

# Vision, Values and Freshwater Management Units

Phase 2: April 2021 – December 2022



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## Contents

1. Purpose .....	6
2. Background .....	6
3. General Engagement Approach .....	7
3.1. Engagement Purpose .....	7
3.2. Level of Impact .....	7
3.3. Level of Community Participation .....	7
3.4. Key focus areas .....	8
3.4.1. Proposed vision statement .....	8
3.4.2. Proposed Fresh Water Management Units (FMU) boundaries .....	8
3.4.3. Values .....	9
3.5. Community Engagement Channels .....	10
3.6. Communication Channels .....	10
3.6.1. Reach .....	10
3.6.1.1. Primary objective .....	10
3.6.1.2. Secondary objectives .....	10
3.6.2. Demographics .....	11
3.7. Total responses received by channel .....	13
4. Results .....	14
4.1. Vision Statement .....	14
4.1.1. Level of Agreement - Vision Statement .....	14
4.1.2. Comments - Vision Statement .....	14
4.1.3. Vision – Time Horizon .....	17
4.2. Values and Improvements – Time Horizon .....	18
4.3. Freshwater Management Units - Boundaries and Development .....	18
4.3.1. Southern Hill Country .....	18
4.3.2. Pātea .....	19

4.3.3.	Volcanic Ring Plan.....	19
4.3.4.	Waitara .....	21
4.3.5.	Northern Hill Country .....	21
4.3.6.	Coastal Terraces.....	22
4.3.7.	Feedback not specific to any one FMU.....	23
4.4.	Southern Hill Country Fresh Water Management Unit.....	24
4.4.1.	Vision and Improvements.....	24
4.4.1.1.	Community Feedback .....	24
4.4.2.	Values .....	25
4.4.2.1.	Community Feedback .....	25
4.5.	Pātea Fresh Water Management Unit .....	26
4.5.1.	Vision and Improvements.....	26
4.5.1.1.	Community Feedback .....	26
4.5.2.	Values .....	28
4.5.2.1.	Community Feedback .....	28
4.6.	Volcanic Ring Plain Fresh Water Management Unit .....	29
4.6.1.	Vision and Improvements.....	29
4.6.1.1.	Community Feedback .....	29
4.6.2.	Values .....	37
4.6.2.1.	Community Feedback .....	37
4.7.	Waitara Fresh Water Management Unit.....	38
4.7.1.	Vision and Improvements.....	38
4.7.1.1.	Community Feedback .....	38
4.7.2.	Values .....	40
4.7.2.1.	Community Feedback .....	40
4.8.	Northern Hill Country Fresh Water Management Unit.....	41
4.8.1.	Vision and Improvements.....	41
4.8.1.1.	Community Feedback .....	41
4.8.2.	Values .....	43
4.8.2.1.	Community Feedback .....	43
4.9.	Coastal Terraces Fresh Water Management Unit.....	44
4.9.1.	Vision and Improvements.....	44
4.9.1.1.	Community Feedback .....	44
4.9.2.	Values .....	46
4.9.2.1.	Community Feedback .....	46
4.10.	Feedback received but not specific to any one FMU .....	47
4.10.1.	Vision and improvements.....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
4.10.2.	Values .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

## Figures

Figure 1: Map of proposed Fresh Water Management Units.....	9
Figure 2: Responses received percentage by FMU .....	13
Figure 3: Level of agreement on vision statement - Let's Korero Survey.....	14
Figure 4: Southern Hill Country - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development.....	18
Figure 5: Pātea – Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development.....	19
Figure 6: Volcanic Ring Plain - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development .....	19
Figure 7: Waitara - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development.....	21
Figure 8: Northern Hill Country - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development.....	21
Figure 9: Coastal Terraces - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development.....	22
Figure 10: Transpower Assets .....	24

## Tables

Table 1: Proposed Fresh Water Management Units - Taranaki.....	9
Table 2: Values - National Objectives Framework (NOF) and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) .....	10
Table 3: Community engagement feedback channels .....	10
Table 4: Summary of communication reach.....	11
Table 5: Age of respondents .....	11
Table 6: Gender of respondents .....	12
Table 7: Location of respondents.....	12
Table 8: Hapu and Iwi individual respondents by FMU.....	12
Table 9: Total responses received - group and individual .....	13
Table 10: ALL - If you ticked somewhat disagree or strongly disagree, please tell us why .....	14
Table 11: Forest and Bird feedback.....	15
Table 12: Federated Farmers.....	16
Table 13: Transpower.....	17
Table 14: Time Horizon – Visions .....	17
Table 15: Time Horizon Vision - Forest and Bird.....	17
Table 16: Time Horizon Vision - Federated Farmers .....	17
Table 17: Time Horizon – Improvements .....	18
Table 18: Southern Hill Country - Comments on level of agreement on FMU .....	18
Table 19: Pātea - Comment on level of agreement on FMU .....	19
Table 20: Volcanic Ring Plain - Comments on level of agreement on FMU.....	20
Table 21: Waitara - Comments on level of agreement on FMU .....	21
Table 22: Northern Hill Country - Comments on level of agreement on FMU .....	22
Table 23: Coastal Terraces - Comment on level of agreement on FMU.....	22
Table 24: Not FMU specific - A&P Show boundaries level of agreement .....	23
Table 25: Not FMU specific - A&P Show comments on FMU boundaries .....	23
Table 26: Not FMU specific - Forest and Bird feedback .....	23
Table 27: Not FMU specific – Federated Farmers of New Zealand.....	23
Table 28: Southern Hill Country - Schools summary on vision and improvements .....	24
Table 29: Southern Hill Country - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements.....	24
Table 30: Southern Hill Country - Online survey responses on vision and improvements .....	25
Table 31: Southern Hill Country - Schools key values - compulsory and other .....	25

Table 32: Southern Hill Country – Community level of interest values - compulsory and other .....	25
Table 33: Pātea - Schools summary on vision and improvements.....	26
Table 34: Pātea – A&P Show comments on vision and improvements.....	26
Table 35: Pātea - Online survey responses on vision and improvements.....	27
Table 36: Pātea – Schools key values – compulsory and other .....	28
Table 37: Pātea Forest and Bird key values – compulsory and other .....	29
Table 38: Pātea - Community level of interest values – compulsory and other .....	29
Table 39: Volcanic Ring Plain - Schools summary on vision and improvements .....	29
Table 40: Volcanic Ring Plain - A&P show comments on vision and improvements .....	30
Table 41: Volcanic Ring Plain - Online survey responses on vision and improvements.....	30
Table 42: Volcanic Ring Plain - Forest and Bird key values – compulsory and other .....	36
Table 43: Volcanic Ring Plain - Schools key values - compulsory and other.....	37
Table 44: Volcanic Ring Plain - Community level of interest in values - compulsory and other.....	37
Table 45: Waitara - Schools summary on vision and improvements .....	38
Table 46: Waitara - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements.....	38
Table 47: Waitara - Online survey responses on vision and improvements .....	38
Table 48: Waitara - Schools key values - compulsory and other .....	40
Table 49: Waitara - Community level of interest values - compulsory and other .....	41
Table 50: Northern Hill Country - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements.....	41
Table 51: Northern Hill Country - Online survey responses on vision and improvements .....	41
Table 52: Northern Hill Country - Other community feedback on vision and improvements.....	43
Table 53: Northern Hill Country - Community level of interest in values - compulsory and other .....	43
Table 54: Coastal Terraces - Schools summary of visions and improvements .....	44
Table 55: Coastal Terraces - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements.....	44
Table 56: Coastal Terraces - Online survey responses on vision and improvements .....	44
Table 57: Coastal Terraces - Schools key values - compulsory and other .....	46
Table 58: Coastal Terraces - Community level of interest values - compulsory and other .....	46
Table 59: Not FMU specific - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements.....	47
Table 60: Not FMU specific – Facebook comments on vision and improvements .....	48
Table 61: Not FMU specific - Taranaki Golf Course Superintendents Association comments on vision and improvements .....	48
Table 62: Not FMU specific - Forest and Bird comments on vision and improvements .....	48
Table 63: Not FMU specific - A&P Show level of interest values - compulsory and other .....	47
Table 64: Not FMU specific - Forest and Bird interest in values – compulsory and other .....	50
Table 65: Not FMU specific – Federated Farmers of New Zealand – Compulsory and Others .....	51

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the methodology and high level findings of the Taranaki Regional Councils (the Council) Phase 2 community engagement on:

- the long-term vision for freshwater;
- the six Freshwater Management Units (FMU's); and
- the National Objectives Framework values associated with each FMU;

to give effect to the *National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management* (NPS-FM) and to inform policy development for the Natural Resources Plan for Taranaki.

This engagement follows on from general engagement undertaken in March – April 2021 and documented in 'Developing a freshwater vision for Taranaki (Document 2741945). This document, and other documents prepared by Pou Taiao on tangata whenua perspectives and positions will be used by policy staff in the preparation of provisions within the Natural Resources Plan for Taranaki.

## 2. Background

In 2020 the government released the *National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management* (NPS-FM), which provides specific directions and requirements for the management of the freshwater resource within the region. In particular, the NPS-FM sets out directions for Councils to stop degradation of freshwater environments and create improvement within a generation. This is to be achieved, largely through the National Objectives Framework. This report does not attempt to explain the entire NOF process and guidance to support the broader elements of the NPS-FM can be found in the publication [Guidance on the National Objectives Framework \(NOF\) in the NPS-FM 2022](#) (Ministry for the Environment). Other elements of the NOF process, which require engagement, will be addressed in other engagement processes throughout 2023 and 2024.

Amongst other things, the NPS-FM requires that the Council:

- identify Freshwater Management Units within which the National Objectives Framework will be applied;
- prepare long-term vision statements for each FMU to be expressed as an objective in the Regional Policy Statement; and
- identify the values which apply to each long-term vision to enable the NOF process to be undertaken and the vision to be achieved.

Developing a community perspective and understanding on these key elements is the primary focus of the phase 2 engagement. This will be further added to by the contributions of tangata whenua on similar matters through the Pou Taiao engagement program ([report link when received](#)). These will ultimately be the drivers for policy development within the Natural Resources Plan which is one of the key vehicles the Council will give effect to the NPS-FM and the NOF process requirements.

### 3. General Engagement Approach

#### 3.1. Engagement Purpose

This report is Phase 2 of the NPS-FM community engagement process and concentrated on Freshwater Management Units, Vision Statement, Values and Improvements to underpin the NOF process in (2)(a,b) below (bold):

#### National Objectives Framework (Extract) <sup>1</sup>

##### 3.7 NOF Process

(1) At each step of the NOF process, every regional council must:

- a) engage with communities and tangata whenua; and
- b) apply the hierarchy of obligations set out in clause 1.3(5), as required by clause 3.2 (2)(c)

(2) By way of summary, the NOF process requires regional councils to undertake the following steps:

- (a) identify FMUs in the region (clause 3.3)**
- (b) identify values for each FMU (clause 3.9)**
- (c) set environmental outcomes for each value and include them as objectives in regional plans (clause 3.9)
- (d) identify attributes for each value and identify baseline states for those attributes (clause 3.10)

#### 3.2. Level of Impact

Level of Impact	Criteria
High	Impacts on regional strategies, policies and direction A degree of controversy and/or conflict

#### 3.3. Level of Community Participation

Aiming for best practice engagement, the engagement project used the IAP2 spectrum for public participation when designing the engagement methods and tools.

Level of Participation	Definition	Promise to the Community
Inform	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	We will keep you informed
Consult	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge your concerns and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

<sup>1</sup> (Extract) Subpart 2: NPS-FW 2020, Amendment No 1 (8 December 2022), Section 3.7  
<https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/National-Policy-Statement-for-Freshwater-Management-2020.pdf>

<b>Involve</b>	To work directly with the community throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how the public influenced the decision.
<b>Collaborate</b>	To partner with the community in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

### 3.4. Key focus areas

#### 3.4.1. Proposed vision statement

The proposed vision statement was developed as an outcome of Phase 1 engagement on NPS-FW 2020 community engagement process:

*“The mauri and life supporting capacity of Taranaki’s freshwater supports our community to swim in it, drink from it and harvest resources for use. It is clean and fresh, with healthy functioning ecosystems and biodiversity connectivity across each catchment. The use of all freshwater is respectful to reflect its value as taonga.”*

#### 3.4.2. Proposed Fresh Water Management Units (FMU) boundaries

The proposed Fresh Water Management Units were developed by Council officers having regard to the requirements of the NOF process, previous feedback on draft FMU’s in the draft Freshwater Plan (2016) and by applying four high level principles derived from earlier feedback from the community and tangata whenua:

- **‘Ki uta ki tai’** – Source to sea approach
- **Go with the wai** - catchment boundaries should be used rather than property boundaries to delineate FMUs
- Design to enable **freshwater accounting** requirements for limit and target setting – (rather than land management)
- **Keep it simple** – fewer FMUs will reduce complications and ensure the NOF is workable

Other physical and environmental considerations were also included such as predominant land use, environmental issues within certain known spatial areas, geologic and geographic considerations, common freshwater body types and so on.



Table 1: Proposed Fresh Water Management Units - Taranaki

Northern Hill Country	From the Onaero River to the Waitara River
Coastal Terraces	Situated in the north and south of Taranaki
Southern Hill Country	From the Tangahoe River and inland to the Waitotara River
Volcanic Ring Plain	In the area dominated by Taranaki Maunga
Pātea	From the headwaters of the Pātea to the expansive Lake Rotorangi
Waitara	From the Manganui River to the Makino flowing into the Waitara River

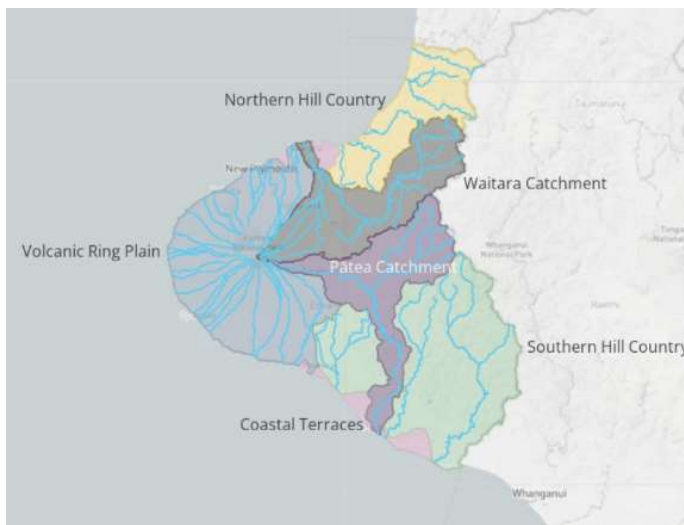


Figure 1: Map of proposed Fresh Water Management Units

### 3.4.3. Values<sup>2</sup>

The NPS-FM sets out four compulsory values which are applied to each FMU and requires the Council to investigate the relevance of a further 9 optional values to each FMU. Additional values not included in the NPS-FM can also be identified if the Council determines that it is appropriate.

