

Notes of the Rangitāiki Freshwater Futures Community Group Workshop 1 held in Galatea Hall, 50A Mangamate Road, Galatea, on Wednesday 18 November 2015 commencing at 10.00 am

Facilitator: Kerry Gosling

Interim Chairman: Larry Wetting

Scribe: Carla Gray

Present: Alamoti Te Pou, Alan Law, Atamira Nuku, Bill Clark, Bill Kerrison, Cathy Brown, Christina Bunny, Daryl Christie, Gareth Boyt, George Johnston, James Doherty, John Gibson, Kirsty Joynt, Larry Wetting, Linda Conning, Matt Gow, Matt Osborne, Ngapera Rangiaho, Nick Doney, Tom Lynch, Wetini Paul and Councillor Norm Bruning.

BOPRC Staff: Simon Stokes (Relationship Manager), Stephanie Macdonald (Support Facilitator), Toni Briggs (Project Manager), Beverley Hughes (Māori Policy Advisor), Dylan Makgill (Consents Team Leader), Michelle Lee (Planner – Water Policy), Milly Farquhar (Land Management Officer), Nancy Willems (Senior Land Management Officer), Paul Scholes (Environmental Scientist), Alex Miller (Project Implementation Officer – Pollution Prevention) and Nicola Green (Senior Planner – Water Policy).

Apologies: Robert Pouwhare, Mark Ross and Steve Brightwell.

1 Welcome

Simon Stokes welcomed everyone to the workshop and invited James Doherty to provide a mihi and karakia.

Simon introduced himself as the Relationship Manager for the group and went through the purpose of this group. He explained the group has been set up to help Council implement the National Policy Statement for freshwater management.

Kerry asked present community group members to introduce themselves and provide a brief explanation of the key drivers which led them to apply to be part of this group:

Bill Clark	Bill is actively recreating the Rangitāiki, passionate about making sure the river doesn't become industrialised and overused. Agree need to restore the tuna passage.
Linda Conning	Owns an orchard in Te Teko. Main driver for being here is making sure the native ecosystem boundaries of the river are better looked after than they currently are. Wants to make sure the native critters that are living in the river are part of the conversation.
Wetini Paul	Part of Te Rūnanga o Ngati Awa – main driver for being here is to ensure his children and future generation can enjoy the river as much as he did when he was a child.

George Johnston	Has lived on the Rangitāiki River since he was 13 years old. Has seen what it was like since then. George has a passion to try and bring back to life some of the realities the river has produced in the past. Disappointing to see the river the way it is at the moment. Here to make sure his knowledge of the river is used.
Tom Lynch	Runs an ecotourism business and has been rafting in the Rangitāiki for more than 20 years. Teaches natural history. Asked to attend from a recreation perspective, also enjoys fishing.
John Gibson	Orchardist in Te Teko. Respects the ecology of the Rangitāiki River. Look to economic values of the river - employment of a lot of people. Wants the sharing of resources fairly amongst all of us.
Atamira Nuku	Married into Ngāti Manawa. During her time with Department of Conservation, put name forward to be part of this group. Driver is to support local tangata whenua and equip them with the knowledge of the skills to become true kaitiaki.
Kirsty Joynt	Lives in Tauranga, recreates on the Rangitāiki River occasionally, works for Trust Power Ltd. Here to represent Trust Powers interests. Background in environmental science. Trust Power owns Matahina power scheme, acknowledges concerns over eel passage. Interested in hydroelectric, renewable energy resource. Thinks there is a lot of opportunity to start with a clean slate; to get a good framework in place to manage the Rangitāiki River for the next generation.
Christina Bunny	Lives south (near Taupō) on big sheep beef and deer farm. Passionate about sustainable farming. Has three young children and wants them to be able to enjoy for generations to come.
Daryl Christie	Been appointed here by Ngati Whare. Wants to be part of a transformational group; to be part of the group that wants to bring about that change.
Alan Law	Farmer at lower reaches of the Rangitāiki at Thornton. Been involved in Federated Farmers leaders regionally and nationally. Sees group having a massive challenge. As a farmer, only a caretaker of resources. Our challenge is to look after the resources for future generations.
Matt Gow	Fourth generation on dairy farm below the dam. Seen great changes involved from the river and the alliance/how we farm. Has been exposed to flood events. Thinks really important, representing farming as it is an important part of the community. Hopefully can combine ideas and have a good outcome.
Larry Wetting	Local dairy farmer in Galatea – grew up in Edgecumbe. Takes on board a lot of the values people have already said. Also done work with Council up here - Rangitāiki River Forum and looking at water storage for the future as an economic benefit for community and means of flood protection. Also as a means of keeping the low flows at a higher level for environmental benefits.
Cathy Brown	Farms on the Whirinaki/Rangitāiki. Representing dairy farming – typically gets bad representation, wants people to understand what dairy farmers are doing. Based on facts rather than hearsay and to ensure we are taking up the opportunities and making sure have a great New Zealand for the future. Ensure region brings back our children and have futures. It is about educating.
Bill Kerrison	Doing all the fisheries of our tuna, throughout Aotearoa, travelled everywhere including overseas and Canada. Has looked at many waterways in New Zealand, became involved coming back home and visiting the hydro power scheme. His problem is the hydro power scheme. Aniwhenua – mitigation when should it stop? Wants to push for the Rangitāiki River to become pristine once again.
Ngaperā Rangiaho	Ngaperā (Patuheuheu descent) was supported by both

