



Wellington Rivers

Recreation and Tourism Assessment

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5th floor Aviation House
12 Johnston Street
P O Box 2515
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

P: 64 4 472 3114
F: 64 4 473 0020
E: info@trctourism.com

www.trctourism.com

Executive Summary

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is preparing global resource consents for several rivers in the Wellington region. The work covers primarily the following rivers:

- Hutt
- Wainuiomata
- Otaki
- Waikanae

The following streams and tributaries are also being included as part of the global consents process:

- Hutt River – Stokes Valley Stream, Te Mome Stream, Speedys Stream, Akatawara River
- Waikanae River – Waimeha Stream
- Otaki River – Rangiuru Stream, Ng toko Stream

This report presents a review of recreation and tourism on the Hutt, Wainuiomata, Otaki and Waikanae Rivers.

Methodology

The approach to undertaking the review of recreation and tourism on the rivers was two fold:

- 1) To review all relevant material on recreation and tourism for the four rivers mentioned and
- 2) To verify the existing data and available information with, land managers and recreational groups in the Wellington Region.

This report provides a picture of current use and identifies some of the concerns, issues or opportunities relating to recreation and tourism on the rivers. The recommendations proposed for recreation can be further discussed with recreational users as part of the ongoing consultation process for the consent.

Recreation and Tourism

Rivers are a key venue for many of the recreational activities that New Zealanders and visitors enjoy participating in fishing, paddling (kayaking and canoeing), rafting, swimming, walking and biking. River corridors and land immediately adjacent to the river itself also provide space for trails, picnic areas, parks and playing fields including golf courses. Rivers also play an important role as recreational and ecological corridors connecting parks and open spaces with communities.

The four major rivers included in this assessment are very popular for recreation. Much of this use is concentrated around key parks (e.g. Kaitoke) or access points (e.g. Waikanae Estuary, and SH1 Otaki), although some of the rivers offer continuous recreational opportunities along both banks over large portions of their length. The popularity of the rivers is in part attributable to their accessibility and this is particularly evident on the Hutt, Waikanae and more recently the Otaki River.

The rivers in some cases also provide links to national pathways such as the Te Araroa *The Long Pathway* (e.g. Otaki and Waikanae Rivers) and the proposed National Wellington Cycle Trail route (e.g. includes the Hutt and Wainuiomata Rivers).

While the majority of the recreational activities undertaken on these rivers are local in nature, some specific locations offer regionally significant recreation opportunities for activities, such as fishing, kayaking and camping.

Issues and opportunities

Issues and opportunities for recreationalists on the rivers relate to the following themes: access, landscape and the environment, user safety, water quality and communication.

Access – there is no question that open and uninterrupted access to significant sections or reaches along rivers provides great opportunities for recreation. There are always opportunities to improve existing access and explore new areas. Maintaining and enhancing access is an ongoing challenge and opportunity.

Landscape – the setting plays a key role in the recreational experience and in many instances is the primary motivating factor. Community led environmental enhancement has been a catalyst for improved recreational amenity and is particularly evident on the Waikanae and Otaki Rivers

User Safety – the main safety issues raised relate to on water recreational activities and hazards for water users such as kayakers. There were also comments regarding personal safety on river trails that related to how open (e.g. views not obscured) sections were and how that effected users perception of security.

Water Quality – water quality is a significant issue for recreation users as it can directly impact their river experience, particularly for activities such as swimming, fishing and dog exercising (e.g. dogs swimming in rivers).

Communications – proactive communication with recreational users regarding river management and works will assist both GWRC and users.

Recommendations and Mitigation

The following recommendations and suggested mitigation relate to managing effects on recreation and tourism from GWRC's ongoing maintenance and management of the Hutt, Wainuiomata, Otaki and Waikanae Rivers and the tributaries specified.

Maintaining ongoing communications and engaging with recreational users will, to a large extent, help alleviate issues. Recommended mitigation includes:

- **Consider recreational users** in future flood protection design, planning and construction.
- **Ongoing Education and Communication** - with user groups especially fishermen and kayakers. Information sessions with engineers to present maintenance plans and explain rationale and processes

- **River survey of hazards** - Hutt Canoe Club to survey rivers (e.g. photograph and log GPS coordinates) and identify dangerous areas of man made or natural vegetation that could be a hazard for paddlers.
- **No net loss of pools on Hutt River** – examine the merits and practicality of adopting a no net loss of pools policy for works on the Hutt River. The other important issue related to this is the depth of the pools.
- **Access through Silverstream Weir** – Explore potential to provide a flow through on side of the weir for paddlers.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is preparing global resource consents for several rivers in the Wellington region. The work covers primarily the Wainuiomata, Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae Rivers. The following streams and tributaries are also being included as part of the global consents process (see maps in Appendix 1):

- Hutt River – Stokes Valley Stream, Te Mome Stream, Speedys Stream, Akatawara River
- Waikanae River – Waimeha Stream
- Otaki River – Rangiuru Stream, Ng Toko Stream

The specific works cover repairs to stop banks, extraction of gravel, cross blading, spraying, debris removal and vegetation planting and removal. A table outlining the works on each river and tributary and the areas that GWRC is responsible for is detailed in Appendix 2.

This recreation and tourism assessment will form part of GWRC's global resource consent application.

1.2 Recreation and Tourism Assessment Approach

To gain a better understanding of recreation and tourism on the Hutt, Wainuiomata, Otaki and Waikanae Rivers (including the above mentioned small streams and tributaries), the proposed methodology was two fold:

- 3) To review all relevant material on recreation and tourism for the four rivers mentioned and
- 4) To verify the existing data and available information with key stakeholders (see Appendix 3), land managers and recreational groups in the Wellington Region.

This provides a picture of current use and identifies any concerns, issues or opportunities. The report includes recommendations for recreation that can be further discussed with recreational users as part of the ongoing consultation for the consent process.

2 Trends in Recreation

Recreational trends in New Zealand of relevance to rivers include both land based and water based activities. The most comprehensive and current national picture of recreation, sport and physical activity is the 2007/08 Active NZ Survey produced by SPARC (Sport and Recreation New Zealand) – now Sport New Zealand.

Many of the recreational activities on or adjacent to Wellington rivers included in this report, also feature prominently in the most popular activities within the Active NZ Survey.

Relevant activities from the 20 most popular sport and recreation activities in New Zealand

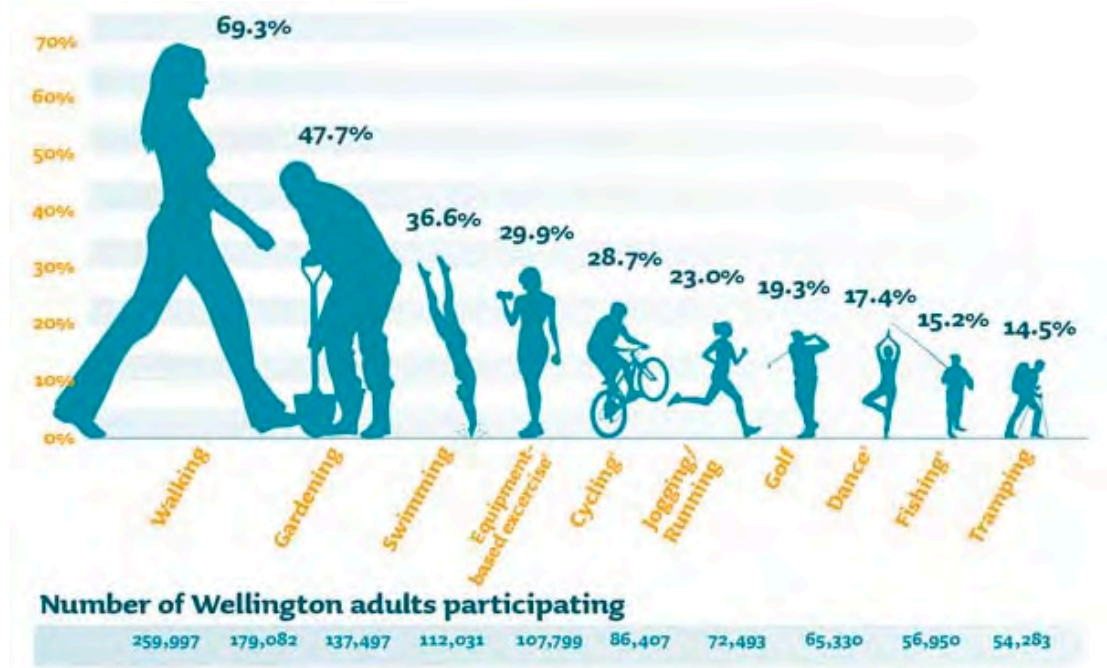
| Rank out of 20 | Activity | Number participants (NZ adults) |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Walking | 2,100,278 |
| 3 | Swimming | 1,139,812 |
| 5 | Cycling | 745,183 |
| 6 | Fishing | 633,769 |
| 7 | Jogging/running | 574,109 |
| 9 | Golf | 416,223 |
| 10 | Tramping | 306,343 |
| 18 | Canoeing/Kayaking | 209,652 |

- **Walking** is the most popular activity for New Zealand adults. River corridors provide excellent walking opportunities. Infrastructure such as river trails provides recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. The Hutt River Trail (30km) and Waikanae River trails are well used by walkers and provide easily accessible urban recreational opportunities. Dog walking is a popular subset of walkers that feature prominently in sections of a trail with good access and parking areas.
- **Fishing** includes both saltwater and freshwater. Trout fishing is the more popular and extensive on the river systems. Wellington rivers provide a quality fishing resource easily accessible to the resident population. Some saltwater fishing and whitebaiting occurs in the tidal sections near the river mouths. Surfcasting from the beach near river mouths and fishing from places like the Estuary Bridge (Petone) on the Hutt River are popular in the Wellington region.
- **Golf** is ranked as one of the top ten recreation activities in New Zealand. Its importance to river recreation is not immediately apparent until you review the location of the courses and the emphasis players place on the course surroundings. There are golf courses along three of the four rivers in this study; the Hutt River alone boasts five golf courses along its banks, including the Royal Wellington Golf Club at Heretaunga. In addition to this Wainuiomata River and Waimeha Stream in Waikanae have golf courses on their banks.
- **Canoeing and kayaking** includes both flat water and whitewater and with over 200,000 participants annually it is a significant recreational activity and sport.

