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Committee Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga FMP Subcommittee
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Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga FMP updated project programme and deliverables report

1. Purpose

To report and seek endorsement of an updated project programme, timeline and deliverables by the Subcommittee.

2. Background

The Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga Floodplain Management Plan (FMP) has been developed guided by GWRC's floodplain management planning guidelines. Te Kāuru is a very large catchment area when compared with previous FMPs undertaken by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC). There are differing types of floodplain management required across this catchment: urban area (current emphasis on hard structure options), rural gravel bed rivers (primarily river management), and rural silt bed rivers (minimal intervention, willow removal, potential scheme expansion). This diversity within the catchment means that a more complex FMP structure has evolved.

A set of "common tools" have been developed, and agreed by the Subcommittee, that can be applied across the catchment to each of the reaches and rivers being considered by the FMP. A set of 'reach specific responses' are also being compiled that address complex, location specific risk, or more high profile issues. In some cases these include exceptions to the common tools. Several options are proposed for each site and these either have been, or will be, considered by the Subcommittee individually.

A number of these reach specific responses are still to be developed for the Masterton urban area. A Waipoua Officers Group was formed with officers from MDC, GWRC, and independent engineering advisors to MDC to: manage the higher community profile of this area; and complete ongoing work to review and confirm the hydrology and hydraulic model for the Waipoua catchment.

The hydrology of the Waipoua River is complicated because of the nature of the catchment and the lack of hydrological information in the lower part of the catchment. The Waipoua Officers Group completed a review of the original hydrology in June 2016 and reached agreement on a revised set of design flow values. The next step is to undertake hydraulic modelling that uses the updated hydrological data.

The work to reach agreement on the Waipoua hydrology has delayed the programme for development of options for the Waipoua urban area.

3. Dual work programmes

Because of the delays with the ‘Waipoua urban area’ programme, and the good progress made within the rural sections of the FMP, two separate programmes are proposed moving forward: a rural programme and an urban programme. While separate, these programmes will run concurrently.

4. Process for project completion

The proposed process is to produce three volumes of the FMP in draft format for consultation, and to combine the three volumes into a single document as a ‘Proposed FMP’ prior to the commencement of the final round of consultation.

4.1 Draft FMP

The contents of the three draft FMP volumes are:

- Volume 1 – Background and Overview (including Common Tools descriptions)
- Volume 2 – Reach Specific Responses FMP
- Volume 3 – Waipoua Urban Responses FMP.

The outlines of the three volumes of the draft TKURFMP are included as **Attachments 1-3** of this report. The outline of Volume 2 (**Attachment 2**) includes an example reach, although the final details are yet to be confirmed.

4.1.1 Volume 1: Background and Overview

Volume 1 will cover the following topics:

1. Introduction
2. Statutory Obligations
3. Background
4. Floodplain Management Planning Process
5. Flood Management Vision
6. Floodplain Management Plan Overarching Aims
7. Common Tools Descriptions
8. Monitoring and Review

4.1.2 Volume 2: Reach Specific Responses

Volume 2 will cover the following topics:

1. Introduction
2. Ruamahanga River
 - a. Upper Ruamahanga – Reach 1
 - b. Mount Bruce – Reach 2
 - c. Hidden Lakes – Reach 3
 - d. Double Bridges to Te Ore Ore – Reach 4
 - e. Te ore Ore to Waingawa – Reach 5
 - f. Waingawa to Gladstone – Reach 6
 - g. Gladstone to Kokotau Bridge – Reach 7
 - h. Kokotau Bridge to Wiohine – Reach 8
3. Waipoua River
 - a. Waipoua Headwaters – Reach 9
 - b. Upper Waipoua – Reach 10
 - c. Mikimiki – Reach 11
 - d. North Masterton – Reach 12
 - e. Masterton – Reach 13
4. Waingawa River
 - a. Waingawa Headwaters – Reach 14
 - b. Upper Waingawa – Reach 15
 - c. Upper Plains – Reach 16
 - d. South Masterton – Reach 17
5. Eastern Rivers
 - a. Kopuaranga River
 - b. Whangaehu River
 - c. Taueru River
6. Implementation

4.1.3 Volume 3: Waipoua Urban Responses

Volume 3 will cover the following topics:

1. Introduction
2. Waipoua River, Masterton – Reach 13
3. Implementation

5. Key stages

There are several key stages and milestones remaining to finalise Phase 2 of the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga FMP, and to progress into Phase 3 of the FMP process. These stages are broken into three sections: the rural reaches (Table 1); and the Waipoua urban area (Table 2); and the combined FMP document (Table 3). It should be noted that this includes an extension to the timelines originally reported, particularly with regard to the Waipoua urban responses.

Table 1: Rural FMP stages

Rural FMP stages and milestones	Date
Engagement with schemes committees, landowners, and stakeholders	Sep 2016 - Feb 2017
Present a draft rural FMP to the Subcommittee for consideration	Dec 2016
Acceptance of the draft rural FMP by the Subcommittee	Feb 2017
Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed to public consultation	Mar 2017
Public consultation on draft rural FMP	Mar - Jun 2017
Revision of draft rural FMP	Jul -Aug 2017

Table 2: Urban FMP stages

Urban FMP stages and milestones	Date
Masterton flood hazard agreement with TAs	Feb 2017
Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed to option development	Feb 2017
Completion of option combination report for urban Masterton	Aug 2017
Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed with drafting urban FMP	Aug 2017
Present a draft urban FMP to the Subcommittee for consideration	Oct 2017
Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed to public consultation	Dec 2017
Public consultation on draft urban FMP	Jan - Mar 2018
Revision of draft urban FMP	Apr - May 2018

Table 3: Combined FMP stages

Combined FMP stages and milestones	Date
Combination of rural and urban FMP documents into a proposed FMP	Jun 2018
Formal submissions and hearing on the proposed FMP	Jul - Oct 2018
Decision Point : Seek endorsement of the final FMP from the TKURFMP Subcommittee, GWRC, MDC and CDC	Nov 2018
Finalisation of Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga FMP	Dec 2018

6. Communication

Proposed key project deliverables of Phases 2 and 3 which will be reported to Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga FMP Subcommittee are listed in Table 4.

Table 4: Key project deliverables

Deliverable	Purpose and Content
Visions and Aims report	Confirmation of issues identified through Phase 1 investigations
Preferred Option Combination report	A summary of the preferred options that have been identified, including a summary of the rejected options.
Phase 2 Summary report	A summary of the work during Phase 2, including outcomes of Subcommittee workshops and meetings, and the process of arriving at a preferred option combination.
Draft FMP: Volumes 1, 2 and 3	A draft floodplain management plan for the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga catchment in three separate volumes for consultation.
Proposed FMP	A proposed floodplain management plan for the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga catchment in one document following revisions made as outcomes of the consultation periods.
Final FMP	A final floodplain management plan for the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga catchment in one single document.

A public consultation strategy for both rural and urban responses will be communicated with the Subcommittee prior to the consultation phases.

7. The decision-making process and significance

Officers recognise that the matters referenced in this report may have a high degree of importance to affected or interested parties.

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). Part 6 sets out the obligations of local authorities in relation to the making of decisions.

7.1 Significance of the decision

Part 6 requires Greater Wellington Regional Council to consider the significance of the decision. The term ‘significance’ has a statutory definition set out in the Act.

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking the Council's significance and engagement policy and decision-making guidelines into account. Officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

7.2 Engagement

In accordance with the significance and engagement policy, no engagement on the matters for decision is required.

8. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Endorses the updated project programme outlined in this report.*
4. *Endorses the updated project deliverables outlined in this report.*

Report prepared by:	Report approved by:	Report approved by:	Report approved by:
Francie Morrow Project Manager – Floodplain Management Plans	Mark Hooker Team Leader, Investigations, Strategy and Policy	Graeme Campbell Manager, Flood Protection	Wayne O'Donnell General Manager, Catchment Management

Attachment 1: TKURFMP Draft FMP Volume 1

Attachment 2: TKURFMP Draft FMP Volume 2

Attachment 3: TKURFMP Draft FMP Volume 3