If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Wairarapa Committee

Tuesday 9 September 2025, 10.00am

Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council
34 Chapel St, Masterton

Quorum: *four members, including two regional councillors*

Members

Adrienne Staples, Councillor (Chair)	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Gary Caffell, Mayor	Masterton District Council
Martin Connelly, Mayor	South Wairarapa District Council
Penny Gaylor, Councillor	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Hon. Ron Mark, Mayor	Carterton District Council
Daran Ponter, Councillor	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Amber Craig	Rangitāne ō Wairarapa

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Wairarapa Committee

1 Purpose

Consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa, and recommend to Council on these matters.

2 Specific responsibilities

2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Committee's business and making decisions.

2.2 The areas to consider and recommend on to Council include, but are not limited to:

- a Flood protection
- b Land management
- c Biosecurity
- d Biodiversity
- e Climate
- f Public transport
- g Natural resource management
- h Broader areas of common interest to the territorial authorities and Council.

2.3 Consider potential arrangements for a catchment-based governance approach for the Wairarapa, and recommend to Council, as appropriate.

3 Members

3.1 The Councillor elected by the Wairarapa constituency.

3.2 Two other Councillors, appointed by Council.

3.3 Three other members, appointed by Council as follows:

- a The Mayor of Carterton District Council
- b The Mayor of Masterton District Council
- c The Mayor of South Wairarapa District Council.

3.4 Two other members, appointed by Council for each person's skills, attributes or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee, being:

- a One member, nominated by Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa
- b One member, nominated by Rangitāne ō Wairarapa.

4 Alternate members

4.1 For the members in sections 3.1 and 3.2, Council may nominate a pool of up to three alternate Councillors for appointment by Council. If one of those members is unable to attend a meeting any person from this pool may sit at the table, speak and vote in their place.

4.2 Each territorial authority in section 3.3 may nominate an alternate elected member for appointment by Council. If an appointed member is unable to attend a meeting their alternate member may sit at the table, speak and vote in their place.

4.3 Each iwi authority in section 3.4 may nominate an alternate member for appointment by Council. If an appointed member is unable to attend a meeting their alternate member may sit at the table, speak and vote in their place.

5 Quorum

Four members, including two Councillors.

6 Voting entitlement

6.1 All members have equal speaking and voting rights.

6.2 Council's Standing Orders apply to the Committee; except that the Chair, in the case of an equality of votes, does not have a casting vote (and therefore the motion is defeated, and the status quo is preserved).

7 Servicing

The Committee is serviced by Greater Wellington.

8 Committee consideration

8.1 Matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa constituency shall first be referred (including during the development of proposed Greater Wellington plans and policies) to the Wairarapa Committee or its members for their consideration.

8.2 Proposals developed by Wairarapa-focused advisory bodies formally established by Council shall be considered by the Committee for direct recommendation to Council for decision.

9 Council's decisions on the Committee's recommendations

9.1 Council's decisions on the Committee's recommendations are reported to the Committee.

9.2 Where Council makes any decision that is materially different from the Committee's recommendation, Council's report to the Committee will set out the reason(s) for that decision.

10 Remuneration and expenses

10.1 The expenses of the elected members shall be met by the council they represent.

10.2 Non-elected members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) may claim Greater Wellington's standard daily meeting attendance allowances and expenses.

11 Meeting frequency

The Committee shall meet six times each year, with additional meetings as required.

Wairarapa Committee

Tuesday 9 September 2025, 10.00am

Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council
34 Chapel Street, Masterton

Public Business

Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Wairarapa Committee meeting on 9 September 2025.

Report 25.243

Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting on Tuesday 3 June 2025

Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council
34 Chapel St, Masterton at 10.00am

Members Present

Councillor Staples (Chair)	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Mayor Caffell	Masterton District Council
Mayor Connelly	South Wairarapa District Council
Councillor Gaylor	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Deputy Mayor Cretney	Carterton District Council
Councillor Ponter	Greater Wellington Regional Council

Councillor Gaylor participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25A of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Mayor Caffell / Mayor Connelly

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Mayor Mark.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting of 25 March 2025 - Report 25.131

Moved: Cr Ponter / Deputy Mayor Cretney

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting of 25 March 2025 – Report 25.131.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Public Transport Update – Report 25.198 [For Information]

Samantha Gain, Group Manager Metlink, Paul Tawharu, Senior Manager Operations, David Mawson, Manager Rail Network Delivery and Brandon Robins, General Manager Operations Transdev, spoke to the report.

The Chairperson accorded precedence to item 7 on the agenda in accordance with Standing Order 3.5.2.

6 Waipoua River and Mangatārere Stream Flood Hazard Maps – Report 25.235

Francie Morrow, Team Leader Knowledge – Water Resilience and Ella Boam, Senior Project Manager – Investigations, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Caffell / Deputy Mayor Cretney

That the Committee:

1 Notes that the flood hazard maps have been developed in accordance with Greater Wellington's Flood Hazard Modelling Standard.

2 Recommends that the Environment Committee endorse the Waipoua River and Mangatārere Stream flood hazard maps.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Waipoua River Urban Reach – Flood Risk management Options – Report 25.236

Francie Morrow, Team Leader Knowledge – Water Resilience and Ella Boam, Senior Project Manager – Investigations, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Gaylor

That the Committee:

1 Recommends that the Environment Committee endorse the preferred flood risk management option.

Moved as an amendment: Mayor Caffell / Mayor Connelly

That the Committee:

1 Recommends that the Environment Committee endorse the preferred flood risk management option, subject to further discussions between Greater Wellington Regional Council and Masterton District Council

regarding implementation and the desired level of service for key assets, including Mawley Park.

The amendment was **carried** and became part of the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put:

That the Committee:

1 Recommends that the Environment Committee Endorse the preferred flood risk management option, subject to further discussions between Greater Wellington and Masterton District Council re implementation and the desired level of service for key assets, including Mawley Park.

The motion was **carried**.

8 Wairarapa Flood Risk Management Update – Report 25.234 [For Information]

Hamish Fenwick, Team Leader Flood Operations Delivery, spoke to the report.

9 Whaitua Update – Wairarapa Coast – Report 25.187 [For Information]

Tash Styles, Catchment Manager – Wairarapa Coast, spoke to the report.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 11.05am.

Councillor A. Staples

Chair

Date:

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.402

For Information

PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) of Metlink activities and performance relating to public transport in the Wairarapa.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

2. The paragraphs below provide an update on Metlink activities in the Wairarapa.

Rail performance – Wairarapa Line issues

Fare relief while services impacted

3. On 12 June 2025, Council made the decision to implement temporary fare relief to support passengers taking rail replacement services due to Transdev's staffing shortage issues.

4. Fare relief for impacted Wairarapa Line passengers was implemented on 1 July 2025.

5. Fare relief is no longer required as rail services resumed from 4 August 2025.

Reinstatement of train services on the Wairarapa Line

6. From 4 August 2025, the following services, which were replaced by buses, have been reinstated as rail services:

    a the weekday 3:38pm departure from Masterton, and the 6:18pm departure from Wellington

    b the Friday only 8:40pm departure from Masterton, and the 10.25pm departure from Wellington.

Upcoming Blocks of Line (planned bus replacements)

<u>Hutt Valley Lines – inter peak Blocks of Line</u>

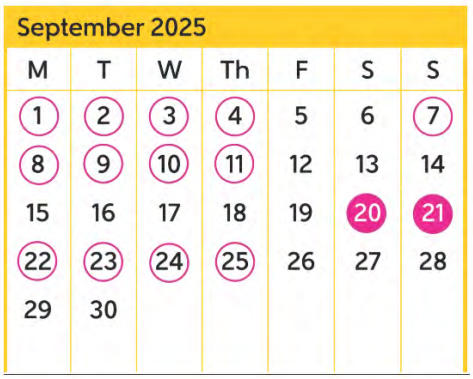
7. Between 3 August 2025 and 27 November 2025, there will be Blocks of Line on most weekdays between 9:30am and 2:30pm on the Hutt Valley and Melling Lines (see information below for September 2025).

8. Morning and evening peak time services will not be affected.

9. The Blocks of Line are required by KiwiRail for it to undertake rail improvements on the Hutt Valley Lines; this work includes improvements to Ava Bridge and work necessary to prepare for the closure of the Melling Station (scheduled for closure 26 December 2025).

10. Bus replacement services will be in operation for the duration of the Blocks of Line. Note, Wairarapa Rail Services which are impacted by the Blocks of Line will be bus replaced between Upper Hutt and Wellington.

11. Information on upcoming planned Blocks of Line for the Wairarapa Line in September 2025 is set out below. Note this information is subject to change (for example, late notice essential works). The most up-to-date information is available on our website.[1]



Monday 1 - Thursday 4 September
Buses replace some daytime services between Wellington and Upper Hutt

Sunday 7 September
Buses replace all daytime services between Wellington and Upper Hutt

Monday 8 - Thursday 11 September

Buses replace some daytime services between Wellington and Upper Hutt

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 September
Buses replace all services between Wellington and Masterton

Monday 22 - Thursday 25 September
Buses replace some daytime services between Wellington and Upper Hutt

Labour Weekend (25 - 27 October 2025)

12. From 25 to 27 October 2025 there will be full network closure on all Lines, including the Wairarapa Line.

13. The Blocks of Line are required to enable KiwiRail to undertake enabling works for signaling and track improvements

Christmas/New Year (26 December 2025 - 11 January 2026)

14. The Wairarapa Line will close from 2am on 26 December 2025 (Boxing Day), reopening at 4am on 12 January 2026.

15. The Block of Line is required to enable KiwiRail to undertake enabling works for signalling and track improvements.

[1] https://www.metlink.org.nz/news-and-updates/buses-replacing-trains/

Update on activities – Rail

Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility

16. The 2023 Government budget included funding for the capital investment of new rolling stock and associated infrastructure to deliver improved passenger rail services on the Manawatū Line (MUL) and Wairarapa Line (WRL) based on the Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility (LNIRIM) Detailed Business Case (DBC); this includes:

    a 18 new Independently Powered Electric Multiple Unit vehicles (IPEMU Vehicles) to replace the existing carriages and locomotives currently used to deliver MUL and WRL services

    b A new maintenance depot for the IPEMU Vehicles

    c Station and platform upgrades

    d Rail Network upgrades, including passing loops and stabling facilities.

17. It is expected that the new trains will double peak-time services between Palmerston North and Wellington on the Manawatū line and double them between Masterton and Wellington on the Wairarapa Line.

18. We are expecting to be able to announce the award of the rolling stock contract soon.

Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035

19. On 26 June 2025, Council adopted the Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 (RPTP 2025-2035).[2]

20. The RPTP 2025-2035 came into force on Thursday 24 July 2025 (20 working days after adoption of the Plan by Council).

21. The RPTP 2025-2035 includes a section on Wairarapa Regional Focus, which highlights future public transport network considerations from growth across Masterton, Carterton and South Wairarapa districts (refer RPTP pages 84-88).

22. The Wairarapa focused projects highlighted in the RPTP include delivery of the LNIRIM programme and investigation of longer-term public transport provision to meet housing growth and travel demand in the Wairarapa.

Update on performance

23. A PowerPoint presentation on Wairarapa public transport performance will be presented to the Committee at this meeting. A copy is attached as **Attachment 1**.

[2] https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Documents/2025/06/Wellington-Regional-Public-Transport-Plan-2025-web.pdf

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment

Number	Title
1	Metlink Public Transport Performance – Presentation

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	David Mawson – Manager Rail Network Delivery Emmet McElhatton – Manager Policy
Approvers	Paul Tawharu – Senior Manager Operations Hamish Burns – Senior Manager Assets and Infrastructure (Acting) Samantha Gain – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Waka-ā-atea | Group Manager Metlink

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or Committee's terms of reference The purpose of the Committee is to consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa. This is an information report on public transport matters in the Wairarapa.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies This report provides an update on the delivery of public transport activities in the Wairarapa. Delivering public transport is a key activity in the Long Term Plan.
Internal consultation No other departments were consulted in preparing this report.
Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc. There are no risks arising from this report.

Attachment 1 to Report 25.402

PUBLIC TRANSPORT PERFORMANCE - JULY

FOCUS ON WAIRARAPA

WAIRARAPA COMMITTEE

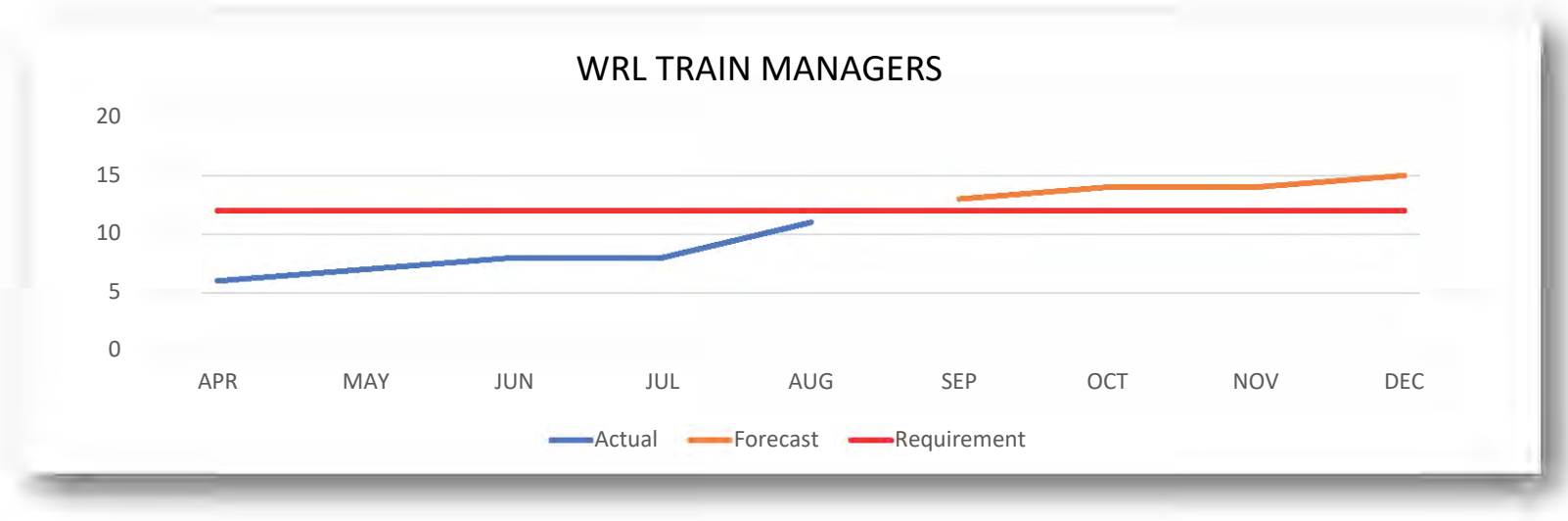
9 September 2025
Samantha Gain, Group Manager Metlink

Uptake of Transdev Train Managers

Attachment 1 to Report 25.402

As at 22 August, Transdev has 11 train managers, including relief train managers available.
We also note:

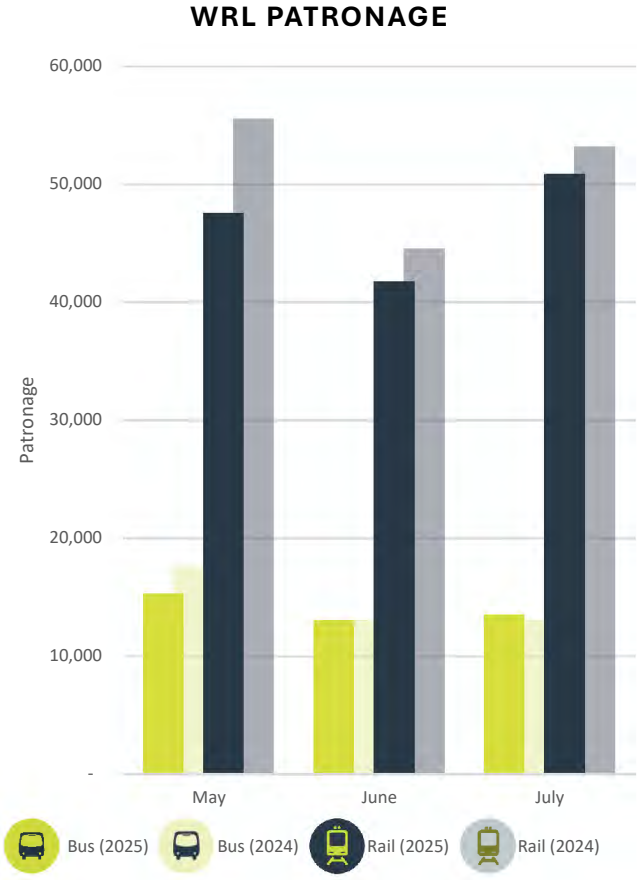
- 1 train manager completed his training on 22 August
- 2 train managers are expected to complete their training in the first week of September.

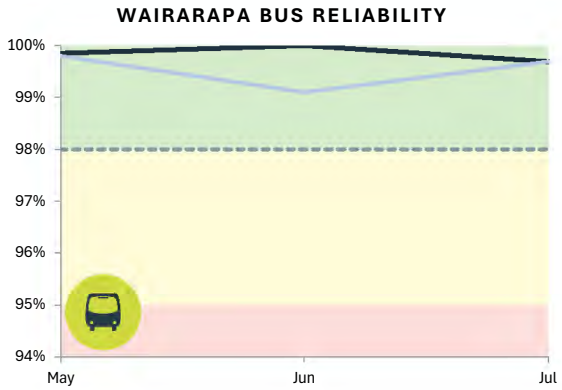


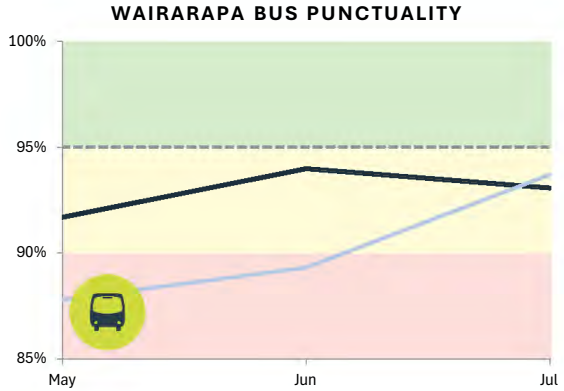
Based on this, **from 4 August**, we reinstated those 4 services as rail services.

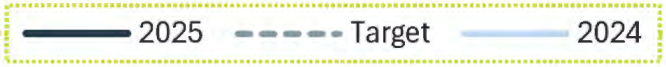
Wairarapa Line Performance

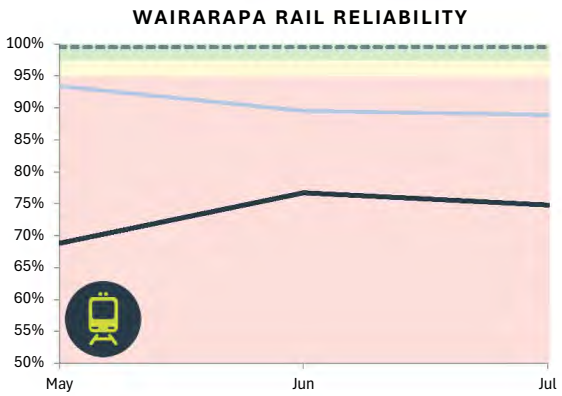
Attachment 1 to Report 25.402

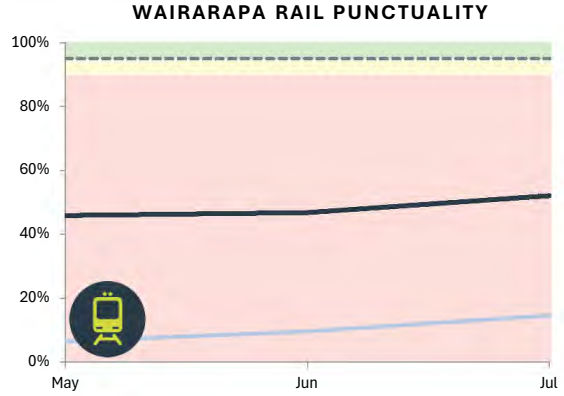




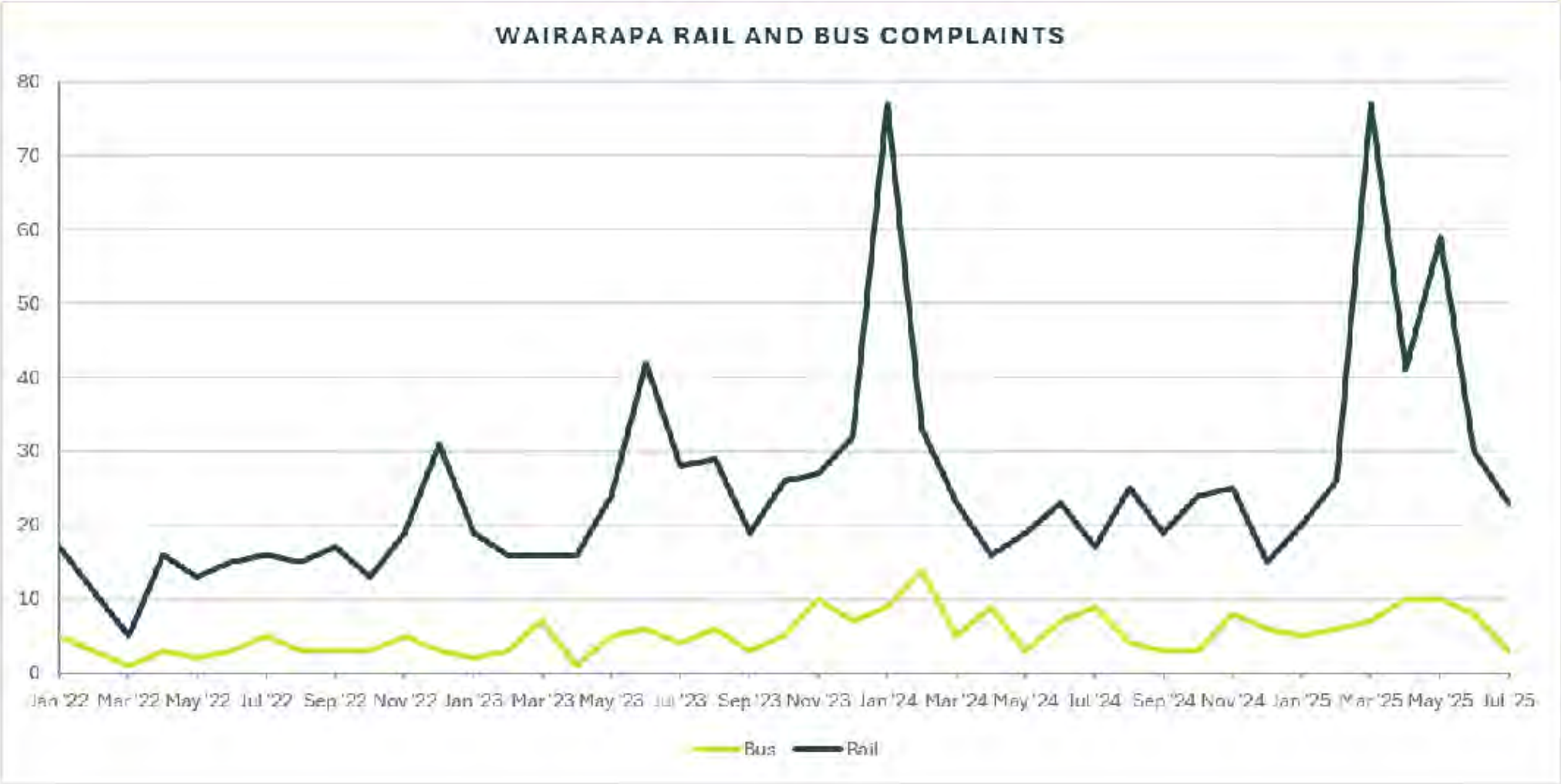








Wairarapa Complaints



Attachment 1 to Report 25.402

Track and level crossing update

KiwiRail

Level crossing upgrades

Attachment 1 to Report 25.402

- Civil works complete at 21 of 30 level crossings

- In progress:
  - Fox Street upgrade, Featherston
  - Pembroke Street upgrade, Carterton

- To do:
  - Victoria Street closure, Carterton – begins 15 September
  - Judds Road one way upgrade, Masterton – beings 20 September
  - Rhodes Street closure, Carterton – mid November
  - Bell Street closure, Featherston – end of 2025
  - Brandon Street closure, Featherston – early 2026
  - Norman Ave, Carterton – late August
  - Norfolk Road, Carterton – Xmas 2025

Signaling, loops and sidings

- Ducting 90 percent complete
- In Final stage of signalling design, with installation beginning October 2025
- Signalling on target to go live early 2027
- Waingawa and Woodside crossing loops underway and due for completion 2027.

Wellington Rail Network - Current Speed Restrictions 19 Aug

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.389

For Information

ENVIRONMENT GROUP UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2025

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on Environment Group work of strategic important to the Wairarapa.

Te horopaki
Context

2. Officers from Greater Wellington, Carterton District Council (CDC), Masterton District Council (MDC) and South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) have been discussing how to elevate strategic issues to the Wairarapa Committee.
3. Environment Group delivers a wide range of services and projects across the Wairarapa. This report highlights key areas of focus for the committee.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

Catchment planning

4. The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Programme continues to guide decision-making and prioritisation of our work. This is likely to transition into a new strategic framework alongside the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board's development of a vision and objectives for the Ruamāhanga catchment.
5. Some aspects of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua are being delivered under the framework provided by the Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy. A draft three-year work programme under this strategy is being developed by partners including all three Wairarapa territorial authorities, mana whenua, and Greater Wellington.
6. Greater Wellington is partnering with the Wairarapa Catchment Collective to support landowners and local communities across the Wairarapa with action planning that will support multiple outcomes at a sub-catchment scale, including freshwater, and other environmental, social, cultural and economic outcomes.

Environment Restoration

7. A new dung beetle species, *Bubas bison*, has been released into the Ruamāhanga catchment. This winter-active beetle was introduced on two properties in low rainfall areas of the Wairarapa, one near Carterton and one near Martinborough.

The release supports year-round dung breakdown and soil health improvements. There have now been 200 colonies released in the Ruamāhanga and another 100 colonies across the rest of the region (seven species).

Parks planning

8. A draft Parks Network Plan update for the Greater Wellington-owned Wairarapa forests will be presented to Council in due course, before formal public consultation. The plan update will largely focus on Hiwinui forest development as a regional park but explore opportunities for permitted access to Stoney Creek and Tauanui Forests.

Wairarapa Moana

9. Partners are working to renew arrangements for the management of Wairarapa Moana reserves following Treaty settlements and the completion of a five-year Ministry for the Environment-funded project. A combined 2025-26 financial year operational work programme between the partners: Greater Wellington, Department of Conservation (DOC), Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Rangitāne o Wairarapa and SWDC was approved by the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board in March.

10. The Kahungunu and Rangitāne settlement trusts are taking a lead role in how this partnership will work into the future.

11. Greater Wellington is preparing to initiate investigations and community engagement as part of a review into the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (LWVDS). An update on preparations for this review was shared with the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Floodplain Management Advisory Committee (a subsidiary advisory body to Wairarapa Committee) on 3 July of this year.

12. For information about our review of the LWVDS see Report 25.436 being presented at this meeting.

Flood risk management

13. A significant step forward has been made in our flood monitoring capabilities in the Eastern hills. A new cableway has been installed which will allow us to safely measure high-flow conditions during major flood events, without exposing staff to unnecessary risk. These measurements will provide critical data to improve the accuracy of our flood models, enhancing our ability to issue timely and reliable flood warnings.

14. Work has been undertaken to update flood hazard maps for the upper Ruamāhanga and Donald's Creek around Featherston. See Report 25.403 – Donald's and Abbots Creek Flood Hazard Maps being presented at this meeting.

15. For a general update on wider flood risk work in the Wairarapa see Report 25.401– Wairarapa Flood Risk Management Update being presented at this meeting.

River management

16. Meetings of the three floodplain management advisory bodies to the Wairarapa Committee (Upper Ruamāhanga, Waiōhine and Lower Ruāmahanga) have been held in recent months. It has been a busy year with activity across the Flood

Resilience Tranche One programme, our regular operational work under Floodplain Management Plans, and community engagement on preferred options for the Waipoua Urban Reach.

17. All three advisory bodies have confirmed our annual reports, which are now presented to the Wairarapa Committee at this meeting, refer to:

    a Annual Floodplain Management Plan Implementation Report 2025 – Report 25.275

    b Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report 2025 - Report 25.272.

18. The Flood Resilience Programme Tranche 1 remains on track, with strong progress across key project sites in the Wairarapa. Seven of 16 sites have been completed, including River Road Sites 1 and 2, Waipoua SH2 Left Bank, Waipoua Industrial Site – Akura Road, Masterton Raw Water Supply, Hood Aerodrome, Pūkio East Stopbank. These projects reflect a coordinated effort to improve flood protection for both critical infrastructure and surrounding communities.

19. Fullers Bend on the Waiōhine adjacent to the SH2 bridge is the next site scheduled for construction, with works continuing steadily throughout the winter months. Activity is expected to ramp up further as we move into the drier summer period. In the meantime, other priority sites are progressing through surveys, design, ecological input, hydraulic modelling, and community and iwi engagement. Overall, the programme is tracking well and remains on schedule for delivery.

Pest control

20. New predator control networks have been installed in the Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) of Te Kawa Kawa, Owahanga, Mataikona and an extension to the Homewood network. The regular servicing of these new networks will start in the 2025/26 financial year.

21. Possum control in the Pūkaha buffer will now be part of the Regional Predator Control Programme (RPCP). This will be regularly serviced to minimise possums moving through into Pūkaha and disrupts a major travel pathway from the Tararua Ranges along the Ruamāhanga River margin. The RPCP Tararua Foothills operation is now complete, and the field team has made great progress through the area along with completion of the RPCP Homebush – Te Ore Ore operation.

22. The Wairarapa Catchment Collective pest animal programme has worked with community groups, with support from Greater Wellington to deploy $37,000 worth of hardware secured through funding from the Community, Capability and Change team.

Erosion control

23. The Wellington Regional Erosion Control Initiative (WRECI) project approval rounds for the 2025 planting season were completed by February. Planting operations commenced on schedule in May, and, by July, all 69,300 pre-plant spots had been sprayed. To date, 19,730 poles have been planted across 112 properties, and 112,963 seedlings have been planted across 29 properties, with pole planting completed in August. Across these projects, approximately 315 hectares of

afforestation and reversion and 440 hectares of space-planted poplar and willow treatment areas are forecast to be completed this winter.

24. A project with CDC focused on erosion control planting on private land as a cost-effective method of protecting rural road infrastructure. The project began after Cyclone Gabrielle, when slips caused the closure of East Coast Road to Glenburn and Flatpoint. In response, CDC and Greater Wellington, through the WRECI, funded the planting of 800 poles along the affected road. Again, this year, CDC was approached to support pole planting along Te Wharau Road. They agreed to fund planting on farmland adjacent to the road and the initiative was subsequently extended to Te Awa Awa Road and Millars Road. This partnership between WRECI and local councils is one we aim to strengthen and expand in future erosion control efforts.