Regionally significant rivers like the Hutt attract both whitewater enthusiasts on the upper reaches (Hutt Gorge) and multisport participants and novice recreationalists who paddle on the lower reaches. There is also whitewater kayaking on the Akatarawa and Otaki Rivers.

Within the Wellington Region the participation levels and types of recreational activities are similar to the national trends.

Figure x: The 10 Most Popular Sport and Recreation Activities Participated (Adults)



Also of relevance to river recreation is the New Zealand Recreational River Use Study: Specialization, Motivation and Site Preference conducted by Shayne Galloway, Otago University in 2008¹. This study identified the following as the primary recreation activities on rivers: whitewater kayaking, fishing, multisport, tramping, waka ama, swimming and off road/4x4, hunting and rafting.

2.1 Fishing

As a specific activity, fishing is one of the only recreational activities for which robust national data exists. This data is captured every four to five years through the National Anglers Survey² conducted jointly by Fish & Game NZ and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA). The last survey was conducted in 2007/08 and estimated 1,270,000 (± 19,700) angler days, with 727,400 angler days (57.2%) expended on river fisheries and the remaining 544,000 on lake fisheries. These figures do not include the Lake Taupo fishery, which is administered by the Department of Conservation.

Total effort by New Zealand residents (94.6% of angler days) differed little from the corresponding figure for the previous two surveys (1994/95, 2001/02), but there were significant changes at Regional and sub-Regional levels.

¹ Online survey of 1,300 subjects

² Telephone survey of New Zealand-resident fishing licence holders

The most marked long term changes have occurred in the Auckland/Waikato, Eastern, and Nelson/Marlborough regions, all of which have experienced a steady decline since 1994/95. However on West Coast and Central South Island regions there has been a steady increase since 1994/95. Some of these increases can be attributed to good years in a fishery, for example the large increase in North Canterbury is a reflection of a strong 2007/08 salmon fishing season.

Data from the National Anglers Survey relating specifically to the Hutt, Wainuiomata, Akatarawa, Waikanae and Otaki Rivers is detailed in Section 3.

3 Current Recreation and Tourism

This section outlines recreational and tourism activities that occur in and directly adjacent to the four major rivers included in this assessment and the associated streams and tributaries also identified (Section 1.1) for inclusion within this study.

3.1 Hutt River

The Hutt River has been a major recreational resource for the Wellington Region and Hutt Valley in particular for decades. It also defines the landscape and provides a natural feature that people are drawn to. The Hutt River is estimated to receive around 500,000³ visits annually, with high repeat use by Hutt Valley residents. Recreation occurs in and alongside the river throughout the more than 30kms it travels from Kaitoke Regional Park in the north to the river mouth at the Petone foreshore. The following sub sections focus on the key recreational activities for the Hutt River and specific locations (e.g. parks).

3.1.1 Fishing

Despite flowing through populated urban areas for much of its length, the Hutt River has a good population of mostly brown trout. It has a mixture of pools, rapids and runs and offers good fishing opportunities throughout its length.

The Hutt River dominates angling days in the Wellington region largely because of its easy access and length. Trout fishing on the Hutt River has declined significantly over the last 15 years from a high of nearly 20,000 visits in 1994/95 fishing season to just over 6,000 in 2001/02 to 3,800 in 2007/08⁴.

Much of the decline is attributed to the major floods in the late 1990s that lead to a decline in fish numbers. The most recent drift dive survey (January 2012) in the Hutt River indicates that the fishery is recovering⁵.

Although fishing occurs throughout the Hutt River the most popular reaches are from Melling Bridge up to Birchwood and also around Te Marua and Kaitoke.

- Current fishing visits to the Hutt River are estimated at around 3,000-4,000⁶.

In addition to the brown trout fishery the Hutt River also supports saltwater fishing and white baiting in the tidal reaches.

- **Saltwater fishing** at the rivermouth is popular, particularly from the Hutt Estuary Bridge. There are fishermen on the bridge almost every day of the year, however it is dominated by a small group who fish daily for kahawai and mullet.
- **Whitebaiting** occurs on the river during the season (August-November) from the Melling Bridge south to the rivermouth. Although numbers seem to have increased in recent years, they are still small (<50). GWRC issues around 20 gate keys to enable whitebaiters to drive their nets and gear closer to the river.

³ This estimate is based on GWRC trail counters, Hutt River survey data, regional parks visitor numbers and TRC Tourism observations. The estimate excludes playing fields in the river corridor.

⁴ Angler usage of lake and river fisheries managed by Fish & Game New Zealand: results from the 2007/08 National Angling Survey, NIWA.

⁵ Conservation with Fish & Game NZ Wellington Field Officer, Sep 2012.

⁶ Conversation with Strato Cotsilinis, Wellington Flyfishing Club, Sep 2012.

3.1.2 Paddling (kayaking, canoeing and rafting)

Paddling is a popular activity on the Hutt River and kayaking is the most popular subset. The majority of whitewater kayaking and rafting occurs from Pakuratahi Forks in Kaitoke Regional Park down through the Hutt Gorge to Poet's Corner at Moonshine. This section focuses on the different river reaches:

- **The Hutt Gorge** is a regionally significant grade 3 whitewater kayaking resource, attracting paddlers from as far away as Palmerston North. Whitewater NZ classifies the Hutt Gorge as a grade III-IV with a 5 star rating and three⁷ other sections below that as two star grade II⁸. An estimated 500⁹ kayakers paddle this section of the Hutt River annually and this number has remained stable over the last several years. Rafting on the Hutt is not as significant with less than 100 people per annum.
- The **Akatarawa River** from Karapoti provides an easily accessible beginner to intermediate trip of up to two hours to the Hutt Valley Canoe Clubrooms at Hoggart Park in Birchville that is popular with club members.
- The stretch from Birchville to Poet's Corner is also popular for inexperienced paddlers from the Hutt Canoe Club.
- The Hutt Valley Canoe Club maintains an informal slalom course at Birchville. It occupies an area adjacent to their clubrooms and is used regularly by members on Saturday mornings. The club has a membership of approximately 40-50 kayakers.
- The weir south of Silverstream Bridge is a barrier for paddlers and difficult to negotiate.
- The area south of the weir at Silverstream through to Petone is used by some multi-sport enthusiasts for training and by novice paddlers.
- Fun events such as building and paddling rafts on the river are also popular with schools and corporate groups.



3.1.3 Swimming

Swimming occurs in numerous locations along the river from Strand Park near the mouth to Kaitoke Regional Park in the north. The swimming hole near the Whakatikei River, just north of Moonshine Bridge is widely regarded as the river's best swimming spot. Other good locations include:

- Kaitoke
- Gemstone Drive
- Te Haukaretu Park
- Trentham Memorial Park
- Silverstream bridges
- Taita Park

⁷ Twin Lakes to Mangaroa, Mangaroa to Twin Bridges, and Twin Bridges to Poet's Corner.

⁸ Website: <http://rivers.org.nz/>

⁹ Estimate based on observations from Alan Bell and Kaitoke Regional Park Ranger, September 2012.

- Hutt City Reach (Melling)
- Strand Park

While the level of swimming participation is difficult to quantify the 2010 Hutt River Trail User Survey provides an indication of swimming activity in the Hutt City area with 11% of survey respondents identifying it as an activity they undertook in that reach.

3.1.4 Walking and Cycling - The Hutt River Trail

The Hutt River Trail, which came into existence in the 1990s, runs for over 30km alongside the river from the Petone foreshore to Te Marua north of Upper Hutt City. The trail exists on both the true left and right of the river in many reaches, which provides opportunities for loop circuits. However, much of the activity involves out and back walks or rides along specific sections that are easily accessible and have parking nearby (e.g. Block Road, County Lane).

Hutt River Trail Users

The trail is used extensively by walkers, dog walkers, cyclists and runners as well as people picnicking and some commuting to work. The activity on the trail is dominated by Hutt Valley residents and is focused largely on the reaches closest to their place of residence. The Hutt River trail and associated infrastructure (e.g. roads and parking) also provide easy access for elderly and disabled users to visit the river and use the trail.