	<p>Patuheuheu/Ngāti Haka at a hapū hui for her application onto this committee. Waiohau used to be renown for hosting – delicacy of tuna. Each whānau had tuna farm and took care of it. Never went without. If anything happened on the Marae, each whanau would contribute to the food basket. Things changed. This will be small steps in terms of what kaitiaki looks like, educating.</p>
Alamoti Te Pou	<p>General manager for CNI iwi land management. 114000 hectares of land within the catchment. As lands came back to us, land continues to grow in trees. Main purpose for being here is the restoration of the river, land use flexibility and decision making. A lot of family live in area as well. Future opportunities to keep our people at home.</p>
James Doherty	<p>Main driver Okahu – depends on Rangitāiki in terms of the fish life etc. unnatural to have water without fish life. Talk about river as a food basket – in old times, holes where fish once were, now empty. Driver is to get back to where it once was.</p>
Gareth Boyt	<p>Resident just outside of Murupara. Teaches bachelor of environmental studies at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiarangi. Represents generation of people and resources of Murupara upstream. Effected by what goes on in river and land. Water is currently in a bad state. Can't drink. Employment issues. Need to look at alternative changes and move forward in a positive way.</p>
Nick Doney	<p>Works for Department of Conservation. Cares passionately about the environment in which he lives. Social, environmental and economic. Wants to see everyone represented fairly. Best outcome for all.</p>
Councillor Norm Bruning	<p>Councillor for Regional Council – background is farming in Western Bay district – represents the political arm of the Regional Council. From outside of the rohe but does have an appreciation of this area. He is on the Rangitāiki River Forum and works with the river scheme liaison group. Interests – people, economic and social and cultural and spiritual life for you here on the Rangitāiki.</p>
Mat Osborne	<p>Works for Fish and Game. Involved in the fishery side of things. Prior to that, was a dairy farmer. Heartening to see all different aspects catered for in the group. Really important to put those ideas for the Council to consider to get the best possible outcome. Will largely represent Fish and Game licence holders.</p>

- Kerry explained that Council will take the group's views into consideration when making decisions. Once the community group's view goes to Council, the group will also get feedback on how they their views have been used and how Council have been informed.
- Councillor Bruning is present so that Council have a wide view point, so other Councillors understand what the community feel.
- Gaps in the community group were noted:
 - Territorial authorities.
 - George Johnston noted he is a Whakatāne District Councillor.
 - Alamoti Te Pou noted a gap – forestry. Timberlands. – Staff are to work with Alamoti to fill this gap
 - Tangata whenua gaps were noted
 - There was concern about the lack of forestry knowledge. – Thinking about how we can fill that knowledge base around the table
 - Simon Stokes will speak to Craig at Nova Energy
 - Nick Doney advised he is here as an individual but is also Sustainable Dairy Advisor at Fonterra. Here as community member
 - Linda Conning advised she is also a member of the Regional Water Advisory Group and has had discussion in that body about these community groups. Forestry rep on that group said forestry industry didn't have capacity to put

people on these groups and were looking to have consultation with council separately.