Forestry

25. Forme Forestry Consultants began work in the Whareama catchment in December 2024, delivering Greater Wellington's Forestry Engagement Project aimed at improving environmental practices through education and advice, outside of a regulatory setting. The team engaged with stakeholders representing 67% of the forest area, provided expert guidance across afforestation and harvest operations and helped Greater Wellington identify opportunities to improve outcomes through better policy, regulation, and sector support.

Recreational boating

26. Greater Wellington harbours staff met with a range of Castlepoint representatives in Masterton in June to discuss any water safety concerns relating to Castlepoint. We are working with them and MDC to have improved signage and flyers in place for the summer season.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

27. Environment Group's work has a significant impact on Māori, especially in the sustainable management of resources such as freshwater.

28. Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust, the Post Settlement Governance Entity for Rangitāne in the Wairarapa, officially lodged their Iwi Environment Management Plan (IEMP) with Greater Wellington on 8 July 2025 requiring this plan be 'taken into account' under section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

29. The Environment Group will need to evaluate the mahi they are undertaking against the IEMP and consult accordingly to support our mana whenua partners in their Taiao moemoea outlined through their IEMP.

30. The IEMP recognises that waterbodies are taonga, and part of the whakapapa of mana whenua and as such they have an enduring relationship with freshwater bodies that flow on, through and under the whenua.

31. The implementation of Treaty settlements in the Wairarapa requires Environment Group to establish new relationships and ways of working, which are in development.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Pete Huggins – Catchment Manager, Ruamāhanga Michelle McCabe – Senior Catchment Advisor Wairarapa Coast
Approvers	Nicola Patrick – Director Catchment Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference This report highlights areas of strategic importance to the Wairarapa.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies There are no implications for Greater Wellington's strategies, policies and plans.
Internal consultation This report has been developed in collaboration with teams across Environment Group and input has been received from Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. There are no risks.

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.401

For Information

WAIRARAPA FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on:
    a Funding received from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Cyclone Recovery Unit
    b Ongoing operational maintenance of the Wairarapa Rivers schemes
    c Progress on the Flood Resilience – Tranche 1 programme (formerly known as Before the Deluge 2.0)
    d Progress of flood risk management investigations
    e Gravel management.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

2. This section provides an update on the Flood Protection works in the Wairarapa since the last Wairarapa Committee meeting.

Flood Operations

3. The focus since June has been delivering the planting programme in the Ruamāhanga Valley. This season has seen a move to nature-based solutions with integrating native plants with willows at appropriate sites where native plants will have a higher success rate of survival. Sites where native plants have been integrated are listed below:
    a Ruamāhanga River at the Hidden Lakes Slip
    b Ruamāhanga River at Te Whiti
    c Kopuaranga Rive at Morrisville
    d Waingawa River above Rail bridge
    e Waiohine River above Fullers Bend.
4. Other work in the Ruamāhanga Valley has consisted of stopbank vegetation control, dry beach recontouring, gravel extraction and railway iron removal.

Photo1: Robotic mulcher at work

Photo 2: Finished mulching on right bank stopbanks above State Highway 2

5. Beach recontouring has been undertaken in the Ruamāhanga, Waingawa, Tauanui and Turanganui Rivers. This work is primarily to create high flow channels to direct the flow away from eroding riverbanks.

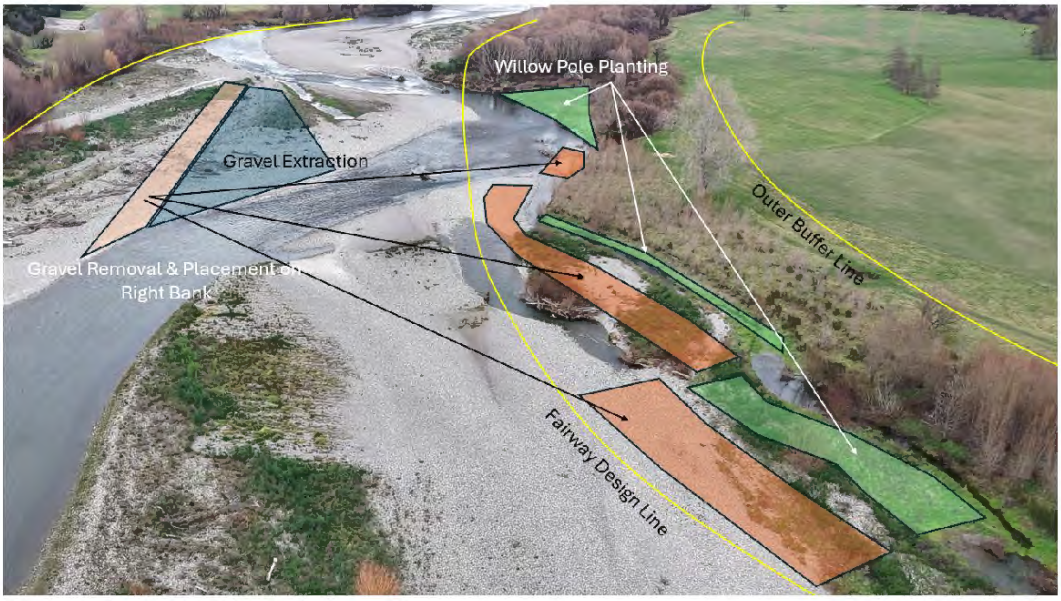


Photo 3: Ruamāhanga bed recontouring plan at Te Whiti

Photo 4: Ruamāhanga bed recontouring completed work

6. Since the fatal jetboat accident last summer in the Ruamāhanga above Wardell's Bridge involving a historic railway iron, there has been an increased focus on identifying and removing them from the channel. This has meant using the emergency works provision of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to be able to work in the wet channel during the consented exclusion period. Teams across

Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) are working on a solution to enable the removal of railway irons inside the current exclusion period.

7. The mouth at Lake Ōnoke has closed and been mechanically opened on five occasions since June 2025, adding to a total of eight times since January 2025.

Government Funding – Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and MBIE Kanoa

Crack Willow Blockage Removal Project

8. As stated in the Wairarapa Flood Risk Management Update report (Report 24.361), we successfully obtained $3.5 million from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) from the Recovery and Flooding Resilience fund for crack willow blockage removal in the eastern rivers in the Wairarapa. This decision was publicly announced on 6 October 2023. Our contribution is $250,000 worth of project management time.

9. The project has been successfully completed on time (30 June 2025) and within the allocated budget. A total of 968 blockages have been removed, and approximately 130km of river channel has been cleared. To date, the total expenditure stands at $3,496,697.

Photo 5: Taueru River – Pre blockage removal

Photo 6: Taueru River – During blockage removal

Eastern Hills Flood Warning Network Upgrades

10. Due to lead time for manufacturing of smart signs that will be installed in the roading corridor as additions to the flood warning network, an extension to project completion until 31 August was granted by Crown Infrastructure Projects. Further delays in manufacturing mean the signs have not yet arrived from China.

11. The newest Flood Forecast model has been commissioned as part of Greater Wellington's wider commitment to the Delft-FEWS flood forecast platform. Screen shot in figure 1 below.

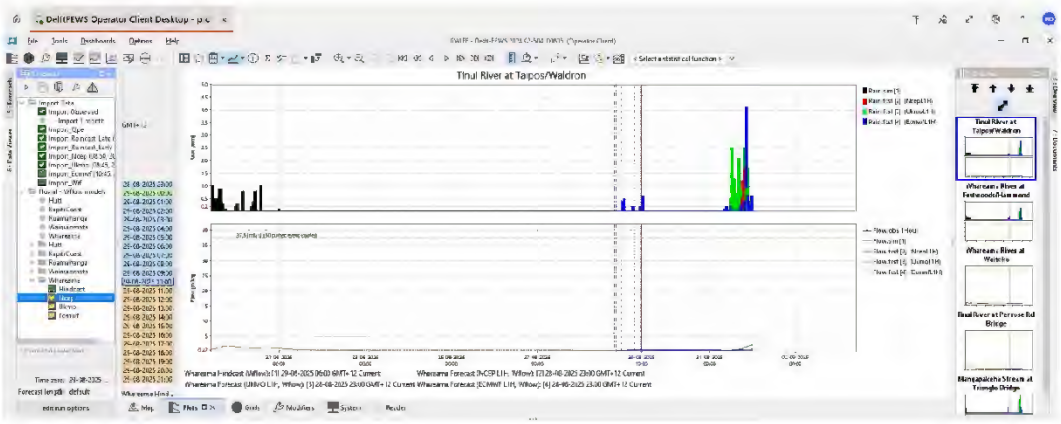


Figure1: Screen shot of Delft-FEWS flood forecast software providing forecasted rain via different probability models.

12. The cableway has been successfully installed and commissioned for use. It is now ready to support operation of the Hornet flow measurement equipment. This marks

a significant step forward in our flood monitoring capabilities. The cableway will allow us to safely measure high-flow conditions during major flood events, without exposing staff to unnecessary risk. These measurements will provide critical data to improve the accuracy of our flood models, enhancing our ability to issue timely and reliable flood warnings.

13. Ultimately, this will strengthen our flood preparedness and provide greater protection for the community. Below is the true left bank showing the cableway with Matt Rowland, Monitoring Water Resilience, who played a huge part in bringing this all together.

Photo 7. Matt Rowland, Monitoring Water Resilience, who played a big part in this project.

14. Overall the construction and procurement element of the project are nearly complete. A post investment report will be the final requirement as part of the project funding agreement.

Flood Resilience Tranche 1

15. Central government has allocated $1.2 billion for the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF), administered by Kānoa, to invest in regional infrastructure, boost productivity, and improve resilience. Included in this is $200 million for flood infrastructure, based on a 60:40 Crown: Council funding split.

16. Greater Wellington has 16 out of the 42 nationally approved projects, which include different types of flood protection and management infrastructure such as stopbanks, riparian planting, groynes and culverts. Table 1 provides a summary of

progress on these projects to date. With one exception, these sites are all in the Wairarapa.

17. Iwi and stakeholder engagement is on track or completed for all project sites.

Table 1 – Summary of progress on the Tranche 1 projects

Site 1 - River Rd - Stage 2 - **Wairarapa**	Site completed.
Site 2 - River Rd - Stage 3 - **Wairarapa**	Site completed.
Site 3 - Waipoua SH2 Left Bank - **Wairarapa**	Site completed.
Site 4 - Waipoua Industrial Site - Akura Road - W**airarapa**	Site completed.
Site 5 - Fullers Bend - **Wairarapa**	The main works have commenced and are scheduled to be completed by mid-October. The scope includes the installation of nine rock groynes and an extended rock revetment at Fullers Bend. Additional rock deliveries required to complete these works are currently underway.
Site 6 - Awaroa Sill - **Wairarapa**	Enabling works have been completed.
Site 7 - Masterton Raw Water Supply - **Wairarapa**	One 815 tonne rock groyne has been implemented/completed within the Waingawa River.
Site 8 - Hood Aerodrome - **Wairarapa**	Site completed.
Site 9 - Otaki Cliffs - Otaki	Rock deliveries have been completed.
Site 10 - Tawaha Sill - **Wairarapa**	Enabling works have been completed.
Site 11 - Pukio East Stopbank - **Wairarapa**	Site completed.
Site 12 - Flood Gates - Fish Passage- **Wairarapa**	103 tonnes of ridge rocks have been delivered to date.
Site 13 - South Masterton Stopbank - **Wairarapa**	Enabling and investigation works have been completed.
Site 14 - Homebush Wastewater Treatment	Enabling works have been completed.

Plant Resilience works - **Wairarapa**	
Site 15 - Upper Ruamāhanga Buffer Establishment - **Wairarapa**	Contractor procurement for the 2025 planting season has been successfully completed, and a comprehensive pest management plan is now being implemented. Ahu Collective will deliver the planting of 22000 native plants throughout August and September. This work not only contributes to erosion mitigation and flood resilience but also supports broader outcomes by creating local employment, building workforce skills and enabling mana whenua to be actively involved in taiao restoration. Looking ahead, work has also commenced on identifying potential planting sites for the 2026 season which will include strong collaboration with Masterton District Council.
Site 16 - Whakawhiriwhiri stream - **Wairarapa**	Enabling works have been completed.

Photo 8: Site 2 – River Road (Stage 3 – Ruamāhanga River) – Seven rock groynes completed

Photo 9: Site 3 – Waipoua SH2 Left Bank – 45m rock revetment completed

Photo 10: Site 4 – Waipoua Industrial Site (Akura Road) – five rock groynes and a 15m rock revetment completed

Photo 11: Site 7 – Masterton Raw Water Supply (Waingawa River) – one rock groyne completed

Photo 12: Site 8 – Hood Aerodrome (Waingawa River) – four rock groynes completed

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (2007)

Review

18. Greater Wellington is progressing with the review of the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (LWVDS). Some technical investigations are already underway, and we are preparing to initiate further investigations and community engagement activities.

19. Our first steps are likely to include community engagement on hydrological modelling and on potential changes to our operation of the barrage gates.

20. Greater Wellington is working alongside Ngati Kahungunu and Rangitāne to establish a partnership framework that will guide the review process.

21. The review of the consent strategy for the renewal of the barrage gates and operation and maintenance consent is underway, with the scoping process for identifying information requirements set to begin shortly.

22. A pre-application consultation on resource consent renewals is currently being prepared.

23. We will be providing information to landowners directly and via catchment groups. We will also continue to inform the advisory body for the Lower Ruamāhanga. It is expected to significantly increase our communication and information service to the local community as we proceed through the review.

24. The flood hydrology phase of the flood hazard modelling workstream of the LWVDS review is nearing completion, with design event simulations and climate change sensitivity assessments are underway.

25. The hydraulic modelling component is in the early scoping stage, with a separate procurement process being prepared to engage a specialist consultant.

26. Once both phases are complete, the integrated hydrology-hydraulic model will serve as a key technical foundation for a future-focused, comprehensive and catchment-wide review of the flood protection scheme, its performance, purpose and future direction, supporting objectives across regulatory, environmental, emergency management and cultural outcomes.

27. A high-resolution topographic LiDAR survey has been commissioned to support the LWVDS review. The data capture is complete, with post-processing, classification, and quality assurance now underway. Final deliverables, including a digital elevation model and point cloud data, are on track for delivery in October 2025. This new dataset will form the foundational terrain input for updated flood modelling and planning activities.

Ruamāhanga

Waipoua nature-based solutions

28. Through funding from the Ministry for the Environment, Greater Wellington has recently (July 2025) completed a study which investigated the feasibility of using nature-based solutions to manage flood risk to Masterton, from the Waipoua River.

29. The study assessed four nature-based solutions: land retirement and afforestation, floodplain re-engagement, small-scale distributed storage and channel realignment/making more room for the river.

30. The study included various technical assessments, including the potential influence of the nature-based solutions on groundwater recharge and river baseflows, geomorphological effectiveness, flood risk reduction and other wider benefits. An assessment of indigenous plant species within the catchment was also completed.

31. In addition to these technical assessments, estimates of the land area required, high-level cost estimates and the identification of risks and constraints for implementing nature-based solutions were also undertaken.

32. The findings of the study are intended to inform the next stage of the Major Project Response on the Waipoua Urban Reach from the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan (Te Kāuru).

Flood Hazard Maps

33. Flood hazard modelling programmes of work are currently ongoing for the Upper Ruamāhanga River as well as Donald's and Abbott's Creeks. Modelling is key for understanding the probability and likely extent of flooding for the current and predicted future climate.

34. The flood hazard modelling is being carried out in accordance with Greater Wellington's Flood Hazard Modelling Standard (FHMS). The protocols in the FHMS were developed to ensure that flood hazard modelling projects are undertaken in a robust and consistent way that is in line with accepted industry practice.

35. The modelling for the Upper Ruamāhanga is currently undergoing final peer review and is being readied for independent audit. This will be completed in financial year 2025/26.

36. The modelling for Donald's and Abbotts Creeks is effectively complete and is currently undergoing the final independent audit. This will be completed in financial year 2025/26.

37. Further detail regarding the flood hazard maps is provided in Update on Upper Ruamāhanga and Donald's and Abbotts Creeks Flood Hazard Modelling – Report 25.403.

Gravel Management overview and update

38. Greater Wellington holds resource consent (WAR990026) to extract all available gravel allocation from the Ruamāhanga River system and its tributaries including the Lake Wairarapa Catchment. The activity is currently operating under section 124 of the RMA (existing use) while the renewal consent application is processed. The Lower Valley section of the current renewal application is planned to be lodged alongside or in combination (yet to be determined) with the Barrage gates and LWVDS Scheme consent renewals in 2027. Table 2 shows where Greater Wellington are permitted to undertake gravel and sand extraction and associated activities.

Table 2 – Specific river locations where gravel extraction is permitted

Ruamāhanga River	[Mt Bruce to Double Bridges]
Ruamāhanga River	[Double Bridges to Wardell's Bridge]
Ruamāhanga River	[Wardell's Bridge to Waiohine confluence]
Ruamāhanga River	[Waiohine Confluence to Lake Onoke]
Waipoua River and tributaries	[Forest Park to Ruamāhanga confluence]
Waingawa River and tributaries	[Forest Park to Ruamāhanga confluence]
Waiohine River	[Gorge to Ruamāhanga confluence]
Wairongomai River	[Western Lake Road to delta]
Tauherenikau River	[Gorge to Lake Wairarapa]
Turanganui River	[Whakatomotomo Road end to delta]
Mangatārere River and tributaries	[Forest Park to Waiohine confluence]
Donalds Creek/Abbots Creek	[Lake Wairarapa to Featherston]
Pounui Stream	[Western Lake Road to delta]
Cross Creek	[Western Lake Road to delta]

Huangarua River and tributaries	[Forest Park to Ruamāhanga confluence]
Dry River	[Limeworks to Ruamāhanga River confluence]
Tauanui River	[Top retirement Didsbury to Ruamāhanga River confluence]

39. The resource consent limits the quantity of gravel allocated in any one financial year (1 July to 30 June), which shall not exceed the Maximum Annual Extraction Limit (MAEL) set out within the conditions and in table 3 below.

Table 3 – Gravel extraction limits

River Name	MAEL m^3	Restrictions
Ruamāhanga River (Double Bridges to Wardells Bridge)	40,000	1. No more than 5000m3 is allocated from the Te Ore Ore Bridge to Black Rock Road sub-reach (cross-sections 242 to 246). 2. Any extraction shall be targeted to areas of aggradation which will provide the most benefit to overall river management.
Ruamāhanga River (Wardells Bridge to Waiohine Confluence)	50,000	1. Any extraction shall be targeted to areas of aggradation, which will provide the most benefit to overall river management, particularly between cross-sections 181 – 203.
Waingawa River (Forest Park to Ruamāhanga Confluence)	20,000	1. Any extraction shall be targeted to areas of aggradation, which will provide the most benefit to overall river management.
Huangarua River and tributaries (Forest Park to Ruamāhanga Confluence)	15,000	

40. The consented activity is also subject to a range of other conditions such as timing of work and method of extraction to minimise and mitigate effects on the environment.

41. The new resource consent for gravel extraction will be based on what is a sustainable volume to maintain capacity and refer to maintaining the riverbed between an upper and lower level rather than set volumes. This will allow for volumes to be adjusted based on what is sustainable.

Gravel Analysis Overview

42. Historically, gravel build up or loss in Wairarapa rivers that fall within Greater Wellington's flood protection and river management scheme has been measured by comparing cross-section surveys taken every few years. These are processed in

specialised software (Hilltop Hydro) to calculate mean bed levels (MBLs) and estimate how much gravel has accumulated or been transported between survey points.

43. The standard analysis (end area) method uses straight line assumptions to estimate changes between survey points spaced approximately 500m apart. While this provides a consistent and nationally accepted approach, it smooths over short term flood impacts and cannot always pick up localised shifts in the riverbed.

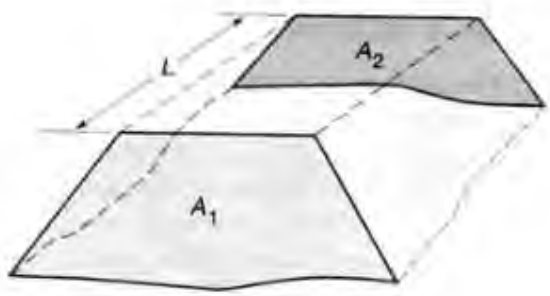


Figure 2 - End Area method for calculating volumes between river cross sections

44. The final volume estimates can have uncertainty as survey lines can shift slightly between years and point spacing varies across cross sections. The analysis method simplifies complex river behaviour into average trends, which means we may miss critical changes in specific spots or over short timeframes.

45. To improve accuracy and reduce interpolation error, Greater Wellington is committed to moving to bathymetric LiDAR which is a laser-based riverbed mapping technology. This technology gives full three-dimensional scans of the river channel at much higher resolution, making it easier to detect subtle changes, assess gravel volumes more reliably, and plan more confidently.

Summary of trends (by Floodplain Management Plan area)

46. The Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga area, covering the upper Ruamāhanga River and tributaries such as the Waipoua and Waingawa Rivers, exhibit consistent gravel bed degradation. These steep headwater rivers are in a natural state of gravel loss (net channel degradation), with mean bed levels falling and substantial sediment volumes eroding out each year with some upper reaches incised down to underlying mudstone. For example, the Waipoua River has been losing in the order of approximately 12,400m^3 of gravel per year.

47. While the Waiōhine River has been excluded from the most recent gravel status reporting, in recognition of the monitoring and assessment approach set out in the Waiōhine River Plan. The analysis undertaken in 2018 indicated that the Waiōhine River's bed is gradually incising, reflecting a slight net gravel deficit overall. Greater Wellington are transitioning to more advanced techniques to support improved long term understanding of geomorphological trends and development of bed level envelopes, and the Waiōhine River will be included in future analysis work.

48. In the Lower Wairarapa Development Scheme area, the Lower Ruamāhanga and Tauherenikau Rivers exhibit a general trend that shows a downstream gravel

accumulation with localised degradation in heavily extracted reaches. The low gradient Ruamāhanga River is naturally aggrading, contributing to a gradually rising bed. In contrast, the Tauherenikau River has experienced long term gravel loss and channel degradation where it lost roughly 41,000m^3 of gravel per year on average between 1997 and 2017, largely due to extraction outpacing natural supply.

49. Bathymetric LiDAR surveys are being introduced to overcome the limitations of cross section-based analysis and improve the accuracy of these mean bed level and volumetric trend estimates.

50. The results from the latest three-yearly gravel analysis report identified the locations in the upper reaches of the Ruamāhanga catchment where gravel extraction can no longer be justified to maintain the consented gravel allocations, and therefore gravel extraction has been reduced.

Historic and Current Extraction Programmes

51. In the 2024/2025 year, a total of 30 gravel extraction licences were issued to extract 110,776m^3 of gravel from Wairarapa rivers. The actual amount extracted was 107,355m^3, with 46,048m^3 extracted from the Lower Ruamāhanga and 61,307m^3 from the Upper Ruamāhanga/Waiohine schemes. A comprehensive breakdown of this is shown in the table below in table 4:

    Table 4 shows a summary of gravel extraction in the lower and upper Wairarapa over the 2024/2025 year.

Table 4 – Gravel licence and extraction summary

Lower	**No. of Licences**	**Licenced Extraction (m^3)**	**Actual Extraction (m^3)**
Ruamāhanga	7	37,076	35,700
Tauanui	1	3,000	3,000
Tauwharenikau	2	4,000	2,000
Huangarua	1	7,000	5,348
Abbotts Creek	1	1,500	0
Total	12	52,576	46,048

Upper	No. of Licences	Licenced Extraction (m^3)	Actual Extraction (m^3)
Ruamāhanga	11	37,900	39,611
Waipoua	1	1,000	2,118
Waiohine	3	10,300	10,510
Waingawa	2	9,000	9,068
Total	17	58,200	61,307

Total	30	110,776	107,355

52. To date there has been 226,669m^3 of gravel extracted from Wairarapa rivers. A comprehensive breakdown of historical gravel extractions in the Wairarapa are shown in the below table 5.

53. In the 2025/26 financial year, gravel extraction in the Upper Ruamāhanga River will be focused on the Gladstone reach, supplemented with minor extraction from the Waiōhine, Waipoua and Waingawa Rivers noting that these rivers are degrading. For the Lower Valley catchment we will be looking to extract the full consented allocation from below the Waiohine confluence to Hikinui spillway.

Table 5 – Summary of extracted gravel volumes from Wairarapa Rivers

Wairarapa River Extracted Gravel Volumes

River/Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Tauherenikau	44,705	40,663	1,700	9,163	28,619	14,995	6,240
Waiohine	43,743	61,056	33,363	33,306	32,847	46,781	9,825
Mangatarere	3,513	292	300	-	444	-	200
Waingawa	18,142	7,100	12,776	9,585	13,922	17,130	10,571
Waipoua	900	2,500	-	100	4,033	1,000	-
Ruamāhanga	108,865	110,351	93,264	97,089	75,715	100,868	86,346
Eastern Minor Rivers	10,237	3,953	9,812	8,934	16,906	23,400	400
Western Minor Rivers	-	-	-	-	5,655	2,446	5,732
All Wairarapa	**230,105**	**225,915**	**151,215**	**158,177**	**178,141**	**206,620**	**119,314**

River/Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Lower Valley							
Tauherenikau	44,705	40,663	1,700	9,163	28,619	14,995	6,240
Ruamāhanga	41,598	46,905	43,536	47,231	33,419	39,775	34,795
Eastern Minor Rivers	10,237	3,953	9,812	8,934	16,906	23,400	400
Western Minor Rivers	-	-	-	-	5,655	2,446	5,732
LWVDS	**96,540**	**91,521**	**55,048**	**65,328**	**84,599**	**80,616**	**47,167**

Upper Valley							
Waiohine	43,743	61,056	33,363	33,306	32,847	46,781	9,825
Mangatarere	3,513	292	300	-	444	-	200
Waingawa	18,142	7,100	12,776	9,585	13,922	17,130	10,571
Waipoua	900	2,500	-	100	4,033	1,000	-
Ruamāhanga	67,267	63,446	49,728	49,858	42,296	61,093	51,551
Upper Valley	**133,565**	**134,394**	**96,167**	**92,849**	**93,542**	**126,004**	**72,147**

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

54. Greater Wellington is required to manage land and water within a range of statutory requirements, including giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai and considering Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the development and implementation of the Council's strategies, plans, programmes and initiatives.

55. Implementation with mana whenua partners is guided by Te Whāriki – the new Māori Outcomes Framework as part of Council's Long Term Plan 2024–34.

56. Mana whenua iwi across the Wairarapa have expressed strong support for the involvement of Ahu Collective in delivering the Flood Resilience Tranche 1 planting programme. This season, Ahu kaimahi are actively on the ground, planting 22,000 plants along river margins. Their mahi contributes to flood resilience, reconnects whānau with whenua and awa, and builds skills that extend far beyond this planting season. Ahu Collective's role demonstrates how Greater Wellington projects can create space for cultural reconnection, workforce development and long-term social outcomes alongside environmental restoration.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

Crack Willow Removal, Early Flood Warning Systems upgrade

57. Some of these projects are being funded with budgets being brought forward in the Long-Term Plan (LTP). Others are direct government funding with project management time as Greater Wellington's contribution (detailed below).

Crack Willow Removal

Government Funding	DPMC – Cyclone Recovery Unit
Opex allocated:	$250,000 (LTP 2024-34)

Early Flood Warning Systems

Government Funding	DPMC – Cyclone Recovery Unit
Capex allocated:	$100,000 (LTP 2024-34)

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change

58. Each project within the catchment considers and responds to the predicted impacts of climate change when considering the appropriate response to the issue the projects seek to address.

59. This flood resilience programme aligns with the 2015 Climate Change strategy, which states 'we will help the region adapt to climate change'. The projects increase climate change adaptation and resilience to natural disasters in the Region.

60. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from rock supply vary depending on the quarry source of the rock and transport to the work sites. Quarry sources for projects vary. The emissions from rock supply production and transport are not presently part of the organisation's GHG inventory.

61. Targeted planting has been carried out to mitigate CO2 emissions for the Kānoa projects.

62. Greater Wellington currently assesses options to address flood risk based on the predicted impacts of climate change over the next 100 years. Unless specified differently for specific projects, these values are an increase in rainfall intensity of twenty percent, and a sea level rise of 0.8 metres.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Tina Love – Team Leader, Infrastructure Projects Hamish Fenwick – Team Leader Flood Operations Francie Morrow – Team Leader Knowledge, Water Resilience
Approvers	Jacky Cox – Manager Infrastructure, Assets and Support Evan Harrison – Manager Knowledge Myfanwy Hill – Manager Environment Operations David Hipkins – Director Knowledge and Insights Jack Mace – Director Delivery Lian Butcher – Group Manager, Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference The Committee is to consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa and recommend to Council on these matters.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies The projects contained within this report deliver on Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te tū pakari a te rohe/regional resilience, and support delivery of Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te oranga o te wai māori me te rerenga rauropi/freshwater quality and biodiversity. All river matters discussed here are included in the LTP.
Internal consultation Specific projects consult with groups and departments across Greater Wellington where relevant to a project.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. The purpose of implementation floodplain management plans in implementing asset management procedures is to reduce the risk to communities and improve the region's resilience. Greater Wellington has adopted procedures and processes to minimise risks. Working with community committees enables a wider understanding of the risks before adoption of work programmes.

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.275

For Information

ANNUAL FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To advise the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on the progress made to 30 June 2025 in the implementation of the Te Kāuru Floodplain Management Plan, the Waiōhine River Plan and operational matters in the lower Wairarapa Valley.

Te tāhū kōrero
Background

2. The Te Kāuru Floodplain Management Plan (Te Kāuru FMP) was adopted by Council in June 2019. Capital funding to implement the major projects within the FMP was not available until 1 June 2022, therefore progress was slow for the first two years. However, planning, rates and governance changes were successfully implemented in 2023.
3. The Waiōhine River Plan (the WRP) was adopted by Council in April 2022. The implementation for the structural measures (capital works) of the Waiōhine River Plan began in 2023.
4. The Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (LWVDS) includes capital funding to support the delivery of substantial works where required. Recent projects include the Pukio East stopbank retreat, Tawaha Floodway investigations, Awaroa Sill, and the Mahaki Stopbank upgrade.
5. All operational works in relation to Te Kāuru FMP, WRP and LWVDS have continued through this financial year.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

Te Kāuru Floodplain Management Plan (2019)

6. The implementation of Te Kāuru began in 2023. The projects that were started are outlined below, with some projects completed within this timeframe.
7. The Upper Ruamāhanga River Management Advisory Committee (URRMAC) met on Monday 5 May 2025. Whilst URRMAC were satisfied with the work undertaken in FY2024/25 and the proposed maintenance work planned for FY 2025/26, concerns were expressed about the proposed rate increases of 50% projected for the next

financial year. URRMAC believe rate increases should be discussed and be open to comment prior to being set. There was discussion around the Te Kauru River Management Groups and a request to have a workshop around the how URRMAC and River Groups function.

Te Kāuru Capital Projects – Flood Resilience Tranche 1 Programme

8. Site 1 – River Road (Stage 2): Waipoua River & Ruamāhanga confluence (completed late 2024) – construction of a one 1,000 tonne rock groyne, and a 150-metre length rock revetment on the true right bank.