A survey¹⁰ of trail users in the Hutt City reaches demonstrates the popularity and high use of the trail by residents. Approximately two-thirds (67%) of users are on the trail daily or 2-3 times weekly. The high level of use is driven by easy access (59%) and closeness to home (51%).

GWRC pedestrian trail counters¹¹ at Block Road/Melling and County Lane/Silverstream each recorded 70,000-83,000 annual visits over the last 3 years. The counters provide a good indicator of use at two different sites on the trail. Because they are approximately 10km apart there is likely to be a low level of duplication (people being counted at both sites on the same visit).

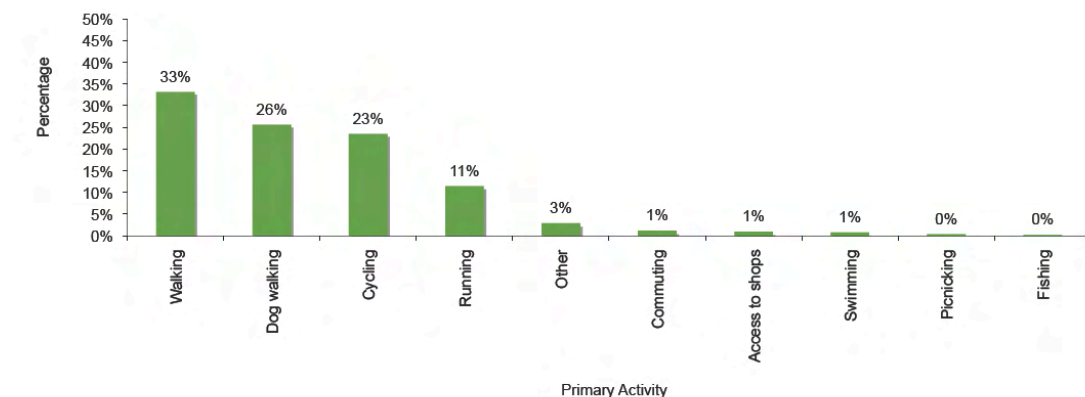
Hutt River Trail Activities

The 2010 Hutt River Trail User Survey identified walking (33% of users) as the primary activity on that reach of the river trail, followed by dog walking (26%) and cycling (23%). These are the dominant recreational activities for the entire trail.

¹⁰ Hutt River Trail User Survey. Kennedy Good to Ewen Bridges, March 2010, TRC Tourism.

¹¹ Trail counter data can be problematic due to issues with counter calibration and obtaining consistent data over time (e.g. counters being broken or stolen).

Figure X: Primary Hutt River Trail activity (Kennedy Good to Ewen Bridges) 2010



- **Cycling** use on the Hutt River Trail has grown in recent years. This is both a factor of increased participation in cycling generally and improvements to the trail that have made it more accessible to users (e.g. sealing a 4km section in Hutt City). Overall, cycling use of the entire trail is estimated at approximately 100,000 cycle visits annually or a conservative 20% of users.
- **Events** like GWRC's Bike the Trail have also been a catalyst for increasing cycle use of the trail. The annual cycling event in late summer attracts over 1,000 participants. In recent years poor weather has affected numbers. There are a number of running, walking, biking and multi-sport events that also utilise sections of the Hutt River Trail.
- **Commuting** is also an activity on the trail and would be a significant activity in some reaches, particularly around Melling.

Investment

Major investments in the last two years, such as the Hutt City Council sealing the trail from Ewan Bridge to Kennedy Good Bridge has lead to increased cycling use and also attracted new users. Also new sections of track in various locations (e.g. south of Te Marua) also continue to improve the overall experience.

New Zealand Cycle Trail

The Hutt River Trail is also an integral component of Wellington's proposed New Zealand Cycle Trail route (www.nzcycletrail.com). The proposed route utilises the Hutt River Trail from Petone to Te Marua before joining with the Rimutaka Incline Trail to the Wairarapa. It then follows a coastal route back around to Wainuiomata and potentially further round to Eastbourne (see map in Appendix 4).

3.1.5 Golf

The Hutt River has a total of five 18-hole golf courses along its length and one driving range with 9-holes at County Lane in Silverstream. The golf courses include:

- Te Marua Golf Club, Te Marua
- Royal Wellington Golf Club, Heretaunga
- Manor Park Golf Club, Manor Park
- Boulcott's Farm Heritage Golf Club, Lower Hutt
- Shandon Golf Club, Petone

- The courses have a total of 4,100 members and combined rounds of golf annually equating to almost 190,000¹².

Across the five clubs the overall level of participation has been stable to declining, however one club is experiencing an increase in rounds played. Membership levels have remained fairly constant or declined over the last several years. These trends mirror the national picture; although more than 400,000 people play golf annually, only a quarter (110,000) are members of a club. Club membership has steadily declined over the last 3 to 4 years from a peak of about 135,000¹³.



Investment

There continues to be ongoing investment in Hutt Valley courses with the Royal Wellington Golf Club currently undergoing a \$3-5 million course redevelopment that will elevate its status nationally. Boulcott's Farm Heritage Golf Club is investing in course infrastructure and facilities following the merger of Hutt and Boulcott Golf Clubs.

3.1.6 Local Parks and Sport Fields

Increasing pressure on sports fields to accommodate teams at both junior and senior levels indicates that participation in sports in the Hutt Valley has increased in recent years. Sport fields adjacent to Hutt River cater to a vast array of sports including but not limited to: football, rugby, touch rugby, cricket, harriers/running, and softball.

Some of the key local parks along the Hutt River include: Harcourt, Trentham Memorial, Fraser, Avalon, Strand and Hikoikoi Reserve.

3.1.7 Regional Parks

Kaitoke Regional Park

Kaitoke is Wellington region's 2nd most visited regional park¹⁴ with over 200,000 visits annually. User numbers have grown steadily over the last 5 years from 177,000 to 213,000 for the year ended 30 June 2012¹⁵.

Kaitoke is a park of regional significance with visitors equally from Upper Hutt, Hutt City, Wellington and Porirua areas. However, it also has a broader tourism appeal with 19% of its visitors coming from the Hawkes Bay. Kaitoke is



¹² NZ Golf and managers/staff at Boulcott Farm, Shandon, Manor Park, Te Marua, and Royal Wellington.

¹³ NZ Golf 2012.

¹⁴ Queen Elizabeth Park (QEP) has the highest visitation. Note the Hutt River is not classified as a park, but has higher visitation than QEP.

¹⁵ Greater Wellington Regional Council, Parks Department 2012.

a popular day destination within the region but also attracts overnight camping with 10,000-12,000 camper nights annually¹⁶.

The Hutt River is an integral part of the park flowing through the Pakuratahi Forks area and out through the Te Marua entrance. Key activities on the Hutt River within the park include: walking the Swingbridge Track, swimming, trout fishing, rafting and kayaking.

The Rivendell film site from the Lord of the Rings films is a popular location within the park for tours and attracts thousands for visitors annually (see Section 3.1.8).

Akatarawa Forest

Akatarawa Forest is a popular recreational area for mountain bikers, trail biking (motorbikes), walking and hunting. However, it does not have a significant footprint along the Hutt River. River access in this area is still largely facilitated via the Hutt River Trail.

Activities that occur in and around the Valley View Entrance and at Bridge Road by the Hutt River include: walking on the popular Cannon Point Walkway and mountain bike access into Karapoti Valley¹⁷ via Valley View Road.

3.1.8 Tourism

Tourism in or immediately adjacent to the Hutt River is fairly limited. Likely the most significant activity is associated with the Lord of the Rings Tours and their visits to the Rivendell site in Kaitoke Regional Park.

The Rivendell site is located near the river on the Swingbridge Walk Track. In the last 12 months 5,700¹⁸ people have visited Kaitoke on Lord of the Rings tours.

There does not appear to be any commercially guided fishing or paddling operations on the Hutt River. There are some tourism businesses located directly adjacent to the Hutt River like the Kiwi Holiday Park at Harcourt Park in Upper Hutt.

3.1.9 Other Recreation

Other recreation, sport and tourism related activities that occur adjacent to the Hutt River include: Te Marua Speedway, Riding for the Disabled (RDA) at County Lane and activities such as the operation of model boats at Sladden Park.

3.1.10 Hutt River Tributaries

The four tributaries included in the Hutt River assessment include: Te Mome Stream, Speedy's Stream, Stokes Valley Stream and Akatarawa River. The location of these tributaries is illustrated in the map in Appendix 1.

- **Te Mome Stream** – wraps around the western side of Shandon Golf Course and does not have any recreational activities directly associated with it.
- **Speedy's Stream** – runs from Belmont Regional Park into the Hutt River near Kennedy Good Bridge. Walking on the track alongside the stream is the main recreational activity.

¹⁶ Kaitoke Regional Park Ranger data based on camping revenue, September 2012.

¹⁷ This area is home to New Zealand's premier mountain bike race the Karapoti Classic (www.karapoti.co.nz), which after 25 years is still regularly attracting over a 1,000 riders.

¹⁸ Greater Wellington Regional Council concessions report 2012.

