1 Flood Awareness Strategy completed
 - 2 Flood Forecasting model selected
 - 3 Regional Response Procedures produced and operational
 - 4 Flood Warning service operational

This is a high level overview and if you'd like more information or have a suggestion please contact

Raising flood awareness in the Wellington Region

Key Messages Report



Key Messages Report

Prepared for: Greater Wellington Regional Council (in collaboration with Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office)

Prepared by: Tonkin + Taylor Ltd (in collaboration with RAB Consultants and Translate Digital)

Date: February 2021

Raising flood awareness in the Wellington Region

Applicability: This report has been prepared for the exclusive use of our client Greater Wellington Regional Council, with respect to the particular brief given to us and it may not be relied upon in other contexts or for any other purpose, or by any person other than our client, without our prior written agreement.

Tonkin + Taylor Ltd



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Abbreviations and acronyms

CDEM	Civil Defence Emergency Management
FCES	Flood Awareness Communication and Engagement Strategy
GWRC	Greater Wellington Regional Council
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
TA	Territorial Authority
T+T	Tonkin + Taylor
WREMO	Wellington Region Emergency Management Office

1. Part One: Background

1.1 Introduction

Flooding is considered New Zealand's number one hazard. In the Wellington Region, a number of the key urban and rural areas are considered to be at risk of flooding. Flooding causes damage to property and risk to life. It also disrupts transport and travel and presents a public health risk through contamination. As the climate changes and extreme weather events and natural disasters become more common, the public will need to have a greater awareness of what risks they face, and how they can prepare and plan for these.

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC), in partnership with the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) has engaged Tonkin + Taylor (T+T) with the support of RAB Consultants and Translate Digital to identify ways to raise flood risk awareness in communities across the region. The overall long-term objective of the project is to establish fully flood risk aware communities, who are able to act in a flood event to protect life and property. This aligns to both GWRC's 10 year plan (2015-2025) for community outcome, and the Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan (2019-2024) group vision, of creating a resilient community.

This Key Messages Report is to be used in the Wellington Region as part of a long-term integrated Flood Awareness Communication and Engagement Strategy (FCES), outlining the fundamental elements we want people within the Wellington Region to know about in relation to flood risk. These messages extend across basic awareness all the way through to recovering from a flood event. The key messages outlined here are designed to be incorporated into the overall long-term communications and engagement strategy, to ensure that communities effectively develop the knowledge they need to be ready for, respond to, and recover from a flood event.

The key messaging has been developed through a literature review and research of local and international examples and best practise, and collaborative workshops with GWRC and WREMO staff. As consistency is critical to the effectiveness of key messaging, it has been aligned to NEMA's document, "Working from the same page: consistent messages for CDEM", and subsequently is divided into the four categories of awareness, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Key messages relating to the flood warnings have not been developed, but will be integrated once completed as part of a separate GWRC program of works.

Our communities need to understand and be fully prepared for the flood risks that they face; not just at home but through work and school, and as part of their wider communities. Messaging needs to address all members within a household and community including: young, old, male and female, with differing abilities or limitations, and also the animals in their care. The dual aim in developing each message has been to spark people's thinking and provide a call to action - asking them to consider flood risks as a concept, then to do something about it, every step of the way.



“There’s a simple rule: You say it again, and then again and again and again and again, and about the time that you’re absolutely sick of saying it is about the time that your target audience has heard it for the first time.” – Frank Luntz

1.2 What are key messages, and why use them?

Key messages make up the central, common elements of a subject. Their purpose is to ensure that key points are conveyed consistently, even when they are going out to different groups of people or stakeholders. Creating a set of clear, consistent key messages is critical to convey information to the public effectively. If key messages contradict themselves, are inconsistent, or unclear, people find them confusing, which may result in stakeholders paying less attention to messages, distrusting them, and not taking action.

To be most effective, key messages need to be straightforward, with a small number of steps and/or guidance that is easy to remember, and they need to emphasise positive action. The subject matter expert teams from GWRC and WREMO assessing examples of local and international campaigns as part of the workshop informing these messages were quick to discount those messages that had too much detail as being too difficult to follow; members of the public would do so even faster. Outside of a disaster, people are busy in their day-to-day lives and have limited time and energy to think about and prepare for something that may not happen. Once a disaster strikes, they are likely to be operating under extreme stress, with no capacity to take on board complex, detailed information.

Example of consistent, coordinated messaging

The November 2020 flood event in Napier demonstrated a good example of a multi-agency approach, working together to ensure information was consistent when shared with the public across communication platforms. In social media throughout the emergency response, posts were shared across the Hawke’s Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, Napier City Council, Hawke’s Bay Regional Council, Hawke’s Bay Fire, and Hawke’s Bay DHB. This allowed for areas of responsibility to be maintained by each organisation and ensured that the messaging presented to the public was accurate, authoritative, consistent, and distributed as widely as possible.

