Kia ora Koutou,

Please see the following request from the hearing panel for a suggestion as to how Objective 43 could be shifted into the policies section of the Regional Policy Statement RPS completed by Forest & Bird below;

Regarding the request from the hearing panel for a suggestion as to how Objective 43 could be shifted into the policies section of the RPS, we consider the simplest way to do this would be as below. i.e., delete Objective 42 and use the wording from our suggested amendment to Objective 43 to create Policy KR 4Ba (or other name as appropriate):

Objective 42

There is sufficient water quantity in the Kaituna River to support the mauri of rivers and streams and provide for tangata whenua, ecological and recreational values

Objective 43

Water in the Kaituna River is sustainably allocated and efficiently used to provide for the social, economic and cultural well-being of iwi, hapū and communities now and for future generations

Policy KR 4Ba

Water in the Kaituna River is allocated in a way that prioritises the health and wellbeing of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems.

We're conscious the panel might have other suggestions and would be open to similar wording that achieves the same outcome – that is, in allocating any water in the Kaituna catchment, the wellbeing of the water bodies and freshwater ecosystems comes first. This then helps achieve the outcome sought in Objective 42.

Ngā mihi,

Tom Kay (he/him)

Conservation Advocate - Freshwater **Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc. M** 022 183 2729 Note I work Monday - Friday

I you have any queries please contact me.

Ngā Mihi, Rachel Thaugland Environmental Policy & Planning Coordinator Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana

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