



# Freshwater Futures Community Group *Pongakawa-Waitahanui*

Workshop 4



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REGIONAL COUNCIL  
TOI MOANA

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## Welcome



**Nau Mai Haere Mai!**

Tiaki pumautia te wai e hoki mai ai ngā rawa ki a tātaukatoa  
Treat the water wisely and it will return to us

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# Housekeeping

- Fire protocol
- Toilets
- Meals
- Recording process/Sharing notes
- Make yourself at home



## Agenda



## Purpose of this group....

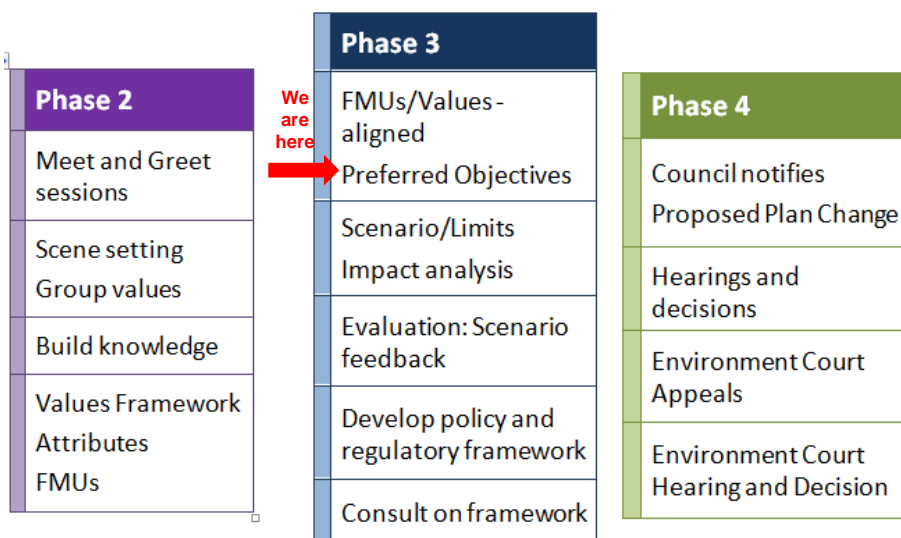


Is to help Council implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management:

- confirm values, express preferred objectives
- provide input into and feedback on limits and methods for freshwater quality and quantity within this WMA
- provide input into and feedback on solutions for managing activities to meet those limits
- advise Council in their decision-making for Plan change

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## Work Programme



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## Brief updates

- National
  - Good management practice, certification, data systems
  - National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management – pending changes
- Waikato River and Waipa River water quality: Proposed Waikato Regional plan change 1
- Bay of Plenty water quantity – proposed regional plan change 9

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## Desired outcomes for today

....to identify your views on in-river values in each FMU:

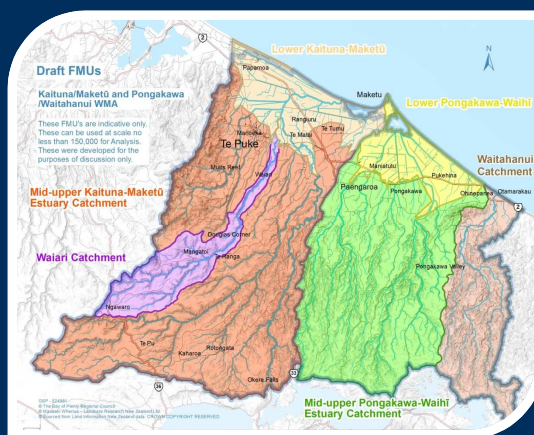
- **How they are now** (*good, fair, poor, lost*)
- **What's happening to them** (*improving, stable, worsening*)
- **How they should be** (*keep as is, improvement needed, and timing*)

NOTE: agreed and differing views will be recorded

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# Can you remember.....