Key messages were focussed post-event across response and recovery as follows:

- Where to go for support
- Safety of drinking water
- Need to minimise household wastewater while wastewater systems recovered
- Power outage updates
- Contamination risks - of flood waters, to food, to local shellfish populations, to property that has come into contact with flood waters, the need to stay out of flood water
- Ways to access the emergency Mayoral Relief Fund
- Pathways for volunteers to help with clean up
- Rubbish disposal for flood damaged items, and how to get replacement recycling crates and wheelie bins that

had been lost

- Returning home after a flood - keeping safe, and how to clean up
- Roadblocks and hazardous areas to avoid

1.3 Using the key messages

1.3.1 Structure of the messages

The key messaging presented here has, for consistency, been aligned to NEMA’s document, “Working from the same page: consistent messages for CDEM”. It is divided into the four categories of awareness, preparedness, response, and recovery. There is a degree of overlap between the categories; in particular, preparedness messaging could equally or conjointly be delivered as part of awareness-raising activities. There is also a fifth category, for use when flood events happen elsewhere in New Zealand, captured under the heading “following a flood elsewhere”. This category contains messaging that can be used to leverage off a recent flood event to raise awareness of floods as a hazard within the Wellington Region; other awareness and preparedness key messaging can also be used for this purpose. Where possible, key messages from other local and international campaigns demonstrating best practise have been incorporated, or elements of these have been adapted to the context of this project, as these have proven effectiveness.

Each key message outlined in Part Two below is accompanied by a brief explanation of why it has been selected, along with any supporting messaging that will further inform or develop it, and, where necessary, extra validation that might be needed or other factors to consider prior to communication.

1.3.2 Selecting and adapting key messages

The key messages presented here are designed to underpin any communications with the public and community engagement activities; they are focused on what we most want the public to understand at each stage.

They are intended for all members of the public: individuals, households, and families, living and working in an urban environment, or rurally. However, within the Wellington Region, there is wide variation between communities: some rural populations are relatively self-sufficient compared to urban communities. Examples of community variations that may affect communication and delivery includes: the Waiwhetu has a high proportion of investment properties, and a landscape which includes both industrial and coastal areas; Porirua’s population is 62% Samoan, and a forthcoming refugee resettlement project in the Wairarapa will lead to a larger population of people with lower levels of English literacy and comprehension in that area. With this degree of variance across communities, messaging will need to be adapted to suit the needs of the local population.

Messaging may also need to be adapted to reflect the wider environment, for example if a flood has recently happened



Image from Shutterstock

and people have responded well or poorly to the messaging. Currently, with a large volume of messaging over an extended period of time around COVID-19, there is a public sense of fatigue around messaging and consequent demotivation to follow recommended behaviours. With a lower public acceptance of directive messaging, several key messages (Key Message 3 and Key Message 6) have been adapted by reframing as questions instead of statements. As the climate changes again post-COVID-19, these messages could be used in their own right.

Adapting key messages: An example

Following the November 2020 Napier flood event, many people had flood-damaged property which needed to be disposed of. Initial messaging was targeted at those affected, advising that:

- Rubbish and recycling would be collected, but for safety reasons and to prevent wake damage, trucks would not enter surface water
- Those that missed collections because of that issue would be added later
- Those that lost recycling crates and wheelie bins should check their neighbourhood where safe to do so, and try to rehome any they saw with address stickers
- Any completely lost recycling crates and wheelie bins would be replaced
- Flood-affected household waste (including garden waste) could be disposed of at the local transfer station at no cost

With residents bringing large volumes of rubbish to the identified local station, a second group of stakeholders was identified and messaging provided to commercial waste collection operators to advise them to divert waste to a different location.

Subsequent messaging was then added, to target unaffected portions of the community, advising that:

- Some people had been wetting their normal general waste to try and take advantage of the free dumping; standard charges would apply to non-flood-affected waste
- People should refrain from looting flood-affected kerbside rubbish as this was contaminated and source of germs

All of the above messages speak to how to deal with rubbish in the aftermath of an event, but have been adapted to suit the specific groups of people identified. Affected residents and businesses could likely have been identified either in advance of or early on in an actual flood event, with a planned response and adapted messaging ready to go as people hit the recovery phase. However, even in a response environment, the key to successful messaging is remaining open and agile to what is actually happening; in this case, as a result, the Council was able to recognise a previously unidentified group of people and adapt key messaging to suit.

1.3.3 Tie-in to the communication and engagement strategy

These key messages are a central component of the wider Flood Awareness Communication and Engagement Strategy (FCES) which sets out how and when the messages below should be delivered. The FCES outlines the overall strategy for establishing fully flood risk aware communities, who are able to act in a flood event to protect life and property raising. It provides campaign outlines for each of the four stages of awareness, preparedness, response, and recovery; these are divided into three elements:

- A series of campaigns focussed on delivering awareness and preparedness key messages, designed to build public readiness for flood events over time
- Stand-alone response and recovery campaigns, designed to be delivered as-needed
- A ‘reactive’ campaign, designed to maximise public responsiveness when a flood event happens elsewhere in New Zealand, that can be slotted into the main campaign series and adapted to either awareness or preparedness messaging depending on overlap with an existing campaign

Every campaign within the FCES centres around one of the key messages outlined here. Proposed campaign messaging will still need to be adapted to suit local communities, as discussed above.

1.3.4 Review of messaging

For any type of programme that runs over multiple years, best practice is to regularly review key messages and ensure that these are still fit for purpose, making refinements or adjustments as needed. As the FCES is designed to run over a decade, it is recommended that the key messages be reviewed every 1–2 years, through a process of:

- Reviewing metrics to confirm uptake of messaging and campaigns
- Receiving feedback from those delivering messaging through community engagement activities
- Receiving feedback from key stakeholders, including GWRC and WREMO staff
- Reviewing against any updated information about flood risks in Wellington, or changes in best practice for flood response
- Collaborative workshoping with key stakeholders from GWRC and WREMO to ensure any changes are in line with current strategic priorities

Ideally, key messages would also be reviewed as part of a debrief after a significant flood event or engagement exercise to capture effectiveness and make any necessary adjustments immediately, rather than wait for a review period.