- **Stokes Valley Stream** – runs from the suburb of Stokes Valley through steep sided channels and into the Hutt River. There are no recreational activities directly associated with it.
- **Akatarawa River** – flowing from the southern Tararua Range it enters the Hutt River at Birchville, the confluence is a popular swimming hole and picnicking area. The Akatarawa is popular with kayakers and some rafters who put in at Karapoti Road (just over 4km up river) and travel down to the Hutt River and Birchville area. Fly fishing also occurs on the Akatarawa River. The open areas at Karapoti and Cloustonville provide the best fly-fishing opportunities. Trout fishing activity on the Akatarawa River is relatively minor compared with the Hutt and Wainuiomata Rivers. Fishing visits have fluctuated from a small base of 70 (± 70) in 1994/95 to 320 in 2001/02 and approximately 220 in 2007/08.

The importance of these tributaries for trout spawning will be addressed in the ecological report for GWRC.

3.2 Wainuiomata River

The Wainuiomata River begins in the Rimutaka Range and flows south through the suburb of Wainuiomata and then out to the sea a further 20km downstream. Access to the river is generally limited to small public access points or by landowner permission, with the exception of long reaches in the Wainuiomata Recreation Area and East Harbour Regional Park (Baring Head block).

3.2.1 Fishing

According to Fish & Game the river is managed for trophy brown trout and provides a real challenge for anglers. The best fishing is in the middle to lower reaches. Angling visits to the river from the National Survey indicate numbers have fluctuated over the years from around 2,400 in 1994/95, declining to 750 in 2001/02 and rebounding to 1,560 in 2007/08¹⁹.



The Wainuiomata River is the only Wellington region river that does not permit spinning, it is a fly fishing only river.

Whitebaiting also occurs in the lower reaches from the rivermouth upstream to Khyber Pass. The number of whitebaiters varies depending on whether the fish are running but is generally less than a dozen people at any one time²⁰.

3.2.2 Wainuiomata Recreation Area (WRA)

River pools and sheltered picnic spots make the WRA an appealing destination for locals. It is well used by dog walkers, walkers and a small number of mountain bikers. Numbers of users per day vary from less than 10 midweek in winter to over 100 on fine weekend days during the summer.

¹⁹ Angler usage of lake and river fisheries managed by Fish & Game New Zealand: results from the 2007/08 National Angling Survey, NIWA.

²⁰ Phone conversation with Baring Head Regional Park Ranger (Mark McAlpine) September 2012.

The area also hosts a number of events, the largest being the Wainuiomata Harriers road race that attracts around 600 competitors from the Wellington region. Annual visits to the WRA are estimated at around 6,000-7,000²¹.

3.2.3 East Harbour Regional Park

The Baring Head block was added to East Harbour Regional Park in 2011. The Wainuiomata River runs for 4km through the Baring Head block and provides a number of easy access points for river users. The main park users are walkers and bikers accessing the block over the bridge off the Coast Road. There is surfcasting on the beach near the river mouth and whitebaiting, while rock climbers cross near the rivermouth to access boulders on the beach below the lighthouse. Some trout fishing does occur on the Baring Head reach, however the vast majority of activity is upstream of the park bridge through the middle reaches as far as Wainuiomata township. Hutt Valley fishermen do have a number of agreements with landowners along the Coast Road to access the river through private land.

Prior to becoming a Regional Park the lower reaches were used by hunters for duck shooting. Hunting is now managed via a permit system. While relatively small numbers use the area for hunting it remains an important location due to the lack of other wildfowl hunting areas/opportunities in the Wellington Region.

3.2.4 Wainuiomata Golf Club

The Wainuiomata River runs through the golf club, which is situated in the valley 5kms to the south of the town centre. The club has approximately 465 members and attracts around 10,000-20,000 rounds annually.

3.3 Otaki River

The Otaki River offers extensive recreational opportunities for paddling and fishing and supports some tourism activity. Land based recreation continues to increase with better access and the development of walking tracks over the last 6 years, driven by the local Friends of Otaki River group. While the Otaki Forks area is a major gateway to the Tararua Forest Park for tramping. The river originates in the Tararua Ranges and flows west to the sea just south of Otaki Beach township.

Recreational activity on and around the river is focused around the lower reaches from SH1 to the rivermouth for fishing and land based use (e.g. walking) and also in the upper reaches at Otaki Forks for kayaking and rafting.

The Te Araroa *The Long Pathway*²² crosses the river near the Otaki Forks campsite and also further upstream by the Waitewaewae Hut.

3.3.1 Fishing

Otaki River is both a popular and challenging brown trout fishery. There is good access with tracks along both sides west of SH1. From SH1 east upstream to Otaki Forks and the Gorge there is less fishing activity. Fishing visits on the Otaki River have been relatively stable over the last decade. Fishing visits were around 690 (± 220) in 1994/95, they fell to 350 (± 90) in

²¹ TRC estimate, based on conversation with WRA Ranger, September 2012.

²² Te Araroa is a 3,000km walking trail from Cape Regina to Bluff. www.teararoa.org.nz/

2001/02 and have rebounded to 700 (± 180) in 2007/08²³. The key access point for fishing on the Otaki is the SH1 bridge area.

- Otaki River (unlike Waikanae River) can be fished year round and has a higher volume/flow of water.
- The majority of trout fishing takes place from Chrystalls Bend downstream.
- Surfcasting for kahawai is popular at the rivermouth. There is some set netting for flounder. Children also fish in the lagoons and estuarine waters.
- The rivermouth is also an important whitebaiting area with up to 60 whitebaiters at a time when the fish are running. Whitebaiting also occurs on the Rangiuru Stream just north of the Waikanae River, which has fish friendly floodgates that allow whitebait through. The number of Whitebaiters at any one time is limited to approximately 4 given the size constraints of the site.

3.3.2 Paddling (kayaking and rafting)

Otaki River is a regionally significant kayaking river, due to its easy access and its grade II rating, which makes it popular to a wide range of users. An estimated 2,000 kayaker visits occur annually on the river making it the most popular in the region²⁴. The majority of paddling activity takes place in the upper reaches around Otaki Forks. Kayakers generally start at Otaki Forks on the Waiotauru River, just before it joins Otaki River. The majority exit the river at the Waiohanga Swingbridge off Otaki Gorge Road. A few kayakers continue downstream to the SH1 bridge.



Whitewater NZ classifies the Otaki Gorge as a grade II-II+ with a 5 star rating. The more demanding Waitawaewae Hut to Otaki Forks stretch is a grade III-IV²⁵ that also requires a 5-7 hour tramp into the hut with your kayak.

3.3.3 Swimming

The Otaki is also a popular swimming river with use focused around the easily accessed SH1 bridge area and out towards the rivermouth.

Pack float²⁶ trips are also quite popular among members of the Tararua Tramping Club and with other trampers. These tend to be at the upper end of the gorge from Waitawaewae Hut.

3.3.4 Land based recreation

Since 2006 a number of walking tracks have been developed along the river in the lower reaches, including tracks along both sides of the river from SH1 to the rivermouth. The Otaki River Highway to Sea walk, on the true right, is just under 4km each way. There is also an access track for anglers along the true left bank of Otaki River from SH1 to the beach.

²³ Angler usage of lake and river fisheries managed by Fish & Game New Zealand: results from the 2007/08 National Angling Survey, NIWA, April 2009.

²⁴ Conservation with Martin Walsh, Kupe Canoe Club, October 2012.

²⁵ Website: <http://rivers.org.nz/>

²⁶ Floating down the river feet first with your pack on your back.

From SH1 heading upstream is the Chrystalls Bend Walk completed in 2008. The walk follows the true right riverbank inland, going underneath the highway and upstream for about 2 km. At the end there is a large pond with picnic tables.

Walking and cycling (and some horse riding) on the river trails has increased dramatically over the last 6 years with the development of the trails and the easy access from carparks adjacent to the SH1 bridge.

Kapiti Coast Cycle Route – the coastal route from Paekakariki to Peka Peka is planned to extend to Otaki in the future. A new bridge completed over the Rangiu Stream in 2012 provides a key walking and cycling link into Otaki Beach.

Wildfowl hunting and duck shooting are also permitted and occur on the Otaki River lagoons and at Chrystalls Bend. Maimais located in these locations are managed by Fish & Game NZ.

Other land-based activities at the river mouth and beach include firewood and shellfish gathering and bird watching.

The Annual Gravel Grab²⁷ is also a very popular event that attracted approximately 300 cars and trailers to the Otaki River for the one-day event in 2012.

3.3.5 New man-made lake – Winstones Lake

The creation of a man made lake being developed by Winstone’s Quarry as a result of gravel extraction will provide a future recreational resource for the community. The lake will be approximately 20 acres in size and 10-15 metres deep once completed. It is located behind the quarry on eastern side of SH1 just north of the Otaki River.

3.3.6 Tourism

There is limited tourism activity in the Otaki River area. There is some accommodation (retreat style) and outdoor recreation businesses (offering activities for individuals, groups and/or schools). Some of the tourism businesses include:

- Riverslea Retreat, Otaki Gorge
- Captivate Adventures, Otaki Gorge

3.4 Waikanae River

Waikanae River is a popular recreation area especially for local residents. The recreational use is concentrated from SH1 downstream to the rivermouth, largely due to this area’s accessibility and close proximity to the township. This section of the river contains numerous walking tracks as well as green spaces, wetlands and lagoons. These have been developed over the last decade by Friends of Waikanae River, Kapiti Coast District Council (KCDC) and the Department of Conservation (DOC).