9. Site 2 – River Road (Stage 3): Location near Masterton landfill within the Ruamāhanga River (completed early 2025) – construction of seven 1,000 tonne rock groynes on the true right bank.

10. Site 3 – Waipoua SH2 Left Bank – Located upstream of the SH2 bridge (completed 2025) – construction of a 45m length of rock revetment on the true left bank.

11. Site 4 – Waipoua Industrial Site – Akura Rd: Located upstream of the rail bridge (completed 2025) – construction of five rock groynes totalling 2,347 tonnes, and a 15m length of rock revetment on the true right bank.

12. Site 8 – Hood Aerodrome: Located within the Waingawa River at the end of South Road (completed 2025) construction work of four 140 tonne rock groynes with additional extensions on the true left bank.

Te Kāuru – Waipoua River (Waipoua Urban Reach) Flood Risk Management Plan

13. The Environment Committee has recently (19 June 2025) endorsed the preferred flood risk management option for the urban reach of the Waipoua River. The preferred option was the outcome of Stage 1 of the Major Project Response: Urban Waipoua. Stage 2 and Stage 3 are to reduce flood risk in high-priority and flood-sensitive areas.

14. The preferred option combines structural flood protection upgrades in the urban reach, nature-based solutions upstream of Masterton and non-structural responses within the wider catchment. The preferred option is presented in detail in the preferred option report which can be accessed via this link: https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/emergency-and-hazard-management/flood-protection/our-work/rivers-and-streams/upper-ruamahanga-river/waipoua-river-flood-risk-management/

15. The next steps for this project response are to undertake further discussions between Greater Wellington and Masterton District Council regarding implementation and the desired level of service for key assets, including Mawley Park.

16. A Ministry for the Environment-funded project assessing the feasibility of using nature-based solutions to address flood risk in Masterton has recently been completed. It is proposed that, based on the results of this feasibility study, opportunities for aligning and staging nature-based solutions alongside the proposed structural works be investigated.

Te Kauru FMP - Upper Ruamāhanga Flood Hazard Modelling

17. Progress on the flood hazard mapping for the Upper Ruamāhanga has been modest. The modelling is currently undergoing final peer review and is being readied for independent audit. This will be completed in FY 2025/26.

Te Kāuru FMP – Operational work

18. Mt Bruce Ruamāhanga River scheme bed recontouring works were completed at the Hidden Lakes to stop river erosion into the slip which has been accelerating and threatening the Lakes above the river. Gravel groynes were constructed to protect the slip toe and protect willow plantings being established this winter. High vegetating beaches in the design fairway were removed through the scheme over 19km from Hidden Lakes to Te Ore Ore bridge. Total cost of work was $209,373.

19. The main work projects in the Te Ore Ore and Gladstone Ruamāhanga River schemes were channel maintenance work, removal of vegetation and flood debris within design channel and willow planting operations. Total cost of work was $139,800

20. Enhancement work completed at Taumata Island alongside the Parkvale Stream involved contractor assistance in the burning of 39 piles of crack willow. The willow had been choking the 3km of channel upstream of the Ruamāhanga confluence and had been previously removed and stacked alongside stream. The plan now is to control willow regrowth and replant with natives.

21. Priority work undertaken in Waipoua River where erosion had crossed the outer buffer line involved bed recontouring over 100m to realign the channel back to its fairway design. Total cost of this work was $22,300

22. Waingawa river works were centred around vegetation clearing in design channel, construction of gravel groynes for erosion protection and removal of channel debris. Total cost of work $155,700.

23. In the eastern river schemes removal of crack willow and debris blockages continued in Taueru, Whangaehu and Kopuaranga River. The focus of this coming years work will be to control Crack willow regrowth following the clearing work.

Waiōhine River Plan ((WRP) 2022)

WRP Structural Measures

24. Option 2 has been identified as the preferred solution for flood mitigation. This option proposes two stopbanks, with one stopbank to run parallel to North Street and the other located in farmland along Kuratawhiti Street, Greytown.

25. Engineering services provider WSP has been engaged to design the stopbanks; however, progress is currently on hold pending ongoing discussions with the directly affected landowner.

26. Multiple meetings have been held with the affected landowner regarding the proposed stopbank construction. Despite ongoing engagement and efforts to address concerns, the landowner remains opposed to the project proceeding.

27. Given the strategic importance of the stop banks for regional flood protection and community safety, and the absence of a mutually acceptable resolution, progression under the provisions of the Public Works Act may need to be considered.

28. Procurement of a planning consultant is underway to support the development of a comprehensive consenting strategy to enable the project's progression.

WRP Capital Project – Flood Resilience Tranche 1 Programme

29. Site 5 – Fullers Bend: Located in the Waiōhine River between cross sections 19 and 21. 'Early works' completed in FY 2024/25. Construction and maintenance of a rock revetment and groyne structure on the true right bank to commence in FY 2025/26.

WRP Operational works

30. A package of channel maintenance works was completed through the Waiōhine River scheme, works included bed & beach recontouring, gravel groyne construction and vegetation removal from within the fairway design channel, totalling $104,000.

31. A total of 690 tonnes of riprap rock were purchased and stockpiled for future river protection works.

32. Enhancement work at the Kuratawhiti Street River access has been completed, including 1.6 km of track maintenance to improve access for river users and support Greater Wellington's pest plant control and future native planting initiatives. Additionally, 400 metres of new walking track were formed, with lime supplied for the Greytown Lions to apply to the track surface.

33. Additional erosion protection works were carried out at the lower Waiohine River near Tilson's Road to address developing bank erosion. The works included bed recontouring and the installation of cabled willows.

34. Flood debris blockages were cleared from the Mangātarere River between Dalefield Road and State Highway 2 to restore flow and reduce flood risk.

35. Mulching of over 6 km of the northern stopbank has been completed as part of ongoing maintenance and vegetation management efforts.

36. Riverbed recontouring was completed on the Mangātarere Stream upstream of Connolly's Line to address a developing erosion issue that posed a flood risk to nearby properties. The works realigned the river channel to improve flow and reduce future erosion.

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (2007)

Review of LVWDS

37. Greater Wellington is responsible for the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (LWVDS) assets and operations. Greater Wellington's commitments require them to review the scheme using a future-focused and whole-of-catchment approach.

38. Greater Wellington's resource consents to undertake river management activities in the LWVDS and to operate the Barrage Gates expire on 30 September 2027. In

preparation for preparing new consent applications, and as required by the existing resource consents, Greater Wellington has launched a programme to support the application and provide a basis for the review of the LWVDS.

39. The programme includes four workstreams that cover reviewing the level of flood protection, reviewing the current operation and maintenance regime, understanding and monitoring the level of effect on the surrounding environment, and providing options and recommendations to improve environmental and cultural outcomes.

40. The review will be carried out in two separate phases. In the short term, efforts will be directed toward the renewal of existing consents, specifically the Barrage Gates consent and the Operations and Maintenance consent. This phase aims to ensure continuity of current activities while meeting immediate regulatory requirements. In the longer term, the second phase will involve shaping a new, forward-looking vision for the operation of the scheme. This strategic stage will take into account evolving environmental, social, cultural, and community values to help guide the scheme's future direction.

41. A consenting strategy is currently being reviewed for the reconsenting process. This will map out the milestones and decisions that need to be made between now and lodgement of the new consent applications, due in March 2027.

42. Greater Wellington has begun developing a stakeholder engagement plan to support the review process. Initial engagement will focus on hydrological modelling and potential changes to barrage gate operations.

43. In parallel, we are working on an approach to partner meaningfully with mana whenua, both for the review and the renewal of the associated consents.

44. Flood modelling for watercourses within the LWVDS began in FY 2024/25. The hydrology model, built to FHMS standards, includes detailed basin resolution and calibration. The hydrology model supports the barrage gate re-consenting and will be finalised in FY 2025/26, with hydraulic modelling continuing beyond FY 2025/26 to produce draft flood hazard maps.

45. LiDAR surveying for the Lower Valley started in May 2025, with 75% completed by July. Final capture and delivery are due by October 2025. The data will support flood modelling and planning.

46. An update was presented to the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Floodplain Management Advisory Committee on 3 July 2025.

LWVDS Operational Activity

47. A meeting of the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Floodplain Management Advisory Committee (LRVFMAC) was held on the 3rd of June 2025. The committee agreed to the resolutions that:

    - Scheme Annual Report and Financial Statement are accepted
    - Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme has been maintained to the satisfaction of the committee

- The proposed FY 2025/26 works programme be approved

48. Current business-as-usual (BAU) activities may no longer be sufficient to maintain river alignment and manage erosion in the Turanganui River. Engagement has already taken place with the local community and the advisory body regarding these concerns.

49. We are assessing whether resources can be prioritised to identify short-term mitigation actions ahead of the LWVDS review. Additional resourcing is recommended to support this, along with clear communication to landowners and stakeholders. A review of service levels and associated asset requirements, such as stopbank heights, berm widths, and bed levels is needed to inform tailored management plans for each river reach.

50. Insurance cost for the Barrage Gates has risen from $170,000 in FY 2022/23 to $250,000 in FY 2024/25.

51. Administration of gravel extraction has now been moved from a largely manual process, into Greater Wellington internal management system ('Ngātahi'). This will speed up the processes of issuing extraction licences and invoices.

52. The Lower Valley gravel extraction consent will be included in the LWVDS renewal application, scheduled for lodgement in 2027.

53. The LWVDS operational and maintenance work plan for FY 2025/26 has been identified, with scope for review and reprioritisation following high flow events or new information.

54. The Mahaki Stopbank upgrade has commenced. Temporary stabilisation works have been completed on the riverside of the stopbank. A Transpower power cable support pole has been successfully relocated away from the worksite. Landowner discussions are ongoing to secure an Access Agreement.

LWVDS Capital Projects – Flood Resilience Tranche 1 Programme

55. Site 6 – Awaroa Sill: Located within the Ruamāhanga River between cross sections 52 and 54. Enabling works has been completed, which includes a stockpile area for the required rock deliveries. Hydraulic modelling and design for the site has also commenced.

56. Site 10 – Tawaha Sill: Early works at the Tawaha Floodway included topping up a low spot in stopbank no. 7 (south of Waihenga Bridge). Hydraulic modelling is underway to determine design options for the sill height, which will be reviewed by stakeholders before finalising the design.

57. Site 11 – Pukio East Stopbank Realignment: Completed in FY 2024/25 between cross sections 73 and 75. The old stopbank was removed, the riverbank regraded, and vegetation planted for erosion control and restoration. Sale of excavated material helped offset project costs.

58. Site 12 – Flood Gates - Fish Passage: There are two sites which are located at Pā Creek (adjacent to Kohunui Marae) and Dry River (near Dry River Road). Rock supply and delivery for a Fish Passage Rock Structure has commenced.

59. Site 16 – Whakawhiriwhiri Stream: Early works near the Tawaha Floodway included removing a speedbump downstream of Barton's Lagoon. Hydraulic modelling is ongoing to inform upgrade design options, which will be reviewed by stakeholders once complete.

Flood Hazard Modelling

60. Hydraulic modelling of Donalds Creek and Abbotts Creek was completed to support flood hazard mapping for the proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan, with these sub-catchments prioritised for planning.

61. Flood modelling for Donalds and Abbotts Creeks followed FHMS standards, calibrated using 2018 flood data. The process included model development, peer review, community input, and LiDAR validation. Final 1% AEP maps are ready for public engagement in early FY 2025/26. The project is now in final audit and will be completed this financial year.

Regional Initiatives

Major Rivers Riparian Management Programme

62. The 'Major Rivers Riparian Management' programme is a co-funding agreement between Greater Wellington and Ministry for the Environment ('Jobs for Nature').

63. This programme was successfully completed during FY 2024/25.

64. Table 1 below shows the progress of this programme for the Ruamāhanga Catchment.

Work Programme: **Major Rivers Riparian Management**	**Year 5 target**	**Total end of programme progress**
Area of land to be planted	100 ha	100 ha
Number of plants to be planted	150,000	186,214 Natives 30,000 Willow poles
Fencing to be installed	30km	29.2 km

Table 1 – Major Rivers – Riparian Management progress

Crack Willow Blockage Removal

65. Greater Wellington was successful in obtaining $3.5 million from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) for the Recovery and Flooding Resilience fund for the crack willow blockage removal in the eastern rivers in the Wairarapa.

66. The project has been successfully completed on time (30 June 2025) and within the allocated budget. A total of 968 blockages has been removed, and approximately 130km of river channel has been cleared. To date, the total expenditure stands at $3,496,697.

Figure 1: Taueru River – Pre blockage removal

Figure 2: Taueru River – During blockage removal

Wairarapa Aggregate Demand

67. Waiōhine River and Ruamāhanga river gravel extraction operations at a range of sites have been completed and assist with river alignment management.
68. A total of 144,363 m^3 was extracted this year, comprising 63,413 m^3 from the Lower Valley Scheme, 65,440 m^3 from the Upper Valley Te Kauru Scheme, and 15,510 m^3 from the Waiōhine Scheme

Flood Incident Management

69. The Flood Warning & Response Improvements programme was initiated in 2019 to address three key challenges:

    - Limited alignment in response procedures across Greater Wellington and WREMO; Current procedures are not aligned and do not support and effective, regionally consistent emergency response.
    - Greater Wellington has limited forecasting capability currently to provide flood warning across the region which will enable proactive emergency management.
    - Low level of risk awareness within communities; Limited awareness within communities that have been identified as being at risk of flooding on what the risk is and how to respond.

70. The Programme consist of four workstreams;

    - **Flood Awareness** – Raise community awareness of the risk posed by flooding.
    - **Flood Warning** – Improve Greater Wellington's flood warning capability
    - **Flood Response** – Review, update, and alignment flood response procedures across key agencies.
    - **Flood Recovery** – Improve Greater Wellington's recovery processes and capability.

Flood Warning

71. Greater Wellington is now in the deployment phase of our new suite of flood forecasting models. These floods forecast models will be able to provide early warning of floods up to 3.5 days in advance of alarm thresholds being exceeded.

72. As the flood forecast modelling is based on forecast rainfall and assumptions on catchment characteristics communicating uncertainty and confidence is critical particularly if they are being sued to trigger mass evacuation. We are working with WREMO to agree common operating procedures and terminology to ensure that our system is efficiently and effectively utilised in flood incidents.

Flood Response

73. The Flood Incident Management Team (FIMT) has completed this year's training programme including core duty officer training, training for support officers and a full FIMT training day focusing on response planning. Preparations are now underway for the annual flood incident exercise which will assess the systems, our capability, and procedures on a regional scale flood event.

Flood Recovery

74. Recovering from significant flood events in a major undertaking. We are currently developing a project to learn lessons from Hawkes Bay and other flood impacted areas to develop a toolkit for use by Environment Group staff in recovering from significant flood events. This project is due to run this financial year.

Summary of progress

75. In the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, the resilient future community outcome for flood protection has the strategic priority of 'communities safeguarded from major flooding'. The level of service is to 'provide the standard of flood protection agreed with communities', with the performance measure 'major flood protection and control works are maintained, repaired, and renewed to the key standards defined in the relevant documents. Implementing the floodplain management plans (FMP) and maintaining the existing and new assets achieves this strategic priority.

76. Table 2 presents the financial summary for the implementation of the FMP or Scheme, based on original cost estimates. These figures have been adjusted to 2025-dollar values using the Reserve Bank's CPI calculator, with the index value set as of 30 June 2025.

    Noting; no inflation adjustments have been applied to the year in which each FMP or Scheme estimate originated. And general CPI values have been used.

FMP or Scheme	**Original FMP Total 40-year estimate** **($Millions) Inflation Adjusted**	**Expenditure to June 2025** **($Millions)**	**Total Budgeted to 2034** **($Millions)**	**Total expenditure forecast to 2034** **($Millions)**
LWVDS	13.8	10.1	20.5	30.6
Waiōhine	2.2	1.9	5.4	7.2
Te Kāuru	35.4	8.7	7.3	15.9

Table 2 – FMP Implementation Financial Summary

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

77. For this reporting period, projects are within the current flood protection budgets.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

78. Greater Wellington is required to manage land and water within a range of statutory requirements, including giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai and considering Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the development and implementation of the Council's strategies, plans, programmes and initiatives.

79. Our partnership with mana whenua partners within Council's Long-term Plan 2024-34 recognises and supports mana whenua as kaitiaki (guardians) of their broad whenua, freshwater and moana interests in their ancestral lands. We continue to work with our mana whenua partners in new ways at all levels of our organisation including governance, management and operations.

80. A considerable number of Māori, both mana whenua and mātāwaka, live and work in flood prone areas within the Upper Ruamāhanga catchment. There are also

numerous sites of cultural and spiritual significance potentially at risk from flooding. Effective delivery of our flood risk management programme helps to protect Māori communities and their values across the four well beings.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change

81. Each project within the catchment considers and responds to the predicted impacts of climate change when considering the appropriate response to the issue the project seeks to address.

82. This programme aligns with the 2015 Climate Change Strategy which states we will help the region adapt to climate change. The projects increase climate change adaptation and resilience to natural disasters in the region.

83. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from rock supply vary depending on the quarry source of the rock and transport to the work sites. Quarry sources for projects vary. The emissions from rock supply production and transport are not presently part of the organisation's GHG inventory.

84. Heavy machinery emissions from river construction projects have not been estimated. However, in the 2023-24 year, use diesel in heavy machinery mainly for flood protection operational work at Greater Wellington represented 4.0% (1,228 tCO2e) of the total organisational carbon footprint.

85. Quarry selection will be the single largest determinant of project emissions. While it seems likely that quarry operations could be improved to reduce emissions to some extent, the avoidance of long-distance transport of the rock is the most obvious means to minimise emissions. This was looked into as part of procurement for projects; however, scarcity of rock supply and lack of suitable material made any emissions avoidance extremely difficult.

86. Greater Wellington currently assesses options to address flood risk based on the predicted impacts of climate change over the next 100 years. Unless specified differently for specific projects, these values are an increase in rainfall intensity of twenty percent, and a sea level rise of 1 metre for District Planning and 1.3 metres for infrastructure planning.

87. Climate Resilience projects delivered since 2023 have continued to incorporate significant planting and river corridor greening measures, supporting carbon reduction and enhancing ecosystem resilience. These programmes complement hard infrastructure improvements to build long-term adaptive capacity against climate-driven flood events.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

Te Kāuru Floodplain Management Plan (2019)

88. Scheduled capital works under the Flood Resilience Tranche 1 Programme for FY 2025/26 include for the continuation of construction activities, with planting and installation works planned to commence during the financial year.

- Site 7 within the Waingawa River - Erosion protection for the Masterton Raw Water Supply.
- Site 13 South Masterton stopbank: A site contamination report for the will be commissioned and completed prior to civil works (stopbank upgrades) commencing.
- Site 14 Homebush Wastewater Treatment Plant: Raising of the electrical equipment and mechanical plant.
- Site 15 Upper Ruamāhanga Buffer Establishment: Catchment wide riparian planting with public reserves planting of 220,000 native trees in the partnership with Ngāti Kahungunu of as part of the buffer planting programme.

89. The development of the Te Kāuru Environmental Strategy alongside community and iwi partners is due to be initiated.

90. With the preferred option for the Waipoua River urban reach now endorsed, the next step is to transition the project from Greater Wellington Knowledge and Insights to Greater Wellington Delivery. The delivery programme will be subject to available funding.

Waiōhine River Plan (2022)

91. Continuation of Flood Resilience Tranche 1 Programme at Site 5 Fullers Bend Erosion Repair work.

92. We will develop the consenting strategy which will help to determine the next steps for progressing the WRP programme.

93. We will continue ongoing maintenance works for the Waiōhine River.

94. Development of the Waiōhine Environmental Strategy is scheduled to begin alongside community and iwi partners.

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (2007)

95. We are working in partnership with Kahungunu and Rangitāne to establish an appropriate framework to guide the LWVDS review process.

96. We will continue to keep the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Floodplain Management Advisory Committee informed throughout the review process. As the review progresses, we anticipate significantly increasing our communication and information services to the local community

97. We are preparing pre-application consultation on the resource consent renewals. And will provide information to directly to landowners through the Greater Wellington Catchment Group.

98. We are preparing the Lower Valley gravel extraction resource consent is being included as part of the LWVDS renewal to be lodged in 2027.

99. Scheduled capital works under the Flood Resilience Tranche 1 Programme for FY 2025/26 will include continued construction activities, along with planting and installation works at the following locations:

- Site 6 – Awaroa Sill: Earthworks and planting
- Site 10 – Tawaha Sill: Scoping and design
- Site 12 – Flood Gates – Fish Passage: Site selection, scoping, and design
- Site 16 – Whakawhiriwhiri Stream: Scoping and design

100. We are continuing engagement with the landowner to finalise access at Mahaki Stopbank, aiming to complete the work scoping in FY 2025/26.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Tina Love – Team Leader, Infrastructure Projects Lucy Ashford – Team Leader, Assets and Performance, Delivery Hamish Fenwick – Team Leader, Flood Operations, Delivery Francie Morrow – Team Leader, Knowledge Water Resilience, Knowledge and Insights Andy Brown – Knowledge Risk Management and Resilience Lead, Knowledge and Insights
Approvers	Jacky Cox – Manager, Infrastructure, Assets and Support Jack Mace – Hautū Whakatutuki | Director Delivery Lian Butcher – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao | Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or Committee's terms of reference The Subcommittee has delegated authority to review and monitor periodically the effectiveness and delivery of FMPs for the Wairarapa.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies The projects contained within this report deliver on Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te tū pakari a te rohe/regional resilience, and support delivery of Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te oranga o te wai Māori me te rerenga rauropi/freshwater quality and biodiversity.
Internal consultation Specific projects consult with groups and departments across Greater Wellington where relevant to that project.
Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc. The purpose of implementation floodplain management plans is to reduce the risk to communities and improve the region's resilience.

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.272

For Decision

ANNUAL WAIRARAPA FLOOD ASSET ASSESSMENT REPORT

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To advise the Wairarapa Committee of the overall performance and condition of flood protection and erosion control infrastructure (assets) in the Wairarapa River Schemes.

He tūtohu
Recommendations

That the Committee:

1 **Recommends** to the Environment Committee that it is satisfied that flood protection and erosion control infrastructure assets have been managed satisfactorily to the agreed Levels of Service (LoS).

2 **Notes** that identified issues are being addressed through maintenance and improvement work programmes.

3 **Notes** that the 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP) provides an increased level of funding for capital works and maintenance over the next 10 years.

Te tāhū kōrero
Background

2. Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) is responsible for managing flood protection and erosion control infrastructure assets, including associated land and property, across 15 river schemes in the Wellington Region. These assets, with a combined value of approximately $621 million[1], provide critical protection to communities, businesses, and infrastructure situated on the region's floodplains.

3. The Environment Committee holds overarching responsibility for monitoring the maintenance and improvement of these assets on behalf of Council. To support this, the Environment Committee relies on regular reporting and feedback from various committees, subcommittees, and scheme advisory committees to ensure that infrastructure assets are maintained to agreed service levels.

1 Asset revaluation as at 30 June 2024

4. This report presents the most up-to-date condition and performance data available across the schemes' 3,626 assets.

Current Challenges

5. The context in which Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities are delivered continues to evolve. The adoption of a catchment-based approach, supported by the 2023 restructure of the Environment Group, has enabled a more integrated way of working and increased focus on nature-based solutions. While these approaches offer long-term benefits, they require more planning effort, particularly around pest plant and animal control, and tend to be more time and resource intensive than traditional methods.

6. Broader sector reforms at both central and local government levels, combined with increasing compliance obligations, particularly in health and safety and environmental protection, are shifting expectations for how we work. There is also greater emphasis on partnering with mana whenua and responding to community expectations for engagement, which in turn places increasing demands on operational resources.

7. Delivering on these expectations, and on Greater Wellington's Strategic Objectives, requires a more diverse range of skills across the organisation. Skill shortages in areas such as engineering, operations, and asset management, common across the public infrastructure sector, pose an ongoing challenge.

8. Climate change is also adding complexity to planning, with more frequent and extreme weather events at times necessitating reactive maintenance responses that displace planned works. Such events have already proven highly disruptive in other parts of Aotearoa.

9. The Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022, which came into effect in May 2024, have introduced new compliance requirements for the management of classifiable[2] dams. This includes regular surveillance by qualified personnel and annual compliance, all of which require additional investment. The Geoffrey Blundell Barrage Gates have been identified as a classifiable dam under the new regulations. While the Donalds Creek detention dam does not meet the criteria for classification due to its height, Greater Wellington continues to manage it responsibly, with inspections and surveillance appropriate to the potential consequences of failure.

10. Greater Wellington's transition to the new Asset Management Information System (AMIS), Ngātahi, in February 2022, continues to evolve. While significant progress has been made in training, data migration, and embedding new workflows, the process of fully integrating the new system remains ongoing.

11. In 2025, a new targeted approach to the annual asset condition inspection programme was implemented. This approach prioritised inspections of critical assets located in Medium and High Risk reaches, as well as all channel assets.

[2] Dams that are 4 or more metres in height, and store 20,000m^3 of volume of water or other fluid.

Critical assets are defined as: stopbanks, riprap, groynes, retaining walls, floodwalls, floodgates, culverts, and headwalls/wingwalls.

12. As a result of this targeted approach, not all assets within the Wairarapa flood protection schemes were re-inspected in 2025. This report presents the most up-to-date condition and performance data available across the schemes' 3,626 assets.

13. These inspections and the resulting data support Greater Wellington's evidence-based approach to assessing and maintaining flood protection and erosion control assets. This approach underpins our ability to make targeted investment decisions and plan effective maintenance activities.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

14. The national risk-based framework (Figure 1) continued to underpin asset performance assessments in 2025, evaluating 200 – 600 metre segments along both riverbanks to develop a comprehensive risk profile for the Wairarapa River Schemes.

15. Originally developed by the National River Managers Special Interest Group in 2015, this framework remains widely adopted by local authorities across Aotearoa to provide consistency and transparency in flood protection performance assessments.

16. The framework considers the likelihood and consequences of failure within discrete river sections, typically between 200 – 600 metres in length, to prioritise investment and maintenance.

17. Probability of failure is assessed through factors such as the intrinsic strength of stopbanks, the channel's flood-carrying capacity, and the condition of associated infrastructure.

18. Consequence of failure relates to potential impacts on people, property, and the environment in the event of a design flood, with risk levels assigned on a scale from 'Very Low' to 'Very High'.

19. Applying this methodology also highlights areas where confidence in historic information is lower, helping direct future investigations and information-gathering activities to reduce uncertainty.

20. It is important to note that the management of flood risk relies on a system of interdependent assets, rather than isolated structures. The framework recognises and assesses the performance of the system, in addition to individual assets.

21. The following diagram illustrates the relationship between asset condition, probability, and risk.

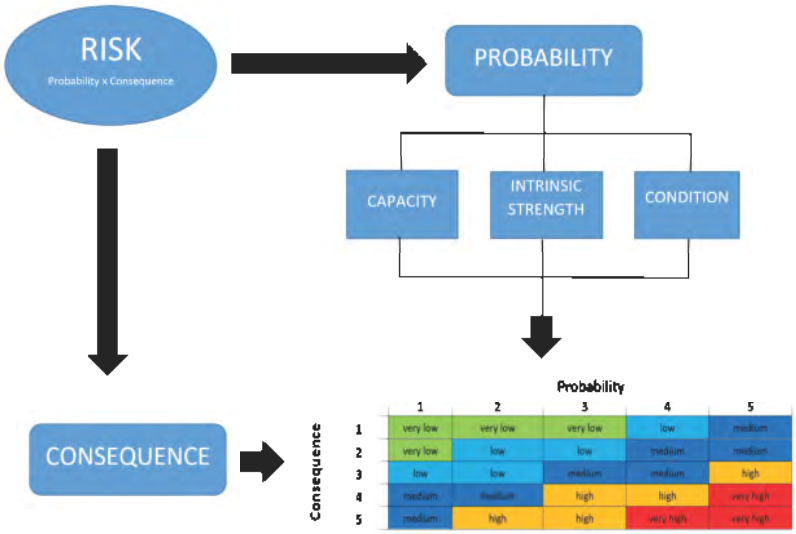


Figure 1: Risk-based framework used for assessing performance of flood protection assets

Asset Condition

22. Asset condition in 2025 was again assessed primarily through visual inspections, providing an indication of the current physical state of flood protection and erosion control assets. The condition assessment process uses standardised rating descriptions to ensure consistent evaluation across the network. These ratings are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Condition rating descriptions from the Greater Wellington Condition Rating Guide

Score	Condition Rating	Definition
1	Very Good	Sound physical condition well maintained. No work required.
2	Good	Generally sound physical condition, showing minor wear or deterioration, well maintained. Minor work may be required.
3	Moderate	Acceptable physical condition but showing some wear or deterioration. Generally maintained well but some work is required to improve the asset condition or make sure it is working well.
4	Poor	Poor physical condition, significant wear or deterioration impacting much of the asset. May not meet level of service.
5	Very Poor	Failed/failure imminent. Major work or replacement required.

23. Ongoing monitoring of asset condition supports informed planning and prioritisation of maintenance, helps forecast future renewals, and enables a proactive and targeted works programme. Understanding asset condition is vital for managing flood risk, as it directly influences the probability of asset failure.

24. The condition grading does not, on its own, determine asset criticality or confirm whether the asset continues to meet service level expectations. These elements

are assessed through complementary performance assessments described later in this report.

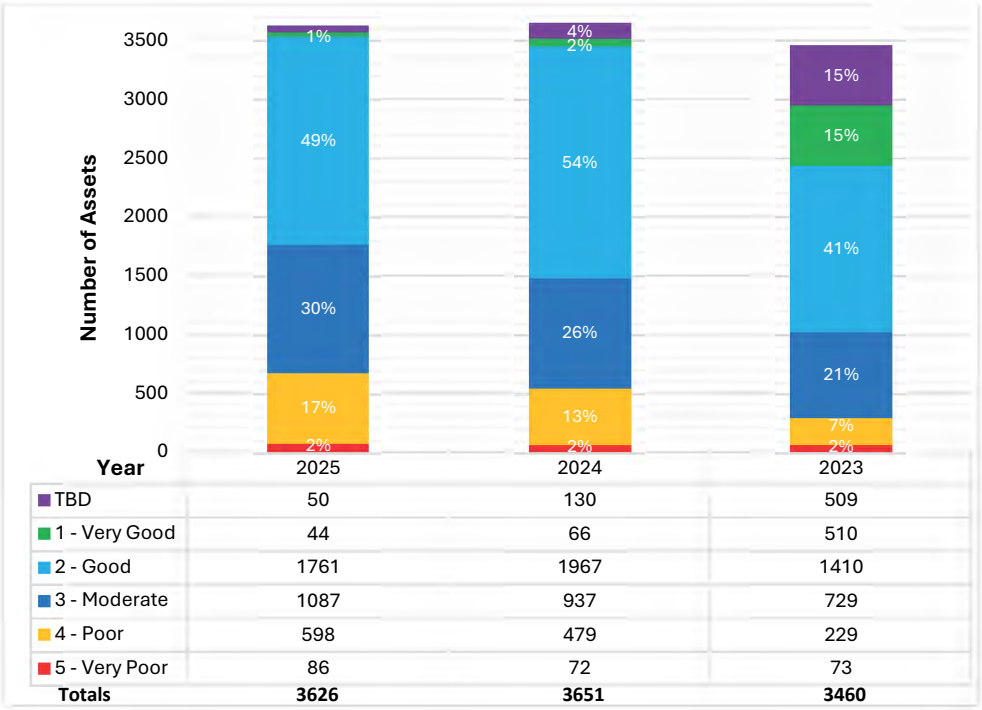
25. The 2025 inspection cycle continued to apply the enhanced processes introduced in 2024, which aimed to improve the consistency, accuracy, and safety of condition assessments. These embedded improvements include:

    - Independent auditing of condition scores to improve consistency.
    - An updated inspection and condition rating guide, with clearer descriptions and supporting photos.
    - Pre-season condition assessment workshops, including training on the guide and mobile inspection app.
    - Paired inspection teams to support quality assurance and decision-making in the field.
    - Use of boats and drones, enabling safer and more comprehensive inspections while reducing travel time.