<sup>2</sup> <https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/freshwater-implementation-guidance/nof/values-and-attributes/#four-compulsory-values>

Table 2: Values - National Objectives Framework (NOF) and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM)

Compulsory Values	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ecosystem health (considering water quality, water quantity, habitat, aquatic life and ecological processes that indicate a healthy aquatic environment)</li> <li>2. Human contact (enabling people to connect with and enjoy the water)</li> <li>3. Threatened species (critical habitats and conditions necessary to support the presence, abundance, survival and recovery of threatened aquatic life)</li> <li>4. Mahinga kai (providing food for the people that is safe to harvest and eat, and keeping the mauri of the place intact).</li> </ol>
Other Values that must be considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Natural form and character</li> <li>2. Drinking water supply</li> <li>3. Wai tapu</li> <li>4. Transport and Tauranga waka</li> <li>5. Fishing</li> <li>6. Hydro-electric power generation</li> <li>7. Animal drinking water</li> <li>8. Irrigation, cultivation, and production of food and beverages</li> <li>9. Commercial and industrial use</li> </ol>

### 3.5. Community Engagement Channels

Table 3: Community engagement feedback channels

	Vision	Values	FMUs
Let's Korero online surveys	x	x	x
Let's Korero comments	x	x	
Schools – key questions with posts it notes	x	x	
A&P Show (Stratford) paper-based surveys	x	x	x
A&P Show (Stratford) – key question with posts it notes	x	x	x
Facebook comments		x	
Email and handwritten responses – Group and Individual	x	x	x

### 3.6. Communication Channels

#### 3.6.1. Reach

##### 3.6.1.1. Primary objective

Reach the majority of Taranaki residents with messages about the opportunity to have a say in how the region's freshwater is protected and managed.

##### 3.6.1.2. Secondary objectives

- Increase the diversity of voices heard in consultation, with a particular focus on including a youth perspective.
- Use targeted channels and messaging to drive higher engagement within priority audiences including farmers, special interest groups.

- Use a variety of channels to make it easy for the public to participate in the conversation at a time and in a manner that suits them.

Table 4: Summary of communication reach

Channel	Reach	Target audience
Face-Face - Schools	165	Students aged 9-12
Face-to-Face – District Council Planners	10	District Council planners
Face-to-face – Stratford A&P Show	5,000*	Farmers
Daily News – Editorial [Two placements: 28 Oct, 8 Dec)	25,000	General Public
Rural News – Editorial	165	Farmers
Te Korimako o Taranaki - Editorial	500*	Iwi and hapu of Taranaki
North Taranaki Midweek - Advert	45,000	General Public
South Taranaki Star - Advert	45,000	General Public
Daily News (online) – Digital advert*	2,333	General Public
Facebook [18 posts]	25,670	General Public
Instagram [11 posts]	3,245	General Public
Website – TRC**	261	General Public
Website – FMU stories	147	General Public
Website – Social Pinpoint	1,160	General Public
Email – TRC database	8,800	Farmers
Email – Iwi chairs/CEs	36	Iwi
Email – Special Interest Groups (1 EDM)	125	Special Interest Groups (farmers, industry and advocacy groups)
Email – People’s forum	18	Special Interest Groups
Email – On-farm Essential Freshwater (2 emails)	1,250	Farmers
<b>TOTAL***</b>	<b>163,885</b>	

Notes:

\* Estimate only - exact figures not available.

\*\*Number of people who visited Let’s Korero related pages in consultation period.

\*\*\* The reach number is cumulative across channels and accordingly includes duplicates where individuals saw messages on more than one channel.

### 3.6.2. Demographics

Table 5: Age of respondents

	Social	Daily News*	Website
18-24	4%	2%	9%
25-34	12%	7%	25%
35-44	15%	17%	17%
45-54	10%	14%	20%
55-64	3%	17%	19%
65+	3.5%	43%	17%

Note: \*57 years is the average age of Daily News readers

Table 6: Gender of respondents

	Social	Daily News	Website
Male	37%	59%	57%
Female	63%	41%	43%

Table 7: Location of respondents

	Social
North Taranaki	67%
Central Taranaki	12%
South Taranaki	11%
Other	9%

Note: Website and Daily New location were not accurately identifiable.

Table 8: Hapu and Iwi individual respondents by FMU

Proposed FMU	Iwi/Hapu – individual respondent affiliation (Let's Korero Survey Data)
Northern Hill Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ngāti Mutunga, Te Atiawa, Taranaki</li> <li>Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Ruanui, Te Ātiawa</li> <li>Ngāti Maru, Te Atiawa, Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāruahine - noting the views expressed in the survey are my individual views and do not represent the views of the iwi</li> <li>Ngai Tahu.</li> </ul>
Coastal Terraces	
Southern Hill Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nga te Whiti</li> </ul>
Volcanic Ring Plain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ngati Paoa</li> <li>Taranaki Tūturu</li> <li>Te āti awa, taranaki</li> <li>Nga iwi o Taranaki, Aotea waka</li> <li>Taranaki</li> </ul>
Pātea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nga te Whiti</li> <li>Taranaki</li> </ul>
Waitara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Te Atihaunui-a-Paparangi, Whanganui. Ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au. Applies in Taranaki too.</li> </ul>

### 3.7. Total responses received by channel

Table 9: Total responses received - group and individual

Proposed FMU	Schools	A&P Show Surveys	A&P Show Post it	Surveys Social Pinpoint	Comments Social Pinpoint	Facebook	Group	Individual	Total
Patea	25	8	12	13	12				70
Waitara	18	5	5	18	34				80
Volcanic Ringplan	94	9	20	53	50				226
Southern Hill Country	23	0	5	6	3				37
Coastal Terraces	5	1	0	8	3				17
Northern Hill Country		1	0	19	11			1	32
All Taranaki		38				15	5		58
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>520</b>

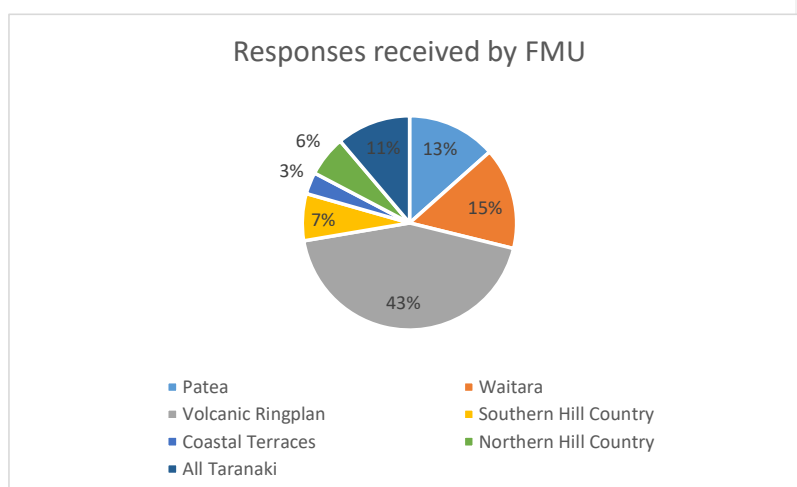


Figure 2: Responses received percentage by FMU

## 4. Results

### 4.1. Vision Statement

#### 4.1.1. Level of Agreement - Vision Statement

How do you feel this statement reflects your aspirations for freshwater in Taranaki?

*“The mauri and life supporting capacity of Taranaki’s freshwater supports our community to swim in it, drink from it and harvest resources for use. It is clean and fresh, with healthy functioning ecosystems and biodiversity connectivity across each catchment. The use of all freshwater is respectful to reflect its value as taonga.”*

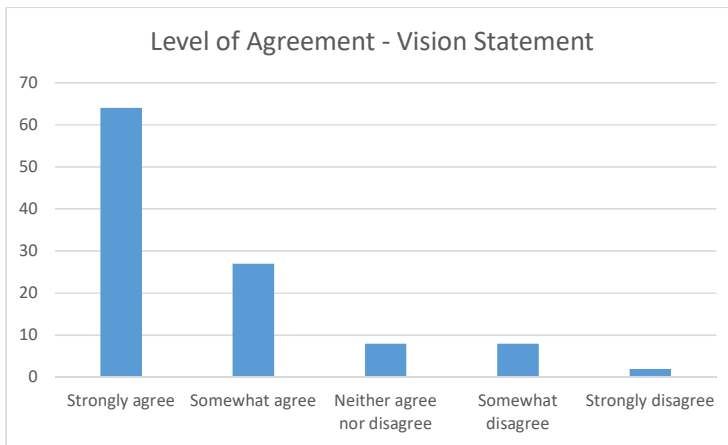


Figure 3: Level of agreement on vision statement - Let's Korero Survey

#### 4.1.2. Comments - Vision Statement

Table 10: ALL - If you ticked somewhat disagree or strongly disagree, please tell us why

- Some high value freshwater bodies (identified elsewhere in the documentation) are not connected to managed rivers. Surely, we should build on what is already in place and add value to these.
- Would expect a stronger indication that the rivers are a vital component of the economy, the wording appears to lead to an impression that resources are harvested from the water and not the water itself is needed.
- I actually agree with aspects of this but question what is clean water? I am not sure clean water is necessarily healthy water? Also do we need to swim in or drink from water in the winter months - this is both dangerous and unrealistic in the ring plain. When it is continuously raining on the mountain the streams run brown even at the top of the catchments. I think we need to be realistic in that rivers are changing with the seasons, the climate and they are a life force of their own. We must be realistic rather than having a romantic notion of all rivers being like they are in summer. Happy with this aspect: It is clean and fresh, with healthy functioning ecosystems and biodiversity connectivity across each catchment. The use of all freshwater is respectful to reflect its value as taonga
- Good, but could be more succinct.
- That is what we have now so nothing needs to change

- As long as it is backed by independent and verified science.
- I don't think it's feasible to have river water at a drinking quality standard.
- The statement is overly idealistic bordering on naivety. I struggle to understand the concept of Taonga, its full meaning and full implications for the non-Māori community. I swam in the Kapokonui as a child and would do so today. I fear this is a tilt at reverting streams to a pristine pre human settlement state. The economic effect associated with this idealism will devastate our communities as farming and the benefits that arise are pared right back or outright banned. "to cut one's nose off despite the face" springs to mind. It is not unusual to have casual swimmers in the Kapuni Stream on our property.
- Our water is mostly of an acceptable standard currently
- Clean and fresh should be defined (and us agree-ers also want to comment...) great aspirational goal, can we add a timeframe?
- Strikes me of idealism. Has the direct and indirect cost been considered in the making of this statement. And what of that that is totally out of our control - I see in the State of the Environment Report that the two greatest disruptions to water in Taranaki exist because of historic erosion events on the mountain.
- Be good to see a KPI in vision statement of where we aspire to be in future.
- Because the statement refers to our wai as a tāonga, which is completely opposite to your description of "managing freshwater" and "freshwater resources.
- Harvest resources for use. This has no quantifier as to how much to harvest. This should be sustainable.
- I would like to see the final sentence strengthened to include management e.g. The management and use of all freshwater is respectful to reflect its value as taonga. To the general public, use may just mean abstraction.
- We all should want clean water that enables all of us to swim and harvest from it.
- We need to strike the right balance for economic prosperity. Ie using land and water to to make farming/horticulture economic. But don't make it too hard to meet targets, especially if is still relatively healthy ecosystem
- For me, it doesn't capture the link between ecological wellbeing and economic wellbeing. The well beings are symbiotic. One can't do well without the other. They all need to be in balance.

Table 11: Forest and Bird feedback

The current draft vision for Taranaki's FMUs reads:

*"The mauri and life supporting capacity of Taranaki's freshwater supports our community to swim in it, drink from it and harvest resources for use. It is clean and fresh, with healthy functioning ecosystems and biodiversity connectivity across each catchment. The use of all freshwater is respectful to reflect its value as taonga."*

We note the NPSFM (clause 3.3) states that long-term visions must be developed at an "FMU, part of an FMU, or catchment level". Therefore, TRC will need to develop at least six vision statements. Forest & Bird is looking forward to working with TRC at the next stage of consultation. At that point we would like to see specific long-term visions drafted for each FMU based on the values and feedback collected in 2022. Specific long-term visions for each FMU will give land users, the community, and the public clear and measurable targets, which will guide policies and actions, needed to ensure ambitious but achievable targets can be met. The unique characteristics of every FMU make long-term visions essential for each area. We support TRC developing six long term visions that 'fall' directly from the Vision currently being developed.

We have provided an amended version of the vision statement below to illustrate how this overall draft vision might be improved. This includes rearranging the statement so the health and function of the ecosystem sits at the start of the statement, with reference to drinking water and use values afterward, as this is more consistent with Te Mana o te Wai and its hierarchy of obligations. We have done this in the tracked changes version below (though we have not tracked that change, as the words have simply been moved). Overall, we support the focus and intent of the draft vision, with the following comments:

- a) Starting the vision with an aspiration for ecosystem health, followed by other uses, is more consistent with Te Mana o te Wai and its hierarchy of obligations.
- b) Biodiversity connectivity should be provided across the rohe, not just across catchments. While fish will stay within catchments (at least until they breed at sea etc.), other freshwater creatures (macroinvertebrates, wetland birds) will move across catchments. It might be more appropriate to have this in a separate sentence.
- c) Water quality should support for everyone's health and wellbeing, not just local communities.
- d) 'Clean and fresh' is a relatively meaningless description for freshwater (which is by definition 'fresh')

"Taranaki's freshwater It is clean and fresh, with healthy functioning ecosystems and biodiversity, and biodiversity connectivity across the rohe each catchment. The mauri and life supporting capacity of Taranaki's freshwater supports all people our community to swim in it, drink from it and sustainably harvest resources for safe use. The Any use of all freshwater is respectful and to reflects its value as taonga.