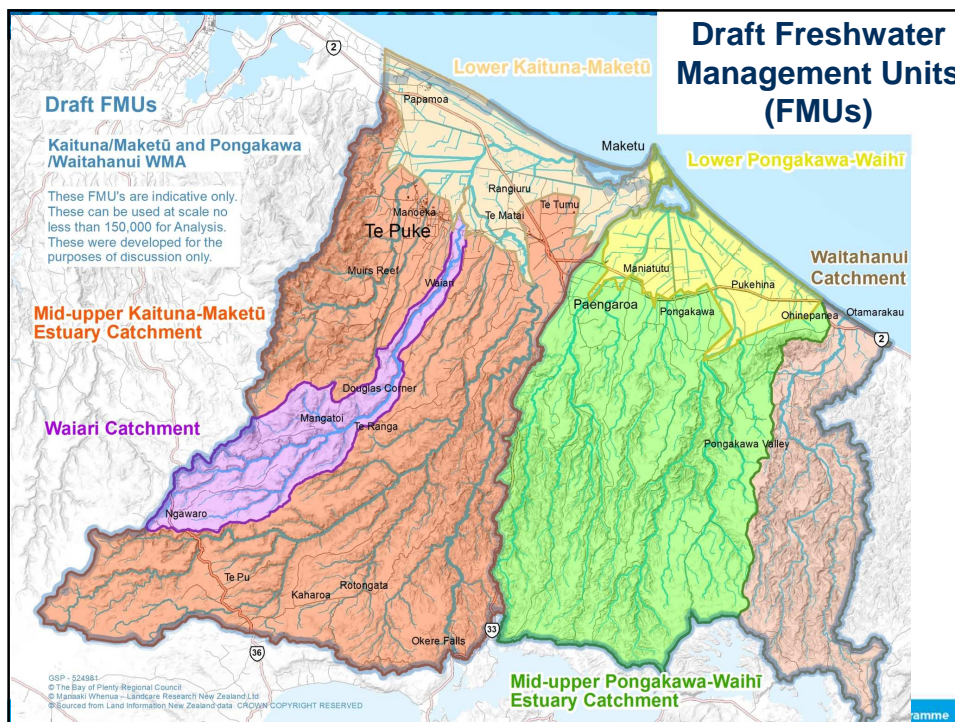


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Key:	National Compulsory Values	National Values	Additional BOP Values
<b>Te Hauora o te Wai / The health and mauri of water</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecosystem Health</li> <li>Significant indigenous species and habitat</li> </ul>
<b>Te Hauora o te Tangata / The health and mauri of the people</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health for recreation                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent immersion - primary contact (swimming, whitewater rafting, water skiing, etc.)</li> <li>Occasional immersion - secondary contact (wading, boating, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Te Hauora o te Taiao / The health and mauri of the environment</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural Form and Character</li> </ul>
<b>Mahinga kai / Food gathering, places of food</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mahinga kai – kai are safe to harvest                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuna – longfinned eels and shortfinned eels</li> <li>Koura – freshwater crayfish</li> <li>Kakahi – freshwater mussel</li> <li>Inanga, whitebait</li> <li>Watercress</li> <li>Kahawai</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mahinga kai – Kei te ora te mauri – the mauri of the place is intact</li> <li>Fishing – the freshwater management unit supports fisheries of species allowed to be caught and eaten                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trout</li> </ul> </li> <li>Gamebird habitat</li> </ul>
<b>Wai Māori / Municipal waters and domestic water supply</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Municipal and domestic water supply</li> <li>Treated wastewater discharge</li> <li>Urban stormwater drainage and assimilation</li> </ul>
<b>He ara haere / Navigation</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport and tauranga waka</li> </ul>
<b>Mahi mara / Cultivation</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irrigation and cultivation</li> <li>Animal drinking water</li> </ul>
<b>Au pūtea / Economic or commercial development</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial and industrial use                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>take, use, damming and diversion</li> <li>discharges</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Hydroelectric power generation</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydro-electric power generation</li> </ul>
<b>Floodwater conveyance</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood protection and control</li> </ul>
<b>Wai Tapu / Sacred waters</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wai tapu</li> </ul>
<b>Kōrero Tūturu / Sites or areas of cultural and historical significance</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites of cultural significance</li> </ul>
<b>Kaitiakiāra / Historical relationships</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural heritage and connection</li> </ul>
<b>Rawa tūturu / Customary resources</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rawa tūturu – Kei te ora te mauri – the mauri of the place is intact</li> </ul>
<b>Influence on other freshwater bodies</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Base flow/quantity</li> <li>Water quality</li> </ul>
<b>Moana / Influence on sensitive coastal waters and receiving environments</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moana / Influence on sensitive coastal waters and receiving environments</li> </ul>
<b>Influences on/by geothermal water</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influences on geothermal heat</li> <li>Influenced by geothermal water</li> </ul>