26. Following each inspection cycle, a lessons learned session is undertaken to capture insights and issues encountered during the fieldwork. Feedback gathered from the 2025 inspection programme will guide further enhancements to the inspection approach, data validation processes, and continuous improvement of condition assessment tools.

27. The continued application of these practices has strengthened the reliability of the asset condition data collected in 2025 and supports more robust, evidence-based asset management.

28. The 2025 condition assessment results are summarised in Figure 2. Compared to previous years, there has been a continued increase in the number of assets rated as Poor, which now represent 17% of the asset base, up from 13% in 2024 and 6% in 2023. As noted in previous reports, this ongoing trend reflects the compounding effect of constrained budgets and limited maintenance resourcing over time. Increased funding was approved as part of the LTP and will start to address this decline.



Year	2025	2024	2023
TBD	50	130	509
1 - Very Good	44	66	510
2 - Good	1761	1967	1410
3 - Moderate	1087	937	729
4 - Poor	598	479	229
5 - Very Poor	86	72	73
Totals	**3626**	**3651**	**3460**

Figure 2: Summary of asset condition by year – Wairarapa River Schemes.

29. Despite this, the overall asset network remains in sound condition. 80% of all assets are currently rated between Very Good and Moderate, demonstrating the effectiveness of core maintenance activities and the underlying resilience of the asset base.

30. While the proportion of Very Good assets has slightly declined (from 2% in 2024 to 1% in 2025), and Good assets have reduced in volume, there has been a corresponding increase in assets rated Moderate, indicating gradual degradation in parts of the network.

31. The number of assets with a "To Be Determined" (TBD) condition rating, representing assets that condition information was incomplete, or inspections could not be finalised, has significantly reduced over the past three years, from 15% in 2023 to just 1% in 2025. This improvement reflects increased inspection coverage and improved processes, including the ongoing use of drone and boat-based inspections, paired inspection teams, and enhancements to the mobile field app and training.

32. *Figure 3* presents a summary of the 2025 condition scores across all assets. The visual breakdown provides a clear snapshot of the overall state of the network this year. A summary of condition by asset type is provided (**Attachment 1**).

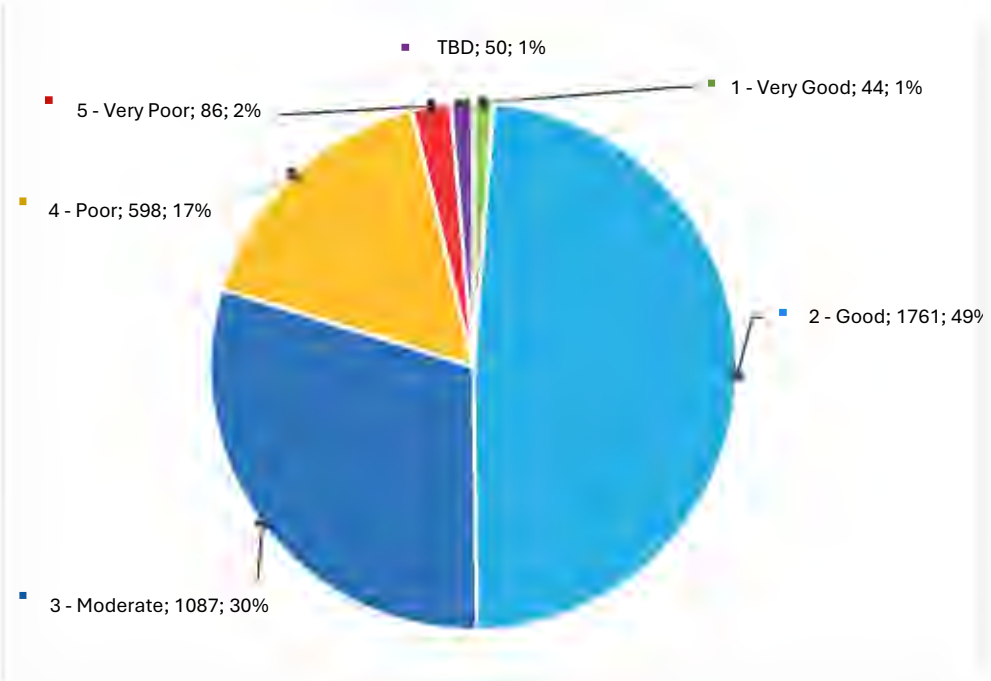


Figure 3: Summary of 2025 asset condition – Wairarapa River Schemes.

33. Several groynes, along with smaller numbers of culverts, floodgates, ripraps, and headwalls/wingwalls, were classified as TBD in 2025 due to inaccessibility during inspections. In total, 50 assets (1% of the asset base) could not be definitively graded this year. Most of these assets were groynes (25), often located in remote or heavily vegetated areas, where inspection was not practical using standard methods.

34. These structures were either submerged, buried under silt or dense vegetation, or inaccessible due to site conditions at the time of inspection. Vegetation growth over assets, particularly groynes, is not necessarily indicative of poor performance, it can reflect stable environmental conditions and contribute positively to structural integrity by limiting erosion and helping bind soils in place. Where accessibility was limited, these groynes will be re-prioritised in upcoming inspection cycles, and advances in drone capability are expected to further support safe and efficient inspection.

35. Overall, the 2025 results reflect a stable asset condition profile across the Wairarapa River schemes. 80% of all assets are rated as Very Good, Good, or Moderate, providing continued confidence in the performance of the flood protection network.

36. Table 2 summarises the number of assets in Poor and Very Poor condition across critical asset types in the Wairarapa River Schemes. Stopbanks remain the most affected asset class, with 267 assets rated Poor and 13 rated Very Poor. Common issues include tree encroachment, scouring, erosion, and stock damage. Floodgates, groynes, and headwalls also feature prominently in the lower condition categories, with reported issues such as corrosion, material loss, overgrowth, and structural movement.

Table 2: Summary of Critical Asset Types in Poor Condition – Wairarapa River Schemes

Asset Type	Total Number	4 - Poor	5 - Very Poor	Issue(s) reported
Culvert	118	20	1	Invasive vegetation, blocked, moved, buried
Floodgate	117	34	4	Overgrown and buried, Corroded, Broken floodgate arms
Groyne	1090	108	28	Loss of material, rocks missing, overgrown and buried
Headwall / Wingwall	132	29	9	Overgrown and buried, broken and collapsing, Corroding
Retaining wall	7	0	1	Moved, Misaligned, Cracked, Graffiti
Riprap	61	9	2	Excessive grass or weed, Rocks missing, washed away, loose
Stopbank	514	267	13	Invasive weeds, trees, Scouring, Erosion, Stock Damage
Weir	21	4	0	Rocks missing, washed out
Total	**2060**	**471**	**58**	

37. Greater Wellington continues to apply a conservative approach to the assessment of vegetative encroachment on stopbanks, classifying assets as Poor where trees or invasive species are present within 5 metres of the stopbank toe. This consistent application of updated guidance ensures alignment with flood risk policy and helps maintain reliable asset condition trend data.

38. Across the remainder of the asset base, a total of 211 assets have been assessed as Poor or Very Poor, as shown in the table above. The majority of these are groynes, which account for nearly two-thirds of the total and are typically affected by material loss, rock displacement, or being overgrown and buried. Other common issues across these assets include corrosion, blockage, structural misalignment, and vegetation overgrowth. While these assets are generally smaller in scale compared to stopbanks, they play important roles in the overall performance and resilience of the flood protection system. **Attachment 2** summarises these Poor condition assets in relation to the scheme's risk profile.

39. Most Poor and Very Poor condition assets remain located outside the highest risk areas. Where significant assets in Poor condition do coincide with high-risk reaches, they have been prioritised within the 2025/26 maintenance and improvement programme, as highlighted in **Attachment 3**.

40. Since 2025, one new groyne and one new riprap structure have been added to the asset inventory as part of the Flood Resilience Tranche 1, Site 1: Ruamāhanga River Road Project - Stage 2. These assets have been fully captured in the asset management system and were included in the 2025 condition inspection programme.

41. A small number of additional assets have been built or captured in the asset database since the 2024 inspection. These new assets, shown in Table 3, have been condition assessed where possible, with one asset still requiring assessment. Several of these represent previously undocumented assets, while one groyne and the riprap are newly constructed.

Table 3: Additional assets newly built or captured since 2024 - Wairarapa River Schemes

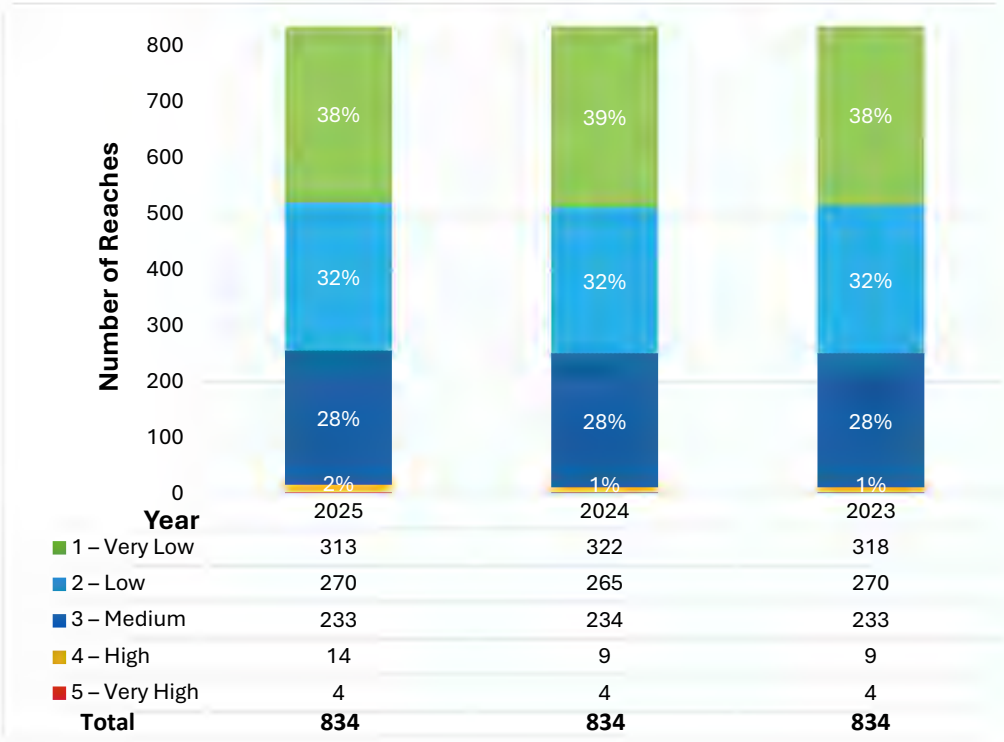
Asset Type	1 – Very Good	2 - Good	3 - Moderate	4 - Poor	5 – Very Poor	TBD	Total
Groyne	1	2	1	1	1	1	7
Riprap	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stopbank	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	**2**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**0**	**9**

42. The 2025 condition assessment results will continue to inform prioritisation of asset renewals, routine maintenance, and future climate resilience investment across the Wairarapa River Schemes.

Asset Performance and Risk

43. The national risk-based framework continues to be applied across the Wairarapa river schemes, covering the Ruamāhanga, Waiōhine, Waingawa, and associated rivers. This framework provides a consistent basis for assessing flood risk and informing investment decisions.

44. In 2025, a total of 834 segments, each typically 200 – 600 metres in length, were assessed across the Wairarapa river schemes. Figure 4 below summarises the risk distribution across these segments, while spatial risk maps are provided in **Attachment 4**.



Year	2025	2024	2023
1 – Very Low	313	322	318
2 – Low	270	265	270
3 – Medium	233	234	233
4 – High	14	9	9
5 – Very High	4	4	4
Total	**834**	**834**	**834**

Figure 4: Summary of segments by risk scores across the Wairarapa River Schemes

45. The 2025 results indicate that 38% of segments (313) are assessed as 'Very Low' risk, broadly consistent with 2024 and 2023 results. A further 270 segments (32%) are assessed as 'Low' risk, while 233 segments (28%) are rated as 'Medium' risk.

46. The proportion of segments rated as 'High' risk has increased slightly to 2% (14 segments), up from 1% (9 segments) in 2024. The number of 'Very High' risk segments remains unchanged at 4 (0.5%) for the third consecutive year.

47. The increase in 'High' risk classifications can be attributed to updated asset condition assessments, refined consequence-of-failure analysis, and revised hydraulic modelling outputs. In several cases, moderate asset conditions combined with high potential impacts have elevated the risk rating.

48. Overall, while most segments (98%) remain within the 'Very Low' to 'Medium' risk range, the identified higher-risk segments will require continued targeted maintenance, and improvement works to ensure flood protection levels of service are sustained.

Management Response

49. The highest-risk areas within the Wairarapa River Schemes, as identified through the 2025 risk assessment process, are known to staff and have been prioritised for treatment through existing Floodplain Management Plans (FMPs), targeted technical investigations, or operational work programmes. These have been integrated into the recent Activity Management Planning and Long-Term Planning processes.

50. Areas assessed as 'Very High' or 'High' risk are shown in **Attachment 4** and **Attachment 5** and are detailed below.

51. The Waipoua River is predicted to overtop during the 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) event. A concept design for the preferred flood risk management option for the Masterton urban area was completed in 2025 and endorsed by the Environment Committee in June 2025. This design will be provided to the Delivery function for incorporation into the forward works programme. Projects under Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) are addressing left bank protection at SH2 and right bank protection at the Waipoua Industrial site.

    - FRT1 Site 3: On 3 April 2025, works were completed on the left bank between cross sections 6 – 8, involving construction of a 45 m rock revetment.
    - FRT1 Site 4: On 8 April 2025, works were completed on the right bank between cross sections 10 – 12, including the installation of five groynes and a 15 m rock revetment.

52. Implementation of the Te Kāuru FMP will address the 'High' risks on the Waingawa River to protect Masterton's water supply pipeline. Projects under Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) are addressing erosion around the MDC water supply pipeline.

    - FRT1 Site 7: One rock groyne was constructed, with works completed on 4 August 2025.
    - Black Creek works: Fish passage improvements and rock regrading around the pipeline are planned, with programme and timing yet to be confirmed.

53. Two 'High' risk sections on the Waiōhine River will be addressed under the Waiōhine River Plan. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for specialist planning services is underway for the North and Kuratawhiti stopbanks to develop a consenting strategy. While design work has commenced, progress has been delayed due to

engagement with the affected landowner on whose land the asset will be constructed on and associated agreement discussions, coupled with restricted site access.

54. The 'High' risk section on Waiōhine River at Fullers Bend, west of Greytown is being addressed under the FRT1 programme, involving construction of nine rock groynes and a 15 m rock revetment. Works are approximately 10% complete, with expected completion by 21 October 2025.

55. Mt Bruce Scheme, Rathkeale, the Ruamāhanga River poses a flood risk to Rathkeale College, with the existing stopbank on school grounds under significant erosion pressure due to its proximity to the riverbank. There is also a risk of water bypassing the stopbank upstream and flooding school buildings. This was identified in the Te Kāuru FMP as a major project. Further consultation and engagement with landowners are required to determine an agreed option for flood and erosion risk mitigation.

56. In the Lower Valley, the stopbanks in this area are generally designed for a nominal 5% AEP upstream of the Tuhitarata Bridge and a 1% AEP downstream to Lake Onoke. No 'Very High' or 'High' risk areas were identified in the Lower Ruamāhanga river schemes.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

57. The proposed recommendations have no financial implications.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

58. Greater Wellington is required to manage land and water in line with statutory requirements, including giving effect to Te Mana o te Wai and considering Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the development and delivery of the Council's strategies, plans, programmes, and initiatives.

59. Our partnership with mana whenua, as outlined in the Council's Long-term Plan 2024–34, continues to recognise and support mana whenua as kaitiaki (guardians) of their whenua, freshwater, and moana interests in their ancestral lands. Engagement occurs at all levels of the organisation, governance, management, and operations, and is increasingly focused on co-design and shared decision-making.

60. Our management of flood protection and flood control assets in the Wairarapa has significant implications for the traditional relationship between Māori and their tūpuna awa. Our decision to retain rivers within artificially constrained corridors, using stopbanks, rock and willows, is regularly communicated to Greater Wellington as a significant and ongoing negative cultural impact on mana whenua.

61. The official return of Wairarapa Moana to mana whenua and the creation of the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board presents additional implications for our asset management. Our larger assets, including the Barrage Gates which enable Lake Wairarapa to be used as a flood detention dam, impose significant costs on the

traditional Māori economy and disrupt the connection between mana whenua and their taonga. With the lake (and parts of the lower Ruamāhanga) now returned to Māori ownership our assets now have a significant and direct effect on Māori land.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change

62. Matters discussed in this report have been considered by staff in accordance with the process set out in Greater Wellington's Climate Change Consideration Guide.

63. The assets discussed in this report have been developed over many years, during which climate change projections (e.g. rainfall intensity, sea level rise) have evolved alongside the scientific community's understanding of regional climate impacts. These projections were incorporated into modelling that informed relevant management plans and asset designs at the time of their development. Current climate projections, based on the latest national guidance, estimate a 25 – 30% increase in rainfall intensity and sea level rise of approximately 1.35m. These projections are applied in all recent and planned modelling projects, with policy requiring the use of the most up-to-date national guidance when incorporating climate change into flood risk assessments and resilience responses.

Ngā tikanga whakatau
Decision-making process

64. The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga
Significance

65. Officers have considered the significance of this matter, as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002, with reference to Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington's *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers recommend that this matter is of low significance, given its administrative and reporting nature.

Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement

66. Due to the low significance of this matter, no engagement was considered necessary.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

67. Officers will present **Attachment 6** at the Subcommittee meeting on 9 September 2025.

68. We will continue to work with mana whenua partners to develop partnership approaches which can better integrate mātauranga Māori with engineering. This can build from existing successes where we have, for example, collaborated with Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Ngāti Kahungunu as part of a Ministry for the Environment funded study to understand the feasibility of using nature-based solutions for flood risk management in the Waipoua catchment.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments

Number	Title
1	Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report - Summary of Condition by Asset Type
2	Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report - Risk Vs Poor Condition
3	Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report - Proposed Work Programme 2025
4	Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report - Risk Assessment Maps 2025
5	Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report - High and Very High Risks and Their Remediation
6	Annual Wairarapa Committee Flood Asset Assessment Report Presentation 2025

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Rolayo Olukunle - Project Engineer, Assets and Performance Pete Huggins - Catchment Manager – Ruamāhanga, Catchment
Approvers	Lucy Ashford - Team Leader, Assets and Performance Jacky Cox - Manager, Infrastructure - Assets and Support Jack Mace - Director- Delivery Lian Butcher - Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao - Group Manager Environment

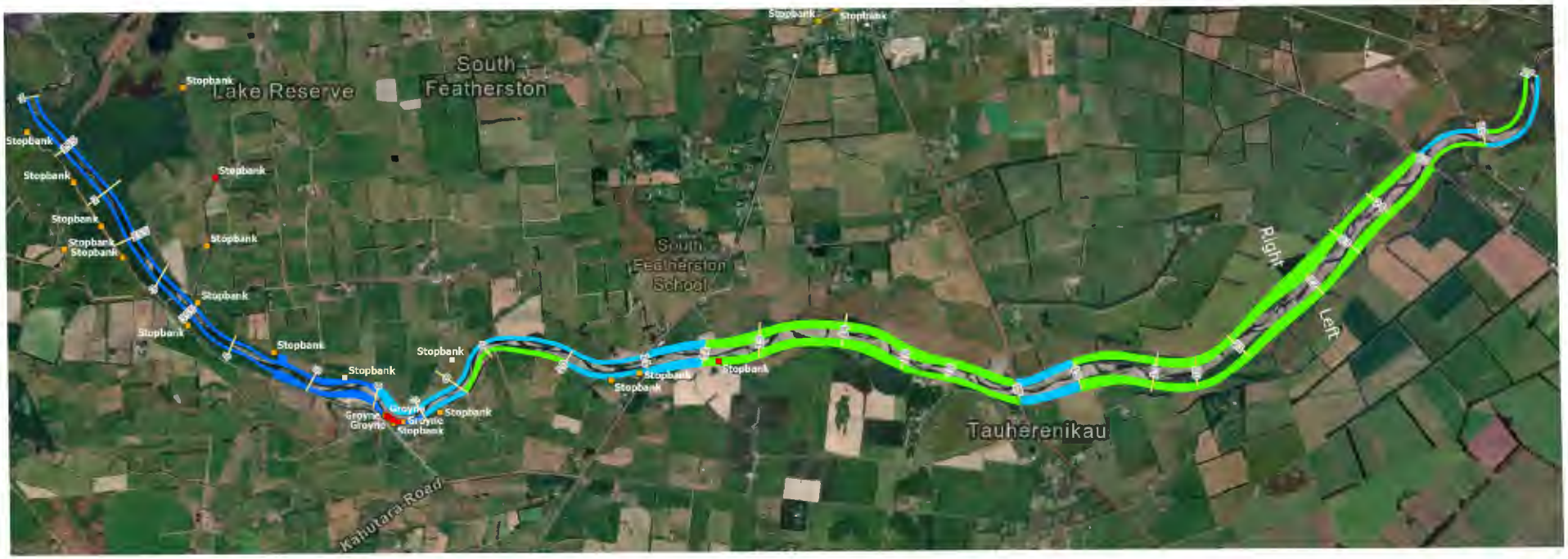
He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference The Wairarapa Committee provides oversight of the development, implementation, and review of the Floodplain Management Plans for the Wairarapa Region. The flood protection and erosion control assets are a critical component of these schemes and directly support the Committee's governance role.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies Confirmation from the Wairarapa Committee that the infrastructure assets in the Wairarapa Region have been satisfactorily maintained to the agreed Levels of Service (LoS) fulfils one of the Department's non-financial performance measures in the Long-Term Plan. This report, together with the confirmed minutes, is provided to Audit NZ as evidence that this performance measure has been achieved.
Internal consultation Consultation was undertaken with Flood Operations and Catchment in preparing this report.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. The report identifies a small number of areas in the Wairarapa Region that pose a risk to communities and businesses located on the river floodplains. These risks are addressed through operational or improvement programmes, ensuring that legal, safety, and service level obligations are met.

Attachment 1 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes - Summary of Condition by Asset Type

Asset Type	1 - Very Good	2 - Good	3 - Moderate	4 - Poor	5 - Very Poor	TBD	Total
Barrage gate	0	3	4	0	0	0	7
Blockline	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Building	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Channel	5	216	202	66	3	1	493
Culvert	3	54	37	20	1	3	118
Debris arrestor	0	4	2	1	0	0	7
Debris fence	0	63	26	7	16	6	118
Demolition line	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Detention Dam	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Diversion Cut	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Drain/modified channel	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Electrical Control System	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Electrical Generator	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fence	1	25	4	3	0	0	33
Floodgate	2	31	41	34	4	5	117
Floodwall	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Gate	1	3	1	0	0	0	5
Groyne	13	632	284	108	28	25	1090
Headwall/Wingwall	2	48	40	29	9	4	132
Native planting	0	4	2	0	0	0	6
Retaining wall	0	5	1	0	1	0	7
Riprap	2	33	12	9	2	3	61
Rock Mattress	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Sign	12	9	3	2	0	1	27
Spillway	0	7	0	0	0	0	7
Stopbank	0	86	147	267	13	1	514
Weir	0	12	5	4	0	0	21
Willow	2	517	275	47	9	1	851
Grand Total	**44**	**1761**	**1087**	**598**	**86**	**50**	**3626**

Attachment 2 to Report 25.272



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Tauwharenīkau APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (23)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (6)	High (0)
	Medium (17)
	Low (13)
	Very Low (28)

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Author:	TurnerL
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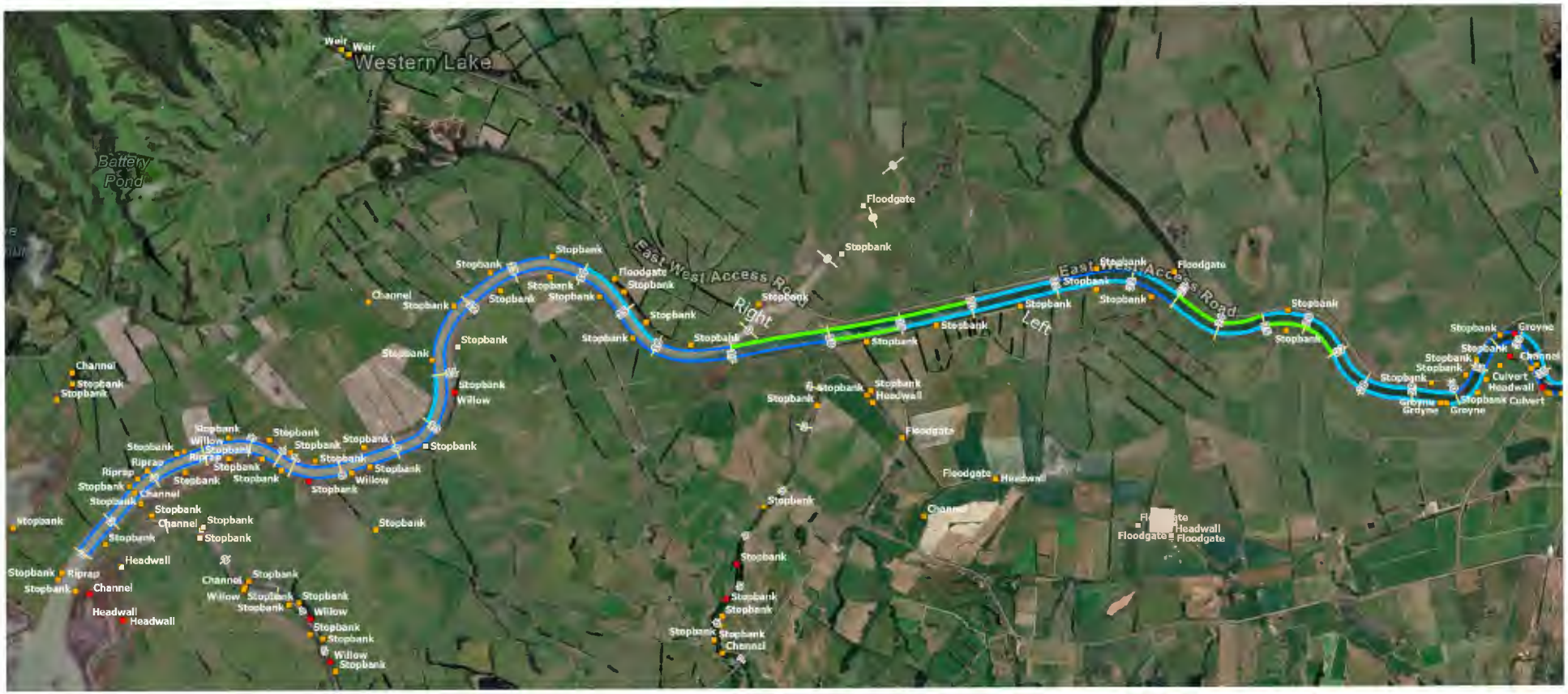

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Lower Ruamahanga (Onoke - Tuhitarata) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (112)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (12)	High (0)
	Madium (39)
	Low (22)
	Very Low (8)

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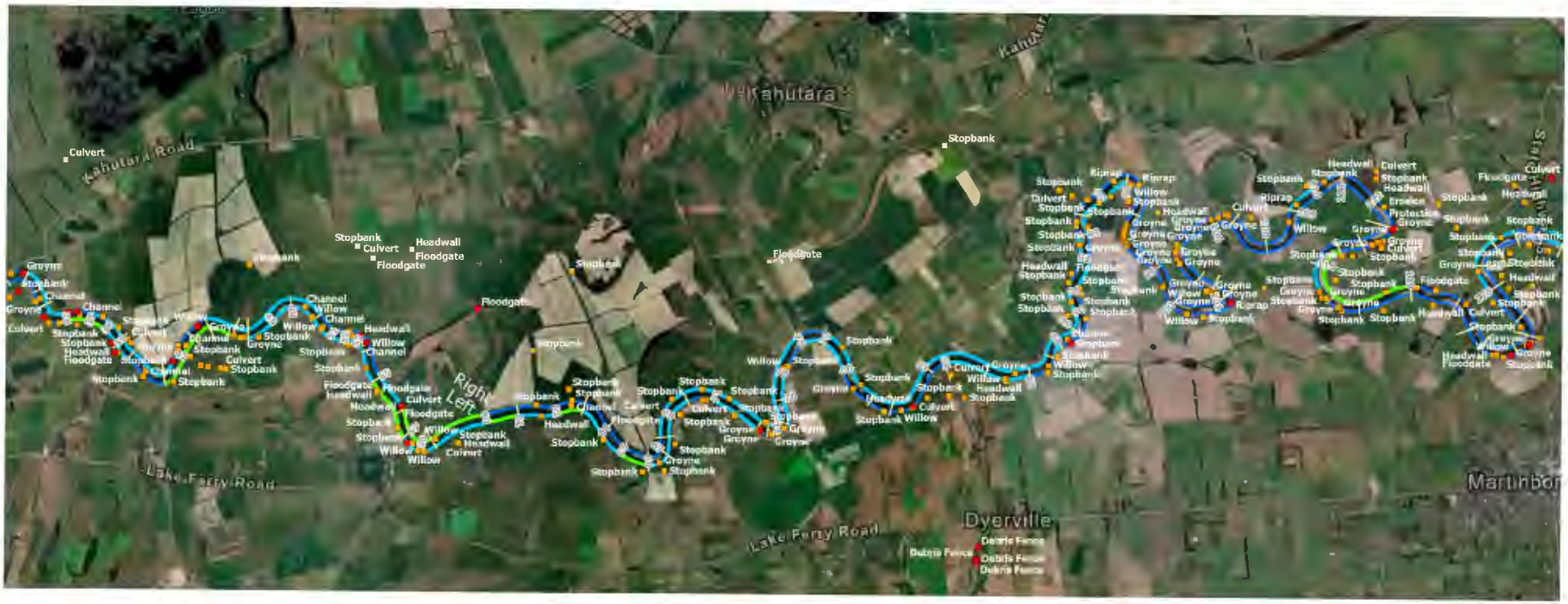