Simon Stokes introduced staff and advised they are here to support the group in a non-voting role. Simon advised that Councillor Norm Bruning has also chosen to be a non-voter – he will vote at Council level.

Action: Simon to contact people within the acknowledged gaps to attempt to fill them

2 Scene setting

So what is this all about – national picture and Council’s direction.

Nicki Green (Senior Planner – Water Policy) provided an explanation of resource management in New Zealand, and the Resource Management Act, (policy framework of how resources are managed in New Zealand). She explained that the National Policy Statement directs Council to do some things to sustain resources for the long term.

Key discussion points:

- What is the starting point? How do we start/where do we start from? Staff advised the second workshop will look at current state.
- Triangle diagram – Simon explained Rangitāiki River Forum is the co-governance group and that Tūhoe will be acknowledged as well for their governance over Te Urewera.

Nicki explained that feedback from this group and feedback from tangata whenua will be fed up to both the co-governance group (Rangitāiki River Forum) and to Council. Rangitāiki River Forum will form their advice as well, and that will be fed back to Council. Final decision sits at Council.

3 Working Together

3.1 Expectations

The community group came up with ideas of what it is they are expecting of one another and of the process:

Behaviours	Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Listening • Honesty • Keep focused • Effort to understand • Open communication • Be on time • Read papers before meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honesty • Be evidence based • Open communication • Stay on subject • Preparation – read papers before meeting • On time • To have/achieve an outcome • Ensure we hear the views of the less vocal • Discuss the un-discussable (Chatham Island rules) • Clear understanding of power of iwi • Realistic processes • Set goal for group

Action: to be included with each workshop

3.2 Consensus

Kerry explained that Council is expecting that the community group will seek consensus, and will put forward the majority view. The group was then asked how they felt about this and the following discussions/comments were noted:

- High number of environmentalists on group for example, voting will be swayed.
- Should be aiming for highest percentage
- Should be aiming for consensus – point of this group, should be seeing what we can agree on. If we don't commit to reach a consensus, we shouldn't be on the group.
- Support for consensus: each of us gives experience to the table anyway.
- Only problem with consensus is that it can sometimes be used as a weapon.
- Consensus is the vast majority, just as important to say 'consensus on this basis'.
- Discussion about different groups, fresh starting point, Settlements etc.
- Two different cultures at the table, consensus/voting different ways. Maori – consensus. European – democratic.
- Voting should be with the people present in the room. Plus views of those absent given through Simon Stokes and Councillor Bruning.

After large discussion about consensus and what it means, the group agreed to think about the following definition and agree to wording at the next workshop:

- A consensus is the vast majority that support the decision with rationale and dissenting viewpoints noted.

Action: for the issue of consensus to be re considered at the next workshop

3.3 Chair

- After lengthy discussion, the group agreed to Larry Wetting continuing to be interim Chair and Alamoti Te Pou interim Deputy Chair until the group know each other better. Once the group have met various times they will then take a vote on who should be the Chair. Larry was happy to continue as Interim Chair until this time.
- **Action: Consider at later workshop**

3.4 General

- The suggestion of minutes was made - important that the veracity of the kōrero gets captured.
- Carla Gray to share member's emails with the group so they can contact one another – interactive ability with each other so fosters conversation. A lot of knowledge – need to be connected.

Action: Terms of reference – any issues with it please email Carla Gray.

