

MANAWATU RIVER UPDATE

8th June 2010

Iwi representatives from Rangitaane, Ngati Raukawa and Ngati Kauwhata met recently to discuss constructive and positive measures for improving the quality and maintaining te mauri o te awa Manawatu. The Iwi caucus then prepared four (4) high level goals, objectives and timelines to achieve these goals and tabled them at a Manawatu River workshop held on 3rd May 2010 at the Chalet Complex in Palmerston North.

They were as follows;

Proposed Cultural Goals from Iwi to Improve the State of the Manawatu River. Delivered on Monday 3 rd May 2010			
GOAL	ACTIONS	TOOLS	TIMELINE
1. Maintenance of Spirit of Okatia – eponymous ancestor and known as “te taniwha o te awa”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing programmes to enhance the mauri of the River. • Development of a Cultural Health Monitoring Tool to measure and address the cultural health of the river. • Developing timeline for improving discharge qualities into the River. • Encouraging higher levels of responsibility with regard to section 6 (e) of RMA Act. • Absolute protection of waahi tapu in perpetuity. • Iwi Participation in discussions around freshwater allocation and ongoing management. • Better TLA Collaboration in discharges to the River. 	Iwi/hapu values and decision making processes.	3-5 years
2. Enhancement and re-establishment of cultural areas of significance e.g.; mahinga kai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of areas of cultural significance. • Identify threats/decline issues in respect of significant cultural areas. • Identification of x number of cultural areas to be restored. • Increasing access to the River e.g. for swimming / waka ama. • Practising of Iwi Protocols e.g. Rahui. • Collaboration with other Agencies/Groups undertaking restoration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using GIS System with levels of classification. • Contestable Maori Fund established by LTA's and Regional Council for projects. 	3-5 years.

Proposed Cultural Goals from Iwi to Improve the State of the Manawatu River.

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GOAL	ACTIONS	TOOLS	TIMELINE
3. Enhancement and Re-establishment of natural communities alongside the Manawatu River and tributaries.	<p>projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of an environmental indicator of river health. • Develop programmes to restore the health and aquatic life within the River and its tributaries. • Development of programmes to undertake riparian restoration works alongside the river. • Development of new frameworks to manage the River e.g. channelling / water flows, limiting modification of river and consolidation of water extraction sites. 	Regulatory input by Iwi/Hapu into regulatory processes managing the river.	3-5 years
4. Enhancement of community awareness of all cultural values of the Manawatu River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and implementation of educational programmes to raise awareness around cultural values of the River targeted at Horizons, other TLA's, other Stakeholders e.g. Fish & Game, DOC, Federated Farmers etc. • Raising awareness within our Education System e.g. Kohanga, Kura, Mainstream from Primary through to Tertiary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hui – Marae. • IT – Websites. • Educational Curriculum. 	3-5 years.

Presenters were: - Te Waari Carkeek, Moetatua Turoa, Dennis Emery (Ngati Raukawa) and Danielle Harris (Rangitaane)

A planned further meeting was postponed from 17th May 2010 – to allow for other small interests groups of officials and leaders involved to meet in a similar manner to what the Iwi collectively had done. A new date for this next meeting had yet to be set and confirmed!!!

Any questions or comments, please feel free to contact:

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