Table 12: Federated Farmers

#### Section 4.5 & 4.6

Our expectation for the setting of the FMU vision is that:

- They will be worded at a conceptual level (rather than detailed) level.
- There will be a high degree of consistency in working across the different FMUs (it makes it extremely difficult, costly and complex to implement actions to achieve visions or to take an integrated approach to resource management, if they are all worded completely differently and take a fundamentally different approach).
- The timeframe for achieving them will be pragmatic and realistic.

Federated Farmers recommends Council establishes a vision that is realistic and achievable based on the extent of water quality improvement required. Under the NPS-FM the long-term vision must be set at a FMU or catchment level and be ambitious yet reasonable with regards to the timeframe.



Table 13: Transpower

Transpower is broadly supportive of the Essential Freshwater consultation and the intent to combine a number of regional plans into one Natural Resources Plan. Transpower acknowledges that the Council is in the early stages of the process and no detailed provisions have yet been provided. Transpower requests that the following be taken into account as the process develops:

- Ensuring that the National Grid is properly recognised in terms of the policy tests that are required to be met within the Natural Resources Plan for new National Grid infrastructure (particularly Policy 8 of the NPSET);
- Ensure definitions to enable better interpretation of the plan provisions;
- Ensuring that the weighting of objectives and policies is made clear for decision makers. Transpower supports the balanced approach to the objective and policy framework, but it is considered that the NRP should include a statement explaining if there is a policy hierarchy or otherwise. This is particularly important for the assessment of proposals for nationally and regionally significant infrastructure that may result in adverse effects that are unavoidable, but will deliver significant benefits.

Transpower would like to be included and involved as the creation of the Natural Resource Plan advances through the process.

#### 4.1.3. Vision – Time Horizon

Table 14: Time Horizon – Visions

When do you think we should aim to make these visions happen?	Patea	Waitara	Volcanic Ring Plan	Southern Hill Country	Northern Country	Coastal Tairāpiti
10-20 years	90.0%	84.0%	74.0%	80.0%	83.3%	10.0%
20-30 years	10.0%	7.0%	16.0%	20.0%	11.1%	0.0%
30+ years	0.0%	7.0%	10.0%	0.0%	5.6%	0.0%

Commented [GM1]: This doesn't add up.

Table 15: Time Horizon Vision - Forest and Bird

At this stage, we generally seek to achieve these outcomes 'in a generation' (as per the government's intention with the 'Essential Freshwater Reform') and would therefore like to see the timeframes set at **10-20 years (or sooner where possible)**.

Table 16: Time Horizon Vision - Federated Farmers

#### Section 4.7

We also recommend Council focuses, on providing communities with real time understanding on the pressures and history of the catchment and appropriate modelling to set a timeframe for the vision.

Note: Sections 4.1-4.4 relate to the engagement process related to time horizons and the vision development.

## 4.2. Values and Improvements – Time Horizon

Table 17: Time Horizon – Improvements

When would you like to see these improvements happen?	Patea	Waitara	Volcanic Ring Plan	Southern Hill Country	Northern Country	Coastal Terraces
5-10 years	78.0%	83.0%	75.0%	40.0%	81.3%	87.5%
10-20 years	22.0%	16.0%	12.5%	60.0%	12.5%	12.5%
20+ years	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	6.3%	0.0%

## 4.3. Freshwater Management Units - Boundaries and Development

### 4.3.1. Southern Hill Country

Do you agree or disagree with the approach to create a Freshwater Management Unit for the Southern Hill Country Catchment and how we've drawn it?

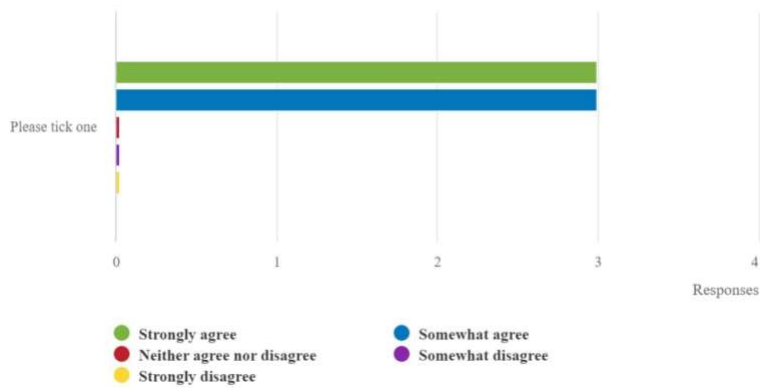


Figure 4: Southern Hill Country - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development

Table 18: Southern Hill Country - Comments on level of agreement on FMU

Not all waterways are included i.e. those which start/pass through noted significant wetland areas. I can understand why the Patea is in a separate FMU but it does make the Southern Hill FMU feel fragmented

#### 4.3.2. Pātea

Do you agree or disagree with the approach to create a Freshwater Management Unit for the Pātea Catchment and how we've drawn it?

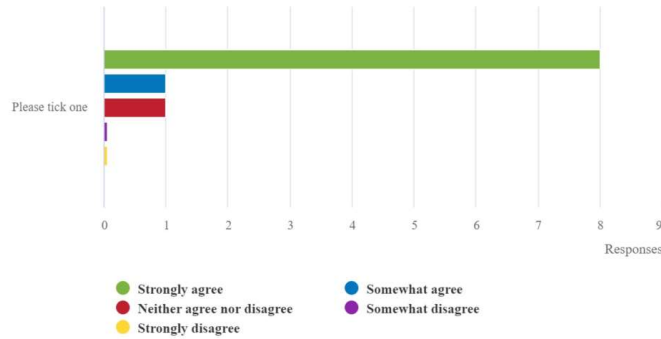


Figure 5: Pātea – Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development

Table 19: Pātea - Comment on level of agreement on FMU

- I don't know much about the areas, but it looks to make sense with the placement of streams feeding in on the map supplied.

#### 4.3.3. Volcanic Ring Plain

Do you agree or disagree with the approach to create a Freshwater Management Unit for the Volcanic Ring Plain Catchment and how we've drawn it?

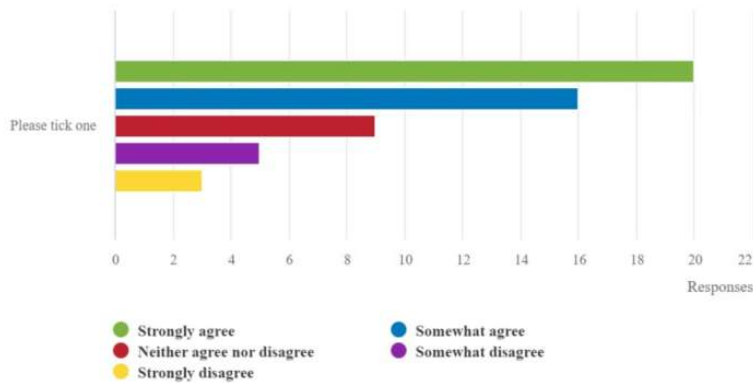


Figure 6: Volcanic Ring Plain - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development

Table 20: Volcanic Ring Plain - Comments on level of agreement on FMU

- There is a big difference between ringplain streams that begin in the National Park and those that begin on farmland. These differences extend across water quality and quantity variables, but also in terms of instream habitat for fish and invertebrates. Treating them all the same does not account for the fact that farmland sourced streams do not have a large clean buffering flow from the mountain.
- "Badly worded question - why wouldn't you ask why you hold the view, - positive or negative - expressed above. There is some logic in the overall plan for the region and it would appear to group areas with similar river types as a starting point. "
- I think Taranaki Regional Council was already doing a fabulous job and it doesn't need to change
- "I have concerns around the various communities, New Plymouth and perhaps Hawera verse the rural communities and even the South Coastal ring plain Communities verse the west coast ring plain communities. What about soil types and rainfall? If this is about outcomes then the communities need to be able to work together to solve the issues. The talk is about Iwi and Hapu and community.
- It makes sense to where the lines are and the need to areas differently.
- I don't care as long as freshwater quality is improved
- Taranaki is such a small area, surely it is more cost effective to only have 1 management unit?
- Where I live my water in the river is crystal clear we drink the water often, and are always swimming in it. We have lived here over 17 years had no issues with our water in the river over this time. We have never got sick drinking the water.
- That some land adjacent to some rivers is not included in FMUs. All of Taranaki should be covered and divided into FMUs to allow for effective management. In order to be able to assess and control inputs of nutrients, sediment and E. coli
- While I agree to some degree, Taranaki isn't a large place and it's hard to separate the different units as shown above
- While this will define different areas and can be useful, it can also make a rule that is one size fits all within that area - which may not necessarily be the best. While I generally support the improvement of waterways I am against doing it ahead of ensuring the economic feasibility of ALL the people of Taranaki and not just Iwi
- It's too big - there is massive potential for degradation of smaller streams, rivers or catchments within this massive FMU. There is too much risk that the continued degradation of these rivers will be missed because TRC don't monitor all of them.
- waste of rate payers money
- Will add additional admin and cost for no benefit
- We shouldn't have to pay for water, especially rain water. Water from our taps, comes from the hefty taxes we all pay.
- The border of the unit means that the mountain streams are not all in one unit. Could lead to different rules within the national park.
- The only thing I'd disagree with is if consultation with iwi was your last step, an add on or you telling them what your plan is. It's great to see you've used te Papakura o Taranaki so hopefully you are in tandem with iwi already.
- Farm at the end of Sutherland Rd, Manaia and see that we are included in the Volcanic Ring Plain FMU - even though we are unnamed catchment 27 and 28 as well as the edge of the Waiokura Stream Catchment - all of which would better fit the definition of Coastal Terraces. And I see that there are a number of similar situations all around the ring plain.
- Should split Volcanic Ring Plan into mountain source (National Park) and lower sourced springs.

#### 4.3.4. Waitara

Do you agree or disagree with the approach to create a Freshwater Management Unit for the Waitara Catchment and how we've drawn it?

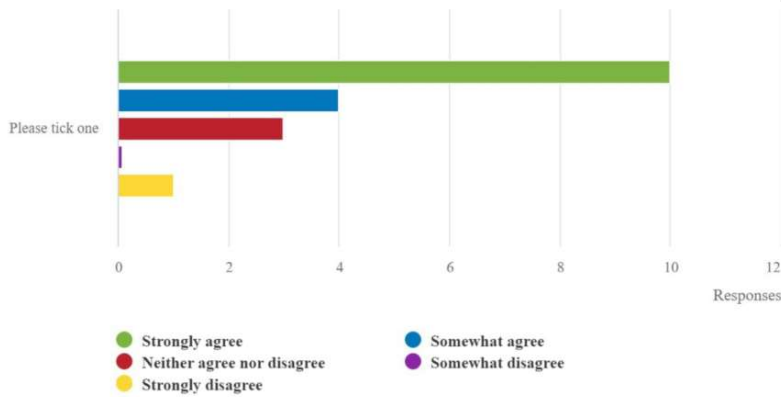


Figure 7: Waitara - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development

Table 21: Waitara - Comments on level of agreement on FMU

- Agreement is contingent on current levels of protection (e.g. water allocation in the upper Manganui catchment and the Maketawa/Ngatoro subcatchment) being carried through into the NRP.
- I don't

#### 4.3.5. Northern Hill Country

##### Let's Korero Survey

Do you agree or disagree with the approach to create a Freshwater Management Unit for the Northern Hill Country Catchment and how we've drawn it?

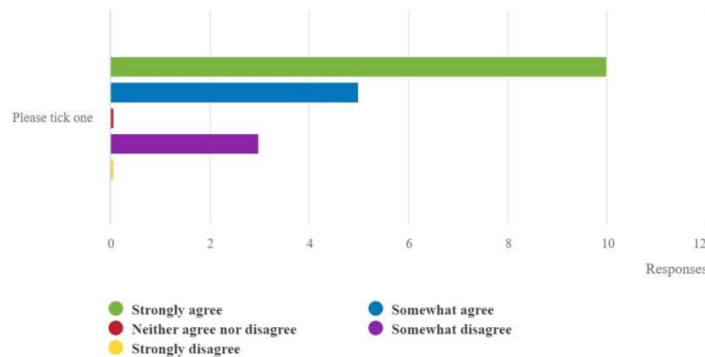


Figure 8: Northern Hill Country - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development

Table 22: Northern Hill Country - Comments on level of agreement on FMU

- Monitoring sites should be all year round, not just the swimming season. The more data that can be gathered the more accurate our picture of river health.
- It is not easy to see in the accompanying map, but there are a fair number of streams that rise close to the coast in North Taranaki. Some are in the coastal terrace FMU, some in the NHC. Unsure what the distinction is. It makes sense to have the large northern streams grouped together, but there may be some push back on why small tributaries of these large streams should be treated differently to a coastal terrace stream that rises immediately adjacent (for example).
- More sites need to be regularly tested.

#### 4.3.6. Coastal Terraces

Do you agree or disagree with the approach to create a Freshwater Management Unit for the Coastal Terraces Catchment and how we've drawn it?

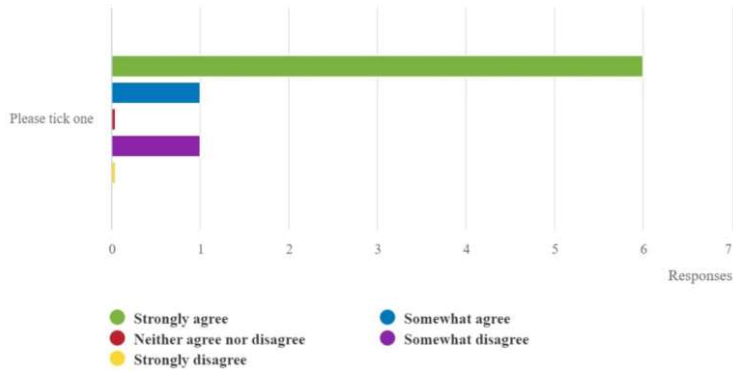


Figure 9: Coastal Terraces - Level of agreement on FMU boundary and development

Table 23: Coastal Terraces - Comment on level of agreement on FMU

There are also coastal terrace streams that extend around the ring-plain, especially between Opunake and Hawera. There are also dune lakes in the coastal terraces that may end up being managed differently to the dune lakes in the southern hill country. I am unsure if the Waiau belongs in this FMU. It may be more appropriate in the VRP or NHC FMU. It's unclear why the Mangati should be included, but not the Herekawe (for example).