2. Part Two: Key messages

2.1 Summary of key messages

The below table summarises all key messages; where an alternative message is also provided, it has been included in italics directly below the relevant initial key message. The table also identifies at which phase of a flood event they should be used; Within each key message section, this has been denoted with coloured circles corresponding to the table below, with the main phase a message would be used in displayed first.

Message	Page	Before	During	After
Awareness key messages				
Floods happen here				
Do you know your river?				
Know your flood risk <i>Are you in a flood zone? Assess your risks where you live, work, and play.</i>				
Preparedness key messages				
How to get information during a flood event <i>How will you get information during a flood?</i>				
Floods happen. Do you know what to do?				
Protect your property from floods <i>How will you protect your property in a flood? Find out more.</i>				
Give the river room				
Response key messages				
Flooding is likely - be ready to act quickly				
A flood is likely - be ready to evacuate <i>A flood is about to happen. It's time to evacuate.</i>				
Turn around, don't drown				
Recovery key messages				
Returning home after a flood? Make it safe.				
Following a flood elsewhere				
Floods happen. Are you at risk too?				
Floods happen. Are you prepared?				
Floods are NZ's #1 natural emergency hazard - find out if you're at risk				



2.2 Awareness key messages

Awareness key messaging will raise community awareness of flooding risk, and prompt thinking about the need for an individual to check their personal risk from a flood event. The better an individual, a household, and communities can understand flood risk, the greater the resilience will be of our communities.

The outcomes of awareness key messaging will be that people within the Wellington Region will know:

- Flooding has happened and will continue to happen across the Wellington region
- Where to find general flood risk and flood event information (such as a [website details] online platform)
- Where to find flood risk information specific to their individual situation

● Key message: Floods happen here

Developed through the workshoping process with reference back to international examples, “here” has been included to localise the issue. “Here” could also be substituted with actual locations or place names to highlight flood risk in specific areas. This messaging might form part of early awareness-raising campaigns, inviting the public to share their flood stories and images using a tool such as social pinpoint. Material collated that way could then be used with this messaging, either digitally as part of local story maps that might be accessible via QR codes as part of self-guided storytelling pathways alongside a river, or as printed signage with “you are here” markers overlaid onto flood photographs.

● Key message: Do you know your river? Give the river room.

This message aims to really localise flood awareness,

enabling floods as a concept to be tied back to specific rivers and their particular characteristics. It allows the positive aspects of the river as an amenity/community asset to be highlighted, but also that it can be a hazard, posing a potential flood risk for those that live nearby. This could in part be achieved by highlighting historic flood events involving the local river. It encourages people to be fully aware of the complexities of their local river and stay informed around how it is behaving. This messaging might be used as part of an interactive campaign where members of the public are invited to share stories and/or photos of their local river and use storytelling to build awareness of river flooding in a local context.