4 Values: An introduction

Community group members provided important values on post-it notes on the wall (see below photo)

Acknowledged the 2 compulsory values

Mark Ross who was absent from the meeting also provided some values via email as follows:

- Regional Values - can we add something about us always striving for having the highest possible water quality and not accepting lower standards compared to what we know the

water quality used to be like, even if these lower standards may technically be adequate for drinking, recreation or whatever

- Wairuatanga expressed through Cultural Advantage - we of Ngati Hinerau / Ngati Hineure hapu (Ngati Tuwharetoa) regard the upper catchment area around Otamatea & Pouarua as the origin of the Rangitāiki and significant for many traditional sites including wahi tapu
- Kaitiakitanga expressed through Intergenerational Sustainability - the upper catchment waterways used to be one our seasonal sources of kai for eels & parera ducks but these are no longer present or pretty much gone



4.1 Raw values

<p>Te Hauora o te Wai – health and mauri of the water + the land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fishery ○ Bird life ○ All inhabitants ○ Aquatic life ○ Local habitat ○ Plants ○ Insects etc. • A place to assist nature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collects nature's rainfall ○ Supports biodiversity • A home for wildlife to thrive • Animal drinking water
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<p>Te Hauora of te Tangata – health and mauri of the people AND (Wai Māori – municipal and) domestic water supply</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peoples water supply • Healthy water catchment • Clean and healthy water • Maintenance of quality drinking water resource • Healthy river system (water quality) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drinking ○ Swimming ○ Ecosystem health
<p>Mahi māra – cultivation and Āu Putea – economic or commercial development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to do business • Sustain industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forest ○ Farming ○ Horticulture ○ Power • Commercial sustainability • Economic + commercial development • Economic viability of land use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support and enhance sustainability (allocation) • A wise use of water for land based production • Production used wisely to improve employment • Livelihood • Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Land productivity ○ Power generation • Hydro power • Renewable energy • Environment balance not just economic property • Cultivation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Irrigation ○ Plant + animal • Economic + Commercial Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creating opportunities for future generations to prosper in the area ○ Provides hope for future aspirations • Fit for purpose
<p>Kinship – wellbeing of people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thriving communities • Mana Motuhake & Rangatiratanga
<p>Efficiencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of rainwater to help minimize requirements • Efficient & economical use of water use
<p>Matauranga</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturalness • Scenic

<p>Wai tapu – sacred waters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognisance of Waahi Tapu/ Wai Tapu when talking about accessing waterways • ‘Spring’ water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aquifer + ground water • Knowledge (of water resource) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All water ○ Aquifer ○ Science ○ Allocation
<p>Mahinga kai – food gathering, places of food</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clean sustainable source of food • Open use and access to abundant mahinga kai • Food basket • Pataka kai • Food + water fit for purpose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fish ○ Eel ○ Koura ○ Drinking
<p>Recreation + safe to use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation • Kayaking • Recreation for all • Recreation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A place to balance life ○ Enjoy the peace + beauty of nature • Exciting recreational experiences (tubing, tramping)
<p>He ara haere – navigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to (+ along) river • Access • Navigable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fish ○ Boats • Fish passage + boat passage
<p>No title (sustainable use)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fair distribution of the wealth of the resource for everyone • Respect – that it is a finite resource • Water to be used sustainably and not wasted • Enough water for everyone • Sustainable use – maintain river system and wetland integrity • Supports and enhances the productivity of land • Land use flexibility for the future

Key discussion points:

- Spring water – Waiohau, spring water has gone. Need to consider the whole water cycle.
- Fit for purpose – water should be fit for what it's fit for. E.g. Muddy puddle for frog to jump in.

Alamoti Te Pou left 1.20pm

- Optimising rain water/storm water. Water storage – e.g. Every new building has rain water tanks?
- Flood management. Innovative technology
- Efficiency of water use/water storage etc.
- Broader context of ecosystems – in on and around the water.
- Navigation/transport – Didymo example – biosecurity.
- Municipal Tauranga supply, Paul Road supply, Whakatāne District Council strategy
- Domestic/municipal. Domestic – drinking bathing swimming. Municipal – Car washes etc. e.g. are you going to turn the stock water off or are you going to stop washing your vehicles?
- Navigable – also means fish passage. E.g. Fish to come from sea down river.
- Waahī tapu/ wai tapu – ensure access to water ways does not impact waahi tapu areas.
- Swimming/wading – value or ideal? Realistic goals? May take hundreds of years to restore. Can look towards ideal state and use values to get there.
- Changing land use
- Need to have achievable, realistic goals

Action: Staff will reorganise values and tie words together/group into similar themes. Feed back to group via email for confirmation/ group to let staff know if they disagree. Take forward to next stages.