#### 4.3.7. Feedback not specific to any one FMU

Table 24: Not FMU specific - A&P Show boundaries level of agreement

Strongly agree	47%
Somewhat agree	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	24%
Somewhat disagree	3%
Strong disagree	3%

Table 25: Not FMU specific - A&P Show comments on FMU boundaries

- Will you still be able to manage the areas properly as they are so big?
- Each community, population in each area needs to contribute and being local promotes buy in.

Table 26: Not FMU specific - Forest and Bird feedback

We support the proposed six FMUs. The FMUs reflect the unique waterbody characteristics and pressures of the different geographic areas.

Table 27: Not FMU specific – Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Sections: 3.1-3.4

3.1 - At this stage in consultation, FFNZ cannot comment in detail on the suitability of the FMUs as drafted without context of any limits, rules and associated provisions.

3.2 - Federated Farmers understands that the proposed FMUs will be used for monitoring purposes.

3.3 - In terms of the FMUs as drafted, Farmers, and local catchment groups are the best point of call for identifying opportunities and challenges for their local area. Any interventions and provisions need to be focused on localised solutions in this respect.

3.4 - It is also important to recognise and work with rural communities at a smaller catchment group level rather than focusing on the FMU itself to introduce complimentary measures of support such as funding, education and monitoring. FFNZ supports an approach that is a tailored and risk-based approach to managing diffuse discharges on a sub-catchment basis. This is due to the wide variety of soils, climates and land uses within each FMU which cannot effectively be managed under a single FMU ruleset which would not appropriately address sub-catchment issues.

10.6 - Although we agree and accept the FMUs set by Council for monitoring and analysing freshwater quality, we do wish to see regional consistency with the type of rules set for freshwater in the region. For our members, the rural community and rural professionals who have to work with the planning framework, we wish for a simple, practical and measurable planning framework for freshwater.

Note: Section 3.5 relates to the engagement process related to time horizons and the vision development.

Transpower has a number of overhead transmission lines, substations and telecommunications as outlined in the following figure:



Figure 10: Transpower Assets

#### 4.4. Southern Hill Country Fresh Water Management Unit

Vision and Improvements

Community Feedback

Table 28: Southern Hill Country - Schools summary on vision and improvements

No pollution from animals or humans	Collect rubbish
Don't litter	No poisons or chemicals in the water
Filter the rubbish from the water	

Table 29: Southern Hill Country - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements

Lake Rotokare - Closed in summer, improvements need to continue	Hawera - used to be able to swim and canoe
Normanby - Ripareian planting, eels, whitebait. Tawhiti has improved with planting	Issue - water quality in Lake Rotokare
Lake Rotokare - walking around, boating	



Table 30: Southern Hill Country - Online survey responses on vision and improvements

- Connecting high value freshwater systems allowing for effective fish passage and improved water quality. Collective action and responsibility for freshwater systems undertaken
- Would LOVE to be able to swim with my children in Te Henui
- Definitely agree with the vision. We all need to get involved and action the intensive replanting of the hill country, retiring more land for native plantings and protecting waterways. (Not bought by multinationals for pine plantations).
- Improved water quality. Improved access to safe locations for cultural and recreational practices. clear guidance on where these are and how you can help

Values

Community Feedback

Table 31: Southern Hill Country - Schools key values - compulsory and other

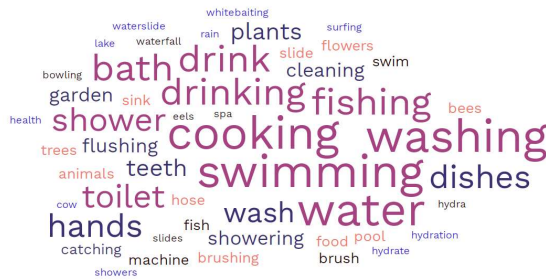


Table 32: Southern Hill Country – Community level of interest values - compulsory and other

Compulsory Values	Indicative Level of Interest - Let's Korero Surveys
Able to support healthy ecosystems	11%
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	11%
Preserving threatened species	7%
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	4%
Other Values	
Natural character and beauty	7%
Supplying drinking water	9%
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	6%
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	9%
Fishing	11%
Hydro-electric generation	5%
Animal/stock drinking water	7%

Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	9%
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	2%
Other (see comments)	2%

**Comment:** No feedback received at the A&P Show.

#### 4.5. Pātea Fresh Water Management Unit

Vision and Improvements

Community Feedback

Table 33: Pātea - Schools summary on vision and improvements

Educating and communicating with people	Don't waste water
Planting Trees	A fish gate
Filters in the waterways	Don't litter
Planting Trees and Natives	Build more dams to stop flooding
Fencing off waterways	Bins for trash
No pollution from animals or humans	Collect the weed out
Riparian planting	No silt in the waterways
Stop cutting down trees	No parasites
Stop global warming	Don't put dirty water in it
Keep waterways clean	Don't over fish

Table 34: Pātea – A&P Show comments on vision and improvements

A strong vibrant and healthy Taranaki	Future is positive
Clean water all year round	This it is a valuable resource that all can use and enjoy
Cleaning and clearing of banks and walkways	Less road water runoff being diverted onto farm land
More follow up with forestry - Forestry tracks causing erosion issues in mountains paths	Clear culverts so fish passages are inviting for the native fish to repopulate the upper regions of the river
Ecoli prevention	Healthy waterways for rivers and streams
Pātea - Swimming, fishing, free and accessible - Tutuawa	Rivers rise and riparian planting goes into the river and blocks the culvert. Rule changes and land loss needs addressing.
Rotorangi - water level is too low. Needs to be OK for boating	Pātea river for drinking water.
Used to enjoy jumping in for a swim in local river in Stratford – want to do this again.	Pātea Dam - swimming lake, Brecon Road River
Clean and rubbish free	Clean up Victoria park duck pond

Table 35: Pātea - Online survey responses on vision and improvements

- Clarity in the Pātea River declines while water temperatures increase below the Stratford W/W discharge, and degrading further below the Toko Stream, Waihapa Stream, Mangaehu etc. I would like to see water clarity and water temperatures improved in the reach between the Lake and Stratford.
- A significant priority is the improvement of water quality in Stratford township. It is highly utilised by kids for swimming, yet the oxi pond discharges upstream continue to contaminate it. There is no need to wait for consent expiry to improve this situation, a proactive approach would see gains much earlier. "
- Map shows swimming at the swimming hole next to the scout hut at King Edward Park. There's another location at the end of Brecon Road, where you cross the river on the foot bridge...near the rest home (Maryann at 59 Brecon Road). There has been consultation for some time of connecting the 2 sides of Brecon Road - would be a real shame if roadworks etc. destroyed this area because it was not identified as an area to monitor. This spot needs to be marked so that the area is protected moving forwards in case the regional council does receive a request to change the land use in the area.
- Improvement in water quality throughout the Pātea catchment would be greatly appreciated.
- Seeing species like Koura thriving would be good, goes hand in hand with improved water quality
- It is again terrible to read TRC reports, facts and data of the Pātea awa/river catchment state. In just 120 years, human habitation has almost destroyed the eco system that is responsible for keeping much of Taranaki's water fresh. climate change, intensified use of land and damming the Pātea river. No wonder the health of inhabitants are being impacted. Agree, get fish ladders installed, Possible flushing of the dam and continued rehabilitation of the catchment SAP."
- I own significant land on the eastern side of Lake Rotorangi. I rely on the lake for access to my land by way of barge. Over the past 10 years I have seen the quality of the lake deteriorate mainly due to the invasion by lake weed (Hornwort) and this has subsequently impacted the freshwater life in the lake. The lake is a significant asset for Taranaki and should be promoted and cared for far better than it currently is. Large areas of the lake are silting up and this, in conjunction with the Hornwort is impacting upon the recreational use of the lake. Whilst the regular water quality surveys that are undertaken show that water quality is by and large good, the survey does not accurately portray the other contamination aspects such as the silt and Hornwort. This has caused the water temperature to increase in summer, which in turn has a negative impact on some of the more frail native water species and encourages introduced fish (trout, Rudd, Perch, Koi Carp) to breed faster.
- Provide an environment for all flora and fauna. Reduce the amount of water extraction for all commercial activities.
- Work with farmers that discharge effluent to water now. Do not wait for consent expiry. Keep working on all existing consented discharges to reduce volume and contaminant loading. Recognise that drained swampland e.g. the Waihapa Stream provide a lot of sediment. Explore the potential for peatland rewetting, restoring wetlands and storing carbon. Recognise that these drained wetlands will continue to see a lowering ground level due to shrinking. Rules need to consider this, as does the management framework. Expand and regulate riparian planting to include all streams including springs and seepages, while requiring wider riparian margins. Review rules (including monitoring) relating to planting and harvesting of exotic forestry, to protect eastern hill country streams from sedimentation and slash.

- Please mark areas/spots good for cycling and walking - as well as more spots for swimming. Spots accessible to wheelchairs and pushchairs would also be helpful. As part of identifying the designated areas of natural beauty.
- General water quality needs improvement.
- General swimmability throughout the Pātea catchment needs improvement, especially at Lake Rotorangi. Mangamingimangi end especially. Less silt please - better land management, fencing the sides of the river - planting lake side.
- Requires good management of waterways to improve, planting filtration zones to reduce run off impact etc.
- Yes. Better industry and farming practises to reduce runoff into the catchment. More riparian planting and fencing to include large trees. Removing fish passages and bringing back threatened species.
- Eco friendly tourism is something I am working towards on my properties. In order for these activities (mountain biking, kayaking) to flourish and attract international and national visitors the lake must look and smell nice. Currently at times the smell from the rotting weed is bad. When the lake level is dropped the silt makes it difficult to access the water in many places. The situation is getting worse. Trustpower do not seem to allocate sufficient budget to meet their obligations and the caretakers of the lake.
- Improve control of water extraction for commercial purposes

Values

Community Feedback

Table 36: Pātea – Schools key values – compulsory and other



Table 37: Pātea Forest and Bird key values – compulsory and other

Lake Rotorangi has exotic weeds and at time the water feels strange to swim in or is a green colour.

Table 38: Pātea - Community level of interest values – compulsory and other

Compulsory Values	Indicative Level of Interest - Let's Korero Surveys	Indicative Level of Interest - A&P Surveys
Able to support healthy ecosystems	13%	9%
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	13%	9%
Preserving threatened species	13%	5%
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	6%	2%
<b>Other Values</b>		
Natural character and beauty	11%	13%
Supplying drinking water	6%	15%
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	5%	4%
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	10%	9%
Fishing	6%	5%
Hydro-electric generation	4%	2%
Animal/stock drinking water	5%	13%
Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	4%	11%
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	2%	2%
Other	4%	1%

#### 4.6. Volcanic Ring Plain Fresh Water Management Unit

##### Vision and Improvements

##### Community Feedback

Table 39: Volcanic Ring Plain - Schools summary on vision and improvements

Don't litter	Put signs up
Don't overfish	Convert salt water to freshwater
No poisons or chemicals in the water	Riparian planting
No pollution from animals or humans	Water restrictions
Don't waste water	Tougher laws
Fencing off waterways	Better waste management
Recycle and reuse	Build more dams to stop flooding
Keep cows and animals away	Wash cars on the grass
Stop companies that harm water	Use paper bags - no plastics
Filters in the waterways	Don't over fish

Planting Trees and Natives	Don't drive a car (petrol or electric)
Get water tanks, use rain water	Ride, walk or take a bus
Recycle and reuse	Educating and communicating with people

Table 40: Volcanic Ring Plain - A&P show comments on vision and improvements

Keep them clean and clear of weeds, wetlands are the best eco-filters.	Clean rivers, no E.coli
Riparian planting, weed and wilding pine management.	Council managed programmes required – property owners are stretched already.
Cleaner rivers for swimming and fishing.	Water you can drink from the stream.
Being able to children enjoy safe and clean rivers.	Most rivers to be less polluted or not at all, with abundance of wildlife
Support the Regional Council	Corbett park - not the cleanest
Fitzroy - issues with septic tank discharges.	Waingongoro River - is it one of the worst rivers in NZ?
Ladies mile Eltham - structures in place at local stream/drain under Castle St, worried about flooding as willow, etc. are in the stream causing obstructions.	Mangatoki - Concern that water quality testing after rain events skews the results
Opunake Lake - have watched it deteriorate and worried about it, future needs improvement.	Worried about the water in NP by Hautoki
All streams off the mountain are dirtier than at the end of the stream. Concern that riparian planting shades water.	Inglewood - water currently tastes like dirt, fishing in sea and no animal faeces are important.
Okato - Farming dairy support good quality upstream, water quality is important but lack of flexibility and compliance is an issue.	Tapuae Tributaries - Would like to see fish and more life
Marfell - clean urban water, managing storm water runoffs, need a combined registry for sewage overflow.	Opunake - clean drinking water and environment.
Opunake by the lake in Waiaua river it is nice and clean - kids have loads of fun.	Te Henui has great swimming holes – the water there needs to be clean.

Table 41: Volcanic Ring Plain - Online survey responses on vision and improvements

- Land development in this FMU has seen a lot of wetlands and streams drained, diverted or piped. Assisting landowners to reverse this will help with improving baseflows by restoring natural water storage within the catchments. Encourage alternative landuse in catchments that cannot maintain current levels of permitted activity water use. Seek to improve water quality in small feeder streams. Encourage landowners in the Ngaere Swamp to look at alternative land use including peatland rewetting.
- Being able to jump into the Te Henui for a swim without having to check Google first! Seeing established riparian margins and fencing across the entire FMU
- The people of Taranaki need to reclaim their waterways. Polluting our environment is stripping the assets and ability to use and benefit from these assets for all people in Taranaki. We need to keep our waterways as clean and diverse in their biota as possible.
- The work done by the many of the landowners and the local authorities in protecting the ring plain rivers in the last few decades needs to be continued. As a long time resident and

fisherman in the area the changes in water quality since the 60's have been appreciated - riparian planting will continue to bring improvements.