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Lower Ruamahanga (Tuhitarata - Waihenga) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (237)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (29)	High (0)
	Medium (98)
	Low (78)
	Very Low (20)

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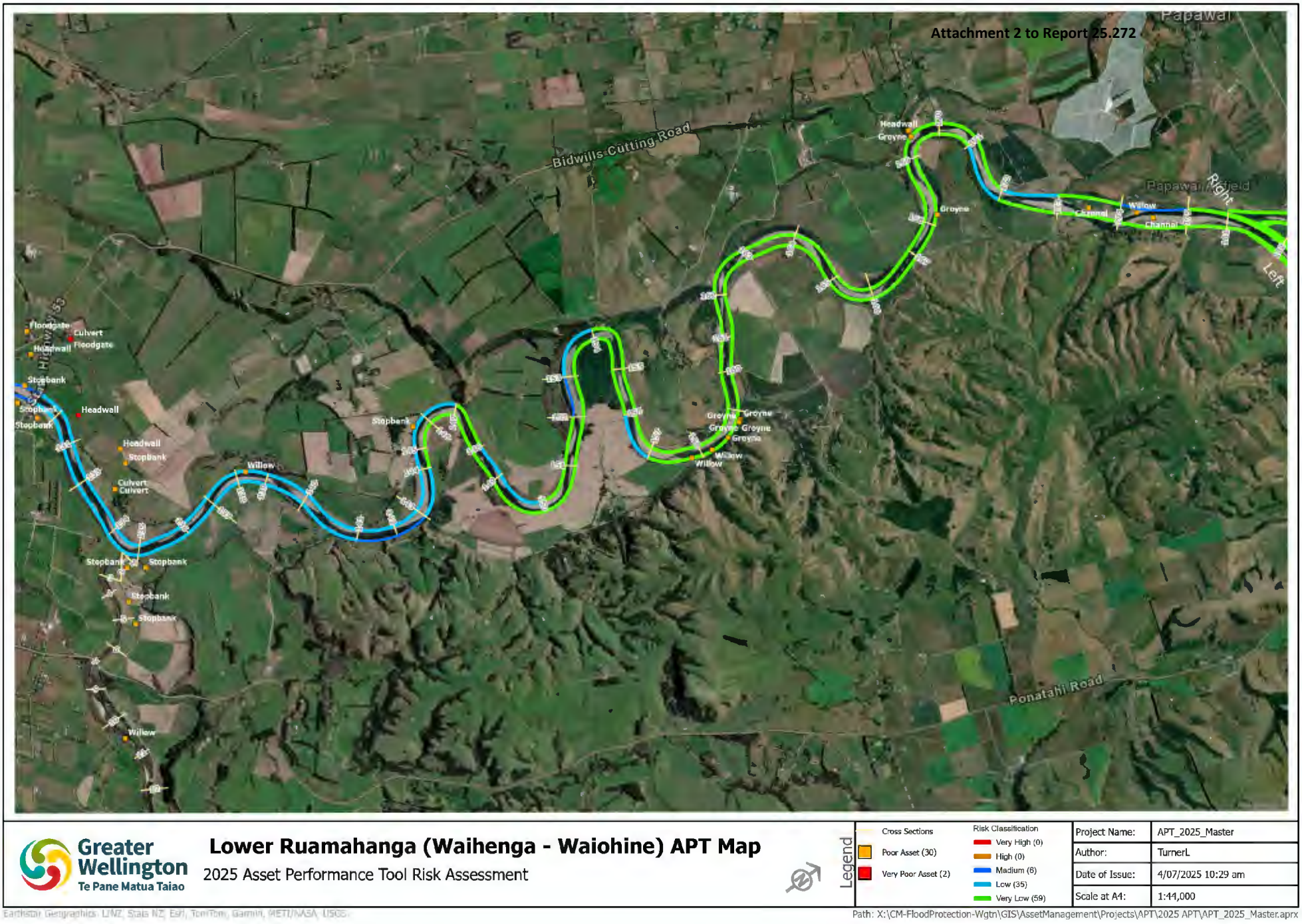
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Bidwills Cutting Road
Papawai
Papawai Right
Left
Ponatahi Road
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Lower Ruamahanga (Waihenga - Waiohine) APT Map
2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment
Legend
Cross Sections
Poor Asset (30)
Very Poor Asset (2)
Risk Classification
Very High (0)
High (0)
Madium (6)
Low (35)
Very Low (59)
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Author: TurnerL
Date of Issue: 4/07/2025 10:29 am
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Upper Ruamahanga (Gladstone) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (17)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (7)	High (0)
	Medium (13)
	Low (29)
	Very Low (58)

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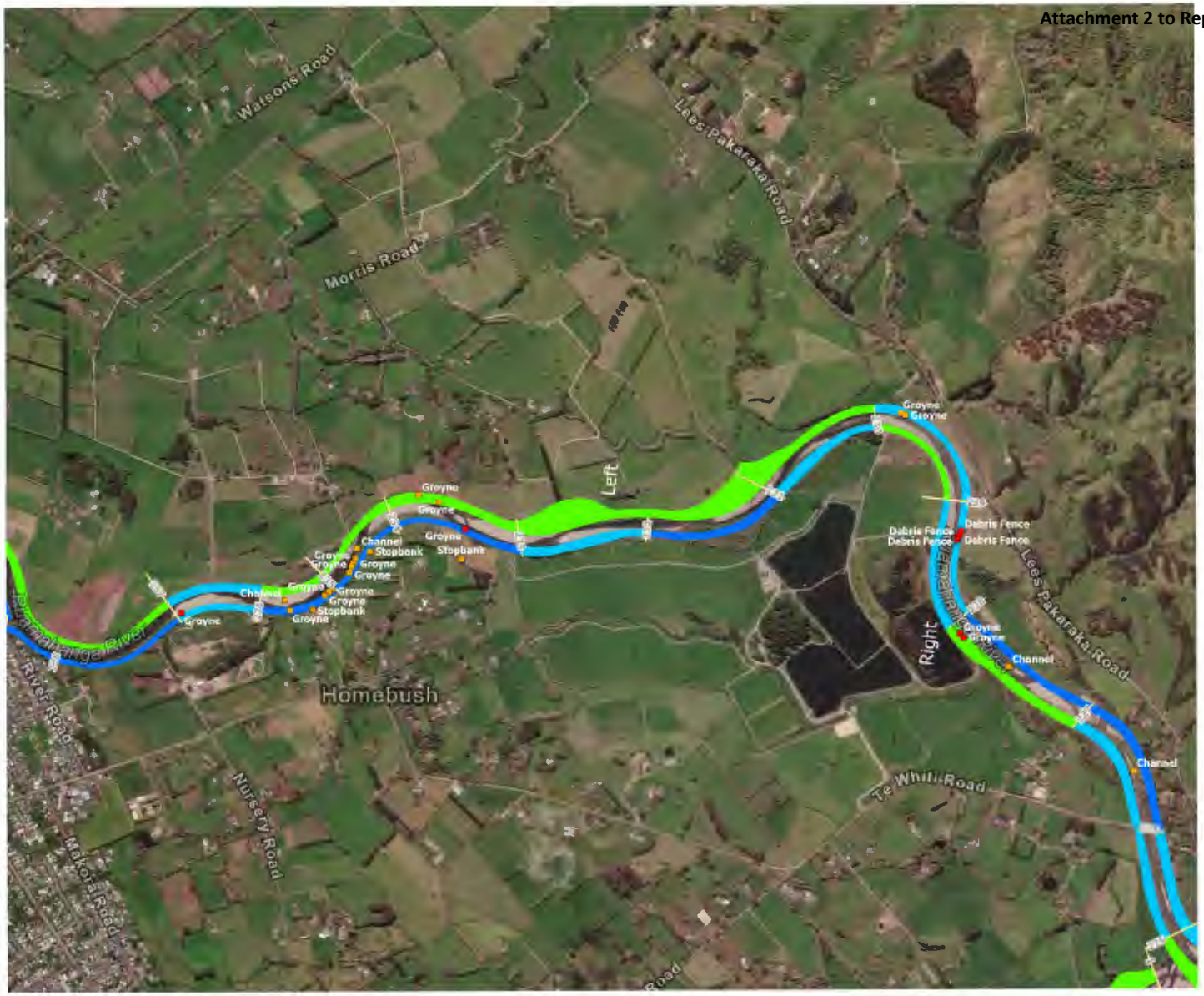

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Upper Ruamahanga (Te Ore Ore) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections
Poor Asset (19)
Very Poor Asset (8)

Risk Classification
Very High (0)
High (0)
Madium (9)
Low (11)
Very Low (13)

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Attachment 2 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Ruamahanga (Mt Bruce) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (27)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (4)	High (1)
	Madium (9)
	Low (32)
	Very Low (44)

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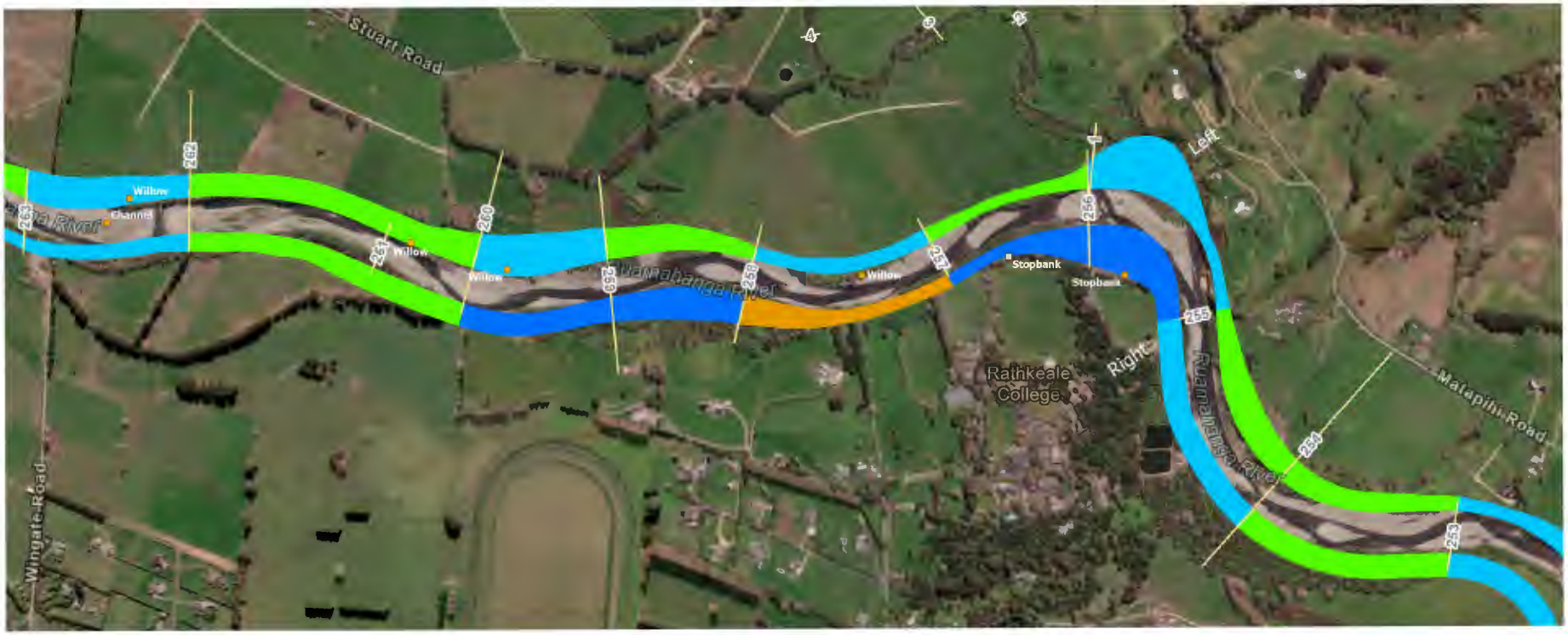

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Ruamahanga (Mt Bruce) - Rathkeale APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (7)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (0)	High (1)
	Madium (4)
	Low (9)
	Very Low (10)

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Esri Community Maps Contributors, LINZ, State NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS, Maxar

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Attachment 2 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waiohine APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	
Poor Asset (55)	
Very Poor Asset (15)	

Risk Classification

- Very High (0)
- High (5)
- Medium (21)
- Low (23)
- Very Low (43)

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Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	4/07/2025 10:29 am
Scale at A4:	1:41,000

Earthstar Geographics, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, WEST/MASA, USGS

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Attachment 2 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waiohine - Rail Bridge & Fullers Bend APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (31)	Very High (0)
Very Poor Asset (5)	High (5)
	Medium (13)
	Low (12)
	Very Low (17)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	4/07/2025 10:29 am
Scale at A4:	1:26,000

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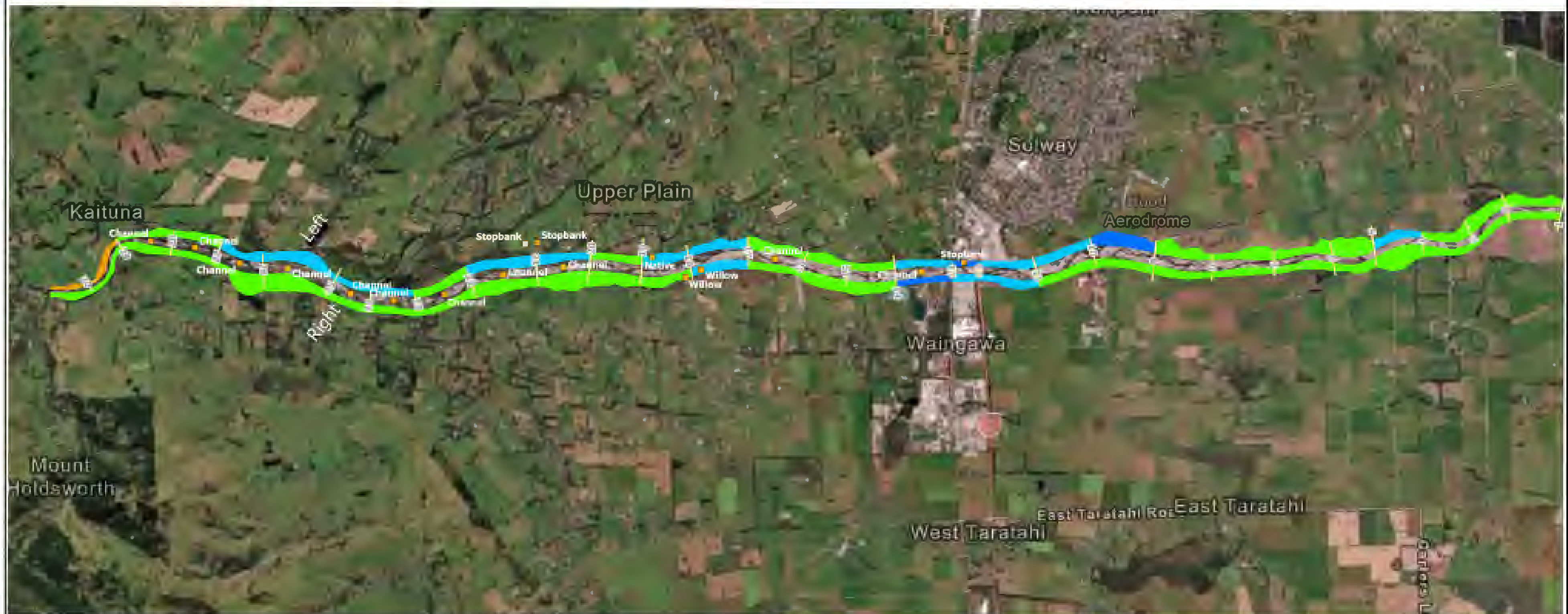
Attachment 2 to Report 25.272



Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waingawa APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections
Poor Asset (17)
Very Poor Asset (0)

Risk Classification
Very High (0)
High (2)
Medium (3)
Low (15)
Very Low (40)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	4/07/2025 10:29 am
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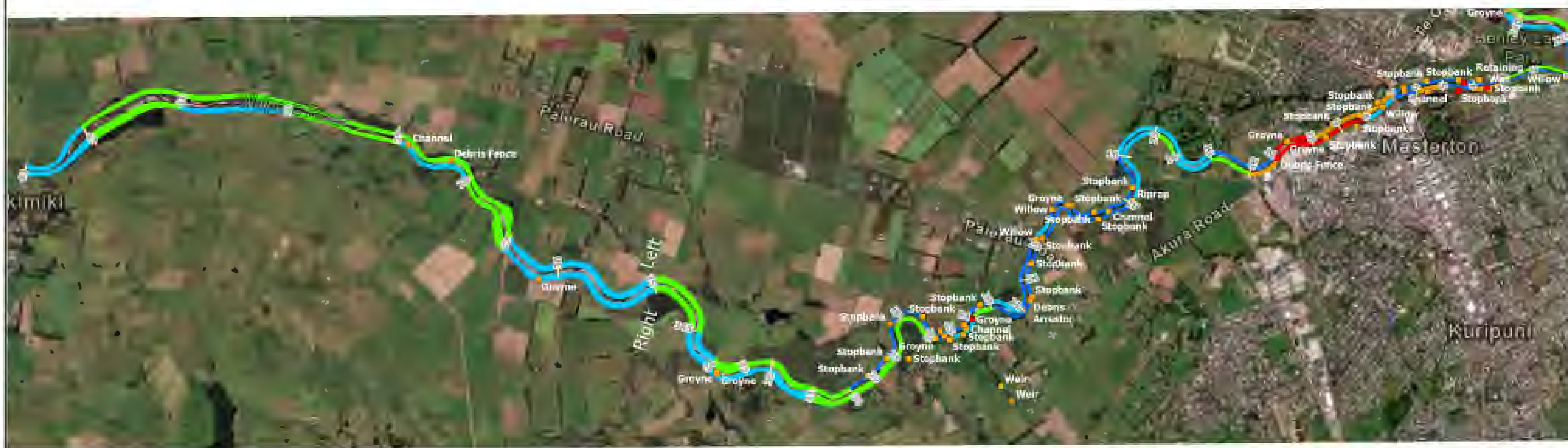

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waipoua APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections
Poor Asset (50)
Very Poor Asset (5)

Risk Classification
Very High (4)
High (6)
Medium (30)
Low (25)
Very Low (27)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	4/07/2025 10:29 am
Scale at A4:	1:48,000

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Attachment 2 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waipoua - Masterton Reaches APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Cross Sections	Risk Classification
Poor Asset (10)	Very High (4)
Very Poor Asset (1)	High (5)
	Madium (4)
	Low (1)
	Very Low (0)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	4/07/2025 10:30 am
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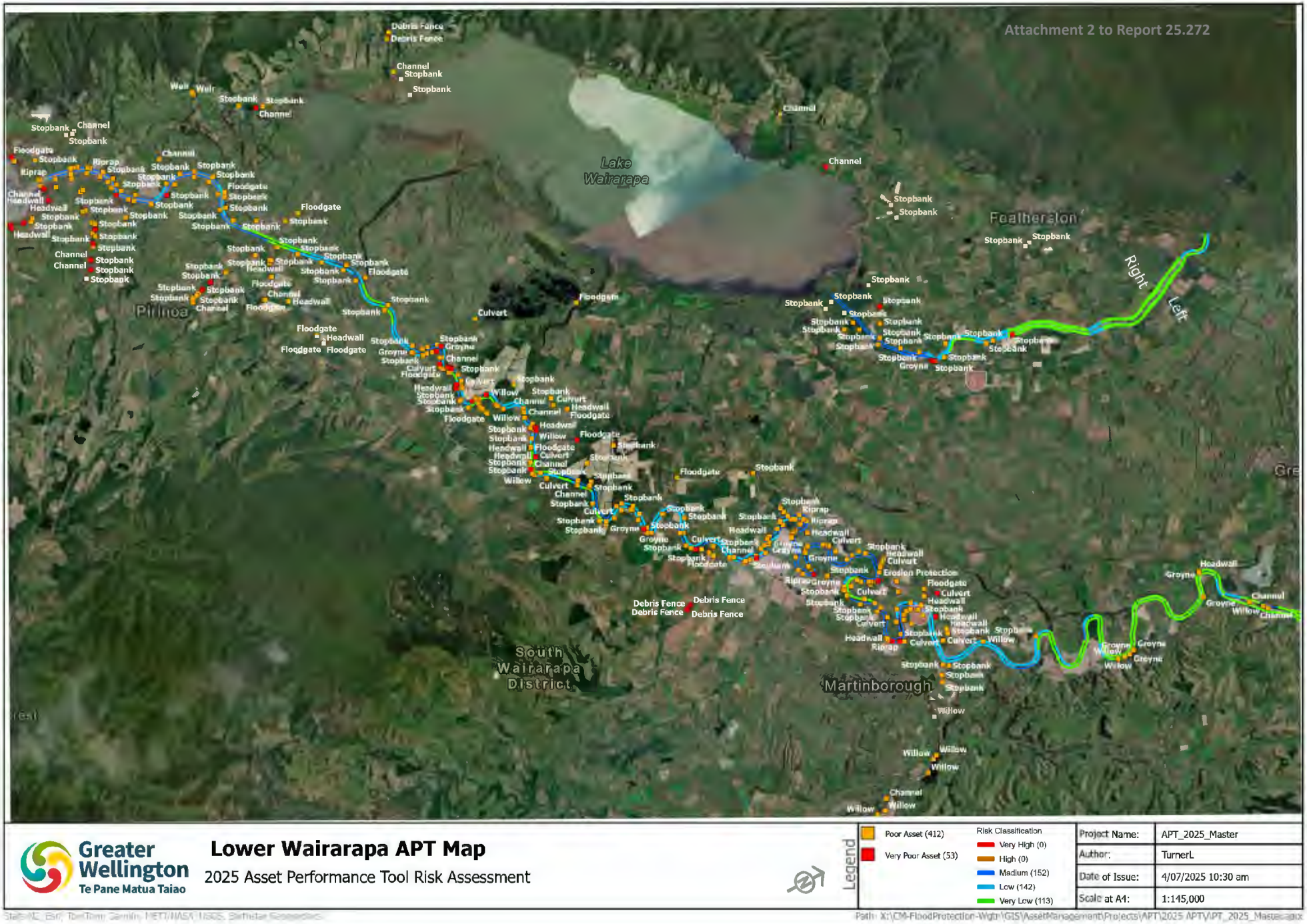
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Lake Wairarapa
Featherston
Pirinoa
South Wairarapa District
Martinborough
Right
Left
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Lower Wairarapa APT Map
2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment
Legend
Poor Asset (412)
Very Poor Asset (53)
Risk Classification
Very High (0)
High (0)
Madium (152)
Low (142)
Very Low (113)
Project Name: APT_2025_Master
Author: TurnerL
Date of Issue: 4/07/2025 10:30 am
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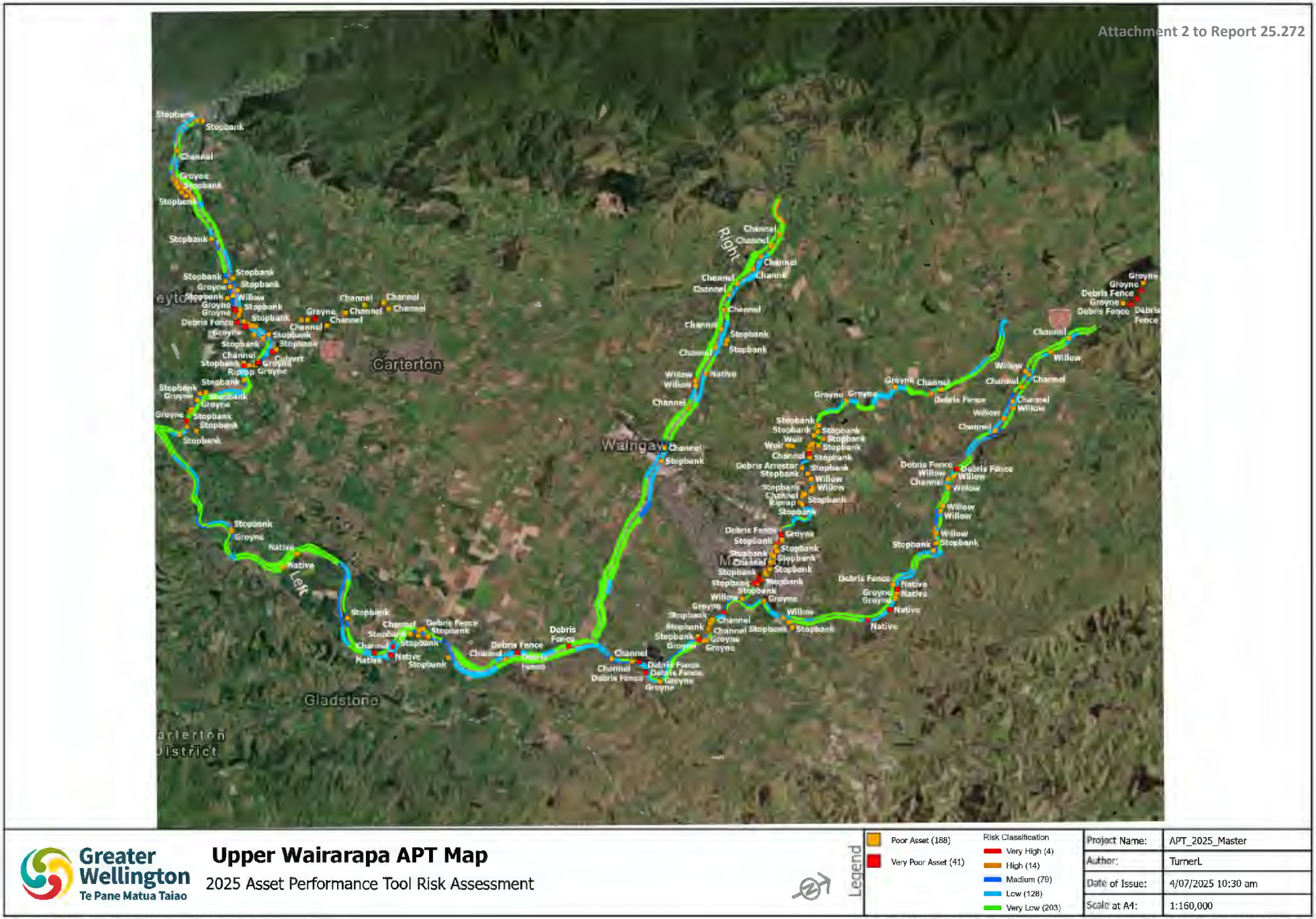

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Wairarapa APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Required**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Upper Ruamāhanga River - **Mount Bruce**	SR 282	Removal of Rails in channel at XS 282	N/A	N/A
		Recover heavy rock in channel after rock groyne wash out		
	SL 277	Willow pole planting base of Hidden Lakes and gravel groyne work 400 poles	Very Low	3
		Native planting into Hidden Lakes slip face - 500 plants		
	Various	Iron Rail Removal as found	Various	Various
		Native planting maintenance		
		Willow maintenance under powerlines		
Upper Ruamāhanga River - **Te Ore Ore**	SR 237	Native Planting around new rock groynes	Medium	2
		Willow pole replant between River Road Project groynes		
	SL 236	Bed/beach recontour	Low	3
	SR 236 – SR 235	Stopbank Maintenance - Mulching	Low – Medium	3 - 4
	SR 234	Bed/beach recontour	Medium	3
	SL 227	Beach Recontour	Medium	5
	SL 225	Clearing of vegetation (Old Mans Bead) around Wardell's Bridge	Low	2
		Spray willow growth around pier of Wardell's Bridge		
	Various	Willow maintenance under powerlines	Various	Various

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Required**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Upper Ruamāhanga River – **Gladstone**	SR 221	Beach recontour into erosion bay at Wells	Low	4
	SR 219	Gravel groyne maintenance in erosion bay	Low	4
	SR 204	Stopbank clearing 500m of large scrub – stopbank rated 4	Very Low	3
	SR 189	Remove large trees at slump to take pressure off stopbank erosion condition rated 4	Medium	4
	SR 184	Planting natives into Taumata cleared area	Low	4
		Outlet Improvements Taumata Stream Berm Lowering		
		Spray Crack Willow Regrowth Taumata Island 3 km		
	Various	Willow maintenance under powerlines	Various	Various
Waipoua River	SL 38	Willow Planting 50 poles close to Mossman	Very Low	3
	SR 26	Rock groyne Maintenance	Very Low	3
		Stopbank top up to low spot Rutherford	Very Low	3
	SR 24	Extra rock top-up groyne at Garrod	Low	4
	SL 22	Bed Recontour Golds Corner (high beach)	Low	2
	SR 18	Bed Recontour	Medium	3
	SL 8 – SL 16	Mulch stopbanks Akura - rated 4	Medium	3 - 4
	SL/R 5	Extra placement around weir No2 at degrading downstream section to enhance fish passage and support weir	Medium – High	3

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Required**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Waipoua River	Various	Maintenance around native plantings	Various	Various
		Clearing of vegetation (Old Mans Bead and Ivy) within urban reach		
		Iron Rail Removal as found		
	Various	Mulch 2km stopbanks in Matahiwi area	Various	Various
Waingawa River	SR/L 28 – SR/L 88	Vegetation clearance in channel design fairway	Very Low - Low	3 - 4
	SL 26	Phase 2 - Work Bed Recontour protection to MDC water pipe	Low	3
	SR 18	Pole Planting 200 poles	Very Low	3
	SR 16	Bed Recontour / Beach Recontour	Very Low	3
	SR 13	Bed Recontour	Medium	4
	SL 11	Mulching stopbank between Road and Rail bridge	Low	3
	SL 10	Maintenance around native plantings Skeets Road	Low	4
	SL 9	Pole Planting 200 poles	Medium	4
	SR 6	Beach Recontour	Very Low	3
	SL 6 – SL 5	Pole Planting 200 poles	Very Low	2 - 3
	SR 5	Beach Recontour	Very Low	3

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Required**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Waiōhine River	SR/L 31 – SR/L 22	Willow pole plantings 725 poles	Very Low - Medium	3 - 4
	SR 27	Erosion control at Kuratawhiti Street above new rock groynes	Medium	3
	SR 22	Erosion control and rock groyne maintenance	Medium	3
	SR 20	Native plantings	High	4
	SL 18	Rock purchase 1600 T	Low	3
	SL 15	Rock Groyne Maintenance	Medium	5
	SL 12	Willow Layering	Very Low	2
	SR 3	Rock Groyne Maintenance	Very Low	3
	SR 2	Native plantings	Low	4
	Various	Iron rail removal as required	Various	Various
	Various	Weed Spraying		