5 Trend Analysis

- What's current
- What was happening 20/50 years ago
- What's on the horizon
- What's coming in 20/50 years

Wave trend analysis: this work will help staff with scenario developments in later workshops.



5.1 Raw trend analysis data

Past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People turned up and stayed ○ Not all the happened in the past was bad ○ Trout introduced ○ Plenty food ○ Matauranga practiced ○ Open river access to people ○ Tikanga knowledge upheld, practiced ○ Flooding ○ Stop banking
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The river provided sustenance for all inhabitants/residents ○ Agriculture and forestry development ○ More people along river ○ Afforestation of Kāingaroa ○ Settlement of Galatea Plains ○ Dam building
Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stock exclusion ○ Economic volatility ○ The river provides for a few if many are in a poor situation... ○ The 'dry' is here ○ Maturanga LOST! ○ TPPA - How does it impact the Rangitāiki Catchment?? ○ Intensification of farming ○ Source of municipal water for Whakatāne ○ Increased demand ○ Limited to no access ○ Diminished food source ○ Farming intensification
Emerging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustainable eel population up + down passage ○ Intensification ○ Change of land use: farming -> forestry ○ Nutrient management ○ Murupara sewage discharge ○ Rate of recharge of groundwater ○ Climate change ○ Moving towards best practice ○ River scheme/flooding scheme unsustainable ○ Extraction of water for export ○ Changing land use ○ Impact of climate change
Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Plenty food ○ Global warming ○ Working Smarter ○ Hydro use in the future (alternative renewable energy) ○ Climate change risk ○ Population increase ○ Future Hydro ○ The river will hopefully bring sustenance to all who remain... ○ Salt water intrusion ○ Increase Big Data ○ More science ○ ACCESS ○ New Aquatic species!! PESTS (Koi carp??) ○ True Kaitiaki

6 Closing

- Councillor Bruning thanked everyone for coming in the right spirit, listening to others and being engaged.
- Alan Law noted the diversity of the group, and suggested possibly some of the group meeting as individual groups – e.g. no knowledge of Matahina dam – field trip. He would

like opportunity to learn about Maori etc. Ngapera offered assistance and in turn requested to learn more about dairy farming.

Action: If the group has any feedback on how this worked – email Carla Gray Carla.gray@boprc.govt.nz, open for constructive criticism.

6.1 Burning questions

- Bill Kerrison – Matahina, Aniwhenua where does mitigation come in?
- Cathy Brown – please explain hierarchy of which document trumps which – from legislation to NPS & including RR docs & interface with Region wide WQ Plan Change
- Alan Law – where does the co-governance role & rights enter the process? Where do Treaty Settlements affect these works?
- Ngapera Rangiaho – Where does the Mataatua Declaration on Water enter this process?
- James Doherty – fish bypass over the dams – handing for 30 years. Why has it not happened
- James Doherty – Given there have been diversions and other structures on Rangitāiki & Wheao that have impinged on waahi tapu, where do we, how do we take this into account as we move forward

6.2 To do before next session

- Talk to fellow community group members
 - **Action: Carla Gray will supply email contacts to members.**
- Read the science fact sheets before the next workshop. The next workshop will be on current state and trends in the water management area.
- Bay of Plenty Regional Council and partners are working with schools around the region to upskill the younger members of our community on freshwater issues at the Hands on Water Expo. Community Group members were invited to see the educational water activities hosted by five different agencies and join staff lunch on Wednesday 9 December from 12pm-2pm on a farm near Paengaroa. This was optional for members. Carla Gray was to share invitation with the group.
- A Hui-ā-lwi to discuss values and interests in freshwater within the Rangitāiki catchment will also be held at the Ruaihona Marae, Te Teko starting with a powhiri at 9am on Wednesday 25 November. Community Group members were also welcome to come along.

Meeting ended: 2:30pm

Next meeting: 17 February 2016