- I think we need to see a balance i.e. swimming in a stream should be about the months of November to March as this is realistically when it maybe be safe to swim. These should be the rivers such as Kaupokonui, the Waingongoro where there are public areas and beaches at the bottom, also the city rivers and beaches at least to start with.
- I think it is more important to get the ecological health of the water ways right in the rest and also be realistic about climate and national parks. Doc need to play a part in this. We need to understand that there will be biodiversity issues when we start to look at some of the e-coli issues in the water. Should we be looking at both biodiversity and fresh water together.
- This would be the best outcome. To value where we life and to help improve our home
- I would like to see freshwater valued by all land users as a living and vital entity. This has to include consideration for stormwater and surface runoff as we see changing weather patterns. I live in the Timaru catchment where increasing development (building, excavating, constructing driveways and car parks etc) is increasing the flow and reducing the quality of water flowing overland. My upstream neighbour (dairy farm) sees my "stream" as a "drain" and has no problem allowing water from his yards and races to drain into it. This is not addressed by TRC riparian plans or any other rules as I understand it but certainly impacts on my enjoyment as well as adversely affected downstream ecology by depositing sediment, nutrients and probably pathogens. In addition, although the FMU is neatly described as a ""ring plain"" there is actually a lot of reasonably steep land that is being eroded due to inappropriate land use (ie stock especially dairy cattle). Consideration needs to be given to retiring or better managing this steeper land to conserve soil and reduce sediment deposits in waterways. Removing barriers to fish passage on public and private land is also important - i would love to see kokopu in my streams
- I would love to be able to swim risk free (health wise) in the Henui River. It would be wonderful to see native species returning to the river.
- I would like to see the water quality monitored at the main coastal surf breaks to make sure the water quality is good in the area people are surfing. For example the stream going out at Stent Road needs riparian planting I don't think it has been done by the farmer. Many of the streams have been planted higher but it doesn't continue to the ocean.
- We need more farmers to take responsibility in fencing off waterways and riparian plant areas for future generations
- I think TRC is currently doing well in this regard and rivers are in good condition. Control of run-off from urban and rural areas. Ranging from wastewater system upgrade to less intensive farming. There needs to be a "culture" change to greater respect for water systems by the community at large. The onus should be placed on us as individuals to look after the environment in general."
- Nothing needs to change with my river it is fine how it is.
- Nitrogen pollution is a real problem in the future, this has to be dealt with. Human activity/overpopulation affecting waterways is another issue
- My concern has always been the highlighter green on the rocks by the ocean at the base of our rivers. Is this from urea run off? My son loves the rivers and I'm a little concerned about the quality of the water at the haerakawe stream. Our region has an awesome trc team and we are doing great things here. What about the businesses who are creating the issues? How are they being held accountable?
- The water in Ōpunake tastes like mud...clean drinking water is a basic human right! It's awful to get a mouthful of this vile tasting water and we shouldn't have to buy water! It's bad for residents and terrible for our tourists. It needs to be addressed immediately! If cleaning the pipes isn't working, then replace them! We pay enough in our rates to have Ean drinking water!

- I would like to see water quality increase. I would like to hold NZ to EU acceptable levels of pollutants particularly nitrogen levels in our rivers. I want to see safe swimming and drinking levels in all rivers. I would like tighter restrictions on allowing farms to discharge waste into freshwater.
- While I agree with the overall sentiment, I think it is going to be extremely hard to improve water quality improved in all places in all catchments. For example, in the Opunake area with Lake Opunake, the bird life and the crossing over of the headwaters of the Oaonui and Waiaua streams, to significantly improve water quality is going to next to impossible. Also, there are a few structures, such as the dam on the Otahi Stream in Opunake which have significant historical and local importance. I don't believe a district wide policy of removing them is necessarily the right approach considering overall amenity values . I also think the changing of policies to improve water quality is a benefit for the whole community and on this basis the whole community should contribute in a meaningful manner. Currently landowners are having to fund these improvements in terms of direct costs and further, are getting no rate or other relief/compensation for land retired. To me this seems extremely unfair
- This should be a community effort from rural and urban communities. It seems that the rural and farming community have been committed to this goal however, it does not appear that the urban community does much to achieve this. Urban pollution would if it was measured far outweigh rural pollution. Whatever is achieved going forward need to be economically viable and sustainable.
- Setting clear targets so Te Henui and Waiwhakaiho are swimmable and working to ensure we do as much as possible to help native birds and other wildlife remain part of our lives.
- People need to accept that at times mother nature has her way and causes slips within the ring area esp up stream towards the mountain - this in turn will inevitably cause issues down stream and if a boil the water notice is needed - I don't see this as a failure on the system - its mother nature and we need to work around when these things happen. People need to stop always trying to find someone to blame but try and work with each other to attain the best outcome. Figures of % on paper may look good but that's a tick box exercise and can really limit progress in Taranaki going forward. Too much red tape is no good for anyone and Taranaki TRC and farmers need to work together - not be like at the moment where TRC are losing all the ground they have made up to last couple of years - TRC are not the Gestapo and their officers shouldn't try and act like they are! Trust between those parties is seriously being currently eroding at a dangerous level."
- TRC actively engages with Land owners on behalf of public or groups such as ours(Whitewater Taranaki) to maintain/open up access to our rivers.
- I would like to see all swimming spots around Taranaki clean to a level that the people of Taranaki and visitors are happy with and happy to swim in. For me these rivers are Waiwhakaiho multiple locations up river, and river mouth, Te Henui, multiple locations up river and river mouth, including swimming at East End beach which is effected by river. Oakura River river mouth and river, Wairau Stream at beach, Waimoku Stream at beach, Onaero river and beach
- Rivers need to be protected from farm and sediment run off. Eg. Tapuwae stream, Oakura.
- I see water quality as being of prime importance, as well as the reduction of nitrates and E Coli. The catchments should be planted, particularly as they affect certain swimming sites.
- Being able to swim in the Waingongoro, especially at Ōhawe at all times. Awa flowing with clear water, rivers don't stink and the wai tastes sweet. Waterways and their banks are full of an abundance of native species.
- Minimising rubbish. Continue planting buffer zones. Accept when high rainfall occurs rivers run dirty.
- Taking note of all the fantastic work farmers have already done, we are already swimming and have drank from our farm contributory! Please also looking into urban and listening to all the



farmer led catchment groups and their goals/visions and the work already been done within those groups being monitoring water and others (I am part of the Waingongoro catchment group)

- Swimmable river standards need to be maintained with a pragmatic approach to testing. If you test the water quality of the river in flood it's obviously not safe to swim in regardless of its test result
- Simply take a more balanced approach.
- The starting point for this discussion seems way to narrow."
- I think we have in most part reached our standards
- I think that if the Taranaki regional council are serious about restoring and protecting our freshwater then they must watch the documentaries Cowspiracy and Milked. Understanding that dairy farming and just animal agriculture in general is the life blood of the region but also understand that the reason why our waterways are so polluted is because of the land use in Taranaki. If we are serious about restoring the water ways then drastic change is required. Our land use needs to shift from animal dense farming operations to crops. We could feed the entire nation with the amount of rich lands we have here but we choose to feed livestock instead and destroy our waterways. It is necessary to take a proactive approach now to preserve and improve the overall health of our waterways for future generations.
- Eliminate use of chemical fertilisers within the catchment and continue riparian planting of waterways.
- Providing clear distinction to the width of riparian re-establishment. That unrestricted water take from the dairy farms is adversely affecting water levels and the ecosystem of rivers/ streams. All major rivers/ streams need this.
- A return of land and water use to better reflect historic land and water use.
- Consider properly installing a bank/jetty where families launch their boats for biscuiting, a bit more stable in more spots (the recent upgrade was great). More signage along Te Hēnui, Huatoki and Waiwhakaiho walkways to share and show the mauri, so more people will know why these taonga are being protected. More signs/ maps (which could be continually updated) to recognise sites of significance and also the catchment spots (from your awesome interactive map) so people can see your work, but also see which community groups, schools etc have planted out the natives. The more people can see what you're doing and why, the more people will be on board. Could you have an app to show daily/weekly water stats at all the popular swim sites like The Telecom swim spot on Rimu street, Merrilands domain, and Te Hēnui river mouth, just down from the lawn bowls place. I would love it if as part of the festival of lights, we included (shine a light even) on all the city waterways as potential eel and kokopu sites. Also, rāhui the whitebaiting, if we can do it for the pāua, we can do it for the inanga. Eel canning for export (factory in Levin I think) should also be banned. Using stuff public interest journalism fund should also be used regularly to inform the public. (That's how I found this, so kia ora!) If waterways were swimmable, that's the dream.
- Monitoring and management of small streams must be strengthened. Consider splitting out management of streams that start outside of the NP. These streams cannot tolerate much water abstraction. Prohibit the discharge of dairy effluent to water at any location in catchment. Require fencing and planting of all streams, including springs/seepages, and require an adequate riparian width. One row of carex for example does not provide much of a buffer. Educate the community about the impact of water abstraction for municipal water supply. Prioritise alternative sources of water over surface water. Fish passage education is necessary to increase landowner awareness.
- Recreational, healthy ecosystems and natural character and beauty.
- Major improvements needed in land management and land use, through plan rules, community initiatives and community conversations- a cultural shift is needed in how we treat our land and our water. Hard conversations need to be had about the sustainability and

suitability of intensive dairying across this FMU, and ways of transitioning to more environmentally friendly and diverse agricultural industries. It will be important to set ambitious attribute targets given how degraded the waterways are currently, and to respond quickly when monitoring shows stagnating trends.

- Yes. Many of the streams in New Plymouth and Oakura have warnings for health hazards. This is not acceptable. Farming should not return polluted water to our streams
- Continual improvement to riparian efforts - continue to work with landowners to encourage planting. Continue to manage effluent alongside the agricultural use of the land. Discourage exotic and mono-species plantings.
- We use a bore for stock and drinking water. I gather this is a different conversation. We take nothing from the stream.
- In terms of fishing and maintaining a healthy ecosystem the following rivers and streams are particularly noteworthy to me. Patea, Waingongoro, Mangatoki, Kapuni, Kaipokonui, Mangawhero, Otakeho, Waiaua, Stony, Timaru, Oakura, Waiwhakaiho, Manganui and Maketawa rivers and streams."
- Planting a diverse range of plants. Allowing swamps to form. Cleaning up dumps that are alongside waterways. All are great starting places. Irrigation and taking more water to meet the needs of the dairy industry need regulation and support for farmers to have a sustainable business and future "
- Because it is the river I visit most often, it would be great to see improvement on the Henui River
- We need to reduce the use of nitrogen fertilisers by farmers even if it means their stock numbers are reduced. It would be good to encourage more tree planting on farms to sequest carbon and additionally education for farmers on moving away from monoculture on farms and information on productivity by using alternatives to nitrogen fertilisers. TRC could hold educational workshops re farming and water quality.
- Waterways need to be fenced to ensure livestock are not able to have access. Riparian planting needs to be intensified
- Targeted education of contributors to pollutants/contamination, with significant repercussions to those not conforming.
- Nothing needed have all this now where I live in my river.
- Grazing exclusion frequent testing of nutrients, sediment and E. coli inputs into rivers. Surveys to understand soil type across all FMUs in order to understand a characteristic of the FMU if this hasn't already been done
- No stock should enter waterways
- A drastic change in mind/past values of ' animal/farming ' practices. Fontera/Dairy NZ industrial /intensification/ horticultural/market garden practices as well as the use of artificial fertilizer. Tilling of soil, needs to change to more sustainable practices, despite the call for export pressures, as indicated by the data.
- Yes drinking water. Water in all areas of our community should be clean!
- Yes, dairy farms need to stop dumping so much poo in the rivers. I do not want to worry my whanau will get sick from swimming in rivers.
- I think the continuation of riparian planting is important as is the retiring of activities on the likes of wetland areas - with appropriate compensation for landowners carrying out these activities. The cessation of animal effluent discharges should also occur
- Education, I think is also important. While we have people interacting, living and working in our province we will have environmental effects however caring we are. These need to be understood. At times water ways will not be suitable for some recreational activities such as swimming and again we need to understand this. Council discharges of untreated or partially treated sewerage should also be vastly improved. The financial penalties given to farmers for breaches but not to councils suggests double standards.

Commented [GM2]: Continue from this point

- No improvement required as the farming industry has been achieving these.
- Improve the source and the rest will benefit
- Yes, improvements to water quality in Te Henui.
- Yes water quality can be improved but to what exact levels - are these levels actually going to be achievable without causing a big economical disadvantage to our area - are we placing the biological health of river above the needs of economic growth or can we find a way to work together as best as possible. I am very concerned that the levels set will cause massive financial pressures and limit all landholders on what they can and cannot do with their lands. This is a huge concern moving forward
- I represent Whitewater Taranaki. We interact with many kilometers of rivers courses, much of which is only accessible by whitewater kayak. 2 areas to improve; 1) dangerous manmade structures or materials in the current (fallen fences, warratahs, concrete and reinforcing etc). It can be difficult to get TRC to remedy. 2) Access. We have a culture in our club with building relationships with landowners to keep access open. However, a small percentage of landowners aren't interested in any discussion. It'd be nice to have a TRC community liaison.
- If solutions like eclean can be used to clean rivers to its natural state around swimming holes etc without any impact on fish etc this could be a good short term solution <https://hugoplastics.nz/environmental/eclean-environmental-clean-water>
- Yes. More plantings will help as well as greater limitations on stock around waterways. Fish passes will help, although I see you have started this.
- No effluent discharges into waterbodies at any time. No more alterations to waterways (i.e. re-routing streams). Replanting riparian areas, removing fish passage barriers, no further water takes granted, leaving more water in the awa.
- Sediment dams or wetland creation on smaller tributaries to minimise farm track runoff or just paddock runoff in large rain events
- I agree with improvements you have mentioned and most farmers are on board with this... it seems this is not recognised which is frustrating! Is there more urban work to do, urban businesses discharging to water??? catchment groups have fantastic ideas and I also think that aside from what you mentioned water quality (E-Coli) is failing at mountain edge so nothing to do with the farmers! this needs to be recognised!"
- Continue to support riparian planting initiatives
- There have been incremental gains made in our catchment over my 50 years farming. Change ( for the better) is good, and further incremental gain which maintains balance between needs, wants, benefits and costs is good. However we cannot kill the goose that lays the golden egg. Rapid radical change is likely to produce real economic and ultimately societal pain, denying the region to fund any of the lofty goals that are being presented
- No improvement needed
- Our land use MUST change if we want to have clean usable water in the future. Livestock numbers must be reduced and the council must enforce stricter management of effluent runoff and water use by farmers.
- I am a surfer and I have been very sick from surfing near river mouths and after researching what our water quality is like I was appalled. "
- Just to not charge us but maybe limit households on daily usage.
- More urgent action needs to be taken to ensure the health and safety of water at swimming areas which have potential risks for our children and grandchildren wellbeing.
- Yes, our industries are polluting our waterways. How can they stop? I see us mitigating impact with riparian planting. How about allowing natural wetlands to return and encouraging industry and farmers to make the right choices when it comes to their environmental impact?
- The size of dairy farms and the amount of water taken for stock drinking needs to be understood better. It's easy to see low flows in the rivers and streams way earlier than

normal. IE in summer. Better community access to help riparian re-establishment and management."