²⁷ Greater Wellington Regional Council event that allows the public to take stones and gravel from the Otaki River.

The bird life attracted to the Waikanae Estuary is regionally significant and enhances the recreational experience.

The Te Araroa *The Long Pathway* runs along the lower reaches of the Waikanae River on the true left before heading south along the beach to Paraparaumu. The Mangaone Walkway also follows the upper reaches (east of SH1) of the Waikanae River starting/finishing at the Kaitawa Scenic Reserve.

3.4.1 Fishing

The Waikanae River is a popular trout fishery with good access for anglers along on the lower reaches from SH1 downstream to the river mouth. The river attracts anglers from both the Wellington and Horowhenua regions. The fishing season is from October to April, with the busiest time pre Christmas. Low water flows over the summer months mean the fish are difficult to catch. The National Anglers Survey indicates a growing number of fishing visits with 1,420 (± 450) in 2007/08, up from 420 in 2001/02 and 750 in 1994/95.

The Waikanae River is also a very popular whitebaiting river, with up to 50²⁸ fishermen/nets on the river at any given time. Whitebaiting is concentrated from the rivermouth upstream towards SH1. Whitebait fishing is permitted in the scientific reserve by a gazette notice, from 15 August to 30 November.

Additionally, there is also some netting for flounder, and fishing for kahawai and mullet in the lower reaches and at the rivermouth.

As mentioned above the Waikanae River is very accessible and has numerous access points. These are detailed in the Fish & Game NZ Kapiti Coast brochure (see Appendix 5).

3.4.2 Boating

The lower reaches of the Waikanae River, Otaihanga and Waimanu Lagoon areas provide a safe and sheltered boating area that attracts entry level and children's water activities. These are predominantly kayaking, canoeing and rowing. There is limited yachting and windsurfing. Other groups include radio controlled boat users. The Otaihanga Boating Club is located on Makora Road in Otaihanga. The club also has a boat ramp located just to the west of the Boat Shed, which can currently accommodate small boats.

3.4.3 Land based recreation

The lower reaches of the Waikanae River now have a well developed track network with the recent completion of the Te Arawai bridge over Waikanae River further enhancing the walking opportunities.

- The Te Arawai bridge receives up to 1,200 crossings per day in summer and around 700 per day in the winter months.

Walkers, cyclists and horse riders can do one-way and loop walks of varying lengths (a loop walk from the SH1 bridge to the river mouth and back is approximately 10km return).

Kapiti Coast Cycle Route – the coastal route from Paekakariki to Peka Peka is a mixture of off road trails and local roads to help cyclists avoid SH1. The route follows a gravel path from Kotuku Drive to the estuary and over the Waikanae River footbridge to Otaihanga Domain and Waikanae Beach township (see Appendix 6).

²⁸ Mid week observation by DOC staff, September 2012.

El Rancho - Holiday Camp

El Rancho (Waikanae Christian Holiday Park) is a 70 acre camp facility located by the Waikanae River at the end of Kauri Road. El Rancho receives 12,000 guests annually including numerous families and over 250 different groups both regionally and nationally (www.elrancho.co.nz).



The main services offered include holiday accommodation, conferencing, ministry programmes and recreation. The Waikanae River is a prominent feature of the recreational programme with kayaking being one of the more popular outdoor activities.

3.4.4 Waikanae Estuary Scientific Reserve (DOC)

More species of coastal and aquatic birds visit Waikanae Estuary than any other site on the Wellington coast. The Waikanae Estuary is located at the mouth of the river and links to Otaihanga Domain and other areas via the network of tracks on both sides of the river. Bird watching, whitebaiting, walking and picnicking are popular activities at the estuary.

3.4.5 Waimeha Stream

The Waimeha Stream located just north of the Waikanae River is a popular whitebaiting and surfcasting area. The stream also borders the Waikanae Golf Course. The golf club has approximately 630 members and attracts approximately 30,000 rounds of golf annually.

The Waimeha Stream is connected to the waterways of the Waikanae River via the Waimeha Lagoon. Bird watching is also popular and the lagoon has a bird hide built by Forest & Bird.

3.4.6 Tourism

There is limited tourism activity directly associated with the Waikanae River, although Waikanae itself is a popular holiday and weekend beach destination for Wellingtonians. The main tourism operator on the river is Waikanae Estuary Tours. They operate 2 hour guided bird watching tours to the estuary. El Rancho (Section 3.4.4) is also a significant operation, with over 12,000 visitors.

3.5 Conclusion

The four major rivers included in this assessment are very popular for recreation. Much of this use is concentrated around key parks (e.g. Kaitoke) or access points (e.g. Waikanae Estuary, and SH1 Otaki), though some of the rivers offer continuous recreational opportunities along both banks over large portions of their length. The popularity of the rivers is in part attributable to their accessibility and this is particularly evident on the Hutt, Waikanae and more recently the Otaki River.

There are also instances where national trails intersect or utilise the river trails as part of a longer route. Te Araroa *The Long Pathway* is an example of this on the Otaki and Waikanae Rivers, while both the Hutt and Wainuiomata Rivers could become part of a proposed National Wellington Cycleway route.

While the majority of the recreational activities are local in nature, there are a number of locations used for a specific activity (e.g. fishing or kayaking) that are of regional importance as well as parks like Kaitoke that are regionally significant.

4 Key Recreation and Tourism Issues & Opportunities

This section focuses on the issues and opportunities for recreation and tourism that have emerged from both the review of existing data and literature on the four rivers and through the stakeholder interviews conducted as part of this recreational and tourism assessment.

The current activity identified on and adjacent to the rivers is for the most part associated with recreation. Tourism activities directly related to the rivers is very limited with the exception of the small operations in the Otaki Gorge and El Rancho in Waikanae.

The discussion in this section is presented by themes and each touches on the issues and opportunities that have emerged from the literature and stakeholder interviews.

4.1 Access

Easy access to the river environment is a key factor in the popularity and ongoing use of rivers for recreation. Open and uninterrupted access to significant sections or reaches along rivers provides great opportunities for recreation.

The development of walking tracks on the Otaki River over the last 6 years has greatly enhanced access, use and the recreational experience.

Issues

- Managing vehicle access for whitebaiters and other users is a contentious issue because in some cases it contravenes local government bylaws (e.g. Waikanae River vehicle access).

Opportunities

- Continue to provide a range of access points for a wide range of users (including elderly and disabled), particularly on rivers like the Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae. This should include easily accessible parking adjacent to the river and some short sealed pathways.
- Make user groups aware of the additional resources available through the Walking Access Commission (www.walkingaccess.govt.nz) to formalise agreements with landowners in areas where no public access exists.

4.2 Landscape and Environment

Recreational activity in and around rivers is in many cases strongly influenced by the quality of the natural setting, while in other instances users are more focused on their specific activity. This section covers a broad range of topic areas from vegetation to man made flood protection structures.

Community led environmental enhancement has been the catalyst for improved recreational amenities (e.g. new tracks, picnic areas and access opportunities) in recent years. This is particularly evident at the Waikanae and Otaki Rivers.

Issues

- A lack of overhanging vegetation on the river banks (e.g. Hutt) to create a favourable habitat and shade for whitebait.
- Lack of weed control in some river reaches is impacting the natural environment (e.g. banana passionfruit spreading up the Otaki River).

- Presence of flood protection infrastructure (e.g. rock lined river banks and groynes on the Hutt River) detracts from the natural setting.
- Gravel extraction and cross blading can affect the fish habitat and remove pools. If pools become shallower as a result of flood protection work, they don't offer fish, especially young trout/fry, much protection in flood events.

Opportunities

- Continue to support and encourage community groups to work on enhancement projects in river corridors that also improve access and the recreational experience.
- Develop a policy around no net loss of pools on the Hutt River. The depth of pools should also be considered as part of this.
- Continue to explore opportunities to create and enhance recreational amenities along river corridors such as trails, signage/interpretation, picnic areas, shade in open grassy areas, tables and seats (e.g. Hutt River Trail), high quality landscape, bins and toilets.

4.3 User Safety

The majority of safety related issues relate to on water use.

Issues

- Flood protection or erosion infrastructure can pose a safety risk to water users. Willow trees, particularly older ones that are no longer providing a flood protection or erosion role can be a hazard for kayakers (e.g. sections around Te Marua Golf Course). Railway irons and wire cables are dangerous for paddlers (e.g. Otaki River above SH1 bridge).
- Other water obstructions such as submerged tree trunks and branches are also hazards for paddlers. Dumped cars are an issue on the Otaki River above Blue Slip.
- The Silverstream Weir is dangerous for paddlers at high flow levels because they get trapped in it. The weir generates a uniform and continuous standing wave across the river, which is dangerous for paddlers.
- User perceptions of personal safety on river trails vary. Women in particular feel less safe on tracks through thick vegetation (e.g. Hutt River north of Kennedy Good bridge on the true right) and where tracks go under bridges. In some sections two trail options helps address this, with an open route along the top of the stopbank and a trail closer to the river or through the trees.