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Lower) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Planned**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Tauwharenīkau River	Various	Spray Crack willow regrowth Remove debris after willow clearing	Various	Various
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Waihenga - Waiōhine**	SR 146 - SR 137	Allowance for top up of stopbanks north of Tawaha Sill	Low	2 – 3
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Tuhitarata - Waihenga**	SL 124 - SL 123	Bank erosion works approx. 30m, outside bend.	Medium	4
	SR 114 - SR 112	Mitigation of erosion at Tawaha Spillway exit.	Medium	3
	SR 88 – SR 79	Pahuatea road Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	Low	2-3
	SR 44 - SR 41	Co-design with Iwi + works	Low & Medium	3-5
	SL 44 – SL 43 & SR 41 – SR 40	Herbicide spray of vegetation around headwalls/ flap gates	Very Low & Low	2 - 3
	SL 41 - SL 39	Lower berm and re-form batter around native plants approx. 400m upstream of Waihora confluence. Use material to fill 2x erosion holes in Waihora stopbanks.	Low & Medium	4 - 5
	SR 37 - SR 36	Bank erosion works approx. 30m.	Medium	4
	SL 36 - SL 34	Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	Medium	3 - 4
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Onoke - Tuhitarata**	SR/L 17 – SR/L 1	Control of yellow iris downstream of barrage gates	Low & Medium	3 – 5

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Lower) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Planned**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Onoke - Tuhitarata**	SL 23 – SL 21, SR 20 -SR 19, SL 17 – SL 16 & SL 15 – SL 12	Herbicide spray of vegetation around headwalls/ flap gates	Low & Medium	2 - 4
	SL 13 - SL 9	Toe erosion of stopbanks works	Medium	4 - 5
	SR 12 – SR 0	Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	Low & Medium	3 - 5
	SL 9 – SL 6	Several stopbank erosion repairs, including drain stopbank.	Medium	4
	SR 5 – SR 4	Approx 100m erosion to mitigate	Medium	4
	SR 3 – SR 2	Erosion works at 3 sites.	Medium	5
	SR 3 – SR 0	stopbank mulching, Remotely operated mulcher - once during year	Medium	4 - 5
	SR/L 7 – SR/L 1	Tauanui weed control	Medium	3 - 5
	SR/L 16 – SR /L 1	Herbicide spraying of pest weeds in Turanganui downstream of Te Rata road bridge.	Low & Medium	3 - 5
LWVDS,Donald's Creek	Donalds Creek mulching	Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	N/A	N/A
Abbotts Creek	Various	Trimming overhanging branches. Removing any fallen trees/ branches across the watercourse. General vegetation control along the channel	Various	Various
Pigeon Bush	Various			
Cross Creek	Various			
Manganui	Various			

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Attachment 3 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Lower) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Planned**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Turanganui	SR 7 – SR 4	Willow pole planting, downstream of Lake Ferry Road Bridge and upstream of Te Rata Road Bridge	Various	Various
Ruamāhanga River	SL 141 – SL 140 SR 138 – SR 137 SR 123	Willow pole planting, at Papawai Marshal Jury	Various	Various
Planting Tauanui	Various	Willow pole planting, Guy Disbury upstream and downstream gravel stockpile and downstream road bridge	Various	Various
Cross Creek		Willow pole planting		
Owhanga / Pigeon Bush		Willow pole planting		
Huangarua		Native planting at Al Richardson and Richard Nation.		
Barrage Gates	All	Native planting to be planted inganga spawning sites downstream of barrage gates.	Various	Various
		Install new ropes		
Turanganui recontouring	Various	Beach recontouring, vegetation stripping, erosion mitigation. Beach recontouring, vegetation stripping, erosion mitigation. Allow for total of 600m channel diversion.	Various	Various
Tauanui recontouring				
Tauwharenīkau recontouring				
Huangaroa recontouring				

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

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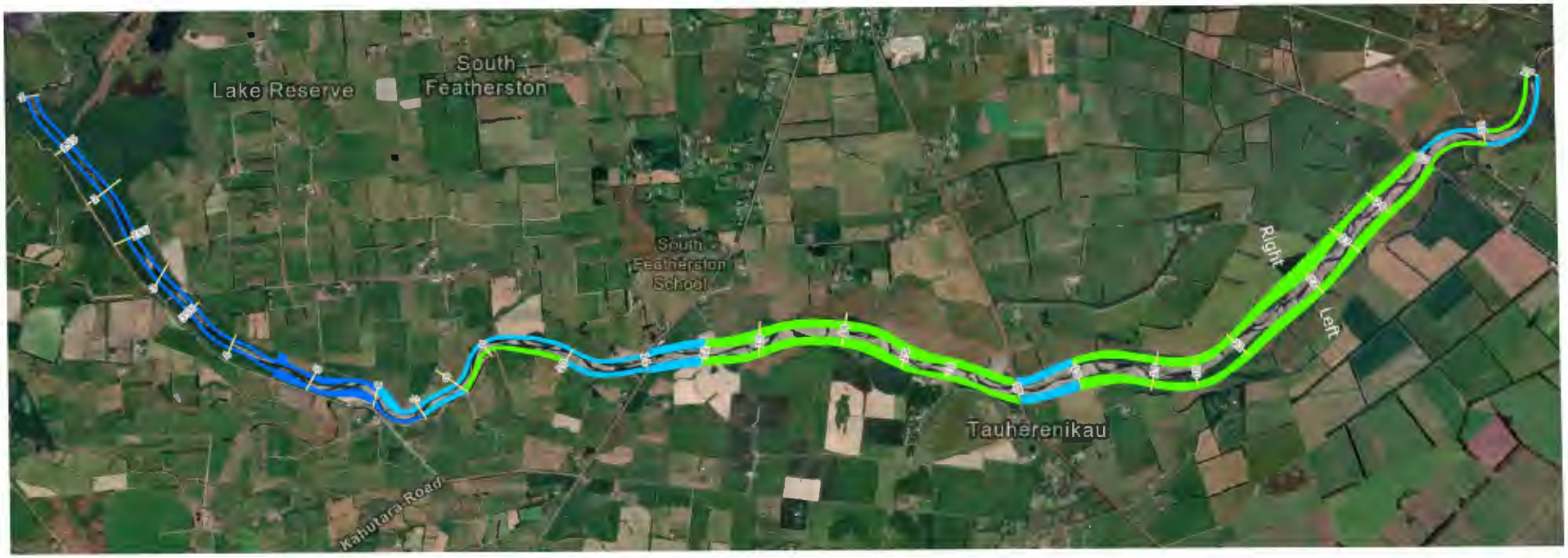

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Tauwharenīkau APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (0)
- Medium (17)
- Low (13)
- Very Low (28)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:09 am
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Earthstar Geographics | LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Lower Ruamahanga (Onoke - Tuhitarata) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (0)
- Medium (39)
- Low (22)
- Very Low (8)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:09 am
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Earthstar Geographics, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

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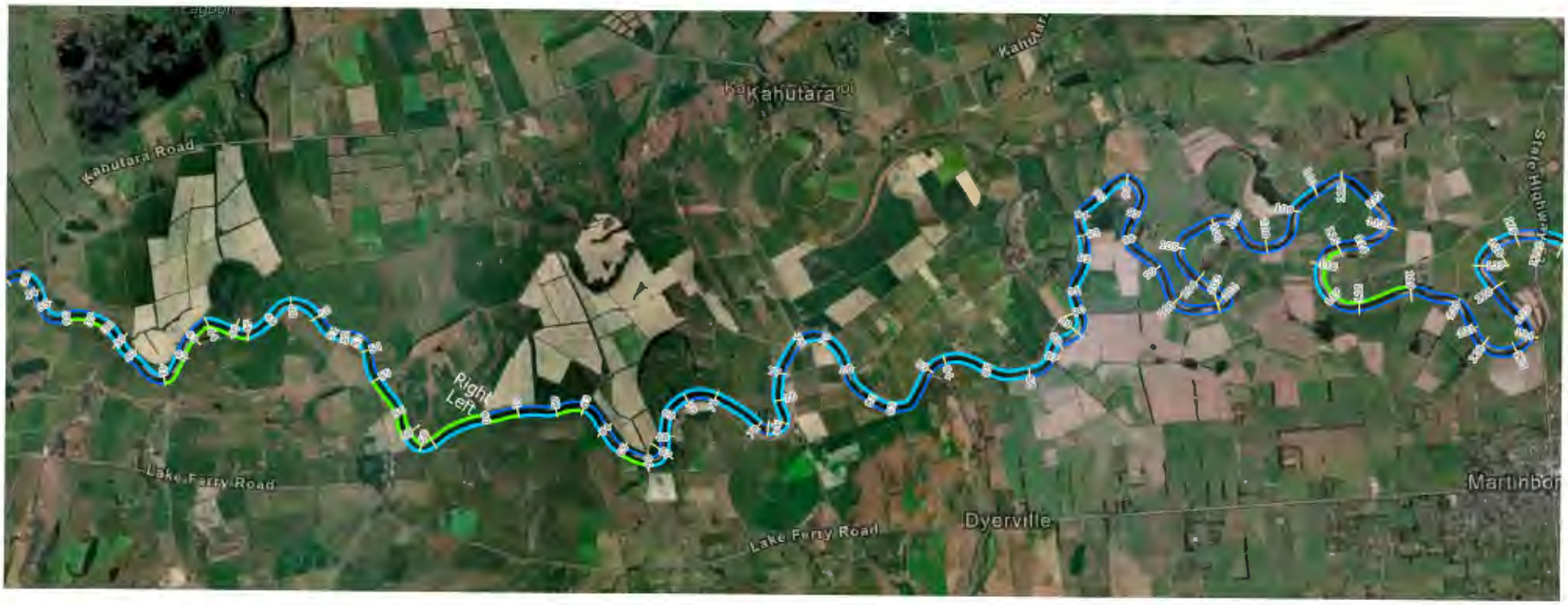

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Te Pane Matua Taiao

Lower Ruamahanga (Tuhitarata - Waihenga) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (0)
- Medium (68)
- Low (78)
- Very Low (20)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:09 am
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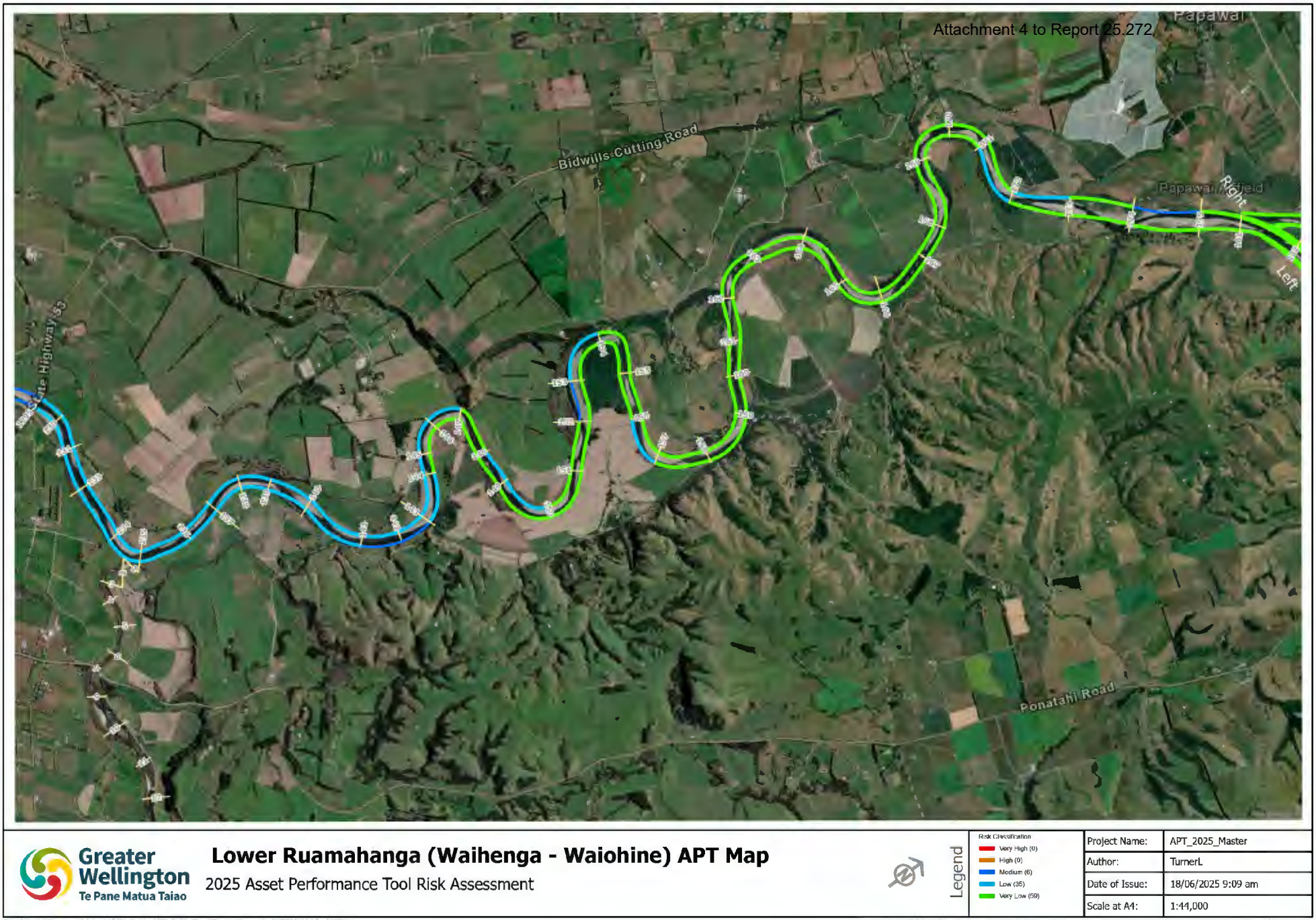
Papawai
Bidwills Cutting Road
Papawai Right
Left
Ponatahi Road
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Lower Ruamahanga (Waihenga - Waiohine) APT Map
2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment
Legend
Risk Classification
Very High (0)
High (0)
Medium (6)
Low (35)
Very Low (59)
Project Name: APT_2025_Master
Author: TurnerL
Date of Issue: 18/06/2025 9:09 am
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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Ruamahanga (Gladstone) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (0)
- Medium (13)
- Low (20)
- Very Low (58)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:09 am
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Earthstar Geographics, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Ruamahanga (Te Ore Ore) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (0)
- Medium (0)
- Low (11)
- Very Low (13)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:09 am
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Earthstar Geographics, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Ruamahanga (Mt Bruce) APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (1)
- Medium (6)
- Low (32)
- Very Low (44)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:09 am
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Esri Hist Geographics, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

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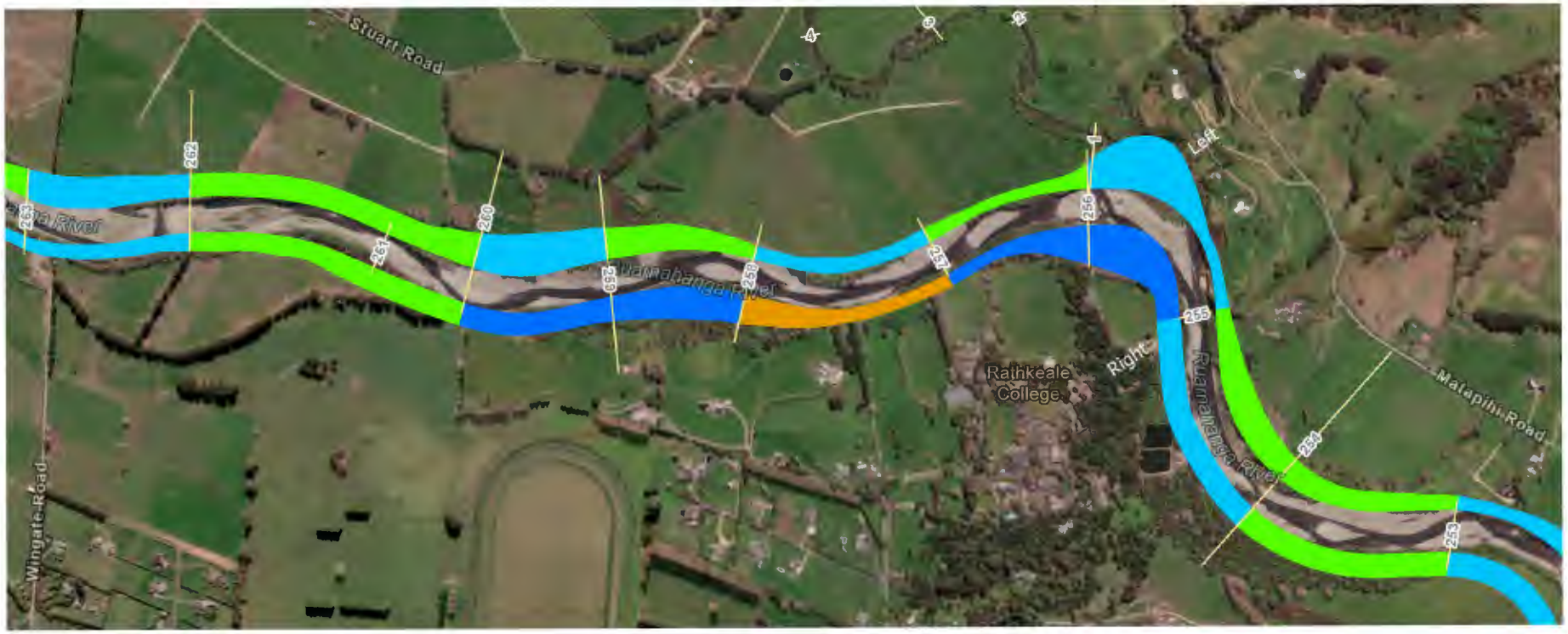

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Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Ruamahanga (Mt Bruce) - Rathkeale APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (1)
- Medium (4)
- Low (6)
- Very Low (10)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:10 am
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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waiohine APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (5)
- Medium (21)
- Low (23)
- Very Low (43)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:10 am
Scale at A4:	1:41,000

Earthstar Geographics: LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS

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Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waiohine - Rail Bridge & Fullers Bend APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (5)
- Medium (13)
- Low (12)
- Very Low (17)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
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Earthstar Geographics, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, WEST/MASA, USGS

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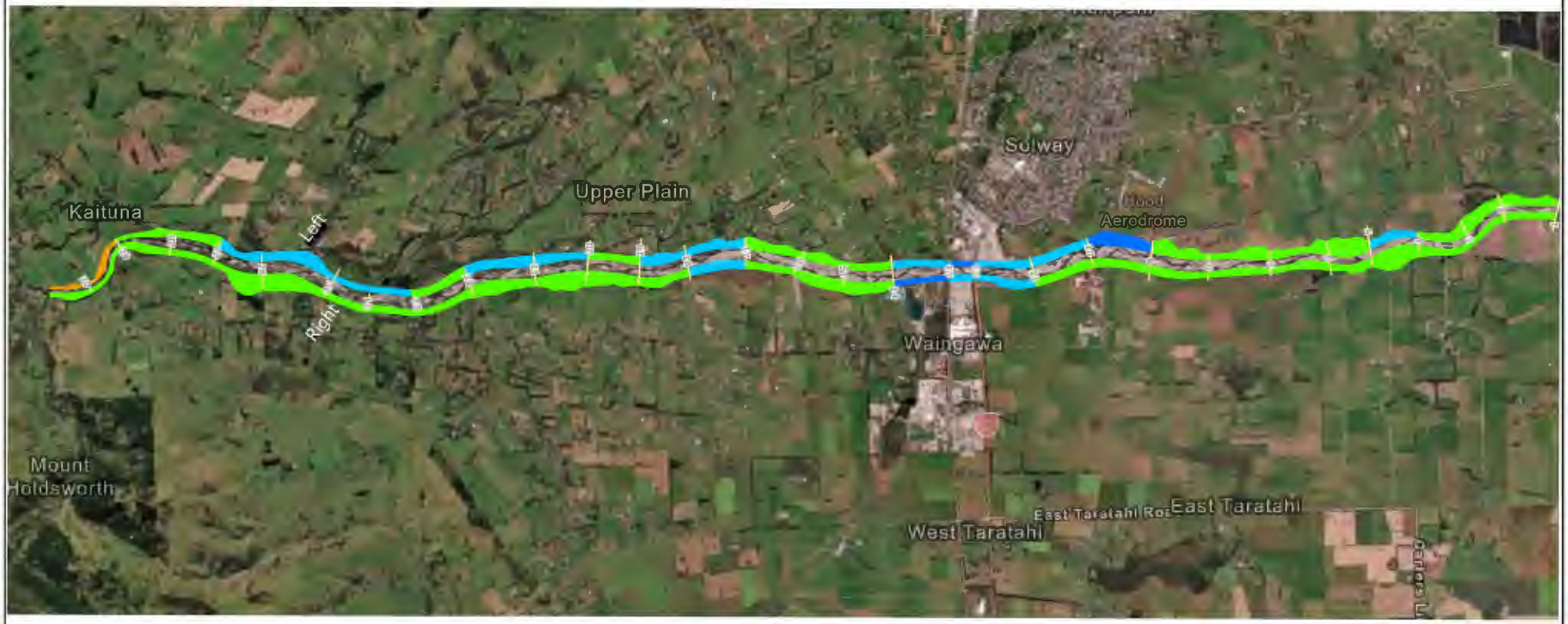

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waingawa APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (0)
- High (2)
- Medium (3)
- Low (15)
- Very Low (40)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:10 am
Scale at A4:	1:60,000

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, WEST/NASA, USGS

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Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waipoua APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (4)
- High (6)
- Medium (30)
- Low (25)
- Very Low (27)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:10 am
Scale at A4:	1:48,000

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Waipoua - Masterton Reaches APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (4)
- High (5)
- Medium (4)
- Low (1)
- Very Low (0)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
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Attachment 4 to Report 25.272
Lake Wairarapa
Featherston
Right
Left
Pirinoa
South Wairarapa District
Martinborough
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Lower Wairarapa APT Map
2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment
Legend
Risk Classification
Very High (0)
High (0)
Medium (152)
Low (142)
Very Low (113)
Project Name: APT_2025_Master
Author: TurnerL
Date of Issue: 18/06/2025 9:10 am
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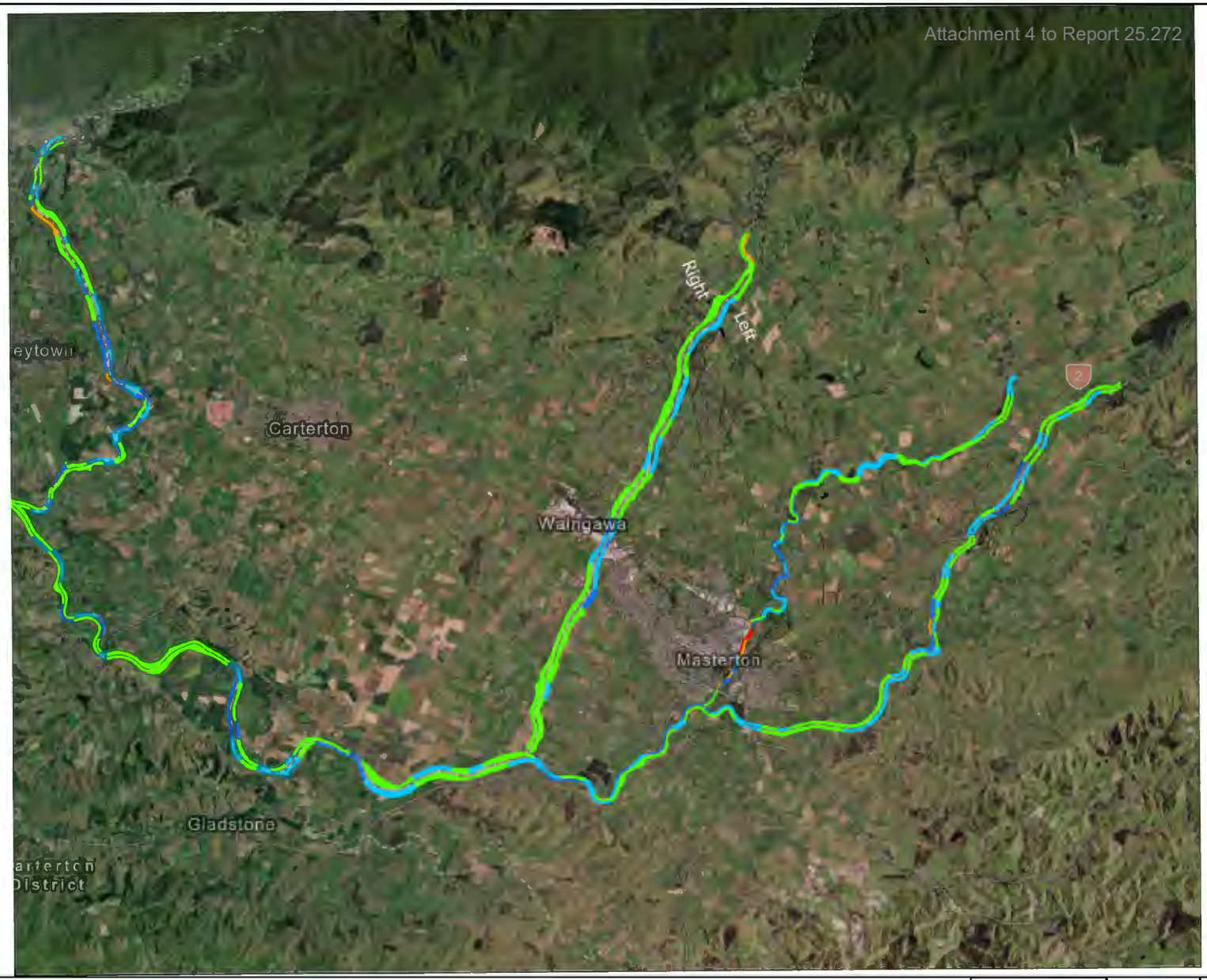


Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Upper Wairarapa APT Map

2025 Asset Performance Tool Risk Assessment

Legend

Risk Classification
- Very High (4)
- High (14)
- Medium (79)
- Low (128)
- Very Low (200)

Project Name:	APT_2025_Master
Author:	TurnerL
Date of Issue:	18/06/2025 9:10 am
Scale at A4:	1:160,000

Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, METI/NASA, USGS, Earthstar Geographics

Path: X:\CM-FloodProtection-Wgtn\GIS\AssetManagement\Projects\APT\2025 APT\APT_2025_Master.aprx

Attachment 5 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Flood Asset High & Very High Risks and Their Remediation 2025

Wairarapa River Schemes							
Scheme	**Location, XS, Bank**	**Failure Mode(s)**	**Description**	**Probability of Failure**	**Consequence of Failure**	**Risk**	**Remediation 2025**
Te Kāuru, **Waipoua**	Urban Reach, 3 - 4 Right Bank, 5 - 6 Right Bank, 7 - 10 Both Bank, 11 - 12 Right Bank	Consequence; Capacity; Intrinsic Strength; Condition	Stopbank predicted to overtop in the 1% AEP design event. Stopbanks in this area have poor intrinsic strength and condition. Some XS have condition issues	5	3 - 5	High – Very High	A concept design for the preferred option for managing the flood risk from the Waipoua River to the Masterton urban area has now been completed. This was endorsed by the Environment Committee in June 2025. Projects under Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) are addressing left bank protection at SH2 and right bank protection at the Waipoua Industrial site. Site 3 & 4 project works have been completed.
Te Kāuru, **Waingawa**	MDC water supply pipeline, 29-30, Left bank	Consequence; Erosion/ Condition; Capacity	Risk of erosion to MDC water supply pipeline during 1% AEP event. Some XS have condition issues	4	4	High	Projects under Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) are addressing erosion around the MDC water supply pipeline. Site 7 rock protection works have been completed.
Waiōhine	Fullers bend, 20 - 21, Right bank	Erosion/ Condition	Risk of erosion to Fullers Bend from 1% AEP event. Some XS have condition issues	5	3	High	Project is currently being delivered under the Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) programme Site 5.

Attachment 5 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Flood Asset High & Very High Risks and Their Remediation 2025

Wairarapa River Schemes							
Scheme	**Location, XS, Bank**	**Failure Mode(s)**	**Description**	**Probability of Failure**	**Consequence of Failure**	**Risk**	**Remediation 2025**
Waiōhine	D/S of rail bridge, XS 32-36, Right bank	Consequence; Capacity; Condition	During 1% AEP event water spills out river towards Greytown. Some XS have condition issues	3	4	High	This will be addressed through the Waiohine River Plan. An RFP for specialist planner's services to develop a consenting strategy is currently in progress. The resulting strategy will provide clarity on the path forward and inform subsequent steps.
Te Kāuru, **Mount Bruce**	Rathkeale College, 257, Right bank	Erosion/ Condition; Intrinsic strength	Risk of erosion to stopbank due to proximity to river. Has some condition issues	5	3	High	This was identified in the Te Kāuru FMP as a major project. Further consultation and engagement with landowners are required to agree an option to address the risk to the Rathkeale stopbank.

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Annual Wairarapa Flood Asset Assessment Report

9th September 2025

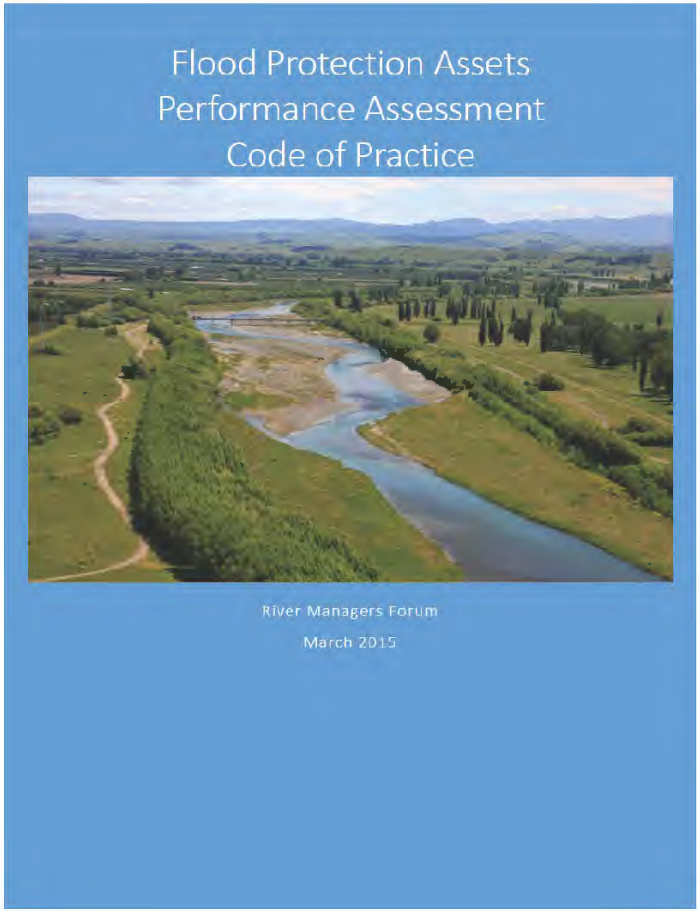
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

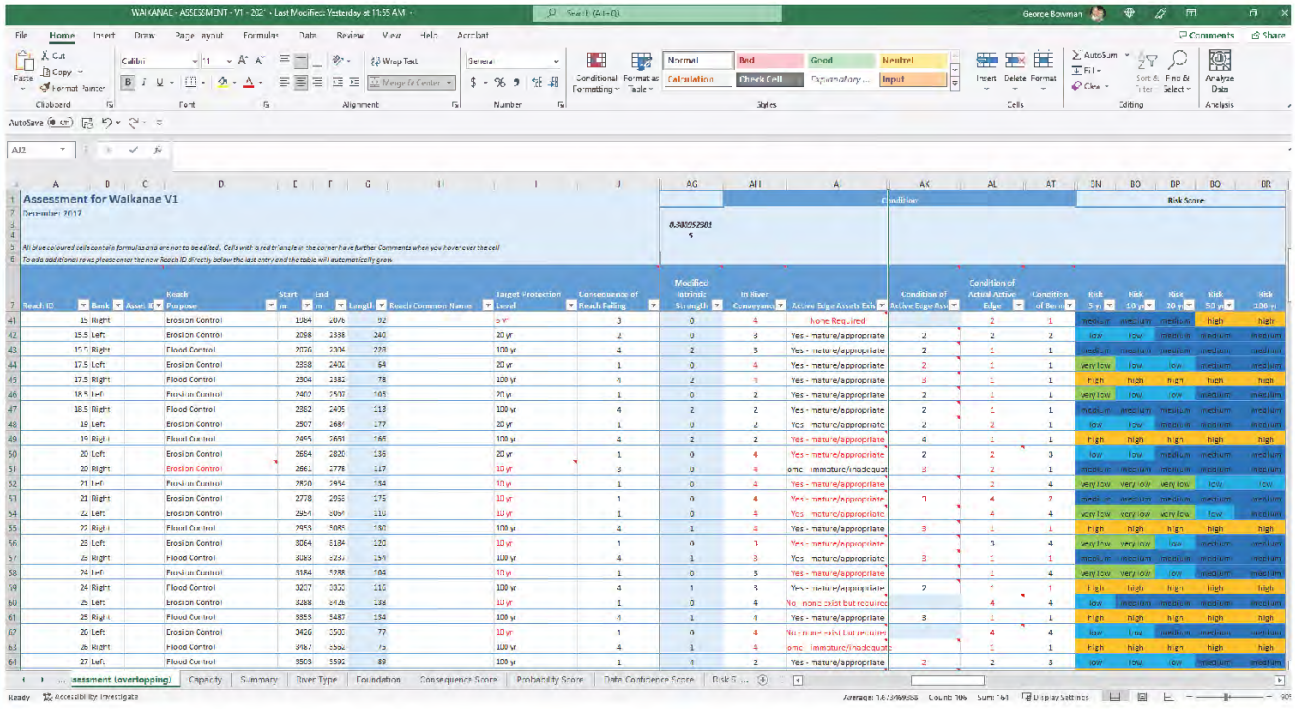
Part 1: How do we assess asset condition and river system risk?