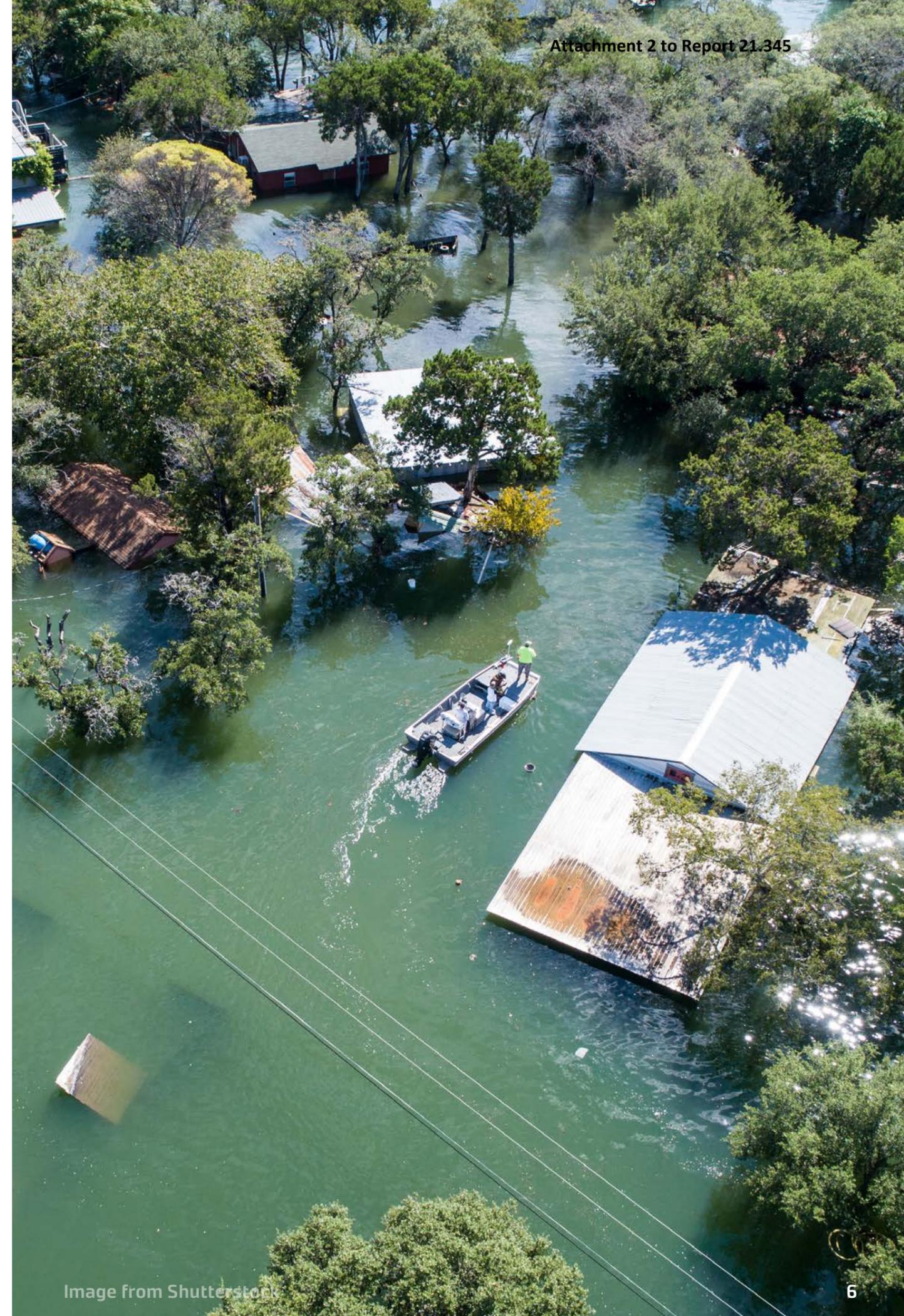
● Key message: Know your flood risk

This message pinpoints exactly what the public should understand as part of awareness campaigns. It is adapted from several international examples (“Know your flood alerts” and “Learn about your flood risk”), based on GWRC/WREMO workshop feedback. In the immediate post-COVID-19 context, it could be reframed as:

Are you in a flood zone? Assess your risks where you live, work, and play.

The best chance of engaging people is to highlight what’s important to them; people are more likely to care about the things that will impact them personally, so this message highlights the places that are of importance to most people. The message could be used as a standalone call to action, or in conjunction with the supporting messages below, as part of a digital awareness campaign potentially targeting specific catchment areas.

Supporting messages	Example of use
Check your flood risk!	This supporting message prompts action, and could be used either as part of physical outreach materials showing local flood risks, or as a ‘click here’ social media ad that would send members of the public directly to relevant information about their local flood risk.
Understand how flood risk levels are developed	For some members of the community, understanding in more detail how authorities and experts have determined levels of flood risk will be important. Compiling information to support this will be key to engaging this group of people. This information could be presented not only as part of the web-based application, but also, for example, as part of background information leaflets that are provided as part of community information evenings, or a follow up email to an interested member of the public .
Area-specific messaging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know your local landscape - are you in a flood plain? • Know your hazards: how close are you to rivers, the coastline, dykes, reservoirs, pipelines, and stormwater drainage? • Find out how climate change could impact your area 	While rivers are a big source of flood risk for many people, some may be at risk of flooding from other sources. The three different messages here might again accompany digital advertising or a social media post of the main key message to prompt people to click through to the web-based application and find out more about whether they are in a flood zone generally, or more specific flood risks. They could also be utilised at community events or information evenings, either with digital or printed maps overlaying different risk elements.
Property-specific messaging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a new home? Check your flood risk • Buying a new home? Check your flood risk • Moving home? Check your flood risk 	The three messages here support the basic concept of knowing your flood risk but within the specific context of people moving throughout the region. They could be used as part of digital advertising that pops up with a link to the web-based application when someone has been searching for rental properties or properties for sale within specific areas of Wellington, or could be included as part of physical supporting materials provided to members of the public through either via a third party or as part of planned activities such as attendance at home & lifestyle expos or first home buyers information evenings.



2.3 Preparedness key messages

The purpose of preparedness messaging is to support community readiness for flooding, ahead of a flood event. As a result of preparedness messaging, and individual should be planning activities to reduce their risk and support their response during a flood event through learning appropriate skills (such as planning evacuation routes) and storing emergency provisions.

The outcomes of preparedness messaging for people within the Wellington Region will be that people know:

- Where to go for information about flooding
- What to do to prepare for a flood event

Referring back to NEMA's document, "Working from the same page: consistent messages for CDEM", there is overlap in preparedness for floods and preparedness for other hazards, especially around planning communications strategies for households, emergency survival kits, and getaway kits/grab and go bags.

● Key message: How to get information during a flood event

This concept was identified by GWRC/WREMO as important for communities to know ahead of flood events.

If an individual took no other action to prepare for a flood ahead of a flood event, knowing where to access the right information in an emergency should enable them to take appropriate action in an emergency situation. To better connect with people, this could be reframed as a question instead:

How will you get information during a flood?

● Key message: Floods happen. Do you know what to do?

This message ties back to the awareness message of "floods happen here" for consistency across different campaign phases. "Do you know what to do?" is adapted from a UK Environment Agency example, "Would you know what to do in a flood?" to be more direct and concise. It could be used as a call to action in its own right, or supported by some of the messaging below.

● Key message: Protect your property from floods

This messaging could be incorporated into the other preparedness messaging, however, there are a range of specific measures that people could undertake to prepare their physical property - including home or business, personal possessions, furnishings, and stock/inventory, from flood damage. In the immediate post-COVID-19 context, it could be reframed as:

How will you protect your property in a flood? Find out more.