Opportunities

- Consider recreational river users in the design and construction of new flood protection features. Whitewater NZ (rivers.org.nz), the national body for white water paddlers, has initiated these discussions at the national level with the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) and is supported by Water Safety New Zealand.
- Work with user groups to identify key safety concerns and pinpoint (e.g. use a GPS) exact locations that may require attention.
- The Silverstream Weir – explore potential to design a small flow through on one side to provide a break in the wave so paddlers can pass through.

4.4 Water quality/sedimentation

Water quality in Wellington Rivers is a significant issue for recreational groups. Poor water quality directly impacts use, particularly activities such as swimming and fishing, but also dog walkers (e.g. dogs swimming).

Issues

- The main water quality issues in rivers for recreational users are toxic algal blooms and pollution, which impact on use of the river for swimming, fishing and dog exercising (e.g. dog swimming). Low water flows can increase the potential for these issues to occur. This is of primary concern in the Hutt River.

Opportunities

- Review how the information is disseminated to the public. Communication and proactive management of issues related to water quality will assist in maximising summer recreational use
- Consider recreational use of the Hutt River when determining the level of draw off at Kaitoke intake.

4.5 Communication

Some of the issues for recreation highlighted by users and the existing literature appear to stem from a lack of information and communication about Council's work in the rivers.

Issues

- Provide appropriate technical information and expertise for stakeholder consultation and community engagement. For example, if the topic relates to flood works on a river, then it would be appropriate to have engineers at the meetings. User groups such as fishermen or kayakers are interested in the rationale behind works programmes and potential effects. The questions and subsequent answers are often of a technical nature.

Opportunities

- Follow-up education and ongoing communication with user groups also helps alleviate or proactively addresses potential issues.
- Consultation and meetings with user groups need to be tailored to the topic being addressed and the appropriate staff need to be involved in the conversations. Engineers attending meetings would be useful in many instances.
- A communication plan to let river user groups know more about flood protection works. User groups are interested in when, where and why.

5 Recommendations and Mitigation

The following recommendations and suggested mitigation relate to managing effects on recreation and tourism from GWRC's ongoing maintenance and management of the Hutt, Wainuiomata, Otaki and Waikanae Rivers and the tributaries specified.

Maintaining ongoing communications and engaging with recreational users will, to a large extent, help alleviate issues. Recommended mitigation includes:

- **Consider recreational users** in future flood protection design, planning and construction.
- **Ongoing Education and Communication** - with user groups especially fishermen and kayakers. Information sessions with engineers to present maintenance plans and explain rationale and processes
- **River survey of hazards** - Hutt Canoe Club to survey rivers (e.g. photograph and log GPS coordinates) and identify dangerous areas of man made or natural vegetation that could be a hazard for paddlers.
- **No net loss of pools on Hutt River** – examine the merits and practicality of adopting a no net loss of pools policy for works on the Hutt River (F&G). The other important issue related to this is the depth of the pools (see Section 4.2).
- **Access through Silverstream Weir** – Explore potential to provide a flow through on side of the weir for paddlers.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – GWRC River Maps

Appendix 2 – GWRC River Works

Appendix 3 – Consultation List

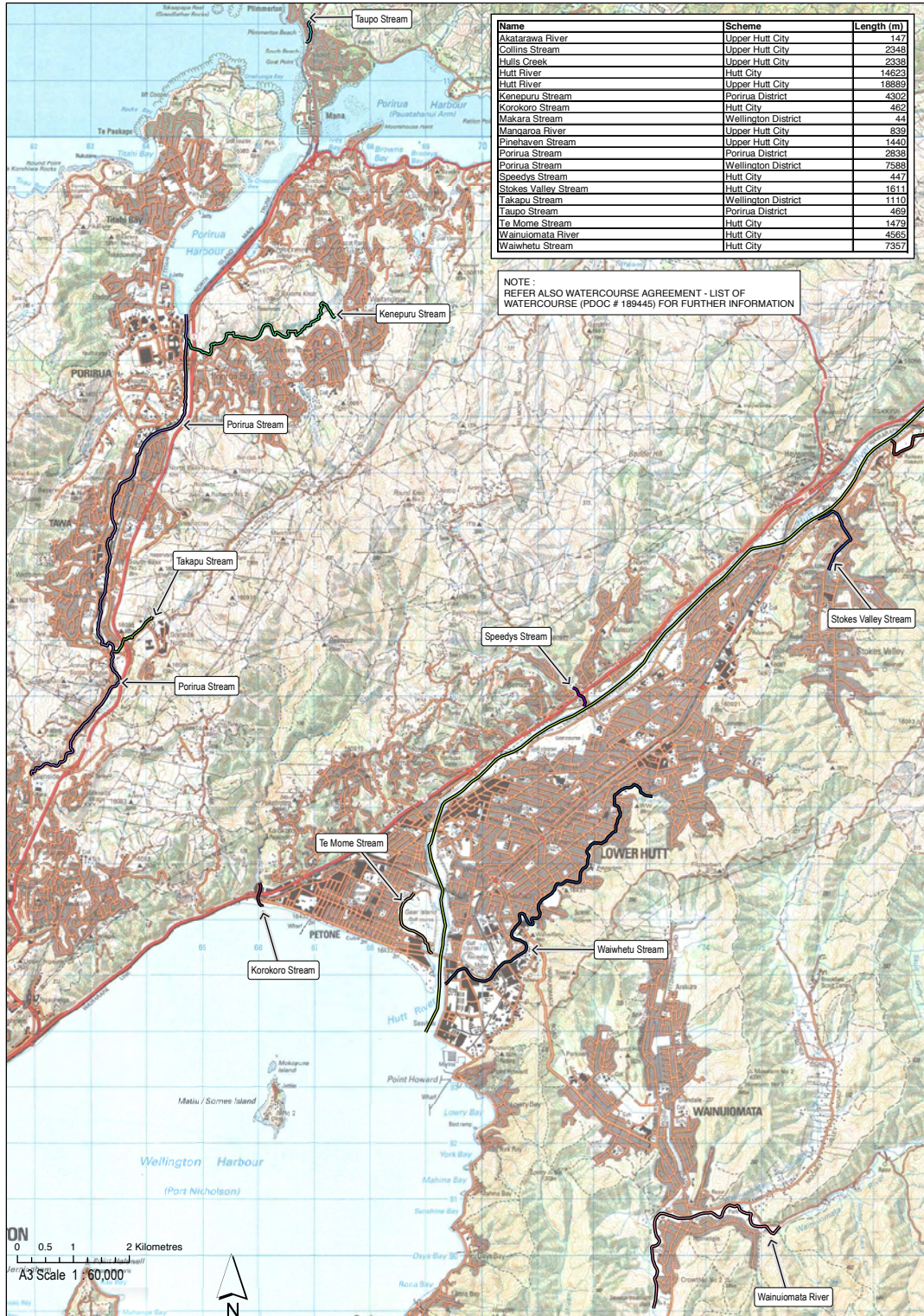
Appendix 4 – Wellington Region New Zealand Cycle Trail Proposed Route