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

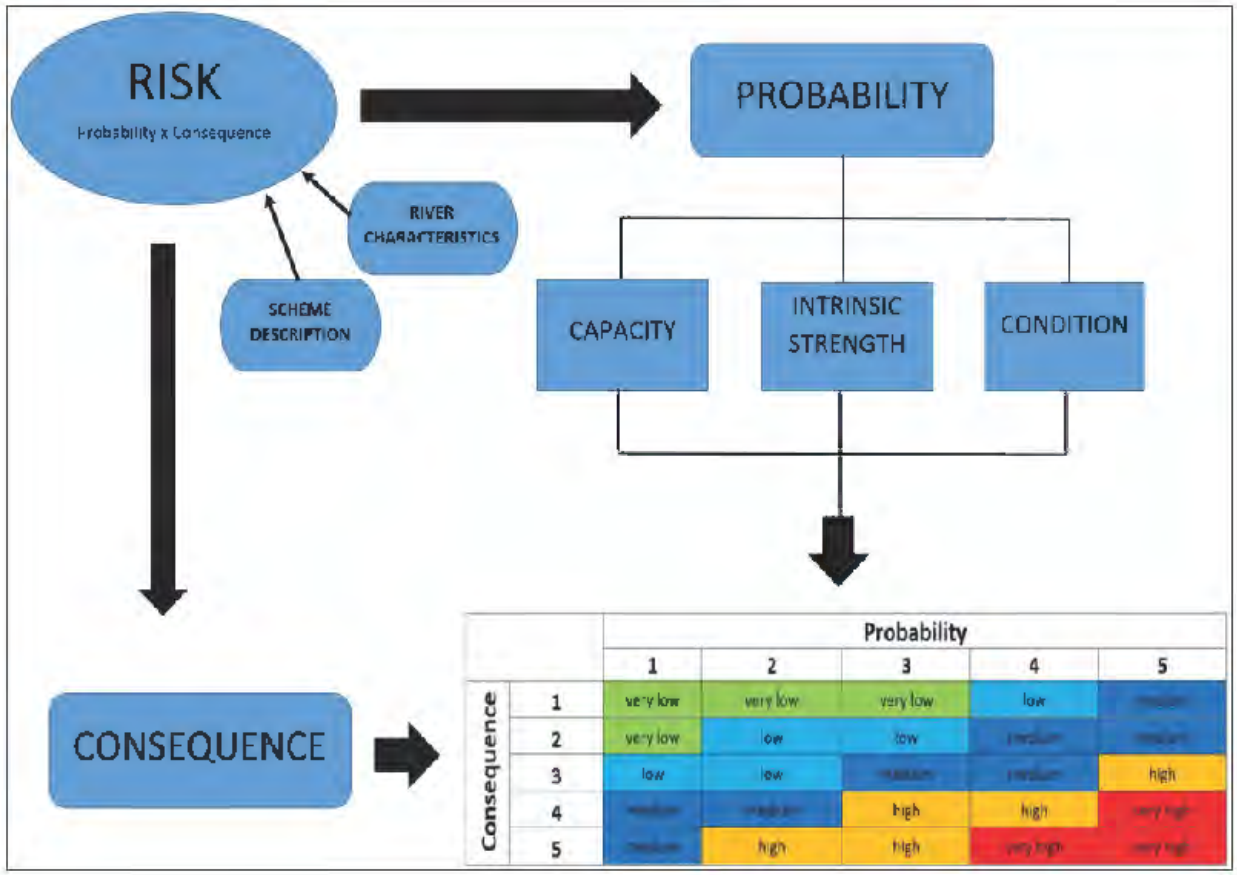
What is the Asset Performance Framework?





Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

How do we assess the risk?



Example: Waingawa River Scheme Risk Assessment

CONSEQUENCE

Modelling
Flood Hazard Maps

Consequence	1	2	3	4	5
1	very low	very low	low	medium	medium
2	very low	low	low	medium	medium
3	very low	low	medium	high	high
4	low	medium	medium	high	very high
5	medium	high	high	very high	very high

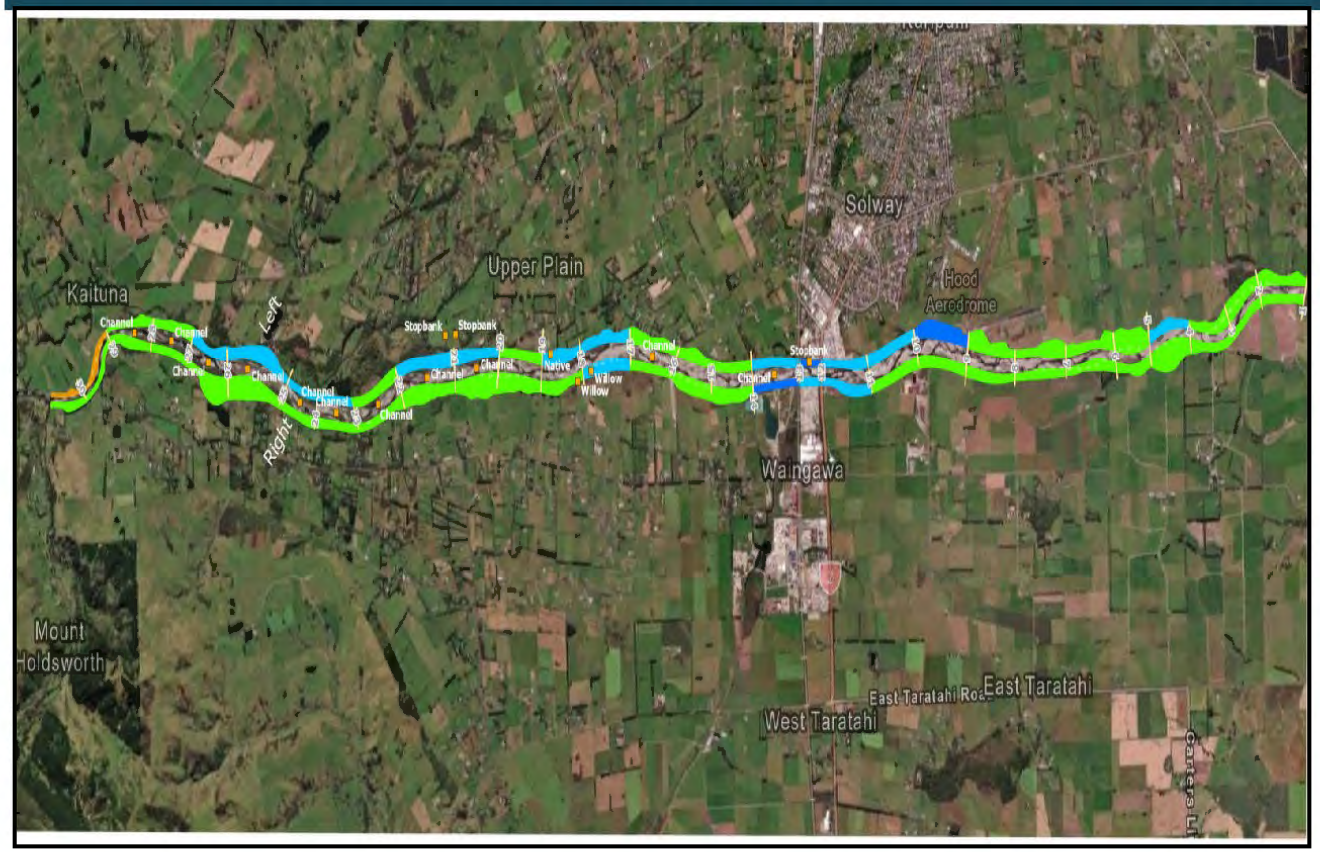
Modelling
Surveying

Geotech
As-builts

Inspections

Performance
Information

Risk Assessment: Why do we do it?



BENEFITS

- Risk communication
- Work program prioritisation
- Identifies potential failure modes
- Identifies critical assets
- Identifies missing information

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Part 2: 2025 Annual Asset Management Condition Report

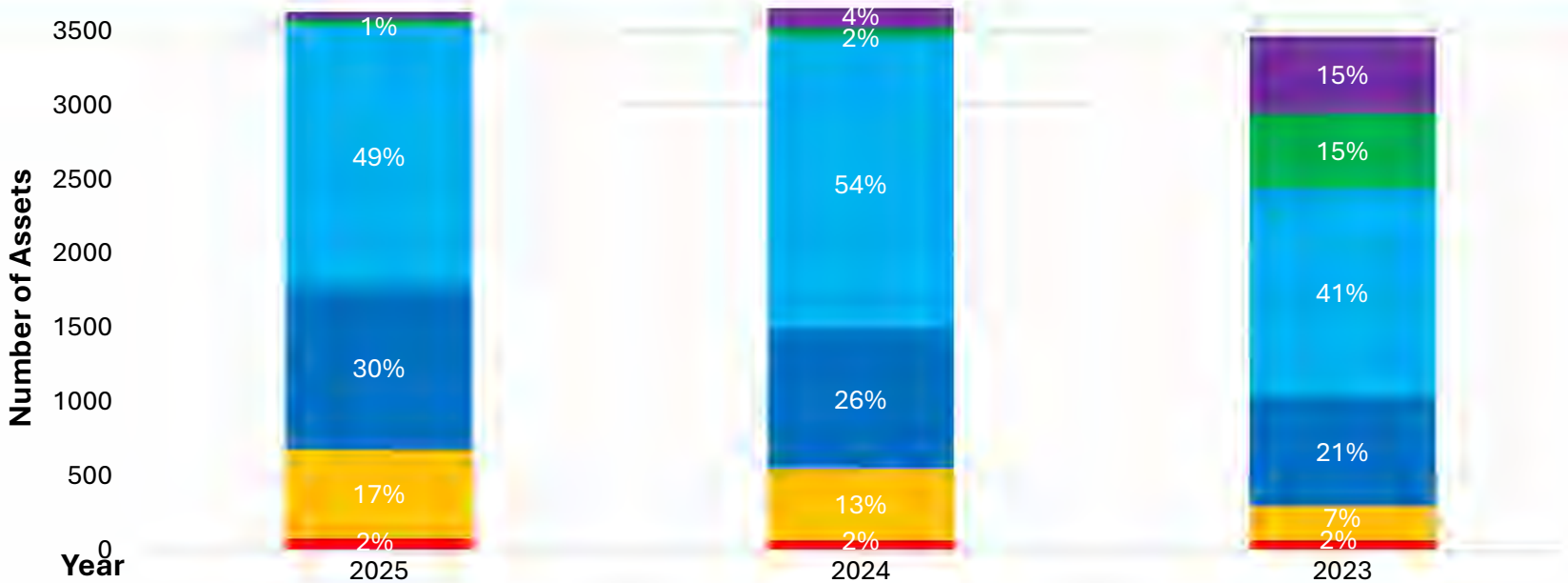
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Condition Trend

Year	2025		2024		2023	
Condition Scores	Ratio	Count	Ratio	Count	Ratio	Count
1 - Very Good	80%	44	81%	66	77%	510
2 - Good		1761		1967		1410
3 - Moderate		1087		937		729
4 – Poor	19%	598	15%	479	9%	229
5 - Very Poor		86		72		73
TBD	1%	50	4%	130	15%	509
Total	**100%**	**3626**	**100%**	**3651**	**100%**	**3460**

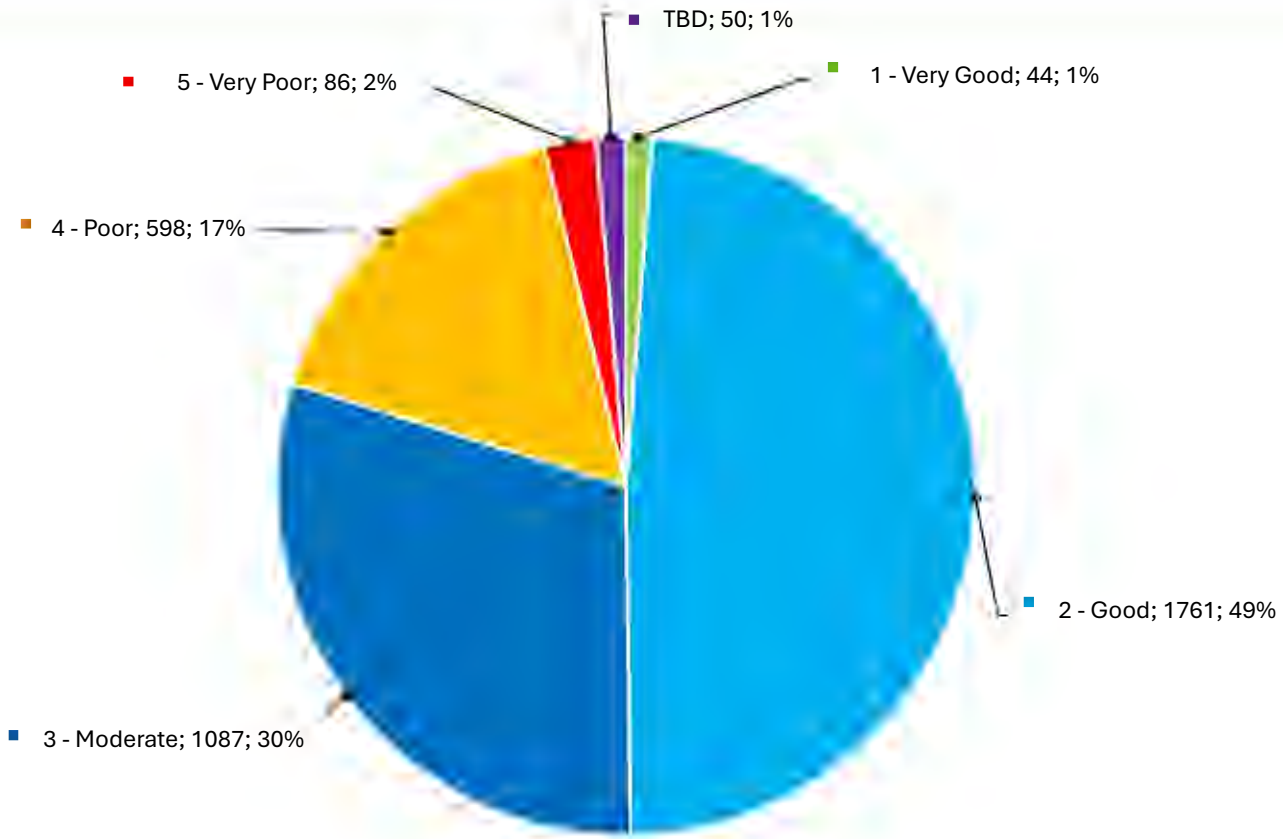
Wairarapa River Schemes Summary of Condition by year



Year	2025	2024	2023
TBD	50	130	509
1 - Very Good	44	66	510
2 - Good	1761	1967	1410
3 - Moderate	1087	937	729
4 - Poor	598	479	229
5 - Very Poor	86	72	73
Total	**3626**	**3651**	**3460**

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes 2025 Condition Summary



Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes 2025 Condition by Asset Type

Asset Type	1 - Very Good	2 - Good	3 - Moderate	4 - Poor	5 - Very Poor	TBD	Total
Barrage gate	0	3	4	0	0	0	7
Blockline	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Building	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Channel	5	216	202	66	3	1	493
Culvert	3	54	37	20	1	3	118
Debris arrestor	0	4	2	1	0	0	7
Debris fence	0	63	26	7	16	6	118
Demolition line	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Detention Dam	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Diversion Cut	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Drain/modified channel	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Electrical Control System	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Electrical Generator	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fence	1	25	4	3	0	0	33
Floodgate	2	31	41	34	4	5	117
Floodwall	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Gate	1	3	1	0	0	0	5
Groyne	13	632	284	108	28	25	1090
Headwall/Wingwall	2	48	40	29	9	4	132
Native planting	0	4	2	0	0	0	6
Retaining wall	0	5	1	0	1	0	7
Riprap	2	33	12	9	2	3	61
Rock Mattress	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Sign	12	9	3	2	0	1	27
Spillway	0	7	0	0	0	0	7
Stopbank	0	86	147	267	13	1	514
Weir	0	12	5	4	0	0	21
Willow	2	517	275	47	9	1	851
Grand Total	**44**	**1761**	**1087**	**598**	**86**	**50**	**3626**

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Poor Condition by Asset Type

Asset Type	4 - Poor	5 - Very Poor	Total
Barrage gate	0	0	0
Blockline	0	0	0
Building	0	0	0
Channel	66	3	69
Culvert	20	1	21
Debris arrestor	1	0	1
Debris fence	7	16	23
Demolition line	1	0	1
Detention Dam	0	0	0
Diversion Cut	0	0	0
Drain/modified channel	0	0	0
Electrical Control System	0	0	0
Electrical Generator	0	0	0
Fence	3	0	3
Floodgate	34	4	38
Floodwall	0	0	0
Gate	0	0	0
Groyne	108	28	136
Headwall/Wingwall	29	9	38
Native planting	0	0	0
Retaining wall	0	1	1
Riprap	9	2	11
Rock Mattress	0	0	0
Sign	2	0	2
Spillway	0	0	0
Stopbank	267	13	280
Weir	4	0	4
Willow	47	9	56
Total	**598**	**86**	**684**

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Condition by Critical Asset Type

Asset Type	Total Number	4 - Poor	5 - Very Poor	Issue(s) reported
Culvert	118	20	1	Invasive vegetation, blocked, moved, buried
Floodgate	117	34	4	Overgrown and buried, Corroded, Broken floodgate arms
Groyne	1090	108	28	Loss of material, rocks missing, overgrown and buried
Headwall / Wingwall	132	29	9	Overgrown and buried, broken and collapsing, Corroding
Retaining wall	7	0	1	Moved, Misaligned, Cracked, Graffiti
Riprap	61	9	2	Excessive grass or weed, Rocks missing, washed away, loose
Stopbank	514	267	13	Invasive weeds, trees, Scouring, Erosion, Stock Damage
Weir	21	4	0	Rocks missing, washed out
Total	**2060**	**471**	**58**	

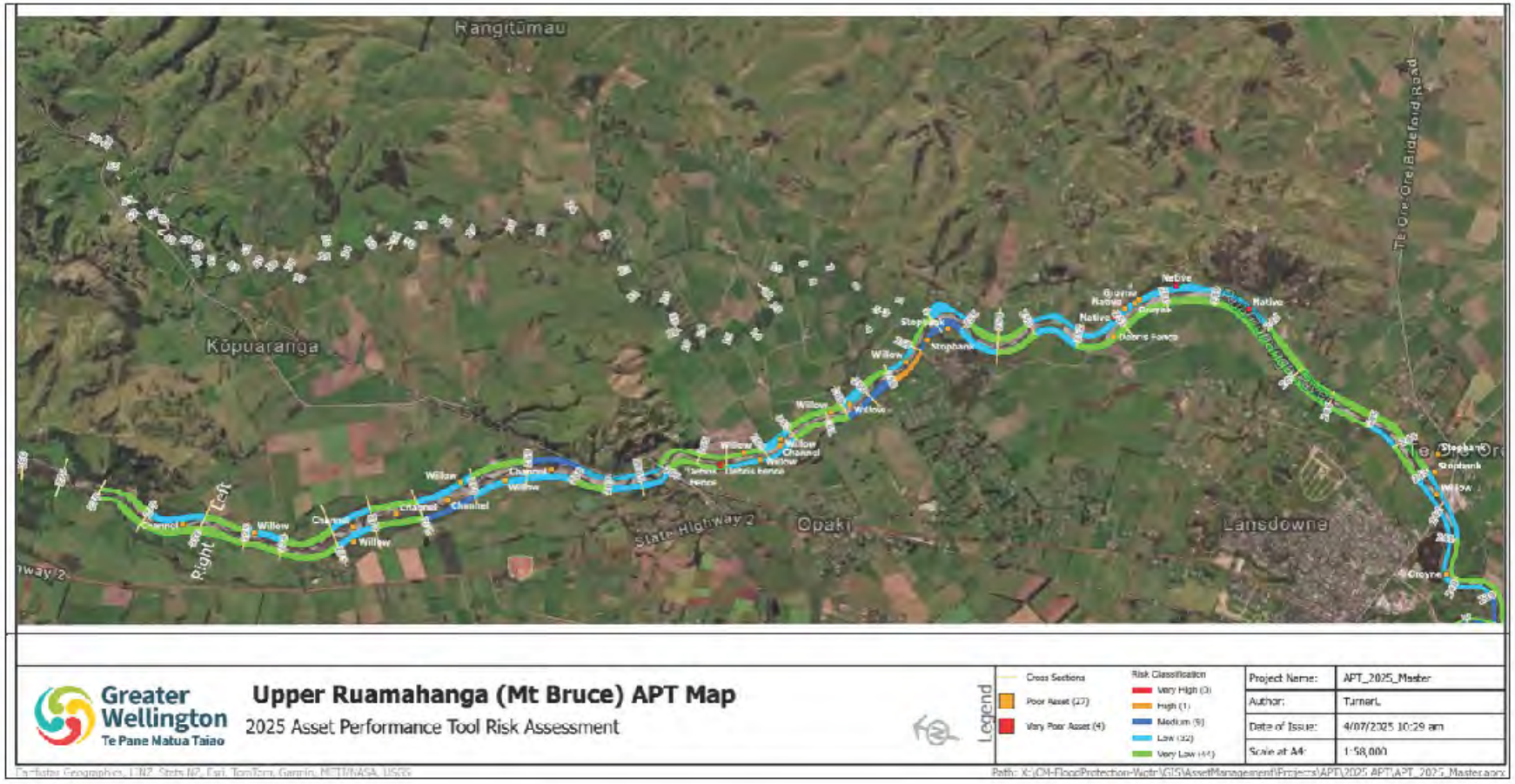
Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Risk Maps

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

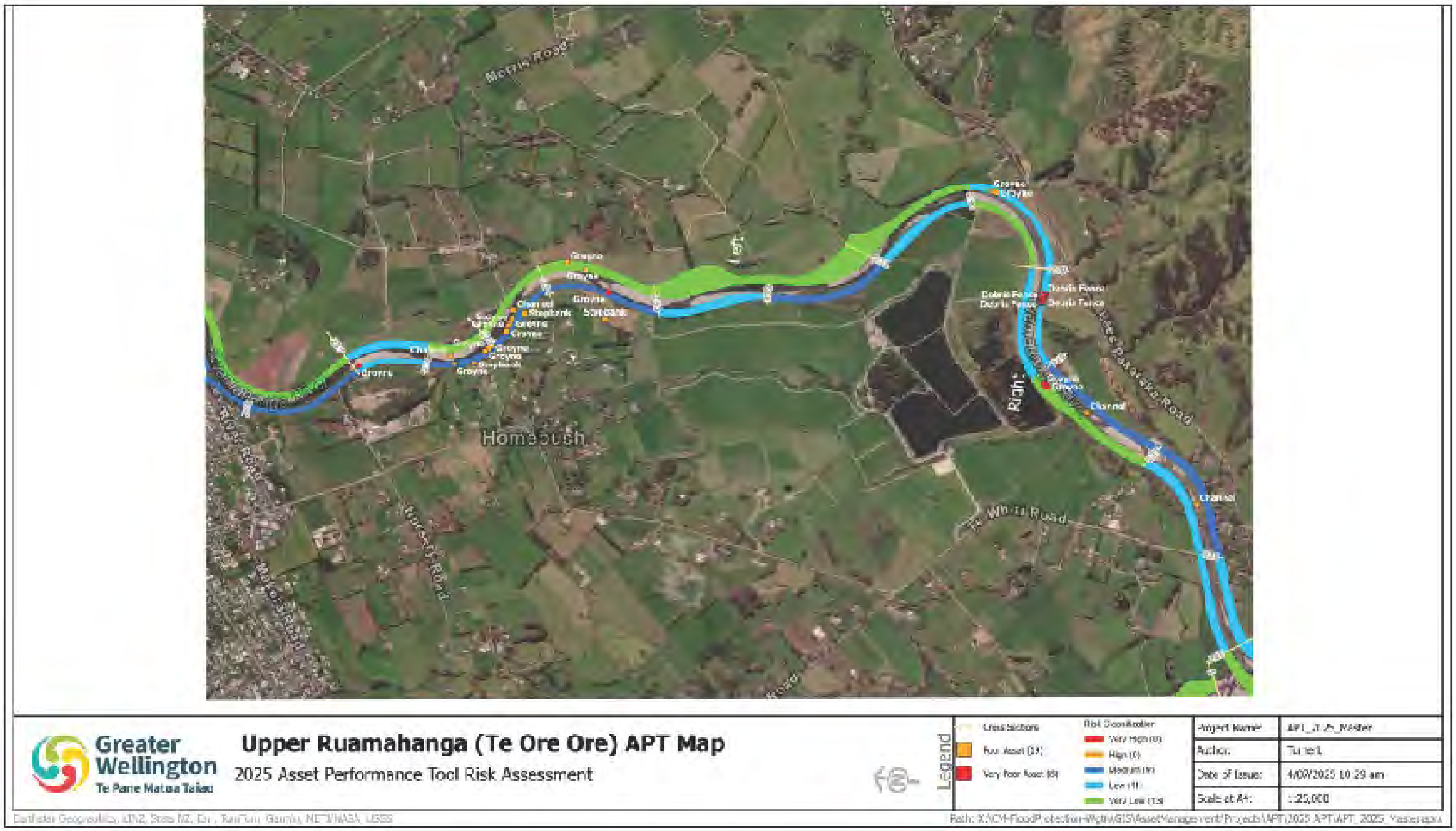
Upper Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk – Mt Bruce

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272



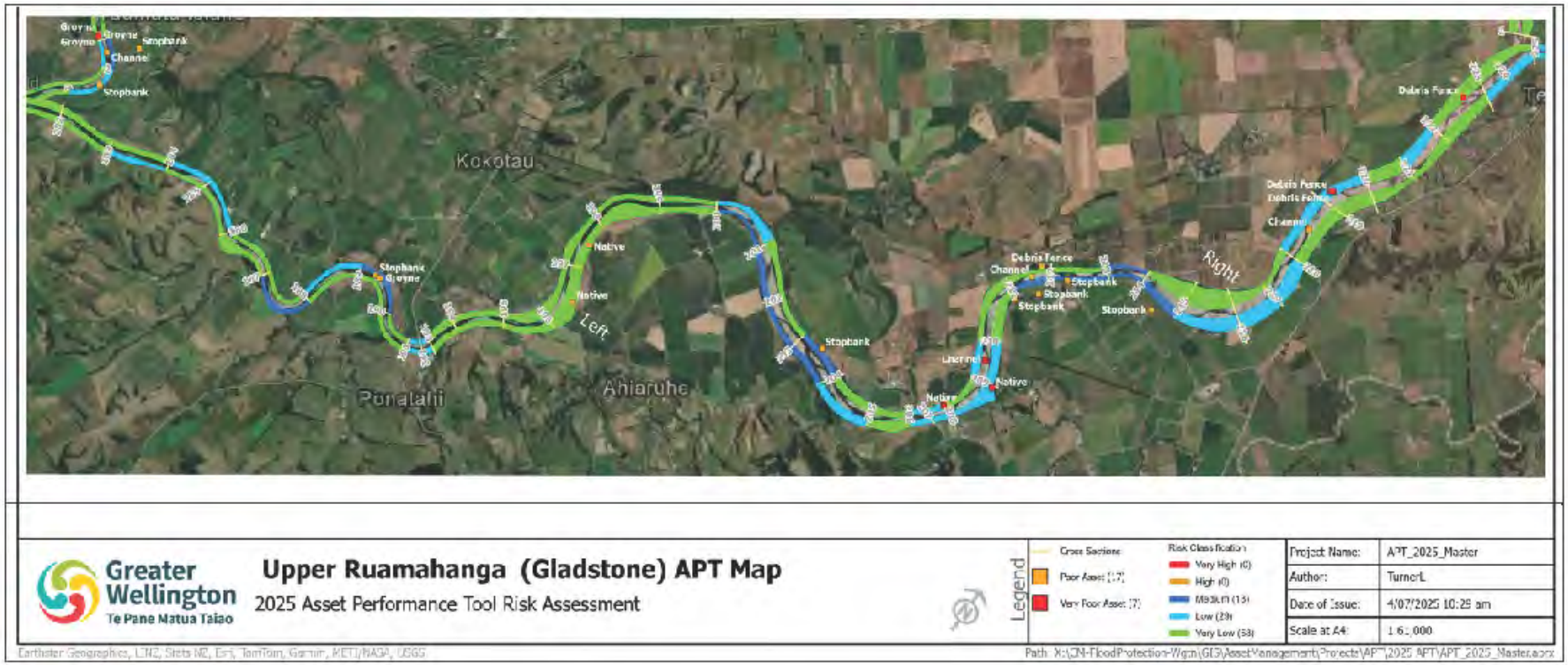
Upper Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk – Te Ore Ore

