



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Wairarapa Committee

Tuesday 29 October 2024, 10.00am

Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council
34 Chapel St, Masterton

Quorum: *four members, including two regional councillors*

Members

Adrienne Staples, Councillor (Chair)	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Gary Caffell, Mayor	Masterton District Council
Martin Connelly, Mayor	South Wairarapa District Council
Penny Gaylor, Councillor	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Hon. Ron Mark, Mayor	Carterton District Council
Daran Ponter, Councillor	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Amber Craig	Rangitāne ō Wairarapa

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Wairarapa Committee

1 Purpose

Consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa, and recommend to Council on these matters.

2 Specific responsibilities

2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Committee's business and making decisions.

2.2 The areas to consider and recommend on to Council include, but are not limited to:

- a Flood protection
- b Land management
- c Biosecurity
- d Biodiversity
- e Climate
- f Public transport
- g Natural resource management
- h Broader areas of common interest to the territorial authorities and Council.

2.3 Consider potential arrangements for a catchment-based governance approach for the Wairarapa, and recommend to Council, as appropriate.

3 Members

3.1 The Councillor elected by the Wairarapa constituency.

3.2 Two other Councillors, appointed by Council.

3.3 Three other members, appointed by Council as follows:

- a The Mayor of Carterton District Council
- b The Mayor of Masterton District Council
- c The Mayor of South Wairarapa District Council.

3.4 Two other members, appointed by Council for each person's skills, attributes or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee, being:

- a One member, nominated by Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa
- b One member, nominated by Rangitāne ō Wairarapa.

4 Alternate members

- 4.1 For the members in sections 3.1 and 3.2, Council may nominate a pool of up to three alternate Councillors for appointment by Council. If one of those members is unable to attend a meeting any person from this pool may sit at the table, speak and vote in their place.
- 4.2 Each territorial authority in section 3.3 may nominate an alternate elected member for appointment by Council. If an appointed member is unable to attend a meeting their alternate member may sit at the table, speak and vote in their place.
- 4.3 Each iwi authority in section 3.4 may nominate an alternate member for appointment by Council. If an appointed member is unable to attend a meeting their alternate member may sit at the table, speak and vote in their place.

5 Quorum

Four members, including two Councillors.

6 Voting entitlement

- 6.1 All members have equal speaking and voting rights.
- 6.2 Council's Standing Orders apply to the Committee; except that the Chair, in the case of an equality of votes, does not have a casting vote (and therefore the motion is defeated, and the status quo is preserved).

7 Servicing

The Committee is serviced by Greater Wellington.

8 Committee consideration

- 8.1 Matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa constituency shall first be referred (including during the development of proposed Greater Wellington plans and policies) to the Wairarapa Committee or its members for their consideration.
- 8.2 Proposals developed by Wairarapa-focused advisory bodies formally established by Council shall be considered by the Committee for direct recommendation to Council for decision.

9 Council's decisions on the Committee's recommendations

- 9.1 Council's decisions on the Committee's recommendations are reported to the Committee.
- 9.2 Where Council makes any decision that is materially different from the Committee's recommendation, Council's report to the Committee will set out the reason(s) for that decision.

10 Remuneration and expenses

10.1 The expenses of the elected members shall be met by the council they represent.

10.2 Non-elected members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) may claim Greater Wellington's standard daily meeting attendance allowances and expenses.

11 Meeting frequency

The Committee shall meet six times each year, with additional meetings as required.

Wairarapa Committee

Tuesday 29 October 2024, 10.00am

Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council | Te Pane Matua Taiao,
34 Chapel Street, Masterton

Public Business

No.	Item	Report	Page
1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
4.	Confirmation of the Public Minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting on Tuesday 6 August 2024	24.417	6
5.	Wairarapa Flood Risk Management Update – October 2024	24.586	9
6.	Regional Policy Statement Change 1 Update	24.583	23
7.	Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme	24.529	49
8.	Whaitua Update	24.524	56
9.	Regional Predator Control Programme Review (RPCP)	24.445	61
10.	Public Transport Update	24.584	74



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Wairarapa Committee meeting on 29 October 2024.

Report 24.417

Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting on Tuesday 6 August 2024

Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council
34 Chapel Street, Masterton at 10.00am

Members Present

Councillor Staples (Chair)	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Mayor Caffell	Masterton District Council
Mayor Connelly	South Wairarapa District Council
Mayor Mark	Carterton District Council
Councillor Gaylor	Greater Wellington Regional Council

Councillor Gaylor participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Mayor Mark / Mayor Connelly

That the Committee accepts the apologies for absence from Councillor Ponter and Amber Craig.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Erica Jar and Vern Brasell, Sustainable Wairarapa, spoke on solar farms and supporting electrification of individual households in the Wairarapa. A presentation titled “Electrify Wairarapa” was tabled.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting of 28 May 2024 - Report 24.281

Moved: Mayor Caffell / Mayor Mark

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting of 28 May 2024 - Report 24.281.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Long Term Plan Summary and Wairarapa Key Points – Report 24.411 [For Information]

Luke Troy, Group Manager Strategy, spoke to the report.

6 Public Transport Update – Report 24.382 [For Information]

Samantha Gain, Group Manager Metlink, and David Mawson, Manager Rail Network Delivery, spoke to the report. A presentation on Public Transport Performance – June was tabled.

7 Wairarapa Flood Risk Management Update – Report 24.361 [For Information]

Hamish Fenwick, Team Leader Flood Operations Delivery, spoke to the report.

Noted: The Committee asked officers to look into arranging a field trip for the Committee to visit flood risk management locations.

8 Wairarapa Annual Floodplain Management Implementation Report 2023/24 – Report 24.363 [For Information]

Jacky Cox, Manager Infrastructure, Assets and Support, spoke to the report.

9 Crown Funding Contributions to Implementing Wairarapa Floodplain Management Plan Outcomes – Report 24.364 [For Information]

Graeme Campbell, Strategic Advisor Flood Resilience, spoke to the report.

10 Wairarapa Annual Asset Management Condition Report – Report 24.362

George Bowman, Team Leader Assets and Performance, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Caffell / Mayor Mark

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes that identified issues are being addressed through maintenance and improvement work programmes.

- 2 Recommends to the Environment Committee that it is satisfied that flood protection and erosion control infrastructure assets have been managed satisfactorily to the agreed Levels of Service (LoS).
- 3 Notes that the 2024-34 Long Term Plan provides an increased level of funding for capital works and maintenance over the next 10 years.

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: The Committee requested that the next report on asset management include a table setting out different asset types and their condition and maintenance.

11 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management Plan Change Work Programme Update – Report 24.402 [For Information]

Fathima Iftikar, Director Strategy, Policy and Regulation, spoke to the report.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 11.29am.

Councillor A Staples

Chair

Date:



Wairarapa Committee
29 October 2024
Report 24.586

For Information

WAIRARAPA FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE – OCTOBER 2024

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on:
 - a New funding received from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's Cyclone Recovery Unit
 - b Implementation progress for the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan (TKURFMP); including progress of the Ministry for Environment (MfE) Jobs for Nature project
 - c Implementation progress for the Waiōhine River Plan
 - d The ongoing operational maintenance of the Wairarapa Rivers schemes
 - e The progress of investigation projects:
 - i Waipoua Urban Catchment Plan
 - ii Mangatārere River Plan
 - iii flood hazard mapping for the Wairarapa Combined District Plan changes; and
 - iv regional initiatives
 - f The progress on the Flood Resilience programme (formerly known as Before the Deluge 2.0)

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

2. This section provides an update on the Flood Protection works in the Wairarapa since the last Wairarapa Committee meeting.

Government Funding – Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Crack Willow Blockage Removal Project

3. As stated in the Wairarapa Flood Risk Management Update report (Report 24.361) at the last Committee meeting (6 August 2024), we were successful in obtaining \$3.5 million from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) for the Recovery and Flooding Resilience fund for the crack willow blockage removal in the

eastern rivers in the Wairarapa. This decision was publicly announced on 6 October 2023. Our contribution is \$250,000 worth of project management time.

4. Phase 1 of the crack willow removal project has been completed with a focus on the Kopuaranga and the Whareama Rivers.
5. Up until 1 October 2024 we have removed 220 blockages and cleared approximately 66km of river channel. To date we have spent a total of \$1,175,599.
6. Phase 2 of the crack willow removal project will commence in October 2024 with the initial focus on the Tauweru and Whareama Rivers. To enable the successful completion of the project, Greater Wellington is currently implementing a Contractor Panel that will enable the resources required to remove the blockages/debris throughout the Eastern Rivers of the Wairarapa.
7. Discussions with community groups continue to ensure we are aware of all major blockages and can prioritise accordingly.

Flood warning systems upgrade – Crown Infrastructure Partners Funding

8. The funding has had some changes made to it due to some alterations made to more effectively utilise resources. The Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP) fund has been reduced to \$1 million. Monitoring Water Resilience have recently taken the lead in implementing the milestones. We've installed two sites in the upper reach of the Whareama. We managed to get this in by the end of our second milestone which was 30 September 2024. We've engaged a local engineer for the design and site investigation for our gauging infrastructure.
9. The funding is provided up until the end of the financial year 2024/25, so timeframes are squeezed. We're working hard to meet this and so far, we are tracking well to meet these milestones.

Flood incident management training and exercising

10. In the last reporting period, the Environment Group has been focussing on the flood incident management capability. This has included the following activities:
 - Training of a new Duty Officer cohort from across the Environment Group.
 - Integrating new Duty Officers with the existing Flood Incident Management team at training workshop.
 - Training 'Senior Managers' from across the Environment Group in flood incident management.
 - Signing the contract for the delivery of new flood forecasting capability for the region.
 - Worked with the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) to develop key links with stormwater management agencies across the region (Wellington Water (WWL) and Kāpiti Coast District Council (KCDC)) in the emergency management space.
 - Establishment of a new role in the Knowledge and Insights function to lead risk management and resilience including the coordination of Greater Wellington's flood incident management capability.
 - Supporting WREMO in the delivery of an evacuation planning exercise in Hutt City.

- Running the annual flood response exercise from the Kāpiti Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) focused on a major flood event in the Hutt catchments.



Image 1 and 2: Training exercise for flood response

11. Looking ahead the Environment Group will be working closely with WREMO on the continued development of our flood incident management capability including the conversion of flood hazard mapping for use in emergency management, completing the wider rollout of the automated warning system and considering how we plan and manage overdesign flood events.

Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan – Implementation

River Road, Masterton erosion protection works

12. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge).
13. Stage Two, the design and construction of a rock groyne and a 150-metre rock revetment, is now at practical completion. Referred to in the programme as Site 1.



Image 3: Stage 2 (Confluence of the Waipoua and Ruamāhanga Rivers) - Rock groyne and rock revetment completed

14. Stage Three is currently at design stage with site establishment completed and rock laydown areas in place. Scoping work is underway for ecological monitoring and enabling works. Referred to in the programme as Site 2.

Waipoua SH2 Left Bank Protection

15. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 3.
16. Scoping work is underway for ecological monitoring and enabling works.
17. Rock specifications have been confirmed with negotiations underway with preferred suppliers.

Waipoua Industrial Site – Akura Road

18. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 4.
19. Scoping work is underway for ecological monitoring and enabling works.
20. Rock specifications have been confirmed with negotiations underway with preferred suppliers.

