

Report to the Collaborative Stakeholder Group – for Agreement and Approval

File No: 23 10 02
Date: 27 July 2015
To: Collaborative Stakeholder Group
From: Chairperson – Bill Wasley
Subject: **Confirming the values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers**
Section: **Agreement and Approval**

1 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) with a final version of the list of values and uses to be used in Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora policy development process.

Recommendation:

1. That the report [Confirming the values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers] (Doc #3451974 dated 27 July 2015) be received, and
2. That the Collaborative Stakeholder Group
 - a) Confirm the list of values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers, as shown in Attachment 1, and
 - b) Refer the list of values and uses to the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee for endorsement.

2 Background

CSG considered a re-crafted list of values and uses at CSG13 in Karapiro 2-3 July 2015 (Waikato Regional Council, 2015). CSG provided feedback, including some required wording changes. A summary of the changes requested are:

- Sense of place - making clear that it is part of values. Still feel it needs an addition. About an emotional historical connection/ can be personal, groups, families, organisations with connection to a place.
- Primary production - redrafted section focuses on economics: failed to recognise what stems out of that i.e. food production, connection with land, high quality safe food, pride and culture for those communities.
- Natural form and character – agreed to take out word ‘corridor’ and leave just ‘river.’
- Human health for recreation – agreed to add in place ‘to relax’
- Electricity generation –too detailed, synthesise. Energy sector rep to work with staff on wording. Include Tongariro Power Scheme flows as part of river value.
- Water supply – ‘The catchment surface and subsurface water is of a quality’.
- Hard to connect mauri with this document. Past present and future.
- Acknowledgement of flood protection.

(Workshop notes CSG13).

These changes have been incorporated into the values and uses, and the final version is included as Attachment 1.

At CSG workshop 13 the energy sector representative offered to work with staff on the wording of the electricity generation value. Staff provided a revised version which included some amendments to the CSG13 workshop wording. The energy sector representative has taken this wording to their sector, and responded with alternative wording. This alternative wording of the electricity generation value, as drafted by the energy sector representative, is what is included in the values and uses list in Attachment 1.

Once CSG has agreed on the values and uses these will be sent to Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee for endorsement.

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Attachment 1: Values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers final July 2015 version.
Document #3166221

References

Waikato Regional Council 2015. Values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers - re-crafted. Agreement and Approval. Dated 19 June 2015. Document # 3421947.

Workshop notes from CSG workshop 13 (2 and 3 July 2015). Day 2, 3 July 2015 Section 14, Update on values. Document #3439320.

Values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers

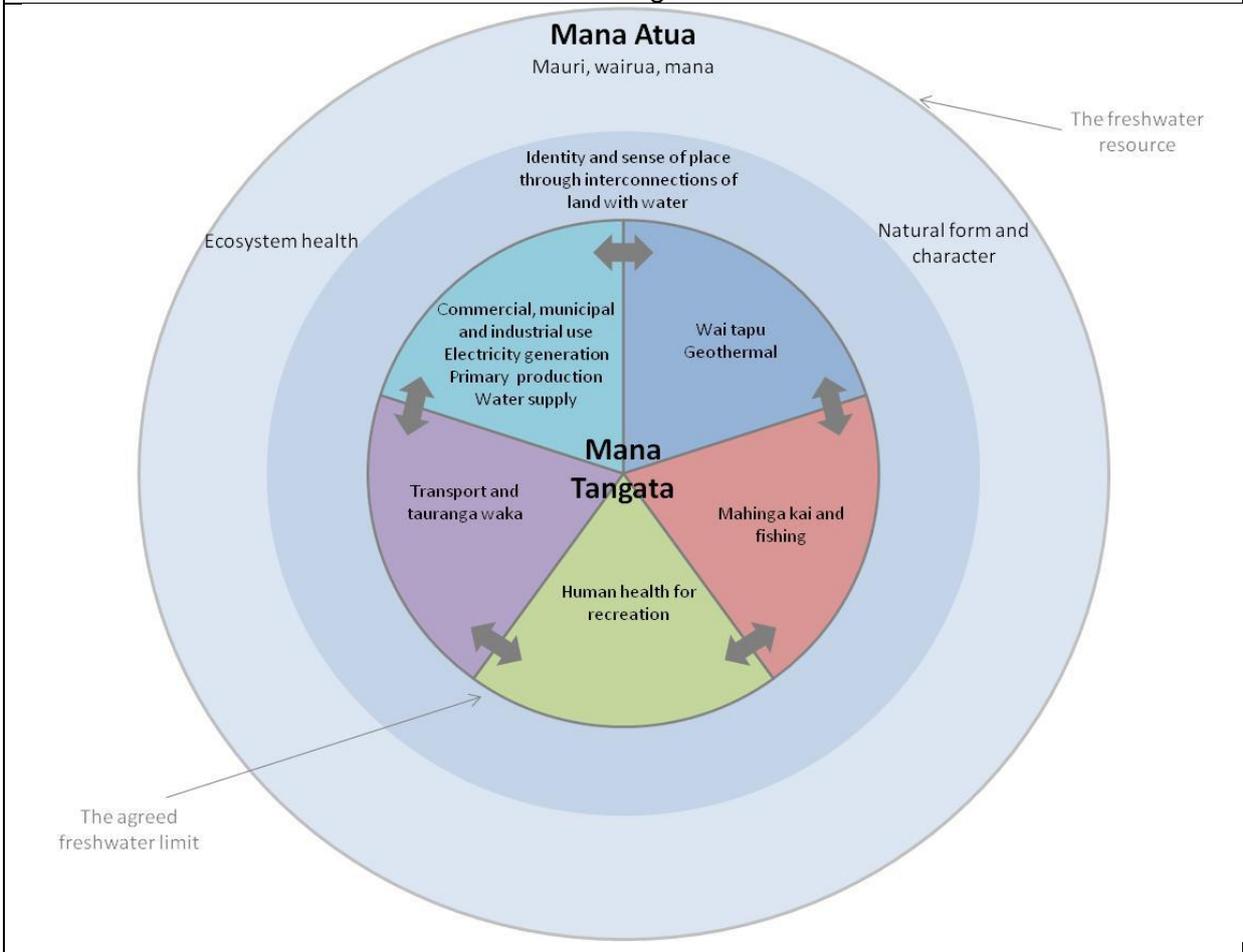
Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River