Changes  
Removed overarching grouping.  
Municipal waters change to include water supply, wastewater and stormwater.  
Added game bird habitat as value.

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## In-river freshwater values

	Mid-upper Pongakawa	Lower Pongakawa	Waitahanui
Ecosystem health	✓	✓	✓
Significant indigenous species	✓	✓	✓
Swimming, white-water, water skiing/ primary contact	?	✓	✓
Wading, boating/secondary contact	✓	✓	✓
Mahinga Kai	✓	✓	✓
Fishing	✓	✓	✓
Natural form and character	✓	✓	✓
Wai tapu	?	✓	?
Site of cultural significance	✓	✓	✓
Transport and tauranga waka	✓	✓	?
Rawa tuturu	?	✓	✓
Game birds	✓	?	✓

## Freshwater values and uses cont'd...

	Mid-upper Pongakawa	Lower Pongakawa	Waitahanui
Kaitiaki relationships	✓	✓	✓
Irrigation and cultivation	✓	✓	✓
Animal drinking water	✓	✓	✓
Municipal and domestic water supply	✓	?	✓
Treated wastewater discharge	✓	✓	✓
Urban stormwater discharge	✓	✓	?
Commercial and industrial use	✓	✓	✓
Hydro-electric power generation	?	?	?
Flood control	?	✓	?
Influence on other fresh waterbody	✓	?	?
Influence on geothermal	✓	✓	?

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## Freshwater state

- The nutrient toxicity levels support healthy river ecosystems by national definition (NOF)
- Invertebrate monitoring: excellent, good to fair
- National minimum acceptable state for swimming (primary contact) not met in lower Pongakawa and Waitahanui

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## Freshwater state

- Increasing nitrate trend in catchment
- Increasing phosphorous trend
- Waihi estuary potentially fresh water inputs effects poor ecological health
- Limited extent of remaining natural lakes and wetlands - compromised health

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## Freshwater state

- Several surface water catchments over-allocated
- Groundwater quality – limited state and trend data

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## National and Regional directions for managing Freshwater

- **At least maintain** freshwater quality and mauri.  
*We cannot set an objective that allows decline.*
- Improve water quality where needed to meet identified **required use** and **protection values**.
- Safeguard the life-supporting capacity, **ecosystems** and indigenous species.
- Safeguard the **health** of people and communities.
- **Protect** significant values of wetlands and outstanding freshwater bodies.

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## Preferred freshwater objectives



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## Preferred freshwater objectives

- A freshwater objective describes the environmental state required for the identified freshwater values to be appropriately provided for.
- Freshwater objectives are set at an FMU scale.
- Where practical they must be numeric but can also be written or narrative.

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## What we've heard so far?

People want our rivers to:

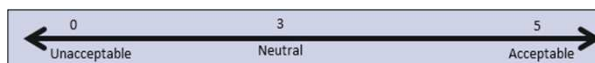
- support mahinga kai
- provide safe swimming and food
- increase native species and habitats

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## Preferred freshwater objective

### In-river values



- Swimming and other recreation involving immersion
- Mahinga kai (kai is safe to harvest and eat) and (the mauri of the place is intact)
- Ecosystem Health
- Significant/threatened/ rare indigenous species
- Fishing
- Natural form and character
- Wai tapu and/or site of cultural significance
- Transport and Tauranga waka

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## Then ask yourselves....

1. Is the value at an acceptable level? *(answered on continuum)*
2. Do current conditions of water quality/quantity allow/support for the value to be present *(why/why not)?*
3. Was the value previously here but has since been lost or nearly lost *(when/why)?*
4. Has the value recently improved *(why, how, where)?*
5. How would you expect it to be *(when/where/why/by when)?*
6. What further information would give you greater confidence in making this recommendation?

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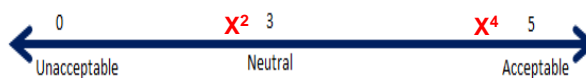
## Examples - swimming



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## Preferred freshwater objective e.g. - swimming

- Swimming (and other recreation involving immersion)  
*- discuss – swimming as a value*
- In (FMU1) how acceptable is the current state of swimming (and other recreation involving immersion)  
*– complete the continuum*



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## Preferred freshwater objective e.g. - swimming .....cont'd

- From the standpoint your group took – respond to the questions – the more detail the better - *in the FMU1 box*

Define agreed state

Be specific

- Based on in-river values
- e.g. safe to swim (there will be others) in places and at times of the year public have always gone swimming

Preferred freshwater objectives

Focus of workshop 4

next slide

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Define values

Define agreed state

Be specific

Be measurable

Scenarios

- e.g., swimming

- Based on in-river values
- e.g. safe to swim (there will be others) in places and at times of the year public have always gone swimming

- The water body is safe to swim in at x, y, locations (maybe also specific seasons and rainfall) and n times of year

- E. Coli <260 cfu/ 100ml, bathing water standard, clarity of x metres, % of algae cover? Other?
- Notes: Most stringent requirement for each attribute, and down stream numeric requirement, becomes the numeric objective.

- Estimations of future use and demand for water
- Management options
- Assessment of implications

Preferred freshwater objectives

Focus of workshop 4

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## Then ask yourselves....

1. Is the value at an acceptable level? *(answered on continuum)*
2. Do current conditions of water quality/quantity allow/support for the value to be present *(why/why not)?*
3. Was the value previously here but has since been lost or nearly lost *(when/why)?*
4. Has the value recently improved *(why, how, where)?*
5. How would you expect it to be *(when/where/why)?*
6. What further information would give you greater confidence in making this recommendation?
7. Who else in the community could provide input?

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## Preferred freshwater objective e.g. - swimming ....cont'd

Check in....

- Understand the process – is it workable?
- Comfortable continuing?

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## Preferred freshwater objective - rotations

- Start with 5 values below (8 in all)
  - Swimming and other recreation involving immersion,
  - Mahinga kai (kai is safe to harvest and eat) and (the mauri of the place is intact)
  - Ecosystem Health,
  - Significant/threatened/rare indigenous species,
  - Fishing
- Work your way through the feedback sheet
- When completed – *all material back to Values table - collect another one + any completed feedback sheets*

NOTE: check other groups views, note agree/disagree and groups views on your sheet

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## Check in

- Any gaps?
- Any further information you would have liked?
- Were any particularly challenging?

After lunch we will provide a quick overview of the whole groups thoughts at this stage

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# Lunch



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## Preferred freshwater objective - rotations

- Feedback overview
- remaining values to consider - *15 minutes/value?*
  - ✓ Swimming and other recreation involving immersion,
  - Mahinga kai (kai is safe to harvest and eat) and (the mauri of the place is intact)
  - Ecosystem Health,
  - Significant/threatened/ rare indigenous species,
  - Fishing
  - Natural form and character
  - Wai tapu and/or site of cultural significance
  - Transport and Tauranga waka



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## Checking the combined Group views

What are the common views about each FMU that we have identified today?