- Improved control of water use for commercial activities. A reduction in water use for commercial activities.
- Reckon rainwater harvesting is an untapped solution as yet, that Mouna gives us plenty so all new builds and as much farm infrastructure as possible should be mandated to store rainwater. If you could get the npdc on board with this (although they're all about the water meters) then the full water cycle of use would be more complete than just turning on a tap or doing a flush. The fact that nz flushes toilets with drinking water blows my mind...so not sure if grey/black water cycles need a rethink, especially with the new water treatment pond thing planned for Urenui/Mōkau area.
- Erosion control including planned erosion control from land clearances
  - To aim higher in correcting the water quality and biodiversity of our waterways. Ensuring that water does not become another exploited commodity.
  - Farming-"regenerative" or "holistic" not industrial
  - The TRC needs more transparency in monitoring water quality. How did Remediation NZ continue to pollute the Mimi River under the eye of the TRC. Maybe we need independent water monitoring if the TRC of sites/businesses the Regional Council gives permits to. There seems to be a conflict of interest. Goals water quality are great but if they are not enforced they become ineffective.
  - As the headwaters of the region, ensuring clean water with full aquifers for future generations and a healthy ecosystem.
  - Ensure rivers and streams are safe for when animals go into them - eg dogs drinking.
  - Outdoor Education
  - Swimming and playing occurs now...
- Education resource, a real life biodiversity source within walking distance of pretty much every school. Reach out, schools and communities are more than ready to get alongside the experts (shout out to the Opunake iwi collab thing that happened a few years ago, brilliant stuff,) but may not know how to get involved. With regards to the farming needs, harvest rainwater, but why should they be allowed to hose off their cowpoo somewhere downstream and not have to worry about it? I know measures are in place, but it's just risk minimisation at this point, I don't know enough about how to lower the chemical run off from pastures, does riparian planting and wetland restoration reduce ammonia, nitrates, poison etc?

Table 42 Volcanic Ring Plan - Forest and Bird key values – compulsory and other

- Places such as East End beach become un-swimmable after heavy rain. This has huge impacts for the public and Surf Life Saving.
- The Te Henui river mouth is never safe because of E. Coli.
- Rivers Flowing through the town of Inglewood are usually not swimmable and definitely not drinkable throughout the year.

Values  
Community Feedback

Table 43: Volcanic Ring Plain - Schools key values - compulsory and other

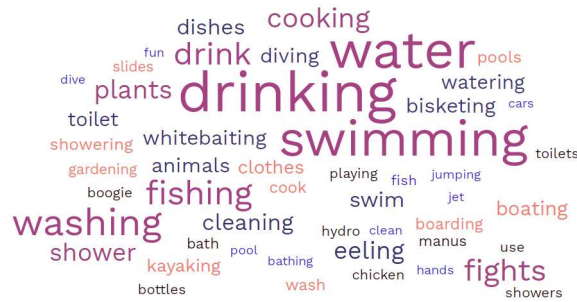


Table 44: Volcanic Ring Plain - Community level of interest in values - compulsory and other

Compulsory Values	Indicative Level of Interest - Let's Korero Surveys	Indicative Level of Interest - A&P Surveys	
Able to support healthy ecosystems	10%	11%	21
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	9%	11%	20
Preserving threatened species	6%	7%	13
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	0%	4%	4
Other Values			
Natural character and beauty	13%	7%	20
Supplying drinking water	13%	9%	22
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	3%	6%	9
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	9%	9%	18
Fishing	9%	11%	20
Hydro-electric generation	3%	5%	8
Animal/stock drinking water	13%	7%	20
Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	6%	9%	15
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	3%	2%	5
Other (see comments)	3%	2%	5

## 4.7. Waitara Fresh Water Management Unit

### Vision and Improvements

#### Community Feedback

Table 45: Waitara - Schools summary on vision and improvements

Filters in the waterways	Riparian planting
No poisons or chemicals in the water	Planting Trees and Natives
More buses	No pollution from animals or humans
Caring	Recycle and reuse
Don't litter	Keep cows away
Reuse grey water	Biking

Table 46: Waitara - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements

More planting on edge of the river	Have excellent water quality for native species. See the blue duck coming down from the national park
To carry on with the areas TRC are controlling - stock exclusions - plantings	Used to drink from the Maketawa stream - might not now.
Inglewood - happy with water, wont drink it so collect rain water, use for stock to drink	

Table 47: Waitara - Online survey responses on vision and improvements

- Where possible remove introduced tree species along riverbanks and restore native diversity in its place. Detail the geology of the FMU so everyone understands what is a "natural" condition for the Awa in relationship to varying levels. Re commission NIWA data logging sites and add others to allow a better understanding of the dynamics of rainfall and river flow. Better manage forestry slash to eliminate the debris load of the Awa. Recognize the work done by the rural community for their efforts in riparian planting. Give greater focus to more "high value native trees and make them easily sourced for planting. Provide a non- adversarial support resource to assist landowners make smart decisions around riparian planting and bird corridors. An improvement in water clarity in all hill country sourced streams. Reduced sedimentation in tributary streams. Reduced stock access to waterways. Increased protection of Matau Stream for fishery reasons. Prioritise alternative water sources over surface water for municipal supply
- The statement could be amended to read...with healthy functioning ecosystems, productive fisheries and biodiversity connectivity across each catchment...Productivity is also a measure of the health of an ecosystem.
- I would like to see the runoff water from roadways, street gutters etc. designed to capture all rubbish before it washes out to sea.
- Whio return to all of these waterbodies. Water quality allows recreational and harvesting in all waterways. Particular input needed to stem civic sewage contamination eg Kurapeta Stream. Farm animal effluent discharges into streams discontinued. Native vegetation clearance on LUC class 7 or 8 should be discontinued and much stricter exotic forestry harvesting restrictions put in place. Stock exclusion from waterways for all farming enterprises. Increased wetland protection and restoration to reverse the decline in water quality"

- As indicated earlier, look forward to the actioning of the proposals to rehabilitate our waterways and restore , after many decades of abuse, such as discharging milk factory by waste, destruction of the wetlands , which now has the township of Waitara. It is positive The New Plymouth District Council in conjunction with Iwi have started a restoration project of the Tangaroa awa. Query: how do TRC proposals, NPDC obligations, Department of Conservation plans, and Central Govt, plus citizens and stakeholders find consensus?
- Would like to see equal buy in from Iwi, council, farmers, recreational water use groups and public to create strong partnership everyone can contribute to.
- There are far too many small streams that are not planted and protected, particularly in the Tarata area and further upstream. The river needs testing through the beef & sheep country. Without Fonterra making them, it seems a lot of farmers are not planting these streams. We need more planting to provide places for inanga & piharau to live and breed.
- Stop using those sterile terms first. Secondly, stop pouring human and animal waste into our tipua. Thirdly, fund Tangata Māori to enable them to do what they're meant to be doing and stop putting Pākehā people in charge of them, and remove colonizing policies that prevent all of this from happening.
- I represent Whitewater Taranaki. Rather than repeat myself, I filled out the Volcanic Ringplain survey as well. Our club interact with these 2 FMU's the most.
- Investigate the piharau lifecycle and find ways to increase their numbers on the Waitara River. Set goals for management of watercraft on the awa to avoid conflict of river users - rowers, kayakers, waka ama, paddle boarders, jet boats, jet ski's, yachts, fishermen.
- There should be more water catchment systems in place as we know we are getting more rainfall, this will help offset flooding as well as allow for better use of water.
- The sedimentation of small streams in the eastern hill country is severe. Some streams showed a real lack of freshwater fish species, especially where dominated by exotic forestry. Not sure if this is causal or coincidental. Improved management of steep country is critical in resolving this issue, and potentially even a limit on the % of a catchment that can be used for exotic forestry. Improved riparian fencing and planting to exclude stock and establish an appropriate buffer width. Prohibit dairy effluent discharges to water at any location. Prohibit the irrigation of dairy effluent over subsurface drains including piped streams (relevant for all FMU's).
- Continuing to improve aquatic habitat connectivity by removing barriers to fish passage. Further reducing runoff of sediment and nutrients by addressing critical source areas (e.g. stormwater from farm raceways, retirement of erosion prone land in the eastern hill country).
- All homes/businesses required to have a rainwater catchment that can be used. Homes and businesses required to re used their grey water from washing, showers etc
- Improvement in water quality across all Taranaki Rivers and streams are required. The management of Lake Ratapiko in this catchment is of most concern to me particularly when water levels are lowered to extreme levels for long periods of time. E.g. April
- Infrastructure to eliminate civic and farming discharges. Greater setbacks on waterbodies. Financial and technical incentives and support for landowners. Encouraging land management practices that improve soil ecosystem health
- Communication and engagement, ongoing with all involved is important, possible retirement removal/relocating of some properties, replanting of destroyed native habitat along the Waitara awa.

- Higher farming (including forestry) and commercial use standards under resource consents eg. farm effluent and nitrate management standards. Allowance for higher silt run off from papa areas, where (possibly?) harder to manage than other river catchments.
- I would like the river to be returned as close as possible to pre-European cleanliness and biodiversity. I think more emphasis on biodiversity is needed. Less on farming. Healing and wairua not money.
- Remove Pākeha supervision, remove colonizing policies, fund the Tangata Māori and hāpori to do their own mahi.
- Don't waste water out to sea. Try and harness as much as one can through small dams and lakes. Plus build more storage tanks like ones at Mangorei and Henwood road. Water is so precious, so don't waste it!!!!
- Water user zones could be clearly identified and clubs asked when and where their highest and lowest water use times and places are. Investigate tidal electricity production for sustainable production into the grid and/or Waitara community use.
- Look at hydroelectric dams ... Think about better water storage systems for gardeners ... If along with water meters which I'm against you allocated each home with its own water tank from rooflines that water could be used for gardens, pools the like... Allowing the supply allocation to washing and drinking. Also developing a system for rainwater to flush toilets
- The life of the Waitara Awa and others needs to be given top priority - by life I mean water purity, species and plants surrounding the Awa. Safe water for our taiao and our people. An integral part of the ecosystem surrounding the wellbeing of land, biodiversity and people.

Values

Community Feedback

Table 48: Waitara - Schools key values - compulsory and other

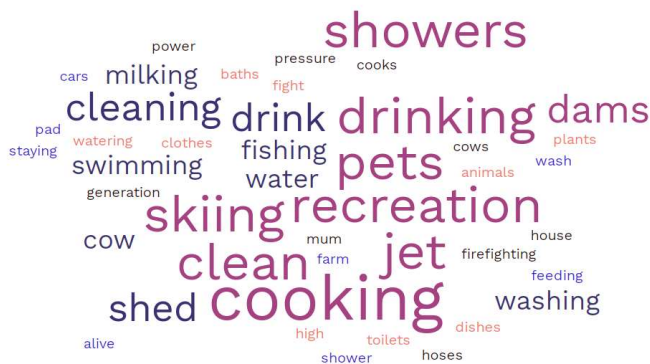




Table 49: Waitara - Community level of interest values - compulsory and other

Compulsory Values	Indicative Level of Interest - Let's Korero Surveys	Indicative Level of Interest - A&P Surveys
Able to support healthy ecosystems	9%	10%
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	9%	9%
Preserving threatened species	5%	6%
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	2%	0%
<b>Other Values</b>		
Natural character and beauty	13%	13%
Supplying drinking water	15%	13%
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	4%	3%
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	9%	9%
Fishing	5%	9%
Hydro-electric generation	2%	3%
Animal/stock drinking water	13%	13%
Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	11%	6%
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	2%	3%
Other	1%	3%

#### 4.8. Northern Hill Country Fresh Water Management Unit

Vision and Improvements

Community Feedback

Table 50: Northern Hill Country - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements

A strong vibrant and healthy Taranaki	Healthy waterways for rivers and streams
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Table 51: Northern Hill Country - Online survey responses on vision and improvements

- I believe there should be a focus on planting native trees on low productivity hill country. Not pine plantations that can be detrimental to soil and can create problems with slash that is washed down stream. Native plantings are also better at carbon sequestration and supply food and shelter to native species.
- Increase protection of streams and rivers within this area. Keep stock out, encourage removal of weeds such as crack willow and Japanese walnut (especially in the Mimi catchment) by including in the RPMP/RPMS and stop the continued draining and degradation of wetlands. Important habitat for nationally threatened species, such as matuku hurepo, is being lost.

- There needs to be a greater understanding amongst those who rely on freshwater for their livelihood what impacts their actions are having. Steering them to more sustainable practices, such as water storage tied to a reticulated stock water system to keep stock out of streams, fencing off wetlands and improved management of steep land to manage erosion and sedimentation. Much of the farmable land is flood prone, which makes fencing difficult to maintain. Stock are often allowed access to the streams. I am unsure of the extent of pine forestry in the area, but pine forests have the potential to change a catchments characteristics and harvesting can result in significant volumes of sediment and slash entering waterways. Increased regulatory presence/oversight is also very important. There has been little to no guidance to landowners about fish passage in this area. Some streams have recorded a significant reduction in fish species richness and abundance (e.g. Mangahewa).
- See the life back in the estuaries. currently crab numbers are low on the mud flats due to silt."
- Stop the farmers now, not in years to come.
- The look of the water changing through stronger implementation of excluding stock from riverbanks more proactively. Having stronger consent conditions for activities that could negatively affect the mauri of the waterways.
- Waterways are healthy - good water quality, healthy riparian margins, abundance of native species, natural flows, unimpeded access for species to complete lifecycles, access to waterways and protection of important sites, the water is safe to swim in, gather kai from, undertake traditional practices and drink from
- I have seen no problem with diversity in our creek and we regularly swim in the see and the creek.
- I enjoy whitebaiting on the Mimi river as has my father, grandfather And great grandfather. I think more could be achieved for the sustainability by not allowing people to sell them, or take up to 25% of the river.
- Continue to work with land owners to jointly improve land use practices and fence off waterways and excessively steep areas where practical
  - Better protection from fertiliser, stock effluent, and sediment is needed. This can be achieved by modern sustainable farming practices and effective riparian planting, including protection of smaller streams.
  - The return of natural fauna and fauna to the river vally/sidlings giving corridors for our native threatened species. The removal of exotic predators, rats, deer, pigs, stoats etcetera. to allow the whenua and awa, ngaere to heal and prevent 'bush fires which could happen with commercial pine plantations.
  - Recognising important wetland habitat and protecting from grazing and drainage - especially in Mohakatino, Mimi and Tongaporutu catchments. Map habitats and exclude stock from wetlands and waterways. Farm plans? Revegetation, control of goats and prevent spread of deer. Identify and target goats and deer in the RPMS. Encourage revegation of indigenous species appropriate for the area.
  - Yes - increase awareness and compliance with fish passage requirements, limit the % of catchment and type of land that can be planted in exotic forestry, recognise that all streams (no matter how small) contribute to the health of the catchment. All streams and seepages should be fenced, not just the larger ones.
  - The ongoing communication with the citizens, stakeholders, tourism pressure, animal ownership, in concert/collaboration, partnership with Iwi/central govt, who are going through the process of passing 'The waters Entity bill', reforms of the RMA, future rolls of regional, local governance, 'Co-Governance ' terminology. What will the consensus look like? How will these factors affect TRC FMU proposals.
  - Urenui river - reticulated waste water system Mimitangiatua river - cease work to all activity by Remediation NZ at their Uruti site. They have killed the awa.
  - Stop drainage of wet areas within the catchment. stop the planting of pines for harvest.

- Yes - improvements in water quality, reduction in instream barriers, improved flows are needed to support the identified values. Limits and flow setting will assist to address the issue by understanding the environmental limits in the FMU (how much discharge can the land can take, how much water needs to be in the river to support healthy ecosystems) see where we are at in terms of our current situation (are we at capacity in terms of limits and flows - water quality and quantity) and then deciding what to do to achieve the overall vision - do we need to 'claw back', fair allocation, allocation rights etc.

Table 52: Northern Hill Country - Other community feedback on vision and improvements

- We would like to see the practice of spraying poison along and in the roadside drains to be stopped totally. There is only a finite amount of fresh water in the world and it is totally inappropriate to be using poison to kill vegetation along any fresh waterway, be it a drain, creek, stream, river, lakeside, etc. as poison will contaminate the water.
- Killing all the vegetation in the roadside drains which usually connect creeks, streams, rivers etc. causes a lot of unnecessary erosion on most land types. Here it is papa country, very fragile and erosion prone anyway, and the force of the water causes the road to flood and eventually silts up the streams, rivers, lakes and estuaries.
- Research says that vegetation – to a height of 15cm should be left on all drains to stop erosion and filter the water of most debris before it enters the culvers and to the creek, stream, river, lake etc.
- Carry out riparian from the source of the fresh water – usually a spring - completely through to the end point, a lake or the sea, with no parts missed out. If a tributary of a stream has to cross under a road that should not allow the management of the waterway to change to the detriment of the waterway.

## Values

### Community Feedback

Table 53: Northern Hill Country - Community level of interest in values - compulsory and other

<b>Compulsory Values</b>	<b>Indicative Level of Interest - Let's Korero Surveys</b>	<b>Indicative Level of Interest - A&amp;P Surveys</b>
Able to support healthy ecosystems	11%	15%
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	12%	15%
Preserving threatened species	11%	0%
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	6%	0%
<b>Other Values</b>		
Natural character and beauty	10%	14%
Supplying drinking water	8%	14%
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	8%	14%
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	10%	15%
Fishing	10%	0%

Hydro-electric generation	2%	0%
Animal/stock drinking water	6%	15%
Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	4%	0%
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	2%	0%
Other (see comments)	1%	0%

#### 4.9. Coastal Terraces Fresh Water Management Unit

##### Vision and Improvements

##### Community Feedback

Table 54: Coastal Terraces - Schools summary of visions and improvements

Use water responsibly	No pollution from animals or humans
Make a pollution eating robot	Don't litter
Riparian planting	Don't put dead animals in the rivers

Table 55: Coastal Terraces - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements

Waterways need to be kept clean and fresh for tamariki to be safe	Replenishable water for fun and kai and for visual enjoyment
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Table 56: Coastal Terraces - Online survey responses on vision and improvements

- Dune lakes in this FMU could do with additional monitoring to understand their state. They are at risk of eutrophication, pest fish and pest plants. Brown mudfish were probably much more widespread before land development/wetland drainage reduced them to remnant populations. Stream flows must be maintained (restored where possible) as wetland drainage has reduced baseflows. These streams are still important for coastal ecosystem processes.
- I am especially interested in the Waimoku Stream. Running as it does from the mountain to the sea, the water should be sparkling clean, free of contaminants and a place where longfin eels, giant kokopu, koura, mudfish and other native freshwater species can thrive. A fully functioning ecosystem in the stream would also greatly benefit native plant and bird life. With its mouth on Oakura Beach, the Waimoku Stream invites young children who bathe in it - for this reason, too - the water should be clean enough not only to bathe in, but also to safely drink. Pollutants in the Waimoku Stream come from agriculture. Monitoring is essential. Farm-owners who do not adequately protect the stream from stock, discharges and erosion should be charged for the damage they are causing.
- Reduction of building permits near coastal terraces to reduce the removal of planting and vegetation that helps reduce the land run off into the coastal streams - especially in areas prone to high erosion. Protection of the rare dune lakes and ensure controlled farm access around these to help eradicate invasive weed species such as hornwort.
- Riparian planting and waterways fenced off along entire catchment of these streams. E.g. Herekawe and Waireka awa - It is clear from GIS aerial photographs as well as on-the-ground observations (after visiting some farms or looking along the streams where roads cross tributaries) that fencing around the riverbanks as well as riparian planting has not been

enforced. TRC needs to be more heavy-handed in ensuring that these practices are enforced at the very minimum.

- Less pest species in our lakes and rivers which cause significant ecosystem changes and or collapse reducing Biodiversity & overall health. Lake Herengawe (Waverley) is not only used by Taranaki residents but those residing in Whanganui. Their local lakes are so polluted they drive to Taranaki to use their boats. Lake Herengawe is full of Hornwort one of the worst aquatic weeds in the world!! To do nothing will only involve the plant spreading to more waterbodies around Taranaki. It is now at a point where even the landowner can't use the lake as there is no open water left at the height of summer as the weed dominates. There are many pest species in the lake but the Hornwort is probably the worst. There are lots of threatened & endangered species including Bittern, Spotless Crake, taonga species like tuna (short and long) and kakahi present. On top of all that it is a dune lake, one of the rarest forms of lakes in the world and one of the most Southern. Why are we not better looking after these precious bodies?"
- As stated in TRC reports, urgent need for discharges of grey, black, storm water into the awa/waterways/drains, by intensive farming/horticulture/market gardening//industrial sites/commercial/housing estates to stop and alternative treatments introduced as indicated, including education/communication collaboration with citizens.
- During heavy rain events these rivers become a toxic torrent which pollutes surf beaches, causing ear infections in recreational water uses (surfers etc). Please introduce measures that will prevent this.
- The rates of abstraction and the residual flows in some coastal streams are very low. There is insufficient understanding of the interaction between these streams and the coast, but it must be acknowledged that there are coastal ecosystem processes that are adjusted to and/or dependent on freshwater inputs. These streams are formed from a large number of small seepages and springs, sourced from shallow groundwater. This shallow groundwater is likely to have elevated nutrients, esp nitrate. These types of waterways are often not required to be fenced/planted, resulting in their deterioration. As a result they become a source of sediment and nutrients, and the main stem of the catchment is thereby degraded. Brown mudfish would previously have been much more widespread in these catchments, but land development/wetland drainage has seen their populations reduced to a small number of remnants. Monitoring of the lakes and streams in this FMU needs to expand, as not enough is known about their state and trend. Improved rules and regulations are necessary. Remove dairy effluent discharges to water. It achieves a double reduction in nutrients entering water, as applying it to land should result in a reduced application of urea. Require all streams including springs and seepages to be fenced and planted appropriately. Increase riparian margin width to provide for more plants and a greater buffer.
- Widespread, powerful advertising campaigns are needed to reveal the dirty truths behind NZ's 'clean, green, 100% pure' image, to and shame the polluters into immediate action. Hefty fines should be imposed on farm and landowners who do not protect the waterways that cross or border their properties. Improved water quality should be publicised and celebrated.
- Able to support a healthy ecosystem - provide edge of field technologies to minimise the impact of farm run-off into our waterways. Encourage regeneration farming practices to reduce the need for adding fertiliser to the soil and improve soil retention.
- Enforcement of basic riparian fencing and planting. More regular monitoring for a more complete database, especially during heavy rain events, when the pollution problems are at their worst.
- A long term plan is required to get Lake Herengawe functioning better. In the short-term the cows need to be fenced out, riparian plants need to go in, the pest species need controlling. From there a long-term plan can kick in to continue its improvements.

Values  
Community Feedback

Table 57: Coastal Terraces - Schools key values - compulsory and other

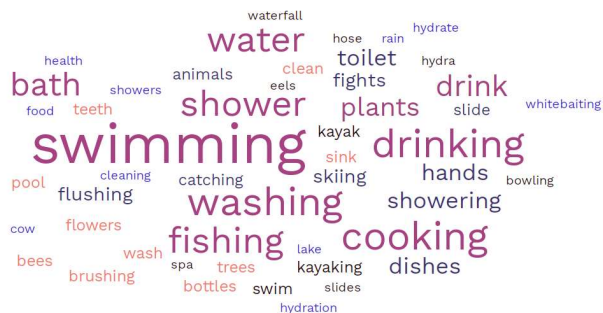


Table 58: Coastal Terraces - Community level of interest values - compulsory and other

Compulsory Values	Indicative Level of Interest - Let's Korero Surveys	Indicative Level of Interest - A&P Surveys
Able to support healthy ecosystems	13%	25%
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	13%	25%
Preserving threatened species	13%	25%
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	9%	0%
<b>Other Values</b>		
Natural character and beauty	11%	25%
Supplying drinking water	9%	0%
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	9%	0%
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	9%	0%
Fishing	4%	0%
Hydro-electric generation	0%	0%
Animal/stock drinking water	4%	0%
Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	2%	0%
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	0%	0%
Other (see comments)	4%	0%

#### 4.10. Feedback received but not specific to any one FMU

##### A&P show

Table 59: Not FMU specific - A&P Show comments on vision and improvements

Cleaner water for all of Taranaki	Continue to be able to use and enjoy
Rivers to have less sediment when flooding, and swimmable	Safe and accessible
Flood control across the region	full of native species
Healthier water for drinking/swimming	A taonga for all
Wider biodiversity, protected areas	Good decisions about what freshwater can be used for which protects people and the environment - Te mana o te wai
Clean water, balanced eco system, pollution free, home for our native fresh water invertebrates and native fish species	Swimmable, drinkable and able to sustain aquatic life
Just keep the improvements going	Cleaner water for recreational use
Storm water from roads to be filtered before getting to river	Keep going as is
It is important to recognise that we all need to makes changes to improvements - general public, industry and farmers	Water monitoring/testing of all/as many as possible waterways so we have lots of data and timeline data for the freshwater policies for regulations.

68% of respondents at the A&P Show indicated that the compulsory and/or other values that are important to them apply to the entire Taranaki region.

Table 60: Not FMU specific - A&P Show level of interest values - compulsory and other

Compulsory Values	Indicative Level of Interest - A&P Surveys
Able to support healthy ecosystems	10%
Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human contact)	10%
Preserving threatened species	10%
Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering	7%
<b>Other Values</b>	
Natural character and beauty	9%
Supplying drinking water	10%
Wai tapu - ability to access and interact with water for cultural practices, ceremonies and rituals	6%
Boating, canoeing, jet skiing and Tauranga waka	6%
Fishing	7%
Hydro-electric generation	5%
Animal/stock drinking water	8%
Farming - irrigation, cultivation and production of food and drink	7%
Commercial and industrial use (excluding hydro-electric generation)	4%

Other (see comments)	1%
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### Facebook comments

Table 61: Not FMU specific – Facebook comments on vision and improvements

- Anything to clean up the rivers, anything for people to swim safely, anything to enable safe farming practices
- Whatever the respective hapū had done for centuries pre 1840.
- Ensure no aerial drops of fertilisers or 1080 on the whenua ngahere or awa.
- Another issue is animal faeces too near waterways and the next rains carries it to the rivers
- Stop using herbicides; invest in our people with tikanga methodology.
- You guys (TRC) need to do your JOB! Protect air, land and water! Without your input not much else can help

### Taranaki Golf Course Superintendents Association

Table 62: Not FMU specific - Taranaki Golf Course Superintendents Association comments on vision and improvements

- It is essential that the quality of “Freshwater” and associated treatment, utilised for golf course treatment, is of good untainted standard. This is essential in the case of fine turf areas where expensive, sensitive quality turf is utilised. It is also important that the method of control and application of “Freshwater” is by sensitive expensive systems, which is constantly monitored and controlled.
- Riparian planting is now common practice at many golf facilities. The unrealistic expectations of some golf participants, the impression of which is stimulated by visual media, can also be a problem.
- At least, if water used for irrigation is fresh and clean, greenkeepers will know that they can apply this asset confidence.