“Our vision is for a future where a healthy Waikato River sustains abundant life and prosperous communities who, in turn, are all responsible for restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River, and all it embraces, for generations to come.”¹

Te Mana o te Wai: Mana Atua, Mana Tangata

Values can be thought of in terms of Mana Atua and Mana Tangata, which represent Te Mana o te Wai². Mana Atua represents the intrinsic values of water including the mauri, wairua and inherent mana of the water and its ecosystems in their natural state. Mana Tangata refers to values of water arising from its use by people for economic, social, spiritual and cultural purposes. Mana Atua and Mana Tangata values encompass past, present and future.

A strong sense of identity and connection with land and water (hononga ki te wai, hononga ki te whenua) is apparent through the Vision and Strategy and the many values associated with the rivers. This is represented in the figure below as a unifying value that provides an interface between the Mana Atua and Mana Tangata values.



¹ The Vision and Strategy is intended by Parliament to be the Primary direction-setting document for the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the Waikato River. Values and uses are intrinsic to, and embedded in the Vision and Strategy.

² The National Policy Statement Freshwater Management 2014 states that the aggregation of a range of community and tangata whenua values, and the ability of fresh water to provide for them over time recognises the national significance of fresh water and Te Mana o te Wai.

Hononga ki te wai, hononga ki te whenua/ Identity and sense of place through the interconnections of land with water	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The rivers contribute to a sense of community and sustaining community wellbeing.</i> • <i>The rivers are an important part of family life, holding nostalgic feelings and memories and having deep cultural and historical significance.</i> • <i>For river iwi, respect for the rivers lie at the heart of the spiritual and physical wellbeing of iwi and their tribal identity and culture. The River is not separate from the people but part of the people, “Ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au” (I am the river and the river is me).</i> • <i>The rivers are a shared responsibility, needing collective stewardship: mahitahi – working together to restore the rivers. There is also an important inter-generational equity concept within Kaitiakitanga</i> 	

Mana Atua – Intrinsic values	
<i>Te Hauora o te Wai / the health and mauri of water</i>	
Ecosystem health	
<p>The Waikato and Waipa catchments support resilient freshwater ecosystems and healthy freshwater populations of indigenous plants and animals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The value of clean freshwater to restore and protect the aquatic native vegetation so as to provide habitat and food for native aquatic species and for human activities or needs including swimming and drinking. • The value of freshwater in the restoration and protection of macro invertebrate communities for their intrinsic value, and as a food source for native fishes, native birds and introduced game species. • The value of freshwater supporting all native freshwater fish species. • The value associated with the protection and restoration of wetlands and floodplains which provides water purification, refuge, feeding, breeding habitat for aquatic species, habitat for water fowl and other ecosystem services such as flood control. • The value of freshwater contributing to unique habitats including peat lakes, shallow riverine lakes and the karst formations which all support unique biodiversity species and assemblages. • The value of the rivers and adjacent riparian margins as ecological corridors.
<i>Te Hauora o te Taiao / the health and mauri of the environment</i>	
Natural form and character	
<p>Retain the integrity of the river within the landscape and its aesthetic features and natural qualities for people to enjoy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rivers have amenity and naturalness values, including native vegetation, undeveloped stretches, and significant sites. • People are able to enjoy the natural environment; it contributes to their health and wellbeing. • The rivers are an ecological and cultural corridor. • The rivers as a whole living entity.

Mana Tāngata – Use values	
<i>Wai Tapu / Sacred Waters</i>	
Wai tapu	
Area of water body set aside for spiritual activities, that support spiritual, cultural and physical wellbeing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rivers are a place for sacred rituals, wairua, healing, spiritual nurturing and cleansing. • The rivers provide for cultural and heritage practices and cultural wellbeing, particularly at significant sites.
<i>Ngāwhā/geothermal</i>	
Geothermal	
A valued resource that is naturally gifted to sustain certain activities (meeting spiritual and physical needs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geothermal areas of the river have natural form and character, and unique flora found only in the geothermal environment. • Geothermal areas are a special micro-climate. • Geothermal areas and resources were prized by tupuna for their many uses. Kokowai (red ochre) is part of the kawa and tikanga around cultural processes and was a trading commodity
<i>Mahinga kai / food gathering, places of food</i>	
Mahinga kai and fishing	
The ability to access the Waikato and Waipa and their tributaries to gather sufficient quantities of kai that is safe to eat and meets the social and spiritual needs of its stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rivers provide for freshwater native species, native vegetation, and habitat for native animals. • The rivers provide for freshwater game and introduced kai species. • The rivers provide for cultural wellbeing, knowledge transfer, intergenerational harvest, obligations of manaakitanga and cultural opportunities, particularly at significant sites. • The rivers should be safe to take food from, both fisheries and kai. • The rivers support aquatic life, healthy biodiversity, ecosystem services, flora and fauna and biodiversity benefits for all. • The rivers are a corridor. • The rivers provide resources available for use which could be managed in a sustainable way. • The rivers provide for recreation needs and for social wellbeing.
<i>Te Hauora o te Tangata / the health and mauri of the people</i>	
Human health for recreation	
The rivers are a place to swim and undertake recreation activities in an environment that poses minimal risk to health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rivers provide for recreational use and social needs, are widely used by the community, and are a place to relax, play, exercise and have an active lifestyle.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An important value for the rivers is cleanliness: the rivers should be safe for people to swim in.
<i>He ara haere / navigation</i>	
Transport and tauranga waka	
All communities can use the rivers to pilot their vehicles, waka and navigate to their destinations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rivers provide for recreational use (navigation), and sporting opportunities. The rivers are a corridor, mode of transport and mode of communication. The rivers provide for culture and heritage, cultural wellbeing, and social wellbeing, particularly at significant sites.
<i>Mahi māra / cultivation and primary production</i>	
Primary production	
The rivers support regionally and nationally significant primary production in the catchment (agricultural, horticultural, forestry). These industries contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of people and communities, and are the major component of wealth creation within the region. These industries and associated primary production also support other industries and communities within rural and urban settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rivers support a wide variety of primary production in the catchment, including dairy, meat, wool, horticulture and forestry. Due to the economies of scale of these industries other service sectors are able to operate, such as agritech, aviation and manufacturing. These industries combined contribute significantly to regional and national GDP, exports, food production and employment. The rivers and the surrounding land offer unique opportunities for many communities and industries to operate, contributing to the lifestyle and sense of community, pride and culture in rural Waikato.
<i>Wai māori / municipal and domestic water supply</i>	
Water supply	
The rivers provide for community water supply, municipal supply, drinkable broader water supply and health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The catchments' surface and subsurface water is of a quality that can be effectively treated to meet appropriate health standards for both potable and non-potable uses.
<i>Āu Putea / economic or commercial development</i>	
Commercial, municipal and industrial use	
The rivers provide economic opportunities to people, businesses and industries.	<p>Freshwater is used for industrial and municipal processes which rely on the assimilative capacity for discharges to surface water bodies and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide for economic wellbeing, financial and economic contribution, individual businesses and the community and the vibrancy of small towns. They are working rivers: they create wealth. Those industries are important to the monetary economy of Waikato Region, enabling a positive brand to promote to overseas markets. The rivers provide for domestic and

	<p>international tourism. Promotion of a clean, green image attracts international and domestic visitors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rivers provide assimilative capacity for waste water disposal, flood and storm water, and ecosystem services through community schemes or on site disposal.
<p>Electricity generation</p>	
<p>The river provides for reliable, renewable hydro and geothermal energy sources and thermal generation securing national self-reliance and resilience. New Zealand's social and economic wellbeing are dependent on a secure, cost effective electricity supply system. Renewable energy contributes to our international competitive advantage. Electricity also contributes to the health and safety of people and communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waikato Hydro Scheme extends over 186 km, comprising Lake Taupo storage, dams, lakes, and power stations. Tongariro Power scheme adds 20 percent to natural inflows to Lake Taupo. • Huntly Power Station's role in the New Zealand electricity system is pivotal and particularly when weather dependent renewable generation is not available. Freshwater is used for cooling and process water. • Geothermal power stations located on multiple geothermal systems use freshwater for cooling, process water and drilling.