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272



Upper Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Gladstone

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272



Upper Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Waipoua

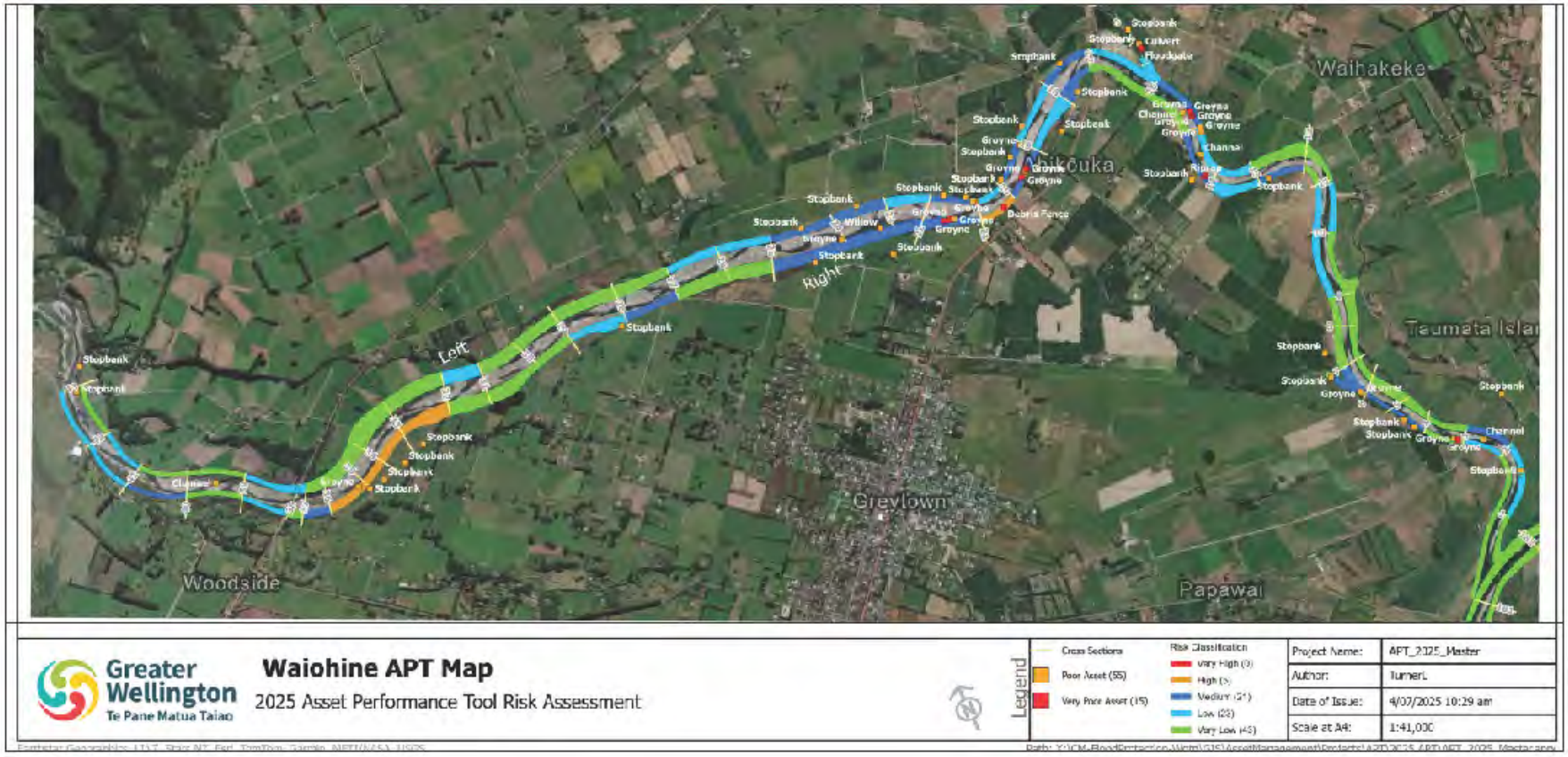
Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Waingawa

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Waiohine

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272



Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	Cross Section	Work Required	Segment Risk	Condition of Asset
Upper Ruamāhanga River - **Mount Bruce**	SR 282	Removal of Rails in channel at XS 282 Recover heavy rock in channel after rock groyne wash out	N/A	N/A
	SL 277	Willow pole planting base of Hidden Lakes and gravel groyne work 400 poles Native planting into Hidden Lakes slip face - 500 plants	Very Low	3
	Various	Iron Rail Removal as found Native planting maintenance Willow maintenance under powerlines	Various	Various
Upper Ruamāhanga River - **Te Ore Ore**	SR 237	Native Planting around new rock groynes Willow pole replant between River Road Project groynes	Medium	2
	SL 236	Bed/beach recontour	Low	3
	SR 236 – SR 235	Stopbank Maintenance - Mulching	Low – Medium	3 - 4
	SR 234	Bed/beach recontour	Medium	3
	SL 227	Beach Recontour	Medium	5
	SL 225	Clearing of vegetation (Old Mans Bead) around Wardell's Bridge Spray willow growth around pier of Wardell's Bridge	Low	2
	Various	Willow maintenance under powerlines	Various	Various

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	Cross Section	Work Required	Segment Risk	Condition of Asset
Upper Ruamāhanga River – Gladstone	SR 221	Beach recontour into erosion bay at Wells	Low	4
	SR 219	Gravel groyne maintenance in erosion bay	Low	4
	SR 204	Stopbank clearing 500m of large scrub – stopbank rated 4	Very Low	3
	SR 189	Remove large trees at slump to take pressure off stopbank erosion condition rated 4	Medium	4
		Planting natives into Taumata cleared area		
	SR 184	Outlet Improvements Taumata Stream Berm Lowering Spray Crack Willow Regrowth Taumata Island 3 km	Low	4
	Various	Willow maintenance under powerlines	Various	Various
Waipoua River	SL 38	Willow Planting 50 poles close to Mossman	Very Low	3
	SR 26	Rock groyne Maintenance	Very Low	3
		Stopbank top up to low spot Rutherford	Very Low	3
	SR 24	Extra rock top-up groyne at Garrod	Low	4
	SL 22	Bed Recontour Golds Corner (high beach)	Low	2
	SR 18	Bed Recontour	Medium	3
	SL 8 – SL 16	Mulch stopbanks Akura - rated 4	Medium	3 - 4
	SL/R 5	Extra placement around weir No2 at degrading downstream section to enhance fish passage and support weir	Medium – High	3

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L - Section Both Banks

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Required**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Waipoua River	Various	Maintenance around native plantings Clearing of vegetation (Old Mans Bead and Ivy) within urban reach Iron Rail Removal as found	Various	Various
	Various	Mulch 2km stopbanks in Matahiwi area	Various	Various
Waingawa River	SR/L 28 – SR/L 88	Vegetation clearance in channel design fairway	Very Low - Low	3 - 4
	SL 26	Phase 2 - Work Bed Recontour protection to MDC water pipe	Low	3
	SR 18	Pole Planting 200 poles	Very Low	3
	SR 16	Bed Recontour / Beach Recontour	Very Low	3
	SR 13	Bed Recontour	Medium	4
	SL 11	Mulching stopbank between Road and Rail bridge	Low	3
	SL 10	Maintenance around native plantings Skeets Road	Low	4
	SL 9	Pole Planting 200 poles	Medium	4
	SR 6	Beach Recontour	Very Low	3
	SL 6 – SL 5	Pole Planting 200 poles	Very Low	2 - 3
	SR 5	Beach Recontour	Very Low	3

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L - Section Both Banks

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Upper) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	Cross Section	Work Required	Segment Risk	Condition of Asset
Waiōhine River	SR/L 31 - SR/L 22	Willow pole plantings 725 poles	Very Low - Medium	3 - 4
	SR 27	Erosion control at Kuratawhiti Street above new rock groynes	Medium	3
	SR 22	Erosion control and rock groyne maintenance	Medium	3
	SR 20	Native plantings	High	4
	SL 18	Rock purchase 1600 T	Low	3
	SL 15	Rock Groyne Maintenance	Medium	5
	SL 12	Willow Layering	Very Low	2
	SR 3	Rock Groyne Maintenance	Very Low	3
	SR 2	Native plantings	Low	4
	Various	Iron rail removal as required	Various	Various
	Various	Weed Spraying		

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L - Section Both Banks

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Risk Mitigation

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Flood Asset High & Very High Risks and Their Remediation 2025

Wairarapa River Schemes							
Scheme	Location, XS, Bank	Failure Mode(s)	Description	Probability of Failure	Consequence of Failure	Risk	Remediation 2025
Te Kāuru, Waipoua	Urban Reach, 3 - 4 Right Bank, 5 - 6 Right Bank, 7 - 10 Both Bank, 11 - 12 Right Bank	Consequence; Capacity; Intrinsic Strength; Condition	Stopbank predicted to overtop in the 1% AEP design event. Stopbanks in this area have poor intrinsic strength and condition. Some XS have condition issues	5	3 - 5	High – Very High	A concept design for the preferred option for managing the flood risk from the Waipoua River to the Masterton urban area has now been completed. This was endorsed by the Environment Committee in June 2025. Projects under Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) are addressing left bank protection at SH2 and right bank protection at the Waipoua Industrial site. Site 3 & 4 project works have been completed.
Te Kauru, Waingawa	MDC water supply pipeline, 29-30, Left bank	Consequence; Erosion/ Condition; Capacity	Risk of erosion to MDC water supply pipeline during 1% AEP event. Some XS have condition issues	4	4	High	Projects under Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) are addressing erosion around the MDC water supply pipeline. Site 7 rock protection works have been completed.
Waiōhine	Fullers bend, 20 - 21, Right bank	Erosion/ Condition	Risk of erosion to Fullers Bend from 1% AEP event. Some XS have condition issues	5	3	High	Project is currently being delivered under the Flood Resilience Tranche 1 (FRT1) programme Site 5.

Upper Wairarapa River Schemes Risk Mitigation

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa River Schemes Flood Asset High & Very High Risks and Their Remediation 2025

Wairarapa River Schemes							
Scheme	Location, XS, Bank	Failure Mode(s)	Description	Probability of Failure	Consequence of Failure	Risk	Remediation 2025
Waiōhine	D/S of rail bridge, XS 32-36, Right bank	Consequence; Capacity; Condition	During 1% AEP event water spills out river towards Greytown. Some XS have condition issues	3	4	High	This will be addressed through the Waiohine River Plan. An RFP for specialist planner's services to develop a consenting strategy is currently in progress. The resulting strategy will provide clarity on the path forward and inform subsequent steps.
Te Kāuru, Mount Bruce	Rathkeale College, 257, Right bank	Erosion/ Condition; Intrinsic strength	Risk of erosion to stopbank due to proximity to river. Has some condition issues	5	3	High	This was identified in the Te Kāuru FMP as a major project. Further consultation and engagement with landowners are required to agree an option to address the risk to the Rathkeale stopbank.

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes Risk Maps

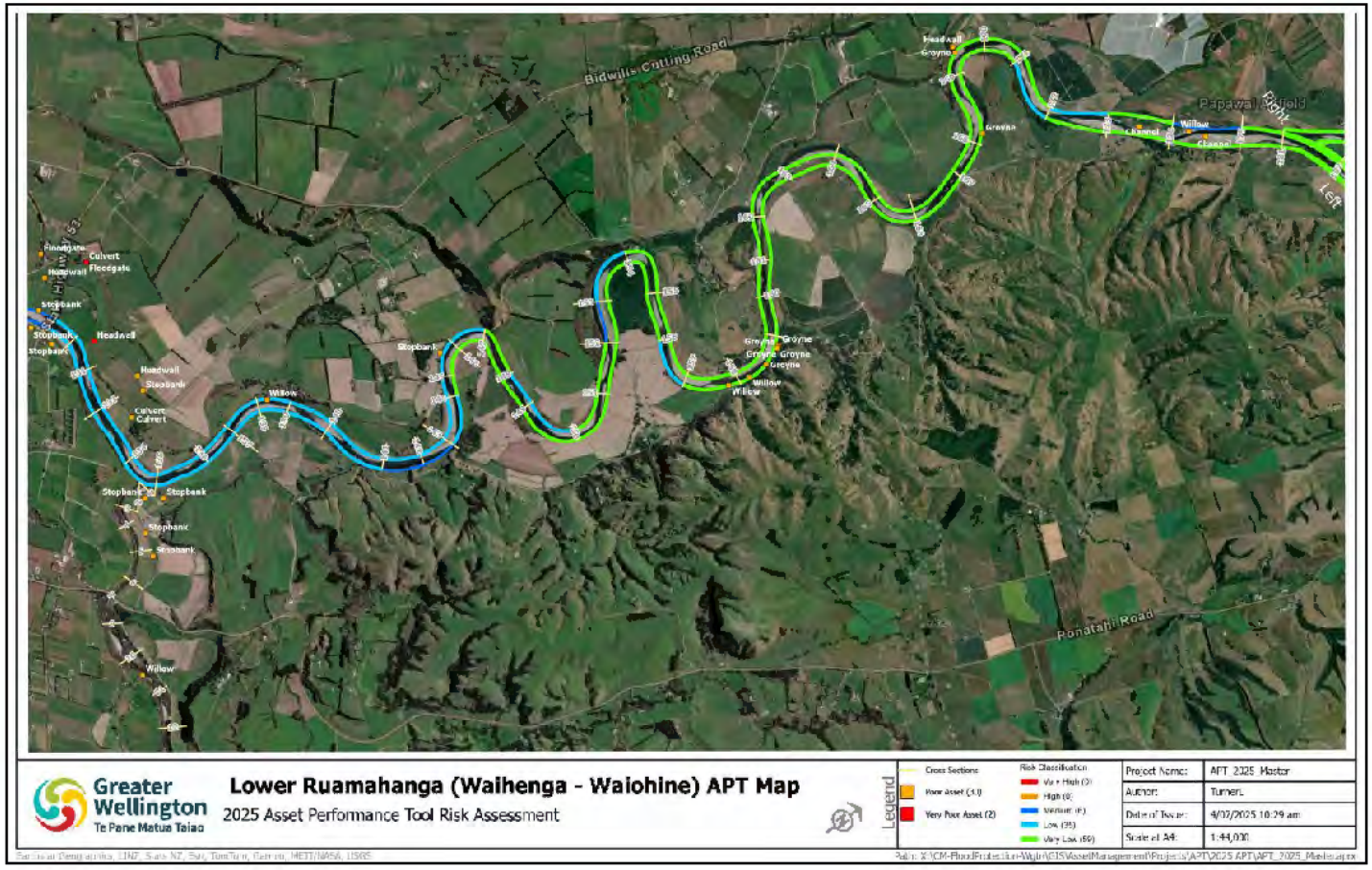
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk – Tauwharenīkau

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Waihenga - Waiōhine

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

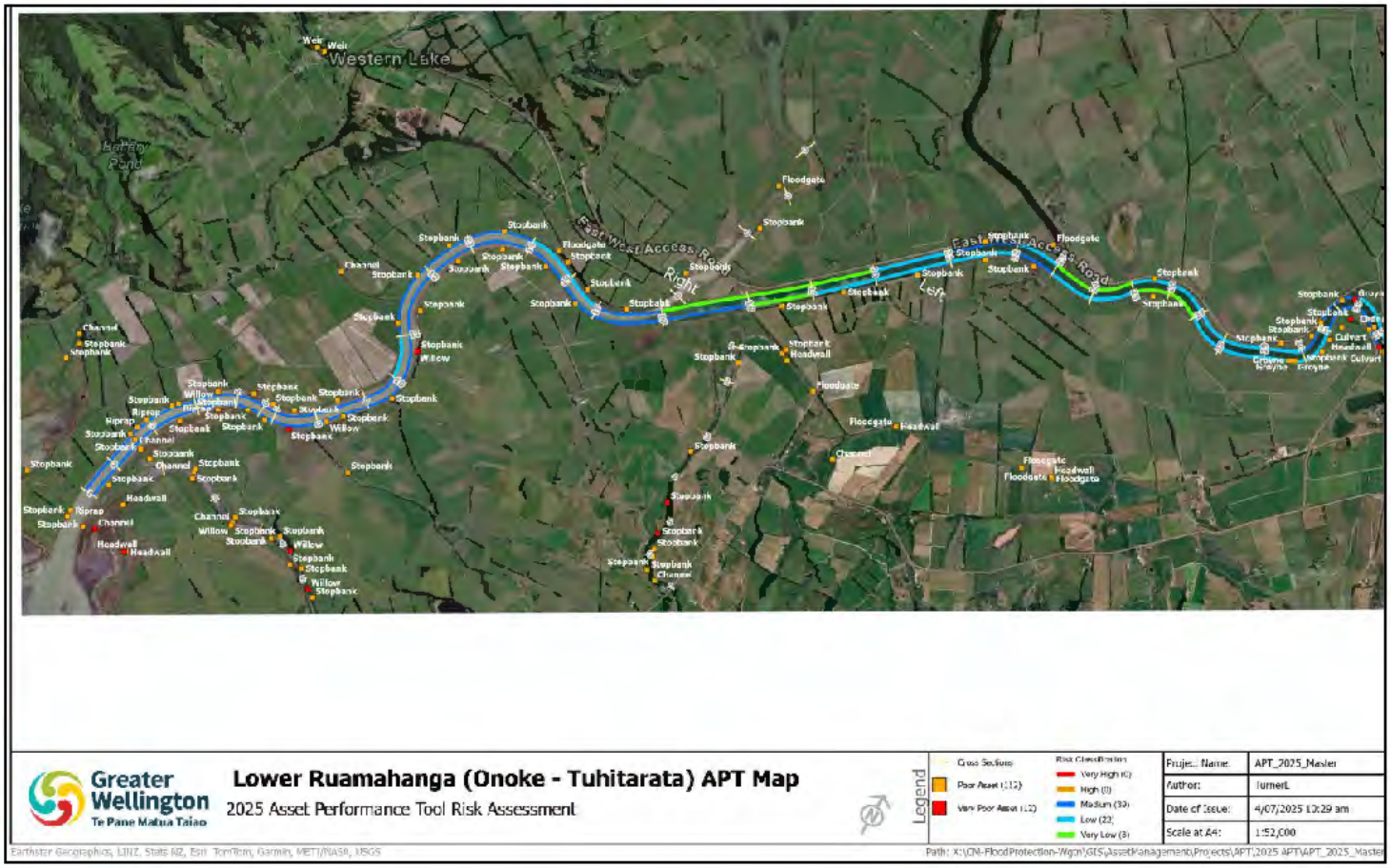


Lower Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Tuhitarata - Waihenga

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes
Poor condition Asset Vs Risk - Onoke - Tuhitarata

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272



Lower Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Lower) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Planned**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Tauwharenīkau River	Various	Spray Crack willow regrowth Remove debris after willow clearing	Various	Various
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Waihenga - Waiōhine**	SR 146 - SR 137	Allowance for top up of stopbanks north of Tawaha Sill	Low	2 – 3
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Tuhitarata - Waihenga**	SL 124 - SL 123	Bank erosion works approx. 30m, outside bend.	Medium	4
	SR 114 - SR 112	Mitigation of erosion at Tawaha Spillway exit.	Medium	3
	SR 88 – SR 79	Pahuatea road Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	Low	2-3
	SR 44 - SR 41	Co-design with Iwi + works	Low & Medium	3-5
	SL 44 – SL 43 & SR 41 – SR 40	Herbicide spray of vegetation around headwalls/ flap gates	Very Low & Low	2 - 3
	SL 41 - SL 39	Lower berm and re-form batter around native plants approx. 400m upstream of Waihora confluence. Use material to fill 2x erosion holes in Waihora stopbanks.	Low & Medium	4 - 5
	SR 37 - SR 36	Bank erosion works approx. 30m.	Medium	4
	SL 36 - SL 34	Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	Medium	3 - 4
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Onoke - Tuhitarata**	SR/L 17 – SR/L 1	Control of yellow iris downstream of barrage gates	Low & Medium	3 – 5

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Lower) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Planned**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Lower Ruamāhanga River **Onoke - Tuhitarata**	SL 23 – SL 21, SR 20 -SR 19, SL 17 – SL 16 & SL 15 – SL 12	Herbicide spray of vegetation around headwalls/ flap gates	Low & Medium	2 - 4
	SL 13 - SL 9	Toe erosion of stopbanks works	Medium	4 - 5
	SR 12 – SR 0	Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	Low & Medium	3 - 5
	SL 9 – SL 6	Several stopbank erosion repairs, including drain stopbank.	Medium	4
	SR 5 – SR 4	Approx 100m erosion to mitigate	Medium	4
	SR 3 – SR 2	Erosion works at 3 sites.	Medium	5
	SR 3 – SR 0	stopbank mulching. Remotely operated mulcher - once during year	Medium	4 - 5
	SR/L 7 – SR/L 1	Tauanui weed control	Medium	3 - 5
	SR/L 16 – SR /L 1	Herbicide spraying of pest weeds in Turanganui downstream of Te Rata road bridge.	Low & Medium	3 - 5
LWVDS,Donald's Creek	Donalds Creek mulching	Remotely operated mulcher - 3 times during the year.	N/A	N/A
Abbotts Creek	Various	Trimming overhanging branches. Removing any fallen trees/ branches across the watercourse. General vegetation control along the channel	Various	Various
Pigeon Bush	Various			
Cross Creek	Various			
Manganui	Various			

*SR Section Right Bank SL Section Left Bank SR/L Section Both Banks

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes Operational Works Plan 2025/26

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Wairarapa (Lower) Flood Asset Proposed Work Programme (as of 8th August 2025)

Lower Wairarapa River Schemes				
Location	**Cross Section**	**Work Planned**	**Segment Risk**	**Condition of Asset**
Turanganui	SR 7 – SR 4	Willow pole planting, downstream of Lake Ferry Road Bridge and upstream of Te Rata Road Bridge	Various	Various
Ruamahanga River	SL 141 – SL 140 SR 138 – SR 137 SR 123	Willow pole planting, at Papawai Marshal lury	Various	Various
Planting Tauanui	Various	Willow pole planting, Guy Disbury upstream and downstream gravel stockpile and downstream road bridge	Various	Various
Cross Creek		Willow pole planting		
Owhanga / Pigeon Bush		Willow pole planting		
Huangarua	All	Native planting at Al Richardson and Richard Nation. Native planting to be planted inganga spawning sites downstream of barrage gates.	Various	Various
Barrage Gates		Install new ropes		
Turanganui recontouring	Various	Beach recontouring, vegetation stripping, erosion mitigation.	Various	Various
Tauanui recontouring				
Tauwharenikau recontouring		Beach recontouring, vegetation stripping, erosion mitigation. Allow for total of 600m channel diversion.		
Huangarua recontouring				

*SR – Section Right Bank SL - Section Left Bank SR/L- Section Both Banks

Wairarapa River Schemes
New assets built/captured Since 2024

Attachment 6 to Report 25.272

Asset Type	1 – Very Good	2 – Good	3 – Moderate	4 – Poor	5 – Very Poor	TBD	Total
Groyne	1	2	1	1	1	1	7
Riprap	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stopbank	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	**2**	**2**	**1**	1	2	1	**9**

Recommendation

- That Committee:

1. Recommends to the Environment Committee that it is satisfied that Flood protection and erosion control infrastructure assets have been managed satisfactorily to the agreed Level of Service (LoS).

2. Notes that identified issues are being addressed through maintenance and improvement work programmes.

3. Notes that the 2024–34 Long Term Plan provides an increased level of funding for capital works and operational resources to support flood protection outcomes over the next 10 years.

Thank you.

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.436

For Information

REVIEW OF LOWER WAIRARAPA VALLEY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on preparations for a review of the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme.

Te horopaki
Context

The scheme is a significant regional asset with major ongoing implications

2. Wairarapa Moana is central to progress on the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Programme, the Regional Policy Statement (RPS), Treaty settlements, and Greater Wellington's mana whenua partnerships. Reviewing the scheme is a major programme within our overall commitment to the moana. The review has direct links with climate change adaptation, freshwater outcomes and Treaty settlement commitments.

3. Flood prevention and drainage works have been an ongoing intervention in the hydrology of Wairarapa Moana stretching back more than 100 years. The "Battle of the Lakes" in the 1880s set the scene for an ongoing conflict between settlers who wanted the land drained and Māori who wanted to retain mahinga kai and the tuna fishery associated with natural fluctuations in water.

4. The most significant recent development is establishment of the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board under the *Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Act 2022*, with its inaugural meeting held on 22 March 2024. Its statutory purpose is to:

   "*Act as a guardian of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment, for the benefit of present and future generations*".

The scheme has significant impacts on Māori/mana whenua

5. Online video material which provides insight into the historical background and values associated with the scheme are linked in **Attachment 1**.

6. A key aspect of the scheme's historical background from a Te Ao Māori perspective is contained in the historical account from the Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua Treaty Settlement:

   "*In 1888, the Crown disregarded Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua property rights and rights under te Tiriti o Waitangi when it supported those cutting a channel to Lake Ōnoke, partially draining Wairarapa Moana. To protect Wairarapa*

Moana and the lakes' bountiful resources as well as to end decades of dispute over control of lake levels and the outlet at Ōnoke, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua made a tuku rangatira (chiefly gift) of their lakes to the Crown in 1896."

7. With the lakes in Crown ownership, successive plans were considered for developing pastoral land in the Lower Wairarapa Valley. This culminated in a scheme supported by the 1960s Wairarapa Catchment Board and central government to fundamentally alter the lower Ruamāhanga catchment.

8. Installing the Scheme took more than a decade and led to a landscape-scale alteration of the natural environment. It included the diversion of the Ruamāhanga River away from Lake Wairarapa, extensive dredging and stopbanking of the Ruamāhanga, diversion and stopbanking of other tributaries, pumped drainage, in-filling of wetlands, and installation of a control structure (barrage gates) at the outlet of Lake Wairarapa.

9. Lake Wairarapa is still a major component of the scheme. It is used as a detention dam to hold floodwaters several times a year.

Figure 1. Map showing scale of the scheme including Greater Wellington-owned floodways (blue), drains (green and yellow dots), stopbanks (pink lines). Please note the Greater Wellington land in the forested area at the right and bottom is not part of the scheme.

Why this is regionally significant

10. The 1947 flood in the Wairarapa was a catalyst for the Crown and settlers to plan a major intervention. Recognised as the largest flood on record for the region, it caused extensive inundation of land around Lake Wairarapa. This was exacerbated

by the natural closure of the spit at Lake Ōnoke which restricted the drainage of floodwaters to the sea.

11. The resulting drainage and flood protection scheme was developed over several decades. It has enabled certain types of economic activity and allowed for land uses and investments that would not exist in the same way without it. The combination of gravity and pumped-drainage, river management and lake management activities affect more than 30,000 hectares which is primarily in pasture. These interventions provide an unquantified, but presumably large, financial return.

12. Lake Wairarapa is identified in the Natural Resources Plan (NRP) as inherently connected to mana whenua identity and the mana of the area. It is also a key component of the scheme whereby control gates at the lake outlet can be closed to turn the lake into a flood detention dam during larger events which occur most years.

13. The lake is recognised for numerous values in the NRP. These include recognition as having significant indigenous biodiversity values (both migratory fish habitat and indigenous bird habitat, being a regionally significant primary contact waterbody, and as Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa for both Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa).

14. Lake Wairarapa is the third-largest lake in the North Island and is specified a Category 1 surface water body in the NRP as a lake with outstanding indigenous ecosystem values for wildlife habitat. The margins of Lake Wairarapa (especially on the Eastern shoreline) host the largest wetland system in the Lower North Island. Due to the significant biodiversity present these Wairarapa Moana Wetlands have been designated as a Ramsar site (a wetland of international importance).

15. In recognition of the wetland habitat a national Water Conservation Order was established in the late 1980s and has resulted in lake level targets in the NRP. These levels likely mirror the lake extent established in the early days of the scheme implementation. The levels maintain the water table to support habitat on the lake edge. The Order is a significant national regulation that places conditions on our partnership approach and operation of the scheme.

Why we initiated a review

16. Greater Wellington is responsible for the scheme assets and operations, including the extent to which they provide flood protection. We are also responsible for supporting effective natural resources planning and sustainability. Our commitments therefore require us to review the scheme given:

    a Climate change predictions suggesting sea level rise and altered rainfall patterns

    b Freshwater quality/quantity objectives adopted by Council via the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Programme developed under the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)

    c Environmental, social and economic objectives adopted by Council via the Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy

d Mana whenua aspirations including statements of Te Mana o Te Wai

e Evidence that some aspects of the scheme are becoming ineffective and need to be re-designed

f The need to renew the Barrage gates and the river management consents for the Scheme.

17. A review of the scheme is an opportunity to pursue the objectives and policies outlined in the regional plan, to meet our Te Tiriti obligations, and enhance environmental health and resilience for future generations.

18. Our commitments, and the need for a review, were codified in the most recent resource consent conditions for part of the scheme. These conditions include the requirement for:

"A review of the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme including the level of flood protection, its operations and maintenance, and effects on the environment. This review is to consider climate change and the overall environmental effects of the whole scheme."

19. Funding for the investigations, which will form a major part of phase one of the review, was provided for in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

Te Tiriti o Waitangi | Treaty Settlements

20. The Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements have recognised the significance of the mana whenua relationship with Wairarapa Moana.

a Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust is a post settlement governance entity (PSGE) for Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua who settled with the Crown in 2017.

b Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust is a post settlement governance entity (PSGE) who settled with the Crown in 2022.

21. *Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Act 2022* gives effect to shared cultural redress between Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua as contained within their respective deeds of settlement with the Crown.

22. It established the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board, a co-governance partnership between mana whenua and the Crown. Appointing agencies to the Board include the Wairarapa iwi settlement trusts, Department of Conservation, Greater Wellington and South Wairarapa District Council. The Board is to act as a guardian of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment, for the benefit of present and future generations.

23. In December 2024 the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board's interim position statement reaffirmed the centrality of the 1896 Tuku Rangatira as the first of its guiding principles:

"Te Tuku Rangatira. Wairarapa Moana was gifted to the Crown by iwi in 1896. It was formally gifted back by the Crown to iwi in 2024. The parties made these gifts to reflect their commitment to an enduring relationship based on the best interests of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment. It is important to honour this commitment and engage in the utmost good faith to recognise the intentions of the parties in making the tuku."

Note: The Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board's interim position statement is provided in full as **Attachment 2**.

24. A complication to this Treaty relationship exists in Section 112(7)(b) of the Joint Redress Act that states the Board "has no functions in relation to the existing Development Scheme". Greater Wellington needs to work through the implications of this section with the other appointing agencies to the Statutory Board.

25. Regardless of the role of the Statutory Board, Greater Wellington is required to work with the iwi settlement trusts in their own right in order to give effect to Treaty settlements, which includes our review and management of the scheme.

26. Legal transfer of the ownership of Wairarapa Moana to the iwi settlement trusts honours the intent of 1896 Tuku Rangatira returning tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga back to mana whenua for Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment.

Partnership approach

27. Upholding the mana and tino rangatiratanga of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-a-Rua provides the foundation for a genuine partnership acknowledging the significance of the taonga for mana whenua and aspