Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board Interim Goals

To give effect to its statutory purpose and functions, the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board (WMSB) has identified the following interim goals to guide its operations for the time being:

A. **Oranga Taiao / Restoring the Water Bodies and their Ecosystems**.

   The WMSB seeks to restore the health of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment, including re-generating native flora and fauna within thriving ecosystems.

B. **Oranga Tāngata / Reconnecting People with the Moana**.

   The WMSB seeks to support whānau, hapū, iwi and the Wairarapa community to reconnect with Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment.

C. **Oranga Wai / Rebalancing the Use of our Water Bodies**.

   The WMSB seek to develop and promote an appropriate balance of use of our water bodies and their waters to support social, cultural, economic and wellbeing outcomes.

Guiding Principles

In order to give effect to these goals, the WMSB has developed the following interim principles to guide its actions and the activities of central and local government and third parties.

A. **Te Tuku Rangatira**. Wairarapa Moana was gifted to the Crown by iwi in1896. It was formally gifted back by the Crown to iwi in 2024. The parties made these gifts to reflect their commitment to an enduring relationship based on the best interests of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment. It is important to honour this commitment and engage in the utmost good faith to recognise the intentions of the parties in making the tuku.

B. **Wairarapa Mātauranga**. All planning, work and reporting to support the WMSB goals should recognise and promote the unique knowledge systems within iwi and our local community about Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment. It is important that all planning, work and reporting are informed by and reflect the best available research and scholarship

C. **Iwi Aspirations at the Centre**. The return of Wairarapa Moana and the establishment of the WMSB were undertaken as part of Treaty Settlements between (a) the Crown and Ngāti Kahungunu and (b) the Crown and Rangitāne. It

is important to provide appropriate weighting to iwi aspirations, including reconnection, restoration, partnership and mana motuhake.

D. **Transformational Change is Required**. The health of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment has been severely degraded over an extended period of time. Transformational change is required to achieve the goals of the WMSB, and it is important that we are courageous, persistent and ambitious for change.

E. **A Living System**. Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment represent a living, interconnected system, which includes whānau, hapū, iwi and the Wairarapa community. All planning, work and reporting must address the overall system through a holistic and interconnected lens.

F. **A Long-Term, Intergenerational Kaupapa**. The restoration of Wairarapa and the Ruamāhanga River catchment will require ongoing investment and action by many parties across several generations. All planning, work and reporting should reflect the importance of short-term and long-term planning.