Appendix 5 – Waikanae and Otaki River Access Points

Appendix 6 – Kapiti Coastal Cycleway

Appendix 7 - References

Appendix 1 – GWRC River Maps

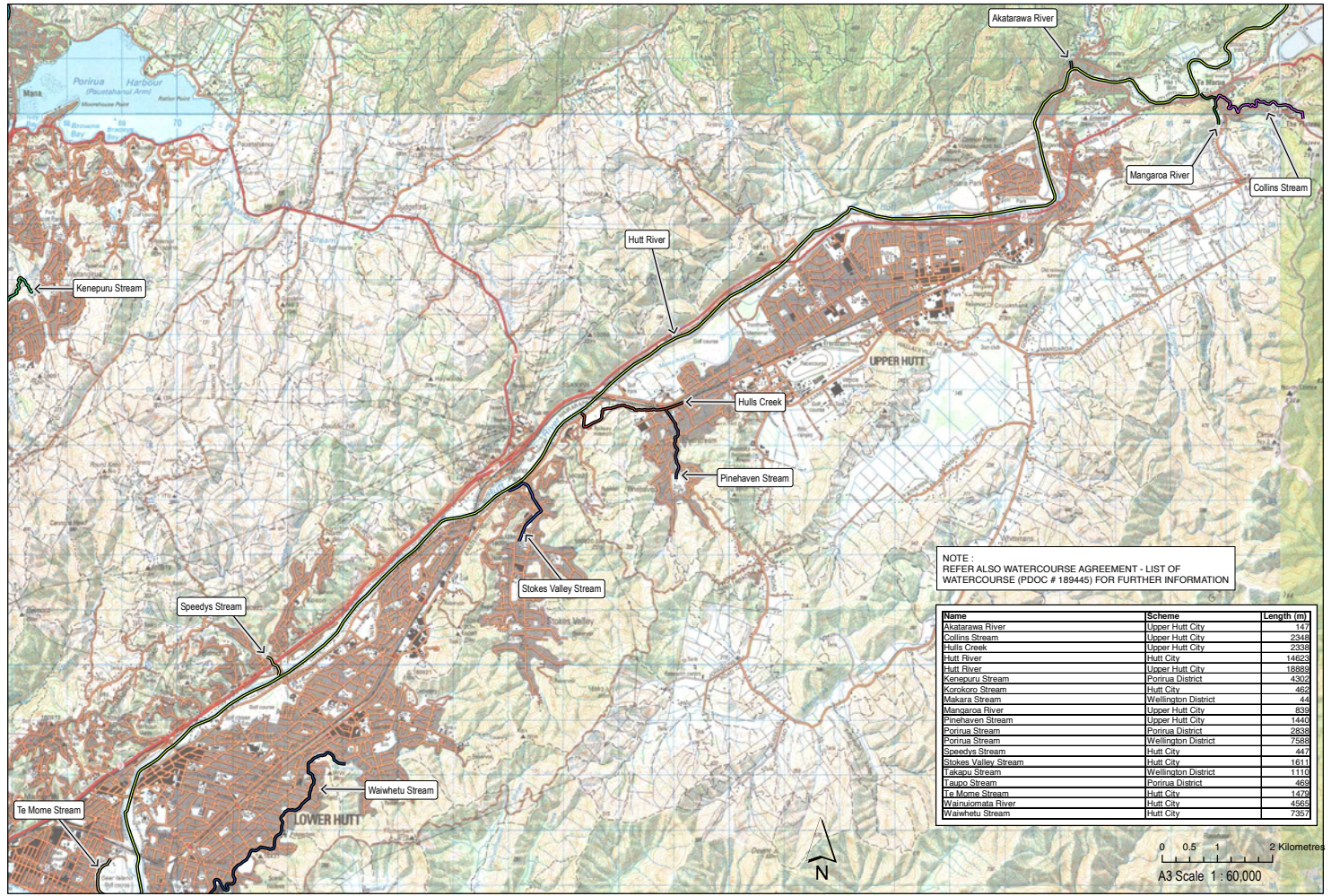


WELLINGTON MINOR WATERCOURSES MAINTAINED BY

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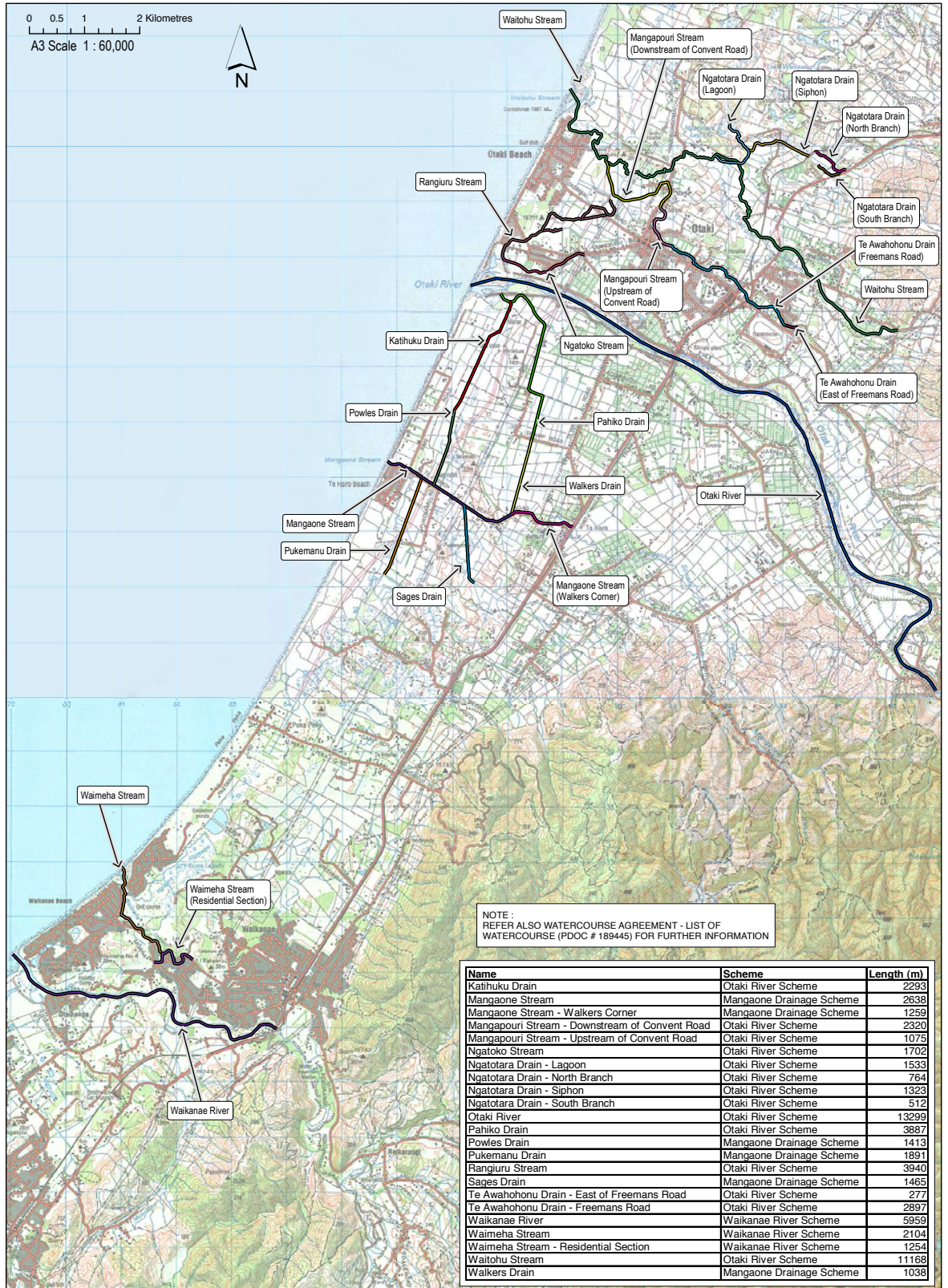
NOTE:
REFER ALSO WATERCOURSE AGREEMENT - LIST OF
WATERCOURSE (PDOC # 189445) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

| Name | Scheme | Length (m) |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Akatarawa River | Upper Hutt City | 147 |
| Collins Stream | Upper Hutt City | 2348 |
| Huls Creek | Upper Hutt City | 2338 |
| Hutt River | Hutt City | 14623 |
| Hutt River | Upper Hutt City | 18889 |
| Kenepuru Stream | Porirua District | 4302 |
| Korokoro Stream | Hutt City | 462 |
| Makara Stream | Wellington District | 44 |
| Mangaroa River | Upper Hutt City | 830 |
| Pinehaven Stream | Upper Hutt City | 1440 |
| Porirua Stream | Porirua District | 2638 |
| Porirua Stream | Wellington District | 7588 |
| Speedys Stream | Hutt City | 447 |
| Stokes Valley Stream | Hutt City | 1611 |
| Takapu Stream | Wellington District | 1110 |
| Taupo Stream | Porirua District | 469 |
| Te Mome Stream | Hutt City | 1479 |
| Wairamoheta River | Hutt City | 4563 |
| Waiwhetu Stream | Hutt City | 7357 |

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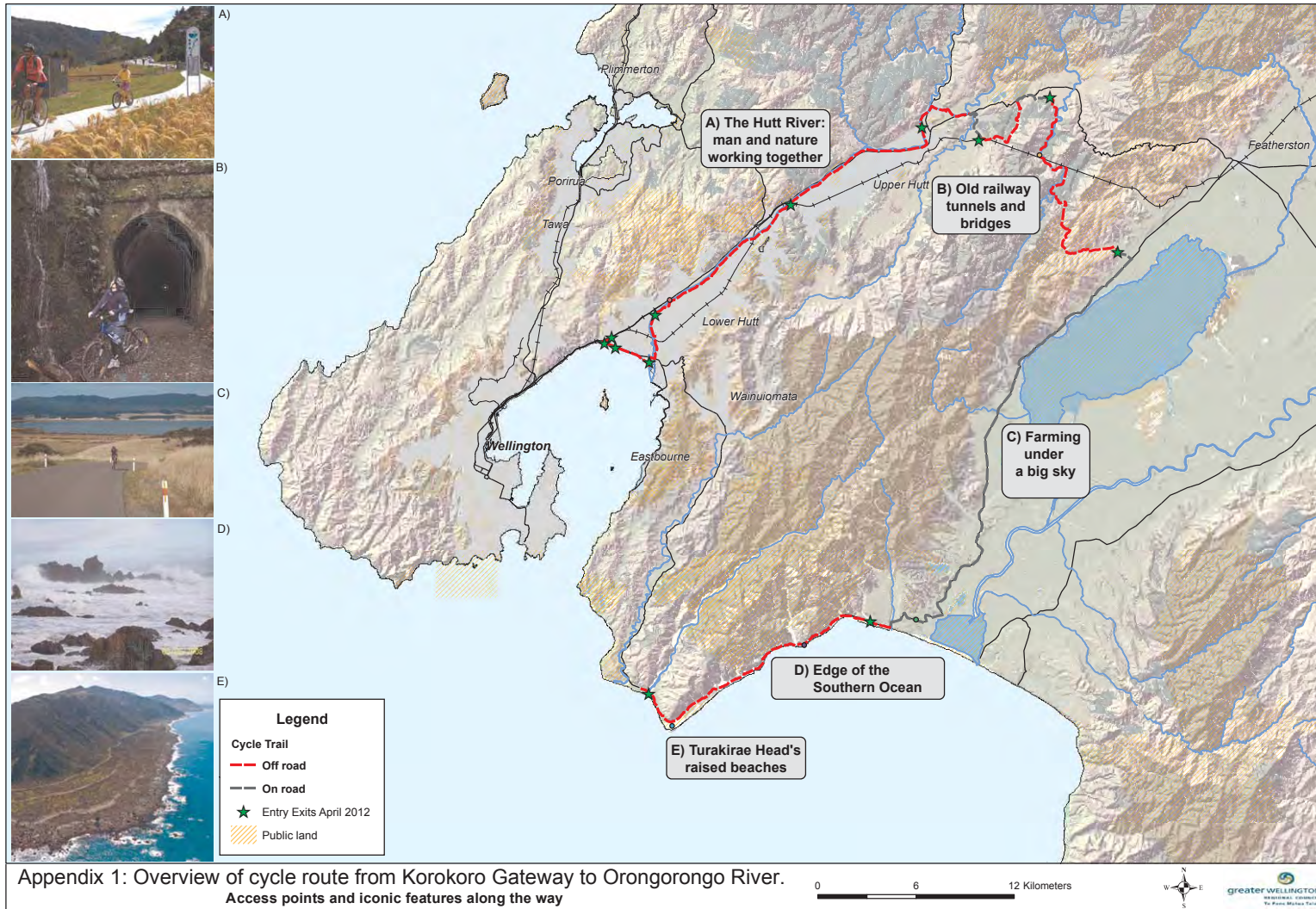
Appendix 2 – GWRC River Works