- *How they are now* (good, fair, poor, lost)
- *What's happening to them* (improving, stable, worsening)
- *How they should be* (keep as is, improvement needed, and timing)

*NOTE: Who else in the community could provide input?*

Where the group holds different views?

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## Summary...

- Any gaps?
- Any further information you would have liked?
- Were any particularly hard or inappropriate?
- Summary overview - discussion

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## Credible futures – Pongakawa

The image shows two boards of sticky notes. The left board is titled 'Emerging' and features notes such as 'Climate change or cycle', 'More demand for irrigation', 'Water meter take household', 'Emerging technology advances in horticulture & agriculture', 'Future: Growing population - More pressure on water - less quantity, less quality', 'Water Storage', 'More difficult to find potable water sources', 'New planting of shade trees', 'New horticulture - Kiwifruit, Avocado', 'Decreasing biodiversity', 'post-irrigation', 'New forest around water use', and 'Council Regulation'. The right board is titled 'Future' and features notes such as 'Restricted use impacting on economic growth', 'More legislation', 'Afforestation required', 'Water storage - the way of the future / water banking', 'Defined land use areas - Council - land type', 'Biosecurity risks', 'Vegetation change', 'Re-useable Water - Recycling etc.', 'more industry', 'Geothermal, low Heating, Housing, Industry', 'Grow the forestry land', 'Add fields for future development in wetlands', 'Society management in the future', 'polluted aquifers', 'new offshore crop disease', 'Biodiversity growth - Urban sprawl', and 'Cropping changes - sub-tropical - plants not ready - chill' zone - low yield species - low water requiring - big protein substituted'. The bottom of the image contains the text '35 BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL Water Programme'.

## Credible futures

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1. A5 post-its - what you have already given us
2. As a group - any further thoughts - think 2030 - big changes
  - land use
  - land use practices
  - industries using water
3. Rank voting
4. Map key trends

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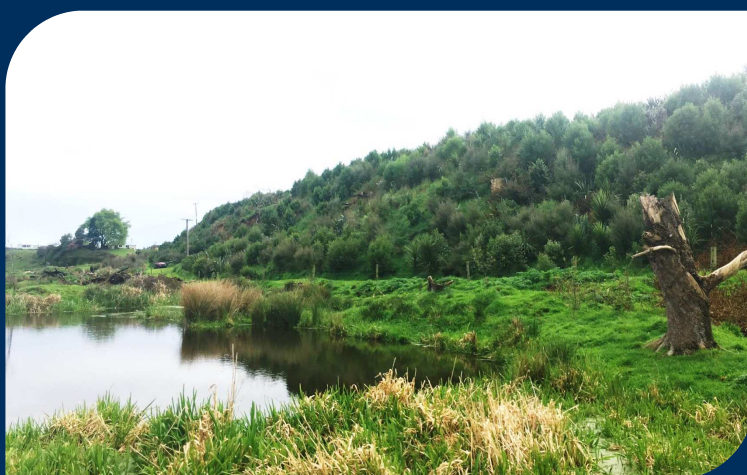
## Summary...

- Any gaps?
- Any further information you would have liked?
- Summary overview - discussion

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## What's next?



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## Next steps

- Prepare notes and circulate for you to check
- Work up draft objectives – words
- Work up draft objectives – numbers
- Work up credible future scenarios – land use and activities, demand for water
- Building catchment model
- Start to model effects of future scenarios and scale of change needed to achieve objectives

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## Outstanding

- Chair
- Consensus

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## Summary

Today we have.....

- Created preferred objectives
- Outlined a credible future
- You have asked us to...

Any burning questions still unanswered?

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## Thanks once again

- In closing...
  - Any feedback to us on this session?
- Next meeting.....
- Talk to others .....
- The key highlight/achievements from this session
- Ask - what would they have added to the session?

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