Masterton Water Supply Protection

21. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 7.
22. Rock supply is currently under negotiation and enabling works scoping is complete.

Homebush Wastewater Treatment Plant Resilience Works

23. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 14.
24. Consultants and contractor ECI have been procured.

Upper Ruamāhanga Buffer Establishment

25. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 15.
26. Consultants and contractor ECI have been procured.

Hood Aerodrome

27. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 8.
28. Rock supply is currently under negotiation and enabling works scoping is complete.

South Masterton Stopbank

- 29. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 13.
- 30. Enabling works scoping is currently underway.

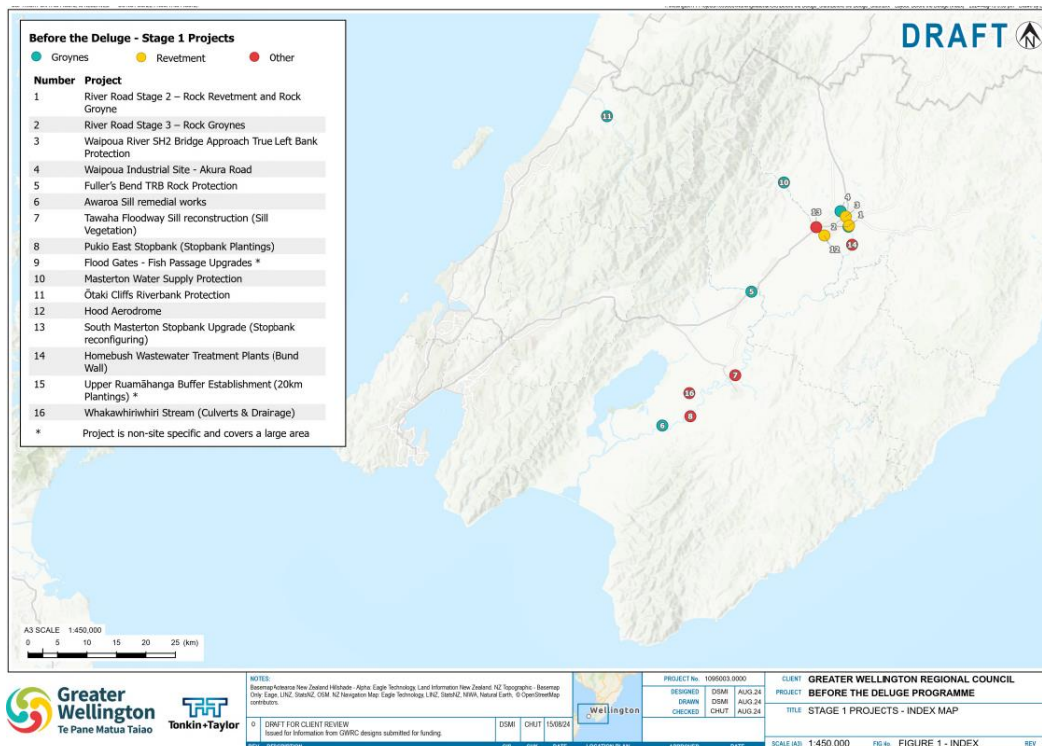


Image 4: Location map of all Flood Resilience (Before the Deluge) projects

Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan – Operational work

- 31. Gravel extraction operations at a range of sites in the Ruamāhanga River have been completed to assist with river alignment management.
- 32. Dry beach vegetation clearance has started in the Ruamāhanga River in the Mt Bruce scheme area.
- 33. Bed recontouring work is being undertaken at Hidden Lakes on the Ruamāhanga River to take river erosion pressure off the toe of an ongoing slump slipping into the river and threatening native bush and, potentially in the long term, the lakes themselves.
- 34. Dry beach vegetation clearing has been completed in the Waingawa River fairway over a 7km stretch from Ruamāhanga River to Rail Bridge.
- 35. Gravel groyne construction was completed on the Waingawa River at South Road to provide erosion protection to walking tracks and native plantings. Willow pole planting was completed between the groynes to provide further protection.



Image 5: Digger shaping up finished gravel groynes

36. Willow pole planting has been completed at erosion sites in the Ruamāhanga River through the Gladstone Scheme.

Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga – Investigations

Waipoua investigations

37. The investigations with the Waipoua Catchment Community Group are progressing.
 - a A specialist hydraulic modeller has been assessing the efficacy of various flood risk management options through the urban reach.
 - b The delivery of a preferred option is now programmed for 2025 with community engagement in early 2025.
 - c The Waipoua team had a workshop with the Upper Ruamāhanga River Management Advisory Committee (URRMAC) in September to provide background on the team and an update on the work that has been occurring. On-going communication with URRMAC is planned.

Flood Hazard Modelling

38. Flood hazard mapping for the Upper Ruamāhanga is ongoing, peer reviews are being undertaken.

Waiōhine River Plan – Implementation

Waiōhine Stopbanks

39. The design work for the two stopbank designs has now been awarded and the contract has been signed.
40. Discussions with the main affected landowner are ongoing.

Fullers Bend

41. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and referred to in the programme as Site 5.
42. Scoping work is underway for ecological monitoring and enabling works procurement.
43. Rock specifications have been confirmed with negotiations underway with preferred suppliers.

Waiōhine River Plan – Operations

44. Vegetation control on Waiōhine stopbanks upstream of State Highway 2 has been completed by a contractor using a remote-controlled mulcher.
45. Willow pole planting was completed at River Road with 190 poles planted.

Mangatāre Stream – Operations

46. The planned erosion protection and river course change work on Mangatāre Stream at Connollys Line has been completed, with erosion bay infilled to reduce flood risk and river alignment work completed to take pressure off the site. Assistance was provided from Knowledge and Insights to do fish rescue work prior to bed recontouring work, and water clarity testing during the course of machine work. Kaitiaki monitoring was undertaken by Michael Roera of Rangitāne o Wairarapa.



Image 6: Electrofishing prior to gravel placement against bank.



Image 7: Start of gravel infill and bed recontouring.



Image 8: Finished works showing infill and new alternate river channel.

Mangatāre Stream – Investigations

47. No change to report in the Mangatāre Stream flood management plan.

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme - Implementation

Awaroa Sill

48. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and is referred to in the programme as Site 6.
49. Scoping work is underway for ecological monitoring and enabling works procurement.
50. Rock specifications have been confirmed with negotiations underway with preferred suppliers.

Tawaha Sill

51. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and is referred to in the programme as Site 10.
52. Consultants and ECI contractor procured.

Pukio East Stopbank

53. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and is referred to in the programme as Site 11.

54. The design and construction of the Pukio East Stopbank is now at practical completion.

Whakawhiriwhiri Stream

55. This is a project being delivered under the crown funded programme Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (previously known as Before the Deluge) and is referred to in the programme as Site 16.
56. Enabling works scoping is in development.

Mahaki Stopbank

57. This project will reconstruct the eroded stopbank in the Mahaki area, Martinborough. Temporary works were completed in autumn to mitigate any flooding over the winter months.
58. The civil contractor has been engaged, and design drawings are to be confirmed once the river levels lower.
59. It is anticipated that works will commence mid to late November.

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme - Operations

60. Our consents do not allow any activities in the flowing river channels for the Ruamāhanga River until January 2025 and all other rivers until December 2024, unless for emergency, urgent and unavoidable works.
61. A culvert and part of the stopbank partially blew out on the river side of the left bank stopbank on the Oporua spillway, upstream of Kahutara Road. Temporary mitigation works have been undertaken and we are waiting for dry weather before we can fully complete them. The stopbank is currently below full level of service, but the risk from this is low.
62. Dry beach vegetation clearance has been completed in the Tauwherenikau River.
63. Dry gravel extraction is ongoing on some of the high beaches across the Lower Valley. The amount of gravel being deposited in some rivers is greater than that allowed to be extracted under consents, therefore rivers are aggrading in their lower reaches. This may have an impact on the level of service offered by the Flood Protection defences.
64. New ropes are being procured for the Barrage Gates, with replacement planned for this summer.
65. Greater Wellington still needs to respond to the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Floodplain Management Advisory Committee (LRVFMAC) queries around the proposed rate increases in the Long Term Plan and how these can be reduced. The LRVFMAC would like to understand why the consenting process for the Lower Valley gravel extraction is taking such a long time (estimated to be two years). The LRVFMAC would also like to know whether the stock exclusion rules for drains can be reviewed in light the additional chemical herbicide applications now required to control weeds; and how this impacts on the watercourses and Lake Wairarapa.
66. There are concerns that whilst the scheme is responsible for 40% of the costs of the proposed Before the Deluge works, there is little influence on how this money

is spent. How are the best interests of the scheme and rate payers, as well as value for money considerations, being addressed in the governance of the programme?

- 67. The 2024-25 Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (LWVDS) Quarter 1 summary report is available on request.

Drainage Scheme – Operations

- 68. Replacement parts for the corroded second pump at Te Hopai have now been received. It is estimated that the maintenance works will require around four weeks. We are currently waiting for the dry season before we commence these works.
- 69. Herbicide spraying has commenced within the gravity drainage systems managed by Greater Wellington.
- 70. Replacement for a broken flap gate at Ōnoke pump has been procured and we are now waiting for Lake Ōnoke to drop low enough for the new gate to be installed.

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme – Investigations

- 71. Mapping for Donalds and Abbots Creeks is progressing well, with the hydrology passing its peer review, the data has been passed on to the hydraulic modellers. Calibration engagement is being readied for late 2024.

Ministry for the Environment ‘Jobs for Nature’ Project Update

- 72. The process for the current financial year to date is:
 - a 24 ha planted, remaining 1.5 ha site to be planted early autumn
 - b 9,899 meters of fencing installed, fencing activities are still on going
 - c 57,500 native plants planted, 4,444 plants to be planted early autumn
- 73. Planting activities have finished until early autumn 2025. The contractors will now start carrying out maintenance activities.
- 74. Fencing activities are finished until Jan/Feb 2025, when the next property will be ready for works to start.

**Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications**

Crack Willow Removal, Early Flood Warning Systems upgrade and MfE Projects

- 75. Some of these projects are being funded with budgets being brought forward in the Long-Term Plan (LTP). Others are direct government funding with project management time as Greater Wellington’s contribution.

Crack Willow Removal

Government Funding	DPMC – Cyclone Recovery Unit
Opex allocated:	\$250,000 (LTP 2024-34)

Early Flood Warning Systems

Government Funding	DPMC – Cyclone Recovery Unit
Capex allocated:	\$100,000 (LTP 2024-34)

Ruamāhanga River Scheme River Road (Stage Two)

LTP or Annual Plan description:	Te Kāuru Capex Implementation
Capex allocated:	\$2.54 million (LTP 2024-34)

Project 4: Ruamāhanga River Major Rivers Riparian Management Project (MfE)

LTP or Annual Plan description:	Wairarapa River Scheme Maintenance
Loan allocated:	\$0.8 million (debt)
Internal Funding:	\$1.7 million (LTP 2024-34)
Third Party Funding	\$2.5 million

**Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori**

76. Greater Wellington is required to manage land and water within a range of statutory requirements, including giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai and considering Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the development and implementation of the Council’s strategies, plans, programmes and initiatives.
77. Implementation with mana whenua partners is guided by Te Whāriki – the new Māori Outcomes Framework as part of Council’s Long Term Plan 2024–34.
78. We are continuing to explore opportunities for Māori through our work. For example, working with Rangitāne o Wairarapa on the erosion site on the Mangatāreere as outlined in paragraph 46 has led to the identification of further opportunities for collaboration through Rangitāne’s Hura Whenua process.
79. The Flood Resilience programme of work provides opportunity for mana whenua to be actively involved in areas of decision making, and for mana whenua and mātāwaka to be working within project delivery. The principle of partnership, opportunities focused, effective participation, and evidenced based decision making have been considered through the actions of ensuring mana whenua are resourced to join (if they wish) at both the governance and operations level.

**Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change**

80. Each project within the catchment considers and responds to the predicted impacts of climate change when considering the appropriate response to the issue the project seeks to address.

- 81. This programme aligns with the 2015 Climate Change strategy, which states ‘we will help the region adapt to climate change’. The projects increase climate change adaptation and resilience to natural disasters in the region.
- 82. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from rock supply vary depending on the quarry source of the rock and transport to the work sites. Quarry sources for projects vary. The emissions from rock supply production and transport are not presently part of the organisation’s GHG inventory.
- 83. Targeted planting has been carried out to mitigate CO2 emissions for the Kānoa projects.
- 84. Greater Wellington currently assesses options to address flood risk based on the predicted impacts of climate change over the next 100 years. Unless specified differently for specific projects, these values are an increase in rainfall intensity of twenty percent, and a sea level rise of 0.8 metres.

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Tina Love – Team Leader Infrastructure Projects Hamish Fenwick – Team Leader Flood Operations Andy Brown – Knowledge Risk Management and Resilience Lead Francie Morrow – Team Leader Knowledge - Water Resilience
Approvers	Jacky Cox – Manager Infrastructure, Assets and Support Evan Harrison – Manager Knowledge Myfanwy Hill – Manager Environment Operations David Hipkins – Director Knowledge and Insights Jack Mace – Director Delivery Lian Butcher – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The Committee is to consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa and recommend to Council on these matters.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The projects contained within this report deliver on Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te tū pakari a te rohe/regional resilience, and support delivery of Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te oranga o te wai māori me te rerenga rauropi/freshwater quality and biodiversity. All river matters discussed here are included in the LTP.
<i>Internal consultation</i> Specific projects consult with groups and departments across Greater Wellington where relevant to a project.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> The purpose of implementation floodplain management plans in implementing asset management procedures is to reduce the risk to communities and improve the region's resilience. Greater Wellington has adopted procedures and processes to minimise risks. Working with community committees enables a wider understanding of the risks before adoption of work programmes.

Wairarapa Committee
29 October 2024
Report 24.583



For Information

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT CHANGE 1 UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on progress on Proposed Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement (RPS Change 1), and to highlight key aspects of the plan change relevant to the Wairarapa.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Policy team updates the Committee periodically in relation to the status of RPS Change 1. The verbal update will cover the following topics:
 - a Update on the progress of RPS Change 1 as the appeals period commences
 - b Outline of key policy direction in RPS Change 1
 - c Brief summary of key policy direction relevant to resource management in the Wairarapa.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

3. The policy changes that make up RPS Change 1 have been developed with mana whenua / tangata whenua and embed Te Ao Māori into the Regional Policy Statement, including through expressions of Te Mana o Te Wai.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

4. The Policy team will provide and speak to a presentation ([Attachment 1](#)) at the Committee's meeting on 29 October 2024.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachment

Number	Title
1	Proposed RPS Change 1 – Wairarapa Committee

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writer	Remo Bangi – Senior Policy Advisor, Policy, Strategy, Policy and Regulation
Approver	Nicola Arnesen – Manager, Policy, Strategy, Policy and Regulation Fathima Iftikar – Director Strategy, Policy and Regulation Lian Butcher – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>This update supports the Wairarapa Committee purpose <i>To consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa</i>, including on natural resource management. RPS Change 1 is a key natural resource management tool and important step in the wider national direction on climate change, natural hazards, urban development and freshwater.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>The current work programme for the RPS PC 1 has been approved through the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. There are no contributions to any other strategies and policies.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>There was no internal consultation related to this report.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>There are no known risks and impacts related to this report.</p>

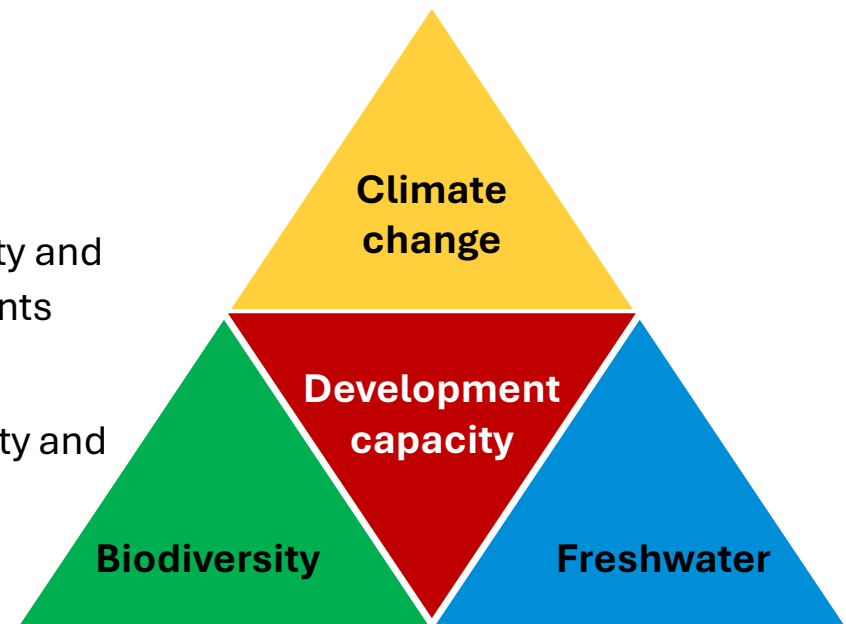
Proposed RPS Change 1 – Wairarapa Committee

29 October 2024



Background to Proposed RPS Change 1

- RPS Change 1 is driven by the need to give effect to a range of NPSs, but primarily:
 - *NPS Urban Development 2020*
 - *NPS Freshwater Management 2020*
- NPS – UD directs councils to enable development capacity and variety, and provide for well-functioning urban environments
- Other NPSs require councils to address degradation of freshwater, loss and degradation of indigenous biodiversity and impacts of climate change
- Change 1 takes an ‘integrating frame’ approach



Vision & Outcomes



Attachment 1 to Report 24.583

Implementation of Change 1 will result in:

- A strong shift towards a low-emission and more climate-resilient region, where nature-based solutions support the climate response
- More integrated management that enables development and housing choice, while giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai, protecting/improving freshwater and indigenous biodiversity
- Stronger partnerships between mana whenua and councils and relationships with landowners and communities
- Healthier communities and natural environment

RPS mahi and outcomes

- Broad consultation with a range of groups incl. in particular, our mana whenua partners and TAs, MfE, Waka Kotahi, WWL, FRG and others
- 161 parties submitted
- 22 days of hearings over 10 months
- Good feedback from submitters with many points accepted by officers and the Panel producing beneficial outcomes *cf.* to notified version
- Officers recommend that most Panel recommendations be accepted with only a few minor changes
- Big topic areas covered are climate change, urban development and transport, freshwater and indigenous biodiversity/ecosystems

Change 1 notified (Aug 2022)

Submissions and further submissions completed (Dec 2022)

Variation notified (Oct 2023)

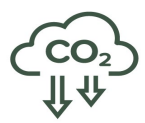
Hearings (Jun 2023 – Apr 2024)

Panel recommendations

Council decision

Appeals (November)

New Climate Change Chapter - Architecture



Mitigation - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Transport 39%, Agriculture 34%, Energy 18%, Waste 5%, Industry 4%



Nature-based solutions - Mitigation/Adaptation/Biodiversity

Reduce greenhouse gases e.g. plant forests to sequester CO²

Provide resilience e.g. retain sand dunes to protect communities from storm surges



Climate Resilience & Adaptation

Land use and water management planning & regulation

Support landholder and community action

Adaptation planning

Climate Change – General Objectives

Wellington transitions to become a low-emission and climate-resilient region

The transition is fair and equitable

Emissions are reduced, contributing to meeting the Paris Agreement limit of 1.5° C

People understand predicted changes and are actively involved in the response

Iwi are empowered to achieve climate-resilience for their communities



Agricultural Emissions – Change 1 Summary

Key direction

- Provisions to address agricultural GHG emissions
 - policies and methods work to complement national approach
- Support reductions in GHG emissions
 - 2050 net-zero target rather than avoiding increases in gross GHGs
- Land management extension programme – includes rural water resilience and food security

Key provisions

Objective CC.3 – Reducing GHG emissions

To support the global goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and New Zealand’s *greenhouse gas emissions* reduction targets, net *greenhouse gas emissions* in the Wellington Region are reduced:

- (a) to contribute to a 50 percent reduction in net *greenhouse gas emissions* from 2019 levels by 2030, and
- (b) to contribute to achieving net-zero *greenhouse gas emissions* by 2050.

Policy CC.5 – Reducing agricultural GHG emissions

Regional plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods to support reductions in agricultural *greenhouse gas emissions* from 2019 levels to contribute to the Objective CC.3 2050 net-zero emissions target.

Supported by non-reg Policy and Method that seek to support change and improved management practices at a farm level to reduce *greenhouse gas emissions*

Implications for Wairarapa

- Reducing GHG emission by all sectors - businesses, new developments, existing communities and infrastructure providers to take opportunities to reduce their carbon footprint
- Regional approach to reduce GHG emissions via future regional plan change process
- GW to work with landowners, rural community and industry to promote and support changes to reduce agricultural GHG emissions (leveraging off existing network and work programmes)

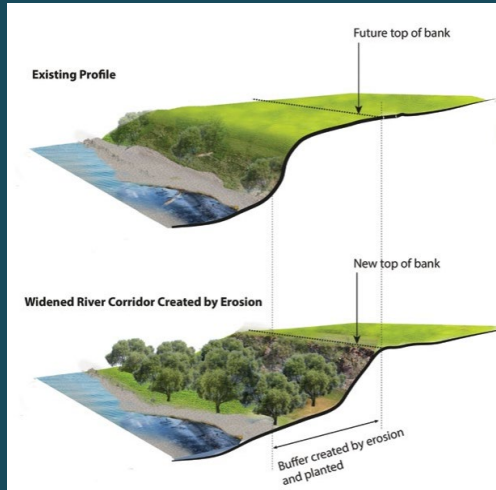
Nature-based solutions – RPS Approach

Climate change and biodiversity are inseparably intertwined – connecting the two presents significant opportunities.