| Activities | Porirua | Keneperu | Takapu | Dams | Taupo | Korokoro | Te Mome | Speedys | Stokes Valley | Hulls Creek | Pinehaven | Akatarawa | Collins Creek | Mangaroo | Waiwhetu | Waimeha | Drains | Mangone | Mangapouri | Ranguru | Ngtoko | Waitohu | Makara |
|--|---------|----------|--------|------|-------|----------|---------|---------|---------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|----------|----------|---------|--------|---------|------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Channel Maintenance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clearance of flood debris/blockage (Machine access) | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Mowing | X | X | | | | | | | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Removal of vegetation (mechanical/manual) | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Vegetation spraying (bank edge) | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Gravel/silt removal | X | | | X | | X | | | X | X | X | | | | X | X | | X | X | X | | X | |
| Drain cleaning | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | |
| Asset Maintenance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stopbank maintenance incl. associated disturbance | X | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | X | | | | | | | X | |
| Repair of existing structures incl. associated disturbance | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | X | | | X | X | X | X |
| Flood/erosion damage repair incl. associated disturbance | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | |
| Replacement of structures incl. associated disturbance | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | X | X | X | | | X | X | X | |
| Vegetative Bank Protection | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tree planting and removal | X | X | | X | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | | X | |
| Layering and tethering | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | X | X | | | | X | | | | X | |
| Mouth cutting | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | X | | | | X | X |
| River crossings | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | |
| Crossblading | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | X | |

Appendix 3 - Consultation List

| Name | Organisation |
|---------------------|---|
| Amanda Cox | GWRC – Parks Manager |
| Ross Jackson | GWRC – Community Projects |
| Thane Walls | GWRC - Hutt River Ranger |
| Steve Edwards | GWRC – Kaitoke Regional Park |
| Mark McAlpine | GWRC- East Harbour Regional Park/Baring Head |
| Grant Timlin | GWRC - Wainuiomata Recreation Area |
| Sharon Lee | GWRC – Planner |
| Shaun Dunning | Department of Conservation |
| Peter Simpson | Department of Conservation |
| Nic Cudby | Fish & Game NZ |
| Corina Jordan | Fish & Game NZ |
| Lex Bartlett | Kapiti District Council |
| Strato Cotsilinis | Wellington Flyfishers Club |
| Alan Bell | Hutt Valley Canoe Club |
| Wayne Cameron | Kapiti Fly Fishing |
| Roy Opie | Otaihanga Boating Club |
| Pete Dawson | Captivate Adventures, Otaki Gorge |
| Martin Walsh | Kupe Canoe Club Wellington |
| John Olds | Hutt Valley Anglers |
| Simon Muckley | Wellington Wild Fowlers Club |
| Max Lutz | Friends of Otaki River |
| Golf administrators | Waikanae, Wainuiomata, Te Marua, Royal Wellington, Manor Park, Boulcott Farm, Shannon |
| Evan Freshwater | Whitewater NZ, Safety Officer |
| Greg Mather | El Rancho (Waikanae Christian Holiday Park) |
| Feriel Falconer | Friends of Waikanae River, Chairperson |

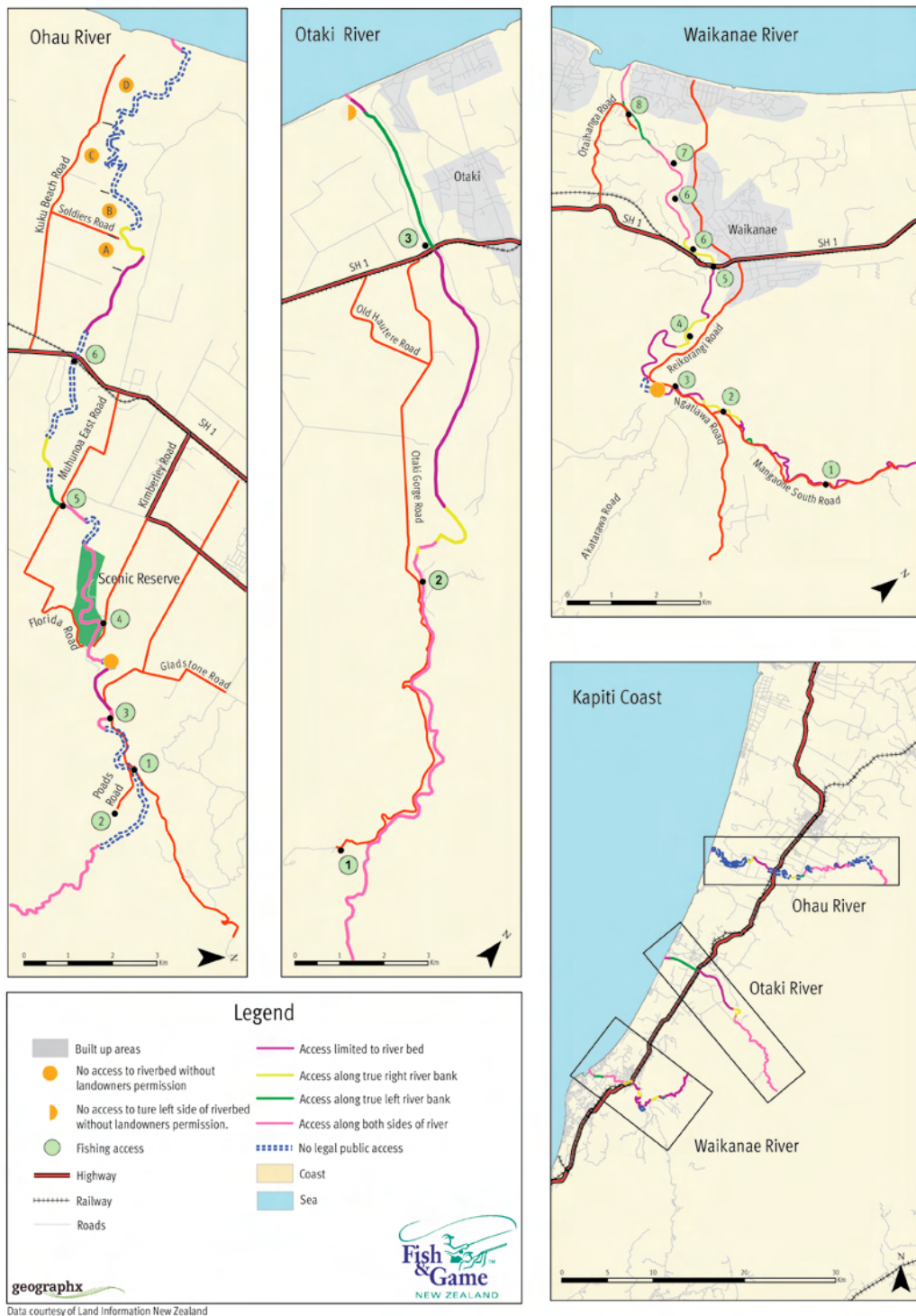
Appendix 4 – Wellington Region New Zealand Cycle Trail Proposed Route



Topographic and Cadastral data is copyright LINZ

Appendix 5 – Waikanae and Otaki River Access Points

Guide to Ohau Otaki and Waikanae Trout Fisheries



Appendix 7 - References

- Kaitoke Visitor Survey (Greater Wellington Regional Council, 2012)
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- Wellington Regional Recreation Study – Supplement (TRC, 1988)