The message could be used as a standalone call to action, driving people to the web-based app, or in conjunction with the supporting messages below, for example as part of community-based activities where more detailed or specific information is needed. The messaging could be adapted to specific property types, for example for focused campaigns encouraging small business owners to check their property insurance and develop business continuity plans.

Supporting messages	Example of use
<p>Get prepared for floods!</p>	<p>As with 'Check your flood risk!' in the Awareness supporting messages, this supporting message prompts action, and could be used either as part of physical outreach materials showing local flood risks, or as a 'click here' social media ad that would send members of the public directly to relevant information about their local flood risk.</p>
<p>Specific flood preparation activity messaging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up to the [website details] for flood hazard information • Plan your evacuation route • Have an emergency plan • Prepare emergency survival items • Have a getaway kit/grab and go bag ready for emergencies 	<p>This more detailed messaging must be consistent with other agencies, including NEMA; with the last three points consistent across different types of emergency. To ensure consistency, these messages should be reviewed against the most current version of NEMA's consistent messages for CDEM document at time of use. The aim of providing extra detail is to give the public the information they need to actively prepare for the flood risks that they might face. These messages could be incorporated as part of a section of the web-based app focused on preparation, included as part of school-based educational activities, community-based preparation/resilience building activities. Each bullet point might need further information to support it in the context in which it is used, for example step-by-step guidance on planning an evacuation route, which might be delivered as community activities, or turned into an interactive digital plan builder like Fire and Emergency New Zealand's 'Escape my house'.</p> <p>Checklists of key preparation activities could be provided digitally or in print as part of a campaign, potentially adapted to suit different contexts such as schools and businesses, based off a general list such as the example below. Example checklist</p> <p>Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How you will communicate with your family in an emergency • If a flood happens and you and your family can't all get home, pick a place where you can meet • The best evacuation routes for yourself, your family, and your pets in the event of a flood • How best to protect your property in a flood event <p>Do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up for information on flood hazards in the Wellington region • Prepare emergency survival items for yourself, your family, and your pets - enough food and water to last three days in an emergency • Prepare a getaway kit/grab bag - including a map of your evacuation routes, a first aid kit and any regular medication you might need • Keep copies of important documents and contact information for your accounts somewhere easy to access, so you can pick them up and go <p>Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a flood is likely, take steps to secure your property • In the event of a flood, be ready to go • During a flood, follow the advice of local officials if you need to evacuate. They will direct you to the safest route, as some roads may be blocked or put you in further danger.

Supporting messages	Example of use
<p>Additional information for specific property types</p> <p>For everyone, extra information to protect property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a plan to prepare your property if a flood is likely • How to flood proof your property to prevent damage <p>Messaging for homeowners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that your house and contents insurance covers flood events <p>Messaging for rental properties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that your contents insurance covers flood events • Renters' legal rights for protecting property in the event of a flood • Owners' responsibilities for flood proofing • Owners' responsibilities to provide support in the event of a flood <p>Messaging for business owners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that your business insurance covers flood events • Develop a continuity plan for your business 	<p>This more detailed messaging must be consistent with other agencies, including NEMA; providing specific actions for people to undertake depending on what type of property they need to protect. To ensure consistency, these messages should be reviewed against the most current version of NEMA's consistent messages for CDEM document at time of use.</p> <p>These messages could be incorporated as part of a section of the web-based app focused on preparation, included as part of school-based educational activities, community-based preparation/resilience building activities. Each bullet point might need further information to support it in the context in which it is used, for example step-by-step guidance on developing a plan for protecting property during a flood event, which might be delivered as community activities, or turned into an interactive digital plan builder like Fire and Emergency New Zealand's 'Escape my house'.</p>

● Key message: Give the river room

This message supports the concept of reducing flood risk through planned use of the space surrounding rivers, for example, by limiting urban development near rivers to allow for changes in flow. The message asks members of the public to think about the longer term impacts of undertaking development within the wider boundaries of a river, and potentially to think at a community level about how their local environment as a whole is treated and used as a resource. It could also be used to spark a wider public dialogue around the benefits and disadvantages of various river management techniques, for example planting, stop banks, and flood drains, as well as Mātauranga Māori concepts of water management.

With communities beginning to plan strategies for adapting to climate change, this message is likely to be of increasing importance, and therefore also more likely to capture public attention.



2.4 Response key messages

Response messaging is aimed at helping people respond quickly and appropriately in the event of a flood event. The messages below will be updated following further work on the Flood Warning systems. The outcomes of the messaging below will mean that Wellington Region residents will know:

- What to do in a flood event
- How to stay informed during the various phases of a flood event
- Where to go in a flood event (evacuation)?
- Where to get assistance during a flood event

The supporting messages for this section could be developed and distributed as outreach materials as part of preparedness activities, so that people have the relevant information on hand already, ahead of any actual flood event.

● Key message: Flooding is likely - be ready to act quickly

The purpose of this message is to get people ready to act in the event that flooding seems likely. “Be ready to act quickly” comes directly from NEMA’s document, “Working from the same page: consistent messages for CDEM”. This could be sent out as a targeted social media post, or local radio announcement in the event that flooding is predicted in a specific area.