### Forest and Bird

Table 63: Not FMU specific - Forest and Bird comments on vision and improvements

- Water quality would meet the A-band targets in Appendix 2A and 2B. In addition, Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen Levels would be below 0.6 mg/L and Dissolve Reactive Phosphorus levels would be below 0.02 mg/L. Where water quality already exceeds this standard, that standard would be maintained.
- The natural character, physical condition/habitat, and natural form and function of freshwater bodies would resemble a natural condition (such as might be evident in historical maps or aerial imagery). Rivers and streams would have room to move and flood safely within a floodplain or river corridor (i.e., rivers and streams would not be constrained with rip-rap and concrete, at least not for the most part). (Note, we consider this could be measured with the Natural Character Index).
- The area of wetland in the region would be doubled, and wetland condition would be monitored using the Wetland Condition Index (WCI). Wetland condition would be improved so that all wetlands score at least 10 on the index.
- Groundwater levels would be maintained to support stygofauna (the creatures that live in groundwater), springs, and spring-fed streams. Groundwater quality would meet the drinking water standards (unless naturally higher) and nitrate-nitrogen levels would be < 1.0 mg/L.



- Landscapes across Taranaki would be healthy and resilient, with diverse land cover (including a high proportion of native bush), river corridors (where rivers have room to move, erode, and flood safely), and wetlands where forest cover is restored to support water retention in the landscape (or 'Slow Water'<sup>2</sup>). Critical source areas would be fenced and vegetated. Nature-based solutions would be used widely across the rohe to address issues.
- Wastewater (from residential and rural areas, including stock effluent) would be treated appropriately to achieve water quality outcomes. Treated water would be recycled for use where appropriate. Stormwater would be managed as contaminated water and treated accordingly, and urban areas would be 'stormwater neutral' – i.e., they would not increase stormwater runoff – by harvesting rainwater, utilising urban wetlands, restoring permeable surfaces in urban areas, and increasing urban vegetation cover.
- Lakes, rivers, and streams would all be swimmable and provide mahinga kai that is safe for consumption.
- We consider improvement across all proposed FMUs will be required to provide for these values. The current monitoring undertaken by the Taranaki Regional Council clearly highlights that each FMU has degraded waterbodies with respect to different critical measures (e.g., nitrate and ammonia toxicity levels, DRP, fine sediment, E. coli, macroinvertebrate health). We expect that most (if not all) attributes will need to improve (except where water bodies are already in natural or 'pristine' areas).
- Regarding methods, NPSFM section 3.12 states councils must identify limits on resource use to achieve Appendix 2A target attribute states and that these must be rules in the regional plan. It also states councils may identify limits on resource use to achieve Appendix 2B but must prepare an action plan.
- We consider setting limits on resource use will be much more effective in achieving outcomes than working with 'action plans', regardless of whether attribute states are from Appendix 2A or 2B. (Limits are the only way to ensure environmental degradation does not occur).
- Generally, we think that input controls, such as limits on fertiliser use (lower than the national limit of 190 kg/ha/yr) and stocking rates, will be a simple and effective way to protect environmental health. Further, in lieu of an effective version of Overseer, or a 'risk based' assessment tool, input controls are a reliable option that should be used to achieve water quality targets (and a whole lot of other things, such as GHG emissions targets).
- Some limits Forest & Bird would like to see are (noting this is a non-exhaustive list):
  - Input controls, including
    - i. 'Sinking-lid'-type limits on the use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser (i.e., councils should go beyond the 'national' limit of 190 kg/ha/yr in the NES)
    - ii. Limits on phosphorus fertiliser use
  - b. Land use controls, including
    - i. Limits on stocking rates/intensity
    - ii. Limits on intensive winter grazing areas (beyond those in the NES)
    - iii. Restrictions on the development and use of floodplains and river corridors to (1) make room for rivers to flood safely, including under future climate change, (2) provide larger riparian buffers for biodiversity and water quality protection
    - iv. Minimum riparian buffers of around 20m, which have been established in international literature as much more appropriate than existing requirements in NZ
    - v. Requiring the fencing and planting of critical source area
- Other methods we consider will be useful include (but are not limited to):
  - Land management improvements, including

- promoting a move away from animal agriculture (given its heavy impact on the land and high GHG emissions)
    - promoting the use of organic and regenerative agriculture
    - using nature-based solutions (such as increasing riparian buffers, replanting hillsides, restoring wetlands, etc.) to reduce surface run-off, recharge groundwater, and reduce the impacts of high/low rainfall
  - Ceasing of permits for discharge to rivers/water as soon as possible
  - Better treatment of any discharges to land
  - Continued riparian planting, including bankside regeneration and vegetation planting
  - Stock exclusion programs
  - Restoring fish passage across the region
  - Identifying fish habitat and spawning areas, and protecting and restoring these areas
  - Better stormwater management, including compulsory use of water-sensitive design in subdivisions, compulsory residential water storage tanks on new builds, and increasing permeable surfaces and wetlands in urban areas (with limits on impermeable surfaces, ideally suburb by suburb and for subdivisions, etc.)
  - Freshwater farm plans, with a clear link to regional plan limits/targets
  - Better compliance, monitoring, and enforcement, including zero tolerance for contamination events
  - Marginal land retirement and hillside planting
  - Initiating a program of 'Making Room for Rivers' where engineering of rivers for flood protection is minimized and phased out in most places, so that rivers have room to flood and function normally and safely
  - Education and interpretation work to reconnect the community with freshwater environments so they have an appreciation for them and an imperative/motivation to protect them
- We support Taranaki Regional Council's continued programme to track progress in freshwater management and are open to helping identify any further issues and opportunities for improvement in line with the NPSF2020
  - Multiple streams, rivers, and river mouths have swimming warnings applied to the especially after heavy rain events, which impacts the community greatly.
  - Rivers downstream of Taranaki Mouna are often not drinkable, even within 1 km of the park boundary.
  - Water bodies in Northern Taranaki are filled with silt and high levels of E. coli impacting recreation and other uses

Table 64: Not FMU specific - Forest and Bird interest in values – compulsory and other

<p><b>Compulsory Values:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Able to support healthy ecosystems (Ecosystem health)</li> <li>● Recreational - able to swim or play in the water (Human Contact)</li> <li>● Preserving threatened species (Threatened species)</li> <li>● Rongoa (healing) and mahinga kai gathering (Mahinga Kai)</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Values:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Natural character and beauty (Natural form and character)</li> <li>● Supplying drinking water (Drinking water supply)</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> We can't live without fresh water and neither can the fish, birds, insects and plants that rely on clean water to survive and thrive. Thirty-one percent of our freshwater plants, 76 percent of our freshwater fish, and 34 percent of our freshwater invertebrates are at risk of extinction across</p>
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Aotearoa. This informs our view of activities and uses of freshwater and therefore the values we place on it. Our priorities align with the NPSFM2020 appendices.

## Federated Farmers

Table 65: Not FMU specific – Federated Farmers of New Zealand – Compulsory and Others

Sections 5, 6,7, 8

5.3 - Firstly, Federated Farmers sees value in recognising food production as a specific value to be considered on its own. Food production is generally captured under several values listed in the NPS-FM, but it is not front of mind when considering land use rules and restrictions. Federated Farmers suggests food production needs to be front of mind during the plan process and given consideration similar to matters outlined in section 6 of the Resource Management Act (RMA)

6.3 - Federated Farmers does not support a freshwater plan, which would group, or order freshwater values into each level of the hierarchy as this adds to unhelpful discussion around where a value should be located.

6.4 An example we can speak to is with one Council aiming to categorise values based on a hierarchy with a, b and c and unnecessary arguments have arisen around whether the use of water for certain types of food should fall under (b) or (c). One group was arguing that food production of a certain industry was mainly for national rather than international supply therefore they sat under b, where dairy is largely international and therefore fit under category (c). For clarity, we do not support this type of approach.

7.1 In terms of the compulsory values as listed under Appendix 1A of the NPS-FM, our position is as follows:

**Ecosystem Health** - 7.2 Federated Farmers values a healthy ecosystem that is appropriate to the type of water body. However, within the term “healthy” there will be a continuum of states. Federated Farmers considers that it is important that ecosystem health is set through an iterative community process that is informed by robust science and technical reports. It also ought to be considered in the context of existing land uses and all consequences of setting the ecosystem health value at a particular state ought to be weighed and considered (including the various NOF attribute states, dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) and dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP) exceedance criteria, as well as economic, social and cultural wellbeing).

**Human Contact** - 7.3 Federated Farmers values freshwater for human contact. It is noted that many human contact activities are seasonal, and some activities occur within the water (e.g., swimming,) and some on top of the water (e.g., boating, kayaking, etc). In a practical sense, Federated Farmers does not believe that all waterbodies ought to be safe for human contact at all points and at all times of year. There is no social, cultural or recreational benefit to justify the significant economic and social cost of achieving this (particularly when winter storm events might result in spikes in E Coli, for example, that might also be short lived due to flushing benefits of higher water volumes at that time of year). A pragmatic approach needs to be taken that is realistic to achieve and tempered with community expectations on how that can happen. As such, we ask Council to take a pragmatic approach that accounts for short terms issues in water quality due to natural influences.

**Threatened species** - 7.4 FFNZ values the need to protect and support the survival and recovery of threatened species populations at a catchment level. Federated Farmers considers that this value applies to the extent that, and locations where there is a population of threatened species, or habitat for threatened species of value, as opposed to applying this value throughout the catchment.

**Mahinga kai** - 7.5 Federated Farmers values the use of waterbodies for mahinga kai. We understand where freshwater species have traditionally been used as food, tools or other resources can be limited to certain areas and parts of waterbodies, and not necessarily all waterbodies within the Catchment. As with our comments under point 7.3, we are for a pragmatic approach to this value.

Federated Farmers considers the following additional values as being important to consider through the freshwater plan change process:

**Natural form and character** - 8.1 Federated Farmers considers that the pastoral farming and growing activities throughout the Catchment (both beside the river and on the hills in the backdrop) contribute to the form and character of the river. Federated Farmers also considers that the focus ought to be on “preserving” the existing form and character as opposed to restoring the river to some prefarmed state. However, it is acknowledged that restoration could be an option if appropriate depending on the situation, and this could be a valuable tool in the consenting process for offsetting if required.

**Human drinking water supply** - 8.2 We consider human drinking water supply is an important value that needs to both enable sufficient quantity and quality whilst also providing for existing use activities around the region. We have concerns that this value will have implications come consent renewal time for existing use activities. 8.3 It is also important to note that human drinking water applies to municipal takes, but also to small supplies and farms as well that use water for domestic purposes.

**Wai tapu** - 8.4 Federated Farmers recognises the value of wai tapu to tangata whenua. FFNZ considers that tangata whenua are best placed to identify such areas, or further speak to the value of wai tapu as a whole. Where possible, Federated Farmers considers that it is important that sites of special significance to tangata whenua are established so that this value can be provided for (and provide information to the wider community). FFNZ is supportive of building relationships between landowners and tangata whenua through education and communication to appropriately manage identified sites. Council could play a crucial role in facilitating these relationships.

**Transport and Tauranga waka** - 8.5 FFNZ supports having places to launch waka and watercraft for the community within FMUs. We also support having parts of the FMU navigable for these means of transport.

8.6 The ability to have these places identified needs to be tempered with accessibility considerations and property ownership (to the extent practical, i.e., that they are not on private property).

8.7 Federated Farmers considers that, as with wai tapu, tangata whenua are best placed to identify the places where they launch waka and landing points. The wider community will also be valuable in identifying landing points for watercraft as well.

**Fishing** - 8.8 Federated Farmers considers that the value of fishing within the Catchment (particularly recreational fishing) ought to be balanced with the values of primary production (being established activities carried on for a family’s livelihood and/or social, cultural, and economic wellbeing). This can only be determined by the community and tangata whenua, through the iterative value-objective-limit setting process described above.

**Animal drinking water** - 8.9 Water plays a vital role in animal health and welfare. Without access to sufficient drinking water animals will not survive. Even short periods without water can result in significant stress and health implications along with an impact on the animal’s production. It is also important to recognise that the direction to produce value added products requires the best supply of water, nutrients and conditions to achieve the best value-added product for market. S14(3)(b) of the RMA also recognises the importance of animal drinking water.

**Irrigation, cultivation and production of food and beverages** – 8.10 This value specifically links to farming and applies to the agricultural sector as a whole. This value is critical to include in the plan

change to ensure agricultural activities can continue to produce food and fibre and process it for both national and global markets. 8.11 It is also important to recognise that with the uncertainties of climate change, irrigation may be needed for viable food production systems. While irrigation in Taranaki is not widely used at present, this eventuality needs to be prepared for. Water storage and harvesting will also provide a pathway for irrigation opportunities, which needs consideration at the early stages of plan development. 8.12 Irrigation ensures consistency in water application and allows pasture and crops to be grown more reliably, reducing risks associated with a lack of feed caused by climate and seasonal variation. Irrigation allows a farmer's business to operate more productively and efficiently and is already controlled heavily through water permits and regional council requirements.

**Commercial and industrial use** - 8.13 FFNZ supports recognition of the economic value of freshwater and the opportunities it offers for the region. Farming operations are commercial operations, and rural support services and processing facilities are also captured under this use. As such, it is of vital importance that the use of water for commercial and industrial purposes is recognised for its crucial role both on and off farm.

**Other farming and/or growing activity values**

- Dairy shed washdown – water is required for hygiene and food safety reasons. Water is used for milk cooling to bring the temperature of milk down to ensure that it is safe for human consumption. Water is also used to wash the milking plant and equipment (to keep it free of bacteria) and for washing the dairy shed (with the wastewater and effluent recycled back onto dairy farm pasture).
- Domestic use – farms are also a place of residence so water is taken for drinking, washing, watering domestic vegetable gardens and other domestic purposes.
- Other miscellaneous farming uses – water is taken for washing machinery and equipment, mixing sprays and drench, etc. These uses may also have an important hygiene, animal health, or biosecurity purpose.

Note: Sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 6.1, 6.2, relate to the engagement process.