Objective for nature-based solutions (NbS) to be an integral part of climate change mitigation & adaptation

Two new policy approaches to prioritise and support the use of NbS:

- *Ecosystem-scale NbS*: Work with stakeholders to identify/protect /restore /create ecosystems, using non-regulatory methods, includes approach to support afforestation
- *Integrate NbS within development*: district & regional plans to require climate-resilient development e.g. retain waterbodies, create raingardens, shade trees (reg and non-reg)



catchment



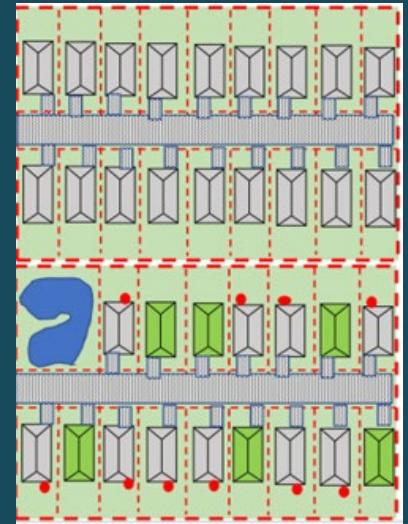
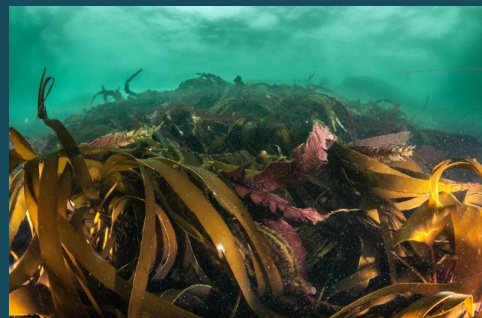
urban



constructed



ecosystem

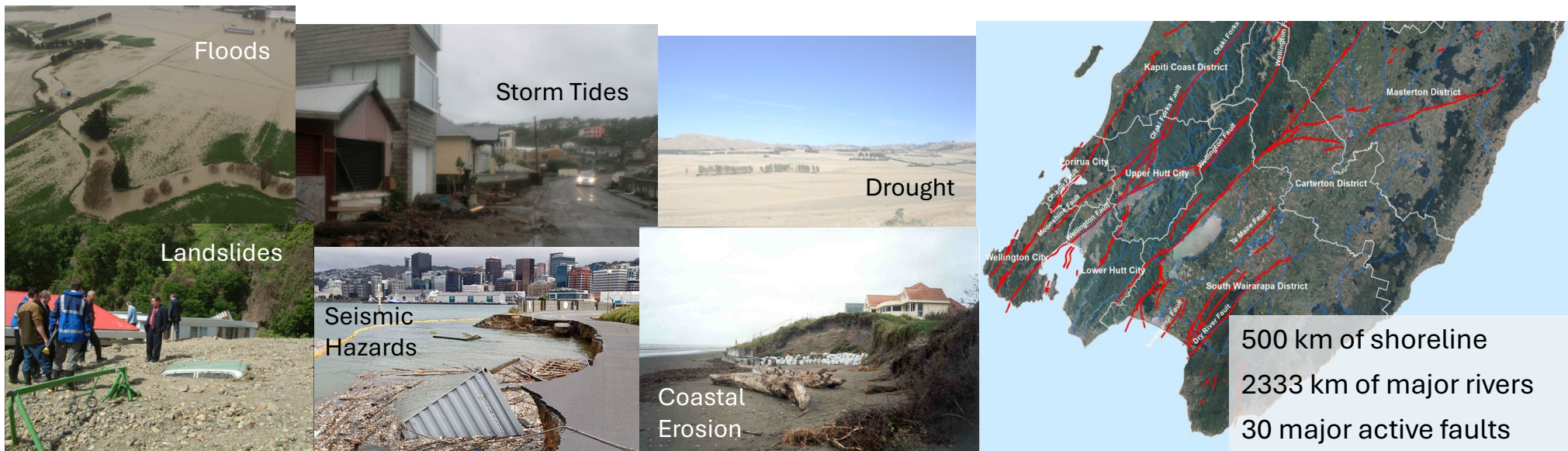


Implications for the Wairarapa

- Nature-based solutions are embedded in approaches to land management, natural hazards, and development

Wellington Region Natural Hazards: Issues & Challenges

- Hazard planning rarely eliminates the risk - but can significantly reduce impacts
- Decision making needs to balance competing needs and resources – environmental and economic, but can lead to unwanted outcomes if done poorly
- Climate change and uncertainty



Operative RPS Natural Hazard Provisions and New Direction

Objectives

1. Reduce risks of natural hazards and climate change on community
 - Avoid or minimise the risks *incl.* on the environment
2. Hazard mitigation activities do not increase risks and consequences from hazard events
 - Minimise the risks from hazards *and* adverse effects on natural processes, the ecosystem, Te Mana o te Wai, mana whenua values
3. Increased community resilience to hazards
 - Now includes natural environment, infrastructure, preparedness (CDEM) and long-term impacts of climate change

Implications for Wairarapa

- Change 1 has been developed in light of an NPS for natural hazards and is consistent with the exposure draft material released in 2023 to employ a risk-based approach
- Possibly some implications for how natural hazards are managed through the district plan esp. with regard to mapping hazards and avoiding inappropriate development in high hazard areas

Urban development and transport direction



Intensification to contribute to compact, well-designed regional form with range of housing



Enabling development of marae and papakāinga



Environmental integration in urban development



Coordinating with funding and delivery of infrastructure



Supporting viable and vibrant centres



Providing choice for how people travel and contributing to transport emissions reduction



Implications for Wairarapa

- Providing a range of high-quality, climate-resilient and environmentally integrated development, to support the wellbeing of current and future residents
- Enabling more people to live and businesses to be located in and around town centres and public transport links, to support vibrant centres and maximise the benefits of planned investment in the Wairarapa rail line
- Providing choice for how residents move between and around the towns with access to their daily needs via walking, cycling and public transport
- Aligning development with infrastructure investment and upgrades
- Supporting Wairarapa-Wellington-Horowhenua Future Development Strategy
- Protecting rural productivity by focussing development within existing towns or planned growth areas

Key Freshwater Direction (Implementing NPSFM)



Te Mana o Te Wai and freshwater vision objectives, changes to policies to give effect to these



Urban development controls to give effect to Te Mana o Te Wai; particularly Water Sensitive Urban Design



Defining regional and territorial responsibilities for freshwater

Implications for the Wairarapa

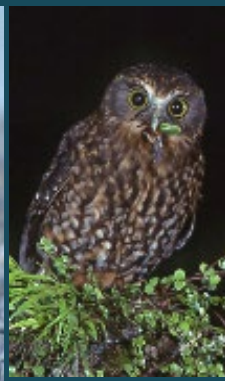
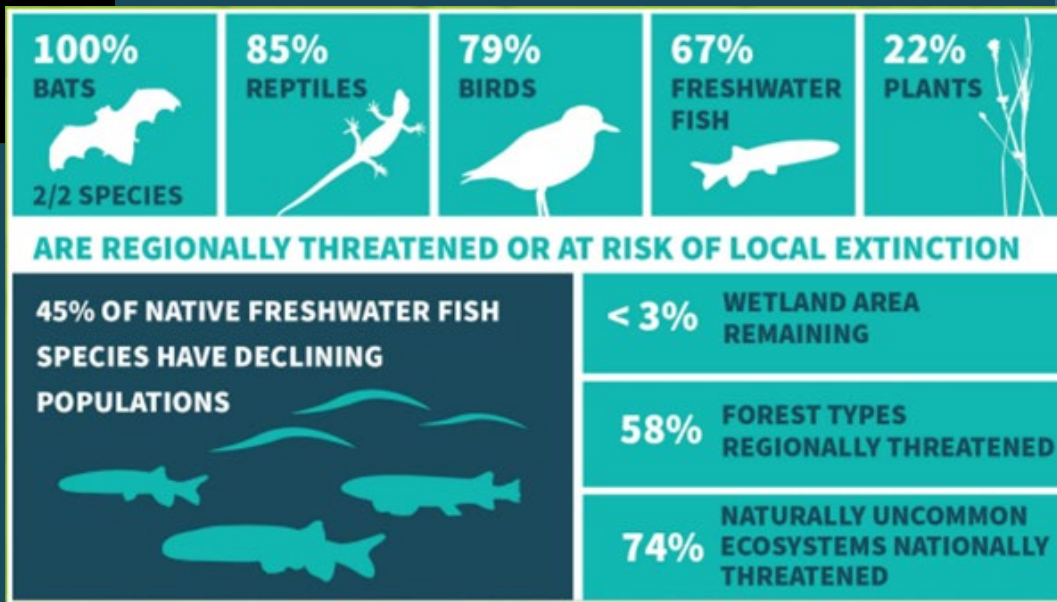
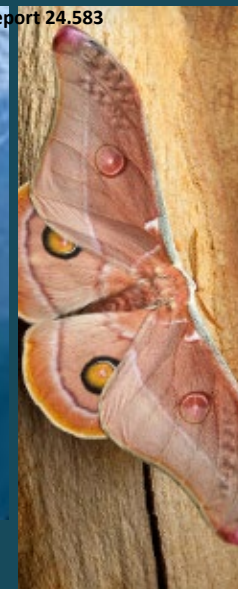
- Change in how we manage effects on freshwater – Te Mana o Te Wai is the base approach



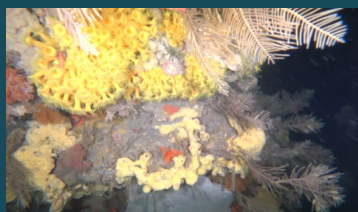
Nationally ~ 4,000 species are threatened or at risk of extinction



Attachment 1 to Report 24.583



Since 1970, world wildlife populations have declined on average 69%



Key indigenous Biodiversity Direction

- New provisions to maintain indigenous biodiversity generally, not just SNAs
- Clarifying responsibilities of GW and TAs to manage b/d, focus on integrated approach during development
- Strengthened partnership with mana whenua in decision-making
- Amendments to improve use of EMH – offsetting and compensation, including a schedule to highlight threatened species & naturally rare ecosystems

Next Steps

- Appeals period closes 18 November
- Progressive work with TAs, mana whenua and communities to implement Proposed RPS Change 1
- Prioritise implementation of provisions not subject to appeal



Wairarapa Committee
29 October 2024
Report 24.529



For Information

WAIRARAPA WATER RESILIENCE WORK PROGRAMME

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme developed by an Interim Governance Group, consisting of members of the four Wairarapa councils and two iwi.

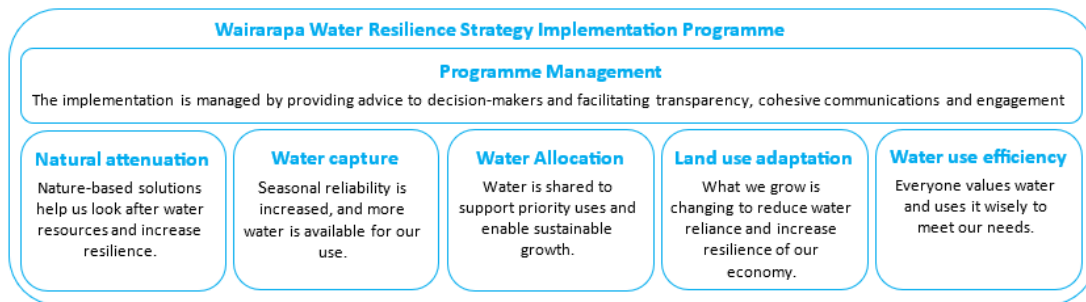
Te horopaki

Context

2. Improving water resilience in the Wairarapa has been identified as a priority across strategic and planning documents to ensure economic, social and environmental sustainability and improvement for the region.
3. The Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy (WWRS) was developed as part of a collaborative process and approved in principle by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) in June 2021. It sets out an integrated approach covering the management of demand and enhancing the supply of water resources.
4. An Interim Governance Group was stood up earlier this year, consisting of representatives from the four Wairarapa Councils and iwi, to develop a pragmatic work programme commencing the implementation of the WWRS.
5. The Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme for 2024/25 was reviewed and endorsed by the interim Governance Group on 2 July 2024, with the direction to confirm the governance and management structure and commence more detailed planning to develop the projects within work streams.
6. The Interim Governance Group anticipates that implementation of the work programme will draw on existing capability, repackaging or realignment of current work, and synergies explored across the programmes of work already underway and/or planned towards WWRS outcomes rather than new resources being allocated.
7. To oversee, drive and advise on implementation, all four councils have co-funded a Wairarapa Water Resilience Programme Director on a fixed term (12-month) 0.5 FTE basis. Jennie Marks has commenced in this role, employed by Greater Wellington on behalf of the four councils, reporting into the Office of the Chief Executive.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

8. The proposed Work Programme is provided as [Attachment 1](#). The structure in proposed Work Programme is summarised here:



9. For each of the workstreams, the interim Governance Group identified what it would like to work on together and some priority projects to develop and progress in 2024/25.
10. The summary of this is, including the projects that have been endorsed, is provided in **Attachment 1**.
11. These projects might be of particular interest:
- In relation to the Water Capture workstream, a project is being scoped that would identify options to meet current and future demand. We are also planning to review policy settings and requirements to better enable small – medium scale on-farm storage dams.
 - Under the Water Allocation workstream targeted engagement sessions are being planned with GNS to communicate the initial findings and objectives of the SkyTEM work.
 - For the Water Efficiency workstream a public communications campaign is being developed that will expand on last year’s initiative incentivising the use of rainwater tanks by individual councils.
12. The programme management function will oversee the implementation of the work programme overall, provide advice to decision-makers, and facilitate transparency, as well as support cohesive communication and engagement.
13. The overall success of the programme delivery depends on ongoing, constructive collaboration between iwi and the four councils, as well as the ability to leverage resources from within the organisations.
14. Any additional funding to support project implementation is yet to be secured. This means, at this stage the main investment will be through officer time and the approved funding for programme management.

The proposed governance and management structure

15. The Interim Governance Group has developed a governance and management structure to ensure collaborative direction and implementation of projects, while providing for decisions by lead organisations with statutory mandates.
16. Mana whenua representation at all levels is understood to be critical, both from Rūnanga and Post-Settlement Governance Entities.
17. Current Interim Governance Group Members are intending to continue their involvement. These are:
 - Jo Hayes, Rangitāne o Wairarapa
 - Robin Potangaroa, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust
 - Councillor David Holmes, Masterton District Council
 - Hon. Mayor Ron Mark, Carterton District Council
 - Cr Brian Deller, Carterton District Council
 - Mayor Martin Connelly, South Wairarapa District Council
 - Cr Melissa Sadler-Futter, South Wairarapa District Council
 - Cr Adrienne Staples, Greater Wellington
 - Cr Penny Gaylor, Greater Wellington
 - Councils' Chief executives ex officio

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

18. As noted previously, the Interim Governance Group intends that the first stages of implementation will draw on existing capability, repackaging or realignment of current work, and synergies across the programmes of work already underway and/or planned.
19. However, it is likely that for some elements of the work programme e.g. water capture, opportunities exist to secure external funding. Officers are working with Wellington NZ, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, and the Ministry of Primary Industries to understand how the work programme intersects with regional and national economic development priorities.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

20. The Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy features a powerful statement from the Post Settlement Governance Entities of Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā, including this extract "*Water is the blood of the earth mother Papatūānuku, and the rivers are her veins. It is her who has given us life from time immemorial and it is with her that solutions to climate change lie. Our mission is to*

restore the healing power of Papatūānuku through the restoration of as many natural processes of water resilience as possible."

21. The joint work we are doing on the WWRS presents an opportunity for iwi to be involved at all levels. Implementation of the WWRS is in the early stages. Mana whenua representatives are members of the Governance Group, and the Programme Director is seeking to establish broader connections via these primary contacts.
22. Future decisions about how to incorporate principles of water resilience in regional planning documents will need to be made in conjunction with how the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board intends to develop and notify its own Natural Resources Document. Greater Wellington is keen to support the successful implementation of Treaty settlements by ensuring good communication and alignment of statutory processes.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi Consideration of climate change

23. The WWRS is in large part a climate resilience and adaptation initiative. Predicted changes in rainfall pattern will mean extended periods of water stress caused by drought conditions, alongside more frequent heavy rain events (but with less rain overall throughout the year). These changes will add pressure on the environment and on communities dependent on water for health and economic activity.
24. Water resilience work across the Wairarapa under the WWRS will support the ability to adapt to climate change through improving decision-making and availability of water for climate-resilient activity.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei Next steps

25. The next Governance Group meeting is on 29 October 2024 (following this Wairarapa Committee meeting).
26. The Governance Group will discuss project proposals in further details and seek endorsement from individual councils and iwi organisations as required.

Ngā āpitihanga Attachment/s

Number	Title
1	Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme 2024/25 – One page Summary

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Jennie Marks – Programme Director, Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy Pete Huggins – Catchment Manager, Ruamāhanga Amanda Cox, Principal Advisor to the Chair and Chief Executive
Approvers	Nicola Patrick – Director, Catchment Lian Butcher – Group Manager, Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The Committee is responsible for considering matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa which includes access to and allocation of freshwater.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The WWRS work programme supports Council's obligations to enable community wellbeing. The work is also contributing to climate resilience.
<i>Internal consultation</i> This report was prepared by the Office of the Chief Executive with support from Catchment in Environment Group.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known specific risks and impacts related to this report beyond the constrained circumstances as outlined.

Attachment 1: One-Page Summary – Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy Implementation Work Programme 2024-25

Programme Plan

Programme Management

The implementation is managed by providing advice to decision-makers and facilitating transparency, cohesive communications and engagement

- Supporting governance and administrative structure
- Collation of information and records
- Communications and engagement
- Funding oversight
- Overall progress reporting

Key projects for 24/25:

- Setting up administrative structure and resourcing from councils and partners
- Collate existing information on water resilience and any evidence to develop a Wairarapa-wide information campaign targeted at a range of audiences that demonstrate the need and commitment for action.

Natural attenuation

Nature-based solutions help us look after water resources and increase resilience

What we will do together:

Our focus is to connect opportunities for attenuation to increase resilience to flood protection works underway and planned with a focus on attenuation ponds, increasing planting in flood-prone areas and advocating for low-impact urban design with permeable surfaces.

Key projects for 24/25:

- Engaging with the “Before the Deluge” project for flood protection in the Ruamāhanga
- Exploring options for natural attenuation and flood-resistant street design in Featherston.

Water capture

Seasonal reliability is increased, and more water is available for our use

What we will do together:

We seek to establish mechanisms and drive for solutions that ensure public-interest oversight and lead to actions that serve our community at large.

Key projects for 24/25:

- Work with MBIE to obtain and collate all relevant files on previous work undertaken towards community dam projects
- Review policy settings and requirements for small- and medium-storage dams to support land use change to increase production of high-value products with low environmental footprint.

Water Allocation

Water is shared to support priority uses and enable sustainable growth

What we will do together:

Our focus is to promote the need to review water allocation in light of new evidence being developed.

Key projects for 24/25:

- Conduct targeted community engagement about the progress of Sky-TEM and the potential implications for water allocation in the future, explaining the interaction of surface and groundwater, and links of allocation and quality
- Commence policy review and analysis for future water rights and allocation.

Land use adaptation

What we grow is changing to reduce water reliance and increase resilience of our economy

What we will do together:

We will engage with other delivery partners to support research and initiatives targeted at land use change that increases resilience.

Key projects for 24/25:

- Work with WellingtonNZ and others on land use projects
- Engage with land management advisers to incorporate water resilience into extension programmes.

Water use efficiency

Everyone values water and uses it wisely to meet our needs

What we will do together:

We will develop educational material and policy initiatives together for everyone in the Wairarapa to learn about what they can do to improve efficiency.

Key projects for 24/25:

- Develop and launch targeted educational campaign on water efficiency and usage for rural, urban and commercial users across the Wairarapa.
- Develop a policy and incentive package consistent for all Wairarapa Councils that covers meters, charging and rain tanks.

Wairarapa Committee
29 October 2024
Report 24.524



For Information

WHAITUA UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on:
 - a the development of the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua
 - b the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP).

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Whaitua process was established by Greater Wellington and the community in order to implement national direction under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM).
3. The process considers freshwater management in the context of a catchment, working with mana whenua and the relevant communities to establish vision, values and recommended actions to meet environmental outcomes.

Wairarapa Coast

4. The Wairarapa Coast Whaitua is the last whaitua to be completed in the Wellington Region. The Government has extended the December 2024 deadline to December 2027. Implications of this new timeframe and incoming changes to the NPS-FM are currently being considered.
5. Council met in May 2024 to discuss potential timing and sequencing of Plan Changes related to NPS-FM 2020. The decision was made to continue with the whaitua work programme even though changes will be made to the NPS-FM within this timeframe.
6. The approach for the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua will be determined with mana whenua and community and this discussion has not begun in earnest yet, although a number of early connections have occurred.

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

Wairarapa Coast

7. For the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua, a different approach to the previous Whaitua processes is proposed. This draft approach is designed to take a whole of the catchment perspective with the intent to develop an implementation-led catchment plan that is broader in focus. It would bring together hapū and iwi values with the rural catchment community visions and outcomes to inform decisions based on sub-catchment priorities.
8. This catchment plan would encompass other related activities, eg, freshwater action plans, farm plans, community catchment action plans. Work is underway on how these examples could be woven together in an integrated plan and connected process or processes, which can then be tested against NPS-FM requirements as well as lessons from Kāpiti and other Whaitua processes.

Ruamāhanga

9. Environment Group is reporting to the November Environment Committee on Whaitua Implementation and will circulate this full update at the time.
10. Many of the recommendations in the Ruamāhanga WIP relate to water efficiency and changes in how water is managed. These are most appropriately pursued in conjunction with the Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy (WWRS). A combined governance group of Wairarapa councils and iwi has recently approved shared funding for a Programme Director to oversee this work. More information on the WWRS programme can be found in the Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme – Report 24.529, included at this meeting.
11. Natural Attenuation and Water Allocation workstreams under the WWRS are currently being led by Environment Group in Greater Wellington, with support from external partners. As part of the Water Allocation workstream Greater Wellington is working with GNS to prepare for the launch of a public viewer of information from the SkyTEM aerial survey. This is due later this year.
12. Recommendations relating to in-lake management options for improvement of freshwater values around Wairarapa Moana are being pursued in conjunction with integrated work under the new Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board. Environment Group is currently exploring integrated planning of all our activities in Wairarapa Moana for the 2025/26 financial year and two out-years. This work is also addressing transition arrangements associated with the 30 June 2025 end-date for Ministry for the Environment (MfE) funded work under the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

Wairarapa Coast

13. The approach for the Wairarapa Coast Whaitua will be determined with mana whenua.

Ruamāhanga

14. Decisions about how to incorporate the WIP in regional planning documents will need to be made in conjunction with how the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board intends to develop and notify its own Natural Resources Document. Greater Wellington is keen to support the successful implementation of Treaty settlements by ensuring good communication and alignment of statutory processes.
15. Progress on non-regulatory recommendations, such as investigations and trials around Wairarapa Moana, need to be considered in light of new ownership of land post-settlement. Greater Wellington intends to undertake a long-term review of the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme with the scheme committee and with iwi as the owners of significant parts of the scheme.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

16. Water resilience work across the Wairarapa under the WWRS will support the ability to adapt to climate change through improving decision-making and availability of water for climate-resilient activity.
17. Greater Wellington's climate team is supporting work to engage the wider community on climate impacts. Whaitua work in the Ruamāhanga focused on Wairarapa Moana will include modelling and preparation for changes in rainfall and coastal inundation due to climate change.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

Wairarapa Coast

18. Discussions with mana whenua will occur soon through the Greater Wellington Kaupapa discussions.
19. Continue to work with the catchment groups to support them to form or grow, focusing on their Catchment action plan development.

Ruamāhanga

20. Environment Group will continue to support the Wairarapa Catchment Collective and other landowner organisations to make progress on catchment plans for freshwater improvement.
21. Officers are also supporting the transfer of governance over the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project to the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board. This transfer was

anticipated and provided for by the previous governance group and has recently been accepted by the Board.

22. Communication and engagement relating to the SkyTEM aerial survey will occur through to the end of the year.

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writers	Tash Styles – Catchment Manager, Wairarapa Coast Pete Huggins – Catchment Manager, Ruamāhanga
Approvers	Nicola Patrick – Director, Catchment Lian Butcher – Group Manager, Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The information in this report on WIP development and implementation is a matter of strategic importance to the Wairarapa.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The Whaitua Programme contributes to Council's obligations to give effect to the NPS-FM through engagement with mana whenua and the community.
<i>Internal consultation</i> There was no internal consultation.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known specific risks and impacts related to this report beyond the constrained circumstances as outlined.



Wairarapa Committee
29 October 2024
Report 24.445

For Information

REGIONAL PREDATOR CONTROL PROGRAMME REVIEW (RPCP)

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) of the Regional Predator Control Programme (RPCP) review which is currently underway and the associated changes, risks and opportunities and to gain feedback on the proposed changes.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. The RPCP currently operates within the boundaries of previous OSPRI Tuberculosis (TB) control sites. Once OPSRI declares these areas TB free the RPCP continued to control possums to low numbers in these areas.
3. The RPCP focusses mainly on possums through aerial and ground control. Only a few areas control mustelids and these are mainly in the Kapiti area. In the past, the project was funded through targeted rates, but currently it is through general rates.
4. Whilst possum numbers remain low within the current operational area, other parts of the Region have seen increasing numbers of predators with limited or no resources to control them.
5. The review is taking place in the 2024/25 financial year and aims to generate a regional overview of where predators pose significant risk to high-value biodiversity and where control can have the greatest impact.
6. It will highlight opportunities for future collaboration efforts with landowners, Department of Conservation (DOC), OSPRI and community groups towards greater biodiversity outcomes.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

7. There are no financial implications as the programme is shifting its focus but remains within its approved budget.
8. There may be a financial implication to some landowners who want to retain current levels of possum control on their properties.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

9. We are working with Greater Wellington Regional Council's (Greater Wellington) Te Hunga Whiriwhiri team to understand implications for Mana Whenua and wish to have further discussions with Mana Whenua through the review process.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

10. There is flow on effect from controlling predators within the environment as they predate on species which act as seed dispersers and pollinators and across forest ecosystems. The impact, not immediately evident, has a significant impact on the rate of regeneration and restoration effort.
11. Possums feed on plants as well, targeting young plant shoots, stunting plant growth. They feed on flowers and fruit which limits forest regeneration and restoration efforts. Possums are also known to have impacts on grazing and farm production.

Te hiranga

Significance

12. The significance of this change means that the programme will shift its focus to protecting high-value biodiversity from predators.
13. For landowners who want to retain current levels of possum control, it may result in additional costs. The council is working on ways to assist landowners who wish to continue possum control.
14. The review will provide a regional overview of predator control needs for the region and enable better collaboration opportunities within catchments.

Te whakatūtakitaki

Engagement

15. Engagement will be done through presentations with the Environment Committee, the Farming Reference Group, and the Wairarapa Committee. We have had some engagement with the Wairarapa catchment collective, and we request further engagement with Mana Whenua.
16. We will also be engaging with the wider community by working with OSPRI to ensure information is clear and aligned.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

17. The RPCP working group will continue to have discussions to understand how the shift in the programme could impact Mana Whenua.

18. The pest animal team will continue to provide pest animal control advice and support to landowners through Greater Wellington’s contact centre.
19. Greater Wellington will work with partners to construct the integrated GIS data layers and interpret the data in an integrated way. Once key areas have been identified, further discussions will be held both internally and externally on the most effective delivery of pest control.
20. Officers will speak to [Attachment 1](#) at the Committee meeting on 29 October 2024.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachment

Number	Title
1	Regional Predator Control Review presentation

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatory/Signatories

Writer	Henk Louw – Principal Advisor Ecosystems, Delivery
Approvers	Jack Mace – Director Delivery Lian Butcher – Group Manager, Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The information presentation aligns with the committee's purpose to consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa. It aligns with the committee's responsibilities to consider and recommend on Biodiversity and Biosecurity and the potential arrangements for catchment-based approaches for the Wairarapa.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The RPCP program is currently within the Pest animal team work programme and aligns with our commitments to biosecurity within the region and in line with the Regional Pest Management Plan.
<i>Internal consultation</i> Internal consultation has been taking place between teams within the Environment Group as well as the Matauranga Taiao team within Tu hunga Whiriwhiri.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There is a reputational risk to the council as we shift the focus of this programme.

RPCP Review

Regional Predator Control Programme



Purpose

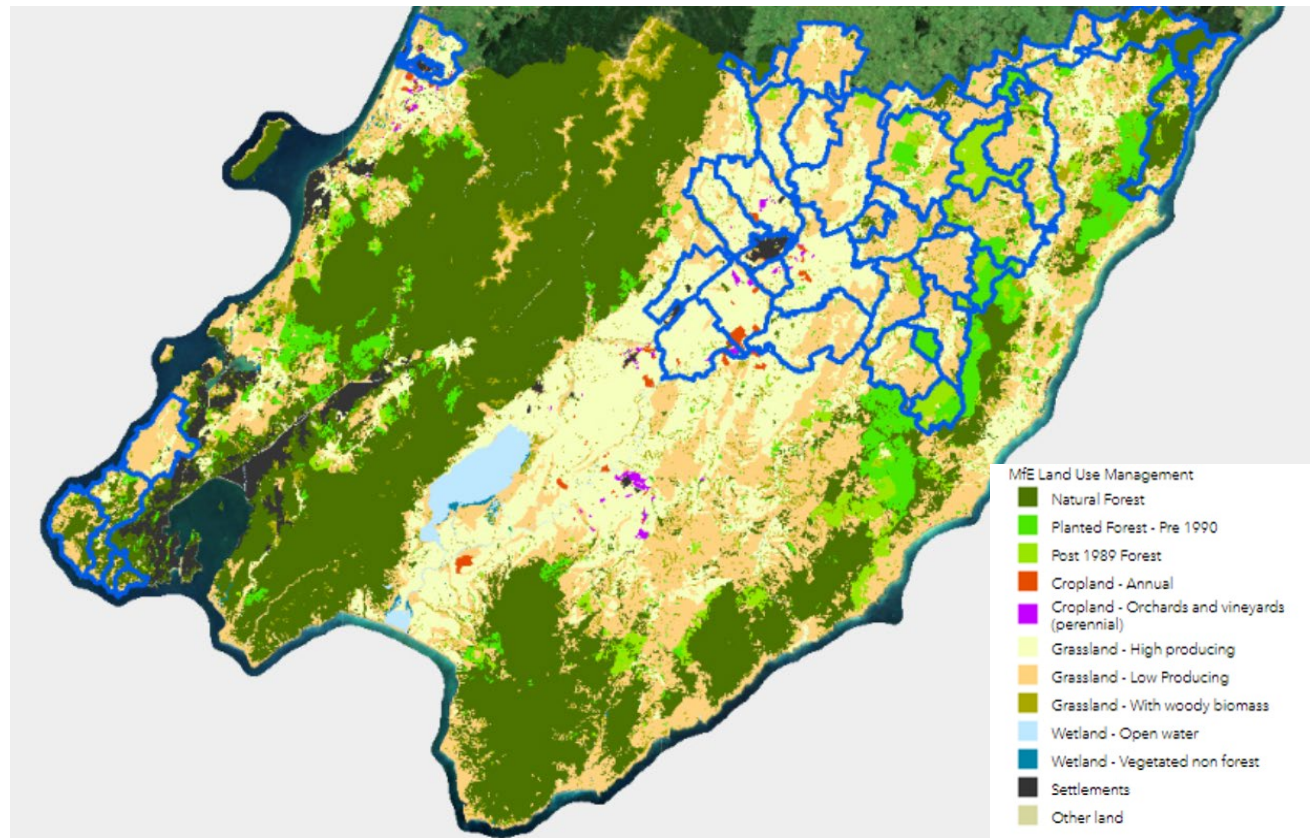
To inform the Committee of the RPCP review which is currently underway and the associated changes, risks and opportunities and to gain feedback on the proposed changes.

Current State

- The primary target species is focused on possums
- The operational area is limited to areas which have been declared TB free by OSPRI
- The annual operational area consists of 60k hectares per annum. This is on a rolling schedule over a three-year period over a total area of 200k hectares
- The budget for the programme \$1,5 million per annum - general rates.
- The majority of the region has no control, including large areas where OSPRI is currently working or in the process of withdrawing especially on DOC land

Regional overview of operational area

- The current operational area is focussed on controlling possums on production land.
- The future approach will focus on shifting the operational area to protect high-value biodiversity
- Several other layers will still be added to this map for a more integrated view.



Objectives

- Strategic and practical alternative to delivering the RPCP across the region
- Build an integrated information model of predator control with consideration to the following pressures and opportunities:
 - Biodiversity values and priorities
 - Pest animal habitats, behaviour and movement
 - Strategic landscape connection points and constraints
 - Mana Whenua / Community priorities and aspirations
 - Current and future control and infrastructure in place
 - Alternative delivery techniques and relation to other programs

Risks to consider

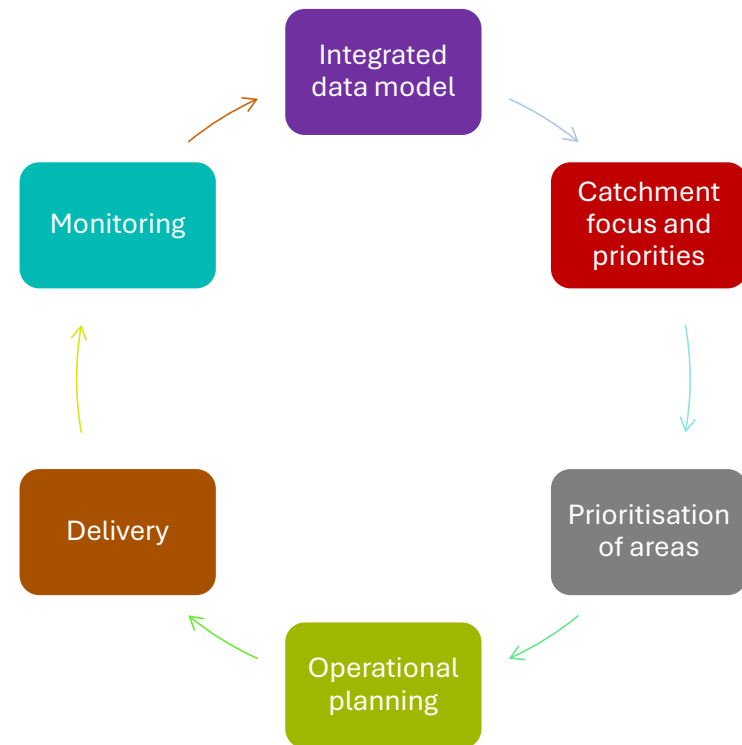
- Push back from landowners with regards to the changes to RPCP
 - Different values from landowners (Biodiversity / TB free / other not considered to date)
 - Misconception that Possums = TB
 - TB returning to the region (actual and perception)
- Possum numbers increase or continue to stay high in some areas within the region
- OSPRI operations reducing or moving out of the Wellington Region.

Measures of success

- We have a clear understanding of what type of control is needed and where it will have greatest impact.
- We are working together with DOC, community groups and other teams in Environment groups to join up control around important areas
- Decision are:
 - Transparent and based on comprehensive assessment criteria
 - Include strategic alignment and an integrated approach
 - Adaptable to new knowledge and insights
 - Focused on achieving the best outcomes for threatened ecosystems and species

Aspirational design model

- The integrated data model is aspirational and would require a scaled approach. For this review, we are aiming for a minimum viable product as a first step which will overlay multiple map layers with interpretations with key subject matter experts.
- This design is currently focussed on predator control, but serves as a prototype to expand to include other programmes like ungulate control, pest plants and the KNE programme in future.



Discussion / Questions

- The future approach will present a regional picture of high-value biodiversity areas under threat from particular predator species. It will show opportunities of control, enabling effective partnering with others to achieve collective biodiversity outcomes.
 - E.g. Collaborating with Waka Kotahi and Capital Kiwi to control predator pathways along Transmission gully with a focus on protecting kiwi in Wellington.
- Are there other factors we haven't considered?
 - E.g. How might we weight the protection of the production industry to that of biodiversity protection?

Wairarapa Committee
29 October 2024
Report 24.584



For Information

PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) of Metlink activities and performance relating to public transport in the Wairarapa.

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

2. The paragraphs below provide an update on Metlink activities in the Wairarapa.

Network upgrades

Wairarapa SW Carriage Rough Ride and Vibrations – Works Completed

3. On 28 May 2024, the Committee was provided with a report on the release of the Wairarapa SW Carriage Rough Ride and Vibration Review (refer Report 28.224 Release of Wairarapa SW Carriage Rough Ride and Vibration Review).
4. A Programme of Works to reduce service restrictions was presented to the Committee in May 2024.
5. The Programme of Works has been completed and from 17 October Temporary Speed Restrictions (TSRs) associated with the vibrations have been lifted to line speed. Greater Wellington/Transdev and KiwiRail will continue to monitor the Line for a short period before issuing public communication on this.
6. An outline of the Programme of Works follows:

Activity	When*	Comment/s	Update (as at 18 October 2024)
Commence Wairarapa Rail Line (WRL) rail track grinding	25 May 2024	Grinding is scheduled to take approximately 6 weeks. Testing to following grinding.	Grinding completed
Commence re-profiling of wheels	Mid-July 2024	Re-profiling of affected carriages is expected to take 3 months	Re-profiling of test train has been completed. Test train ran between Featherston and

Activity	When*	Comment/s	Update (as at 18 October 2024)
		For testing purposes some carriages have already been re-profiled. Re-profiling will be progressed in stages, with testing undertaken to determine whether achieves outcome.	Masterton on 24 July 2024. Test was successful. Re-profiling remainder of fleet to be planned and will follow.
Remove Temporary Speed Restrictions (TSRs) related to vibration issues	October 2024	TSRs applied to the WRL carriages will be removed following the completion of the wheel re-profiling programme.	Completed From 17 October TSRs associated with the vibrations have been lifted to line speed. Greater Wellington/Transdev and KiwiRail will continue to monitor the Line for a short period and then issue public communication on this.

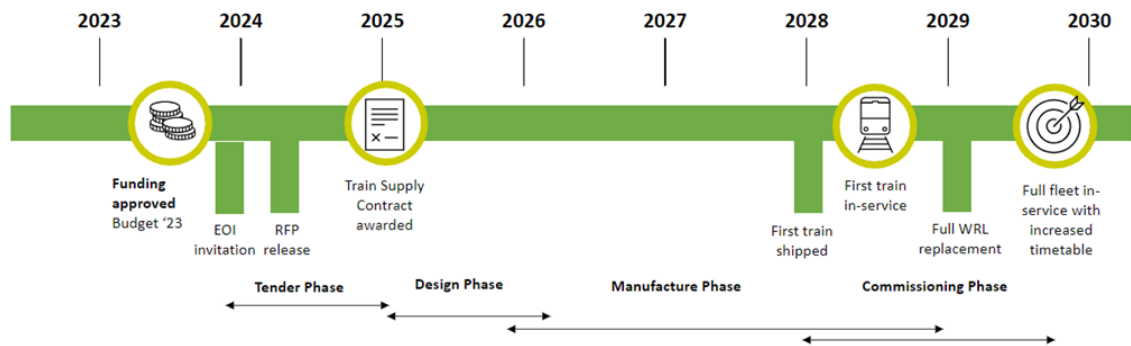
Update on activities – Rail

Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility

7. As part of Budget 2023, the Government agreed funding for the Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility (LNIRIM). LNIRIM is the primary inter-regional transport initiative being undertaken; it includes 18 four-car, tri-mode trains, and associated infrastructure, for the Wairarapa and Manawatū rail lines. It is expected that the new trains will double peak-time services between Palmerston North and Wellington on the Manawatū line and double them between Masterton and Wellington on the Wairarapa Line.
8. The key milestones for the procurement of the LNIRIM fleet and maintenance services include:
 - a Approval of the Procurement Strategy
 - b Expression of Interest (EOI) release
 - c Short list bidders
 - d Request for Proposals release
 - e Preferred supplier
 - f Contract award
9. A final shortlist of respondents has been confirmed to the EOI for providing a proposal to design, build and maintain 18 x 4-car low emission multiple units for

improving the passenger rail service, capacity and frequency on Wairarapa and Manawatū lines.

10. The shortlisted companies are:
 - a Alstom Rail Transportation New Zealand Limited
 - b Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles S.A.
 - c Stadler Bussnang AG
11. Request for Proposal was issued to the shortlisted EOI respondents on 29 July 2024, targeting contract award by mid-2025.
12. The following diagram sets out the indicative timeline for the Programme.



Wairarapa stations – bike parking improvements completed

13. Masterton and Solway bike parking improvements have been completed; this includes bike racks and shelter structures.
14. The photos below show the completed improvements:



Solway



Masterton

Bus replacement stops – update on work

15. Renall Street (formalising current bus replacement stops with improved road line marking): stops functional; Masterton District Council to line mark these Bus Replacing Trains (BRT) bus stops.
16. Woodside Station: Improvements to the bus replacement bus stops for Woodside Station will be incorporated into our BRT improvement programme, subject to funding.

Map of improved bus replacement stop locations



Update on performance

17. A PowerPoint presentation on Wairarapa public transport performance will be presented to the Committee at this meeting. A copy is attached as [Attachment 1](#).

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachment

Number	Title
1	Metlink Public Transport Performance – Presentation

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writers	David Mawson - Manager Rail Network Delivery Nathan Briggs – Manager Rail Assets Hamish Burns – Manager, Bus & Ferry Assets
Approvers	Fiona Abbott – Senior Manager Assets and Infrastructure, Metlink Samantha Gain – Group Manager, Metlink

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or Committee's terms of reference</i> The purpose of the Committee is to consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa. This is an information report on public transport matters in the Wairarapa.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> This report provides an update on the delivery of public transport activities in the Wairarapa. Delivering public transport is a key activity in the Long Term Plan.
<i>Internal consultation</i> No other departments were consulted in preparing this report.
<i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no risks arising from this report.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT PERFORMANCE - SEPTEMBER

FOCUS ON WAIRARAPA

WAIRARAPA COMMITTEE

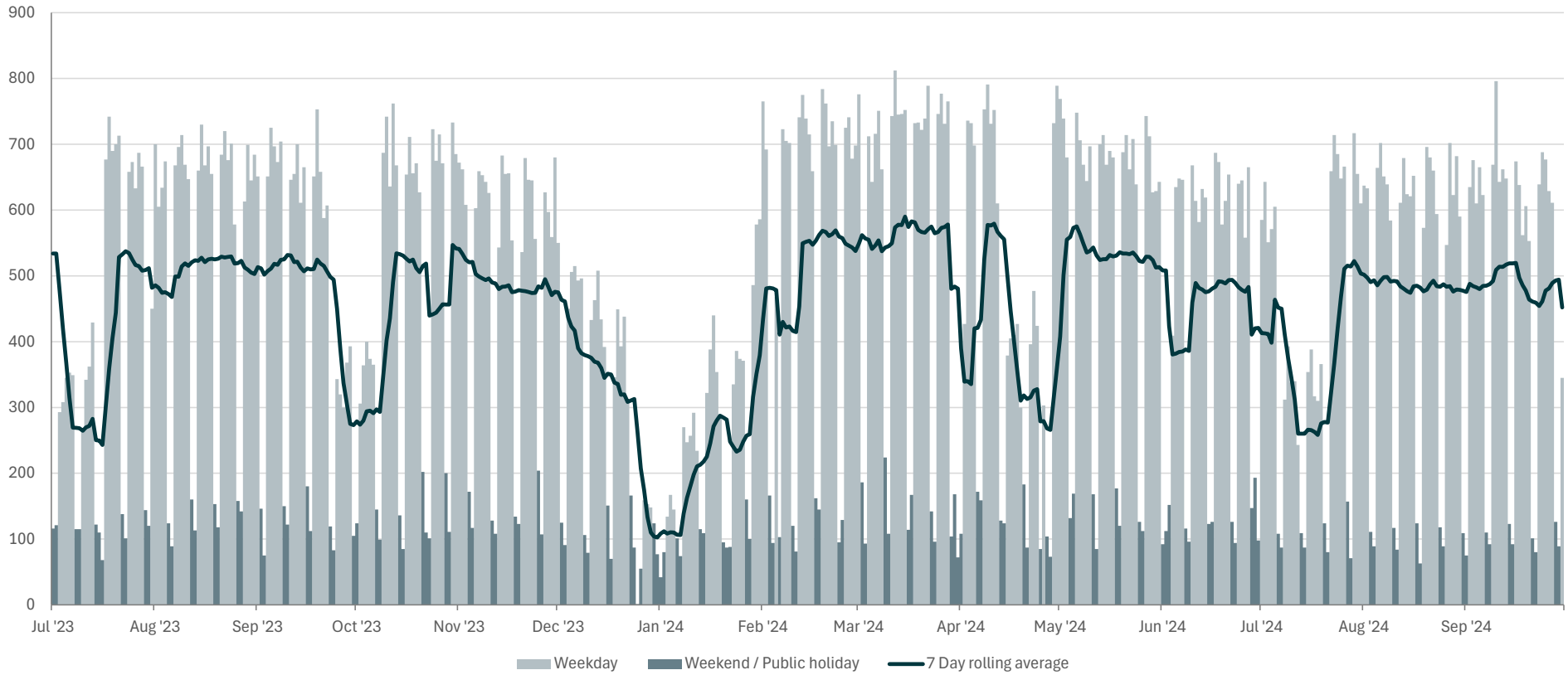
29 October 2024

Samantha Gain, Group Manager Metlink



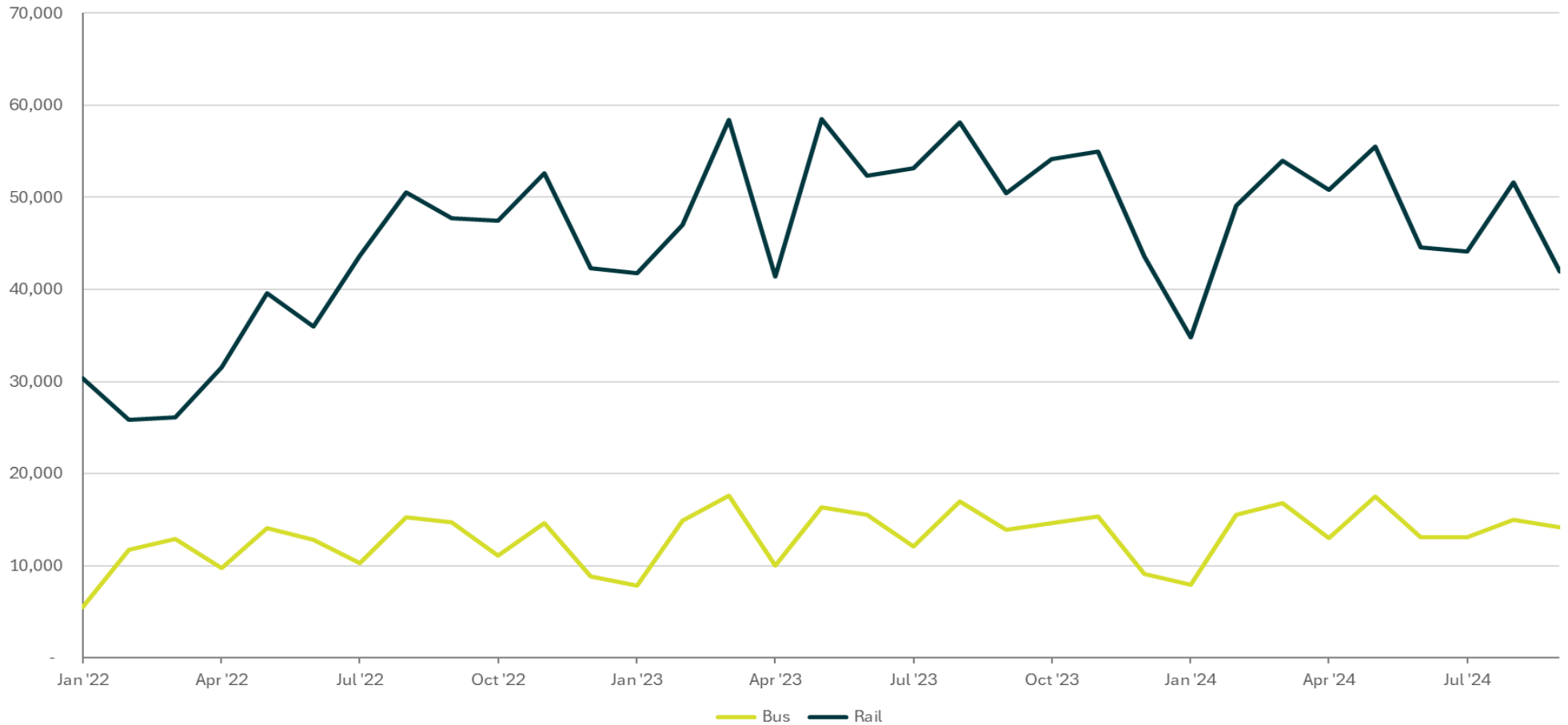
Wairarapa bus patronage – Boardings (day)

WAIRARAPA BUS DAILY PASSENGERS



Wairarapa rail/bus patronage – Boardings (MTH)

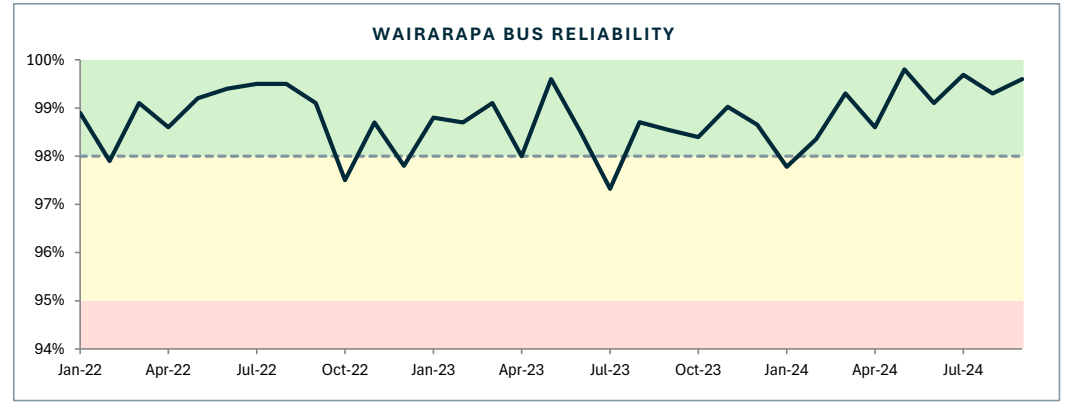
WAIRARAPA RAIL AND BUS MONTHLY PASSENGERS



Wairarapa bus reliability & punctuality

The bus reliability measure shows the percentage of scheduled services that actually ran, as tracked by Snapper systems.

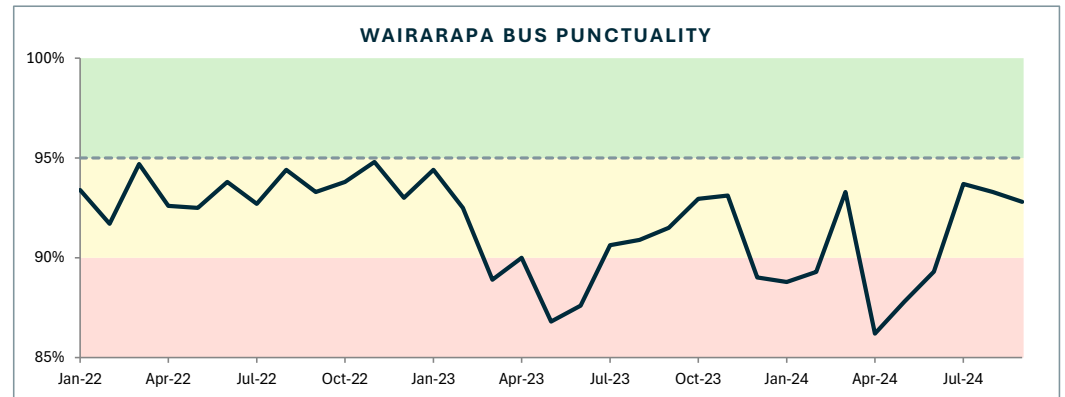
September 2024 bus reliability was **99.6%** (meets/exceeds target) mainly reflecting stabilised driver numbers and retention.



Bus punctuality is measured as the percentage of scheduled services that depart from origin, leaving between 1 minute early and 5 minutes late.

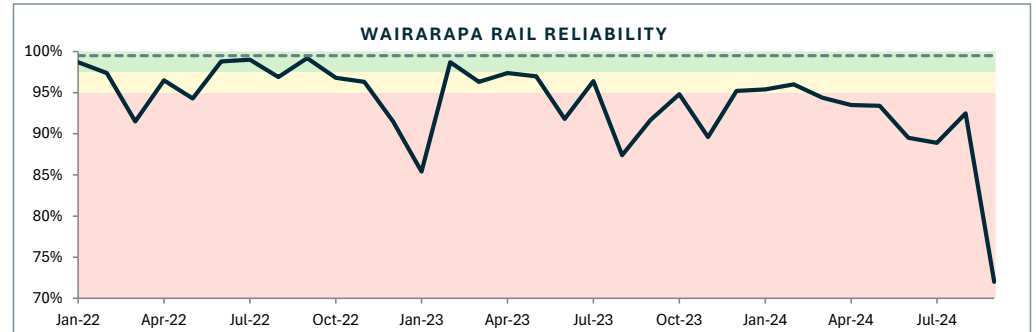
Punctuality is impacted by buses awaiting late arriving trains (contract KPIs not impacted in these instances).

September bus punctuality was **92.8%** (needs improvement).



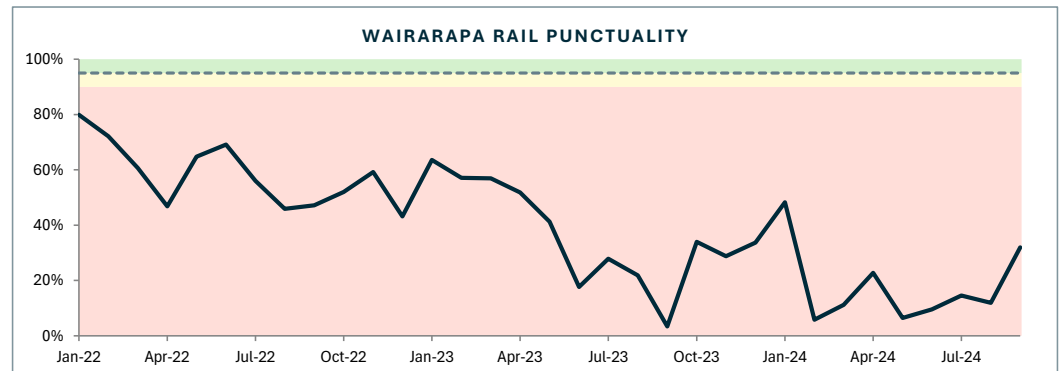
Wairarapa rail reliability & punctuality

The rail reliability measure shows the percentage of scheduled services that depart from the origin and key stations no earlier than 30 seconds before the scheduled time, meet the consist size for the scheduled service, and stop at all timetabled stations. It does not factor bus replacement services.



September rail reliability was **72.0%** (unsatisfactory). The RMTU held industrial action against the Operator during the month.

The rail punctuality measure records the percentage of services arriving at key interchange stations and final destination within five minutes of the scheduled time. It does not factor bus replacement services.



September rail punctuality was **32.0%** (unsatisfactory).

Wairarapa Complaints

WAIRARAPA RAIL AND BUS COMPLAINTS