Supporting messages	Example of use
<p>What should you be doing now? Specific supporting information about actions people should undertake:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The likelihood that flooding would occur (communicated in a way that is meaningful to an average member of the public) • Which areas are likely to be impacted • How to stay up to date about the potential flood/where to get information about the potential flood (whether by continuing to check the web app, or a specific radio frequency to tune into, or both) <p>Who to contact if help is needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuation locations / Community Emergency Hubs and information about how to know when to leave • Emergency response • How to know when to evacuate • Any other actions to take based on the current situation 	<p>This is information that people need to know to stay up to date and ready to respond to a potential flood event. As such, it could be communicated via news media, and stakeholder social media channels. With enough advance warning of a potential flood, information could be distributed as physical outreach materials to those communities most likely to be impacted by the projected event, either to letterboxes or as a door-to-door activity depending on the predicted likelihood and severity of the event, and staffing availability.</p>

● Key message: A flood is likely - be ready to evacuate

This messaging focuses on communities that are likely to be impacted by a flood, and could be distributed through targeted social media posting and local radio. It ties back to the previous message through the repeated use of “be ready”.

If the situation changes to one where people must evacuate, the message could be upgraded to the following:

A flood is about to happen. It’s time to evacuate.

Supporting messages	Example of use
<p>Evacuation-specific information General messages appropriate for all evacuees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about how to know when to leave • If advised by authorities/officials to evacuate, do so without delay • Leave early enough to avoid becoming trapped in by the flood • Follow recommended evacuation routes, as alternatives may be blocked by floodwater • If possible, evacuate by foot - leave vehicles to those who need them most <p>What to do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (If there’s time) Secure your property: board up doors and windows, secure outdoor items, move valuable possessions as high as possible • Turn off water, electricity and gas before you leave <p>Take:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your getaway/grab and go bag • Your pets • Important documents <p>Location-specific messages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access routes if there are known best routes or known blocked routes • Evacuation locations / Community Emergency Hubs <p>Additional messaging for rural locations: Consider evacuating animals early - waiting until the last minute could be fatal for them and dangerous for you.</p>	<p>These are the messages that people will need in order to be able to evacuate safely. Messaging could be distributed via targeted social media, radio, and news broadcast.</p> <p>Some of this information is quite general and could be prepared for use anywhere across the Wellington Region, but other messaging will need to be adapted to suit the specific location and context, as is the case with access routes and evacuation locations.</p> <p>Access routes could be predicted ahead of time based on modelling to allow for some content to be developed, however, would need to be verified in the event of an actual flood.</p> <p>Messaging could be promoted via stakeholder social media and news media.</p>

● Key message: Turn around, don’t drown

This message is short and simple, and has been used effectively in campaigns overseas, particularly America. In the event of a flood, it seems likely that some people might try to wade or drive through flood water. This short statement is something that could be communicated easily via multiple channels including social media and news media with supporting messaging. As evacuation on foot is encouraged within the Wellington Region, it will be necessary to adapt and develop materials that support this message for both pedestrian and vehicular contexts.

Supporting messages	Example of use
<p>Flood waters are dangerous General messages appropriate for all members of the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid flooded areas • If you come to a flooded area, turn around and go another way • Going through flood water can be dangerous - you could be at risk of electrocution, or encounter hidden obstacles • If you can’t see through the water, don’t go through - you never know what might be in there, or how deep the water may go <p>Messages for drivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not attempt to drive around barricades - they are there for your safety • Do not attempt to drive through any flowing water, or use water-covered roads or bridges • If your car stalls, leave it behind and move to higher ground - a car can be replaced, you can’t • Waves from cars push flood water into homes. Avoid driving <p>Messages for pedestrians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not attempt to wade or swim through flood waters • If it’s moving swiftly, just 15cm of water can be enough to sweep you off your feet • Do not attempt to raft, paddle, or boat through flood waters • Flood water may contain raw sewage and other bugs that could make you sick 	<p>This more detailed messaging must be consistent with other agencies, including NEMA; providing additional detail on the dangers of entering flood water to reinforce the key message. The messaging provided here is consistent as at time of writing, however, these messages should be reviewed against the most current version of NEMA’s consistent messages for CDEM document at time of use. This messaging also reflects information contained in local and international examples of best practice.</p> <p>Depending on the context of the flood, it may only be necessary to draw on one or two key bullet points to communicate risks for a given scenario. This messaging could also be presented as part of the web-based app, or could help illustrate and add factual information to a pre-prepared Virtual Reality scenario.</p>

● Recovery key messages

Recovery key messaging provided members of the public with key information they need to recover from a flood event. The messaging has focused on simple, practical steps that people can take to recover from a flood. Recovery messaging could be further developed at a later stage to encompass the need to avoid damaged areas or other hazards (such as landslides) that might result from flooding, or take into consideration people’s wellbeing following a flood event. The outcomes of the messaging below will mean that Wellington Region residents will know:

- When it is safe to return to a property, and how to check for damage;
- How to help those around them; and
- Where to go for information on recovery support (such as insurance claims)



Flood event January 2009- Source: GWRC

● **Key message: Returning home after a flood? Make it safe**

● The purpose of this message is to drive people directly to a recovery-specific subsection of the web-based app for more information around what to do when they go home. This could be promoted via social media, email, and news media.



Supporting messages	Example of use
Returning home after a flood, check for damage	<p>In the aftermath of a flood event, people may return to their homes focused on clean up and could overlook potential hazards that might put them in further danger. This message could be accompanied by a checklist such as the below to help the public identify what needs checking, and could be expanded on further, for example by providing information on how to tell if an electrical system is damaged. This more detailed messaging must be consistent with other agencies, including NEMA. To ensure consistency, these messages should be reviewed against the most current version of NEMA's consistent messages for CDEM document at time of use.</p> <p>Information could be distributed via the web-based app, social media and email, and also as physical supporting materials distributed directly to those affected by a flood event.</p> <p>Example checklist Returning to your home, check for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewage and water pipe damage • Gas leaks • Foundation cracks and damage • Electrical system damage • Fire hazards
What to do if you have flood damage	<p>This message should be accompanied by specific information on who to contact for help - EQC, private insurance, WREMO, GWRC, and wellbeing/mental health support. For insurance purposes, extra information could be provided around what support materials or evidence of damage people might need to provide. Messaging could be distributed via the web-based app, social media, or as physical supporting materials distributed directly to those affected by a flood event.</p>
Flood water is filthy	<p>With potential contaminants in the water unlikely to be visible to people, they are likely to underestimate the risk to themselves of entering flood waters - and, of course, some people will try to play in flood water. Reminding them of the risks may help prevent unnecessary illness in the aftermath of a flood. Rather than talk directly about contamination, makes use of the simpler word "filthy" to encompass the wi.. be further backed up with more detailed information around specific risks, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminants, including raw sewage from broken pipes may have leaked into flood water • Stagnant water creates an ideal environment for mosquitos and other insects to breed in • Specific information about other bacteria and germs that might be present in flood water • Information about water-borne diseases as relevant • There will be unseen debris and hazards (like electricity) in the water
How to clean up after a flood	<p>Following a flood, people are likely to be unaware of the extent to which they will need to clean, and specific information around what and how to clean will likely need to be provided. This more detailed messaging must be consistent with other agencies, including NEMA and Capital & Coast District Health Board messaging, and could be distributed via the web-based app, social media or news media. To ensure consistency, these messages should be reviewed against the most current version of NEMA's consistent messages for CDEM document and relevant Capital & Coast District Health Board documentation and messaging at time of use.</p> <p>Basic information about what and how to clean could be assembled as a checklist like the example below, as digital information or physical supporting materials distributed directly to those affected by a flood event. It might be further enhanced with supporting information about the risks of bacteria and germs left behind by a flood, or the potential for mould to develop and cause respiratory illness.</p> <p>Example checklist After a flood, clean and dry your house and everything in it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and disinfect surfaces with ordinary household products • Dry everything in your house thoroughly to avoid mould • If drying naturally, keep doors and windows open as much as possible • If drying with dehumidifiers, close external doors and windows • Use a garden hose to wash down surfaces (but not a pressure hose - they just blast bugs into the air) • Disinfect metal pans and utensils by boiling in clean or properly treated water • Throw away wooden and plastic utensils, baby bottle teats and dummies • Throw away food and drinking water, including canned goods and garden-grown veges, if they've been in contact with flood water - they could make you ill • Purify drinking water until you've had the all-clear from the authorities that it's safe to drink • Wash your hands with soap and water to help prevent bugs, particularly if you have been cleaning up after a flood • Consider hiring a specialist cleaner if it all seems like a bit much
How to dispose of rubbish following a flood	<p>Due to the contamination risks, and large volume of material needing to be disposed of, any flood-affected people will need situation-specific guidance for dealing with household goods that have been damaged and unable to be cleaned, for example information on which transfer stations to take rubbish to, and how to put goods out for local rubbish collection. This information could be distributed via social media or a mail drop to affected residents.</p>
How to help others after a flood	<p>Encouraging people within the community to reach out to one another following an event builds in an extra layer of contact, helping ensure that no-one is overlooked. It also reconnects people to build community ties and resilience in the aftermath of an event. Information could be distributed via social media, as well as local radio and news media.</p> <p>Some of the ways people might be encouraged to help one another include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking on neighbours • Helping those who are unable to clean up and dispose of rubbish safely • Helping others access extra support that they might need if they are unable to do this themselves • Taking part in community clean ups; this would need to be accompanied by detailed information around date, time, location, and any provisions for food and PPE

2.5 Following a flood elsewhere

This messaging is designed to be utilised in response to floods happening elsewhere in New Zealand. Public awareness of flood events is likely to be heightened in the immediate aftermath of a flood, so the weeks immediately following a flood event are of key strategic importance to raise awareness of flood risks within Wellington specifically. The messages below could be supported or enhanced with any of the key messages outlined in the awareness and preparedness sections.

● Key message: Floods happen. Are you at risk too?

This message has been provided to be used if the main campaign of the communications and engagement strategy is focused around awareness at the time of a flood event elsewhere.

This message could be used in combination with footage or photos from an actual flood event, prompting people to think about their own flood risks or preparation. Messaging could be distributed via social media or email with a click through to the web-based app, or local news media.

● Key message: Floods happen. Are you prepared?

This message is an alternative to key message 1 for use if the main campaign of the communications and engagement strategy is focused around preparedness at the time of a flood event elsewhere.

This message could be used in combination with footage or photos from an actual flood event, prompting people to think about their own flood risks or preparation. Messaging could be distributed via social media or email with a click through to the web-based app, or local news media.

● Key message: Floods are NZ's #1 emergency hazard - find out if you're at risk.

This message is focused on awareness raising. In the context of footage and photos from an actual flood event elsewhere in New Zealand, the public is more likely to pay attention to this type of fact. Again, messaging could be distributed via social media or email with a click through to the web-based app; the fact about flood risk could also create a talking point for local news media.



Appendix A: Background Reference Material

New Zealand references

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For Information

TRANSMISSION GULLY REGULATORY WORK PROGRAMME

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To provide an update and summary of our current regulatory work programme as it relates to the Transmission Gully Project (the Project), particularly to those requirements for the road opening, with a focus on key issues needing resolution.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. It has been widely reported that through the Public Private Partnership (PPP) contract, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) are requiring road opening by the end of September 2021. Through the contract they have split the programme into three key sections:
 - a Road opening (Stage 1) - by 27 Sept 2021
 - b Works completion (Stage 2) - March 2022
 - c Operations - post March 2022

Our role

3. To enable road opening, the PPP contract between Waka Kotahi and Wellington Gateway Partnership (WGP) requires that a number of 'Works Completion Tests' need to be undertaken. Some of those tests require evidence that regulatory compliance requirements have been met. This will require input and approvals from Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) and Territorial Authorities including Porirua City Council, Kapiti Coast District Council, Wellington City Council and Upper Hutt City Council.
4. Waka Kotahi and CPB HEB Joint Venture (the Builder) have identified key tasks that require Greater Wellington input. Waka Kotahi has identified approximately 41 tasks requiring our attention prior to road opening.
5. Some of these tasks are inter-related and will of course require varying levels of input from Greater Wellington. However, we are still unclear about a number of tasks as to what specific information will be provided to demonstrate compliance, timeframes for submission to Greater Wellington, and some processes for actual sign-off by Greater Wellington.

6. Having said that, it is clear that there are some key tasks that must be closed out by Waka Kotahi prior to road opening to meet compliance and environmental outcomes, in particular:
 - a Approval of the design and construction of the operational stormwater management/treatment system for road runoff
 - b Implementation and legal protection of ecological mitigation
7. Officers will continue to work with the Project to clarify requirements and our position. We have made it clear our overall requirements in this regard, including the provision of timely and good quality information. A working group consisting of all the parties (including the relevant Territorial Authorities) has been set up to ensure visibility and requirements are clear.
8. In summary we are requiring from the Project partners:
 - a Improved visibility of the approvals programme – up to road opening and beyond
 - b Clarity on what tasks need to be prioritised
 - c Making fully visible a full list of project closeout items and the completion tests required

Other requirements

9. The programme does not stop at road opening and Waka Kotahi has identified that there are approximately 200 tasks requiring Greater Wellington signoff post road opening as well as Management Plan updates and additional consenting requirements – some of which are retrospective.
10. We are still unclear on the consenting/approvals programme in this regard, despite requests to the Project partners.
11. Throughout all three stages highlighted above, we will continue to run our compliance monitoring programme (and any enforcement that may or may not be required), especially around:
 - a Continuation of earthworks and stream works
 - b Ecological mitigation and protection
 - c Operational stormwater

Issues and risks

12. Risk remains that the Project partners will not meet certain compliance and regulatory requirements linked to road opening, becoming a compliance and potential enforcement issue for Greater Wellington.
13. Project Works Completion Tests arising from the PPP contractual arrangements also may not achieve full Greater Wellington sign off by late September 2021.
14. An immediate environmental risk could be pending at road opening if the Project strikes redesign, construction, operation and maintenance problems with the road operational stormwater system. Greater Wellington has been working very hard to ensure the associated risks are identified and managed by the Project partners.

15. How Greater Wellington deals with compliance issues will depend on the circumstances and can range from advice, engagement and information (for more administrative, technical breaches) to more punitive actions (such as abatement notices, infringements etc.) for any breaches with environmental harm/potential harm.
16. Other issues and risks remain and we are committed to working these through with Waka Kotahi and Project partners, including:
 - a Environmental outcomes and compliance performance – during and post construction
 - b ‘Bow wave’ of consenting, compliance and other Project completion test requirements throughout the stages. As set out above the size of the bow wave still remains unclear
 - c Linked to size of programme, resourcing constraints across the system may become an issue and will need to be actively managed.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

17. There are no direct financial implications.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

18. We are engaging proactively and constructively with Waka Kotahi to manage programme issues discussed above. We remain committed to taking a best endeavours approach to meeting Project programme needs going forward.
19. The next steps will be to continue to engage with Waka Kotahi and the Project partners to ensure:
 - a Improved compliance performance
 - b Clear visibility of all requirements (of Greater Wellington) up to road opening and beyond
 - c Clear and realistic delivery tasks for each requirement
 - d Excellent coordination, prioritisation and communication of all requirements
 - e Complete information of an appropriate quality
 - f Clearer ownership and coordination by Waka Kotahi.

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writers	Shaun Andrewartha – Manager, Environmental Regulation Richard Percy – Project Leader, Statutory Projects
Approver	Al Cross – General Manager, Environment Management

**He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga
Summary of considerations**

Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference

It is appropriate for the Committee to be informed of the progress of the Transmission Gully project as there are implications for Council's environmental regulatory role and the associated environmental implications and reputational risk for council.

Implications for Māori

There are no known immediate implications for Māori. However if certain environmental outcomes are not achieved in line with the consent requirements this position may change.

Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies

This information relates to a key regulatory project for Council. The report provides an update on regulatory requirements for road opening in terms of environmental outcomes envisaged by the approvals being met and risks managed.

Internal consultation

None necessary for this report.

Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.

There is a risk that not all compliance and regulatory requirements will be met prior to road opening and therefore environmental outcomes envisaged by the consents not being obtained. As well as having impacts for road opening this will also impact on our reputation and also our compliance and enforcement role.