

Report 2017.187
Date 26 May 2017
File CCAB-12-199

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

1. Purpose

To present and seek endorsement of an updated project programme and timeline.

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 floodplain management plans undertaken by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC). There are differing types of floodplain management required across this catchment: urban area (current emphasis on 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 floodplain management plan process has evolved.

The process being undertaken 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.

2.1 Draft FMP

The contents of the three draft FMP volumes are:

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

3. Key stages

There are several key stages and milestones remaining to progress 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 previously reported, particularly with regard to the rural reaches.

Table 1: Rural FMP stages

Rural FMP stages and milestones	Date
Present an early working draft rural FMP to the Subcommittee for input and feedback	Completed: Dec 2016
Refine and confirm the options to a preferred option	September 2017
Present a draft rural FMP for public consultation to the Subcommittee for review	October 2017
Acceptance of the draft rural FMP by the Subcommittee	November 2017
<i>Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed to public consultation</i>	<i>December 2017</i>
Public consultation on draft rural FMP	January to March 2018
Revision of draft rural FMP	Mid 2018

Table 2: Urban FMP stages

Urban FMP stages and milestones	Date
Masterton flood hazard agreement with MDC via the Waipoua Officers Working Group and Masterton Waipoua Urban Area Project Group	August - September 2017
<i>Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed to option development</i>	<i>October 2017</i>
Completion of option combination report for urban Masterton	June 2018
<i>Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed with drafting urban FMP</i>	<i>June 2018</i>
Present a draft urban FMP to the Subcommittee for consideration	September 2018
Revisions of draft urban FMP and endorsement from Subcommittee	November 2018
<i>Decision Point : Seek endorsement from GWRC, MDC and CDC to proceed to public consultation</i>	<i>December 2018</i>
Public consultation on draft urban FMP	Early 2019
Revision of draft urban FMP	June 2019

Table 3: Combined FMP stages

Combined FMP stages and milestones	Date
Combination of rural and urban FMP documents into a proposed FMP	Mid 2019
Consultation and formal submissions and hearing on the proposed FMP	Mid 2019
<i>Decision Point : Seek endorsement of the final FMP from the TKURFMP Subcommittee, GWRC, MDC and CDC</i>	<i>Late 2019</i>
Finalisation of Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga FMP	Late 2019
Recommend to GWRC Environment and Wairarapa Committees	Early 2020
Adoption by GWRC	Early 2020

4. 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
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 preferred options.
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.

5. Consideration of Climate Change

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

5.1 Mitigation assessment

Mitigation assessments are concerned with the effect of the matter on the climate (i.e. the greenhouse gas emissions generated or removed from the atmosphere as a consequence of the matter) and the actions taken to reduce, neutralise or enhance that effect.

Officers have considered the effect of the programme update will have no effect on the climate.

5.2 Adaptation assessment

Adaptation assessments relate to the impacts of climate change (e.g. sea level rise or an increase in extreme weather events), and the actions taken to address or avoid those impacts.

Officers have considered the impacts of climate change in relation to the matter. Officers recommend that climate change has no bearing on the matter.

6. 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.

6.1 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.

6.2 Engagement

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

7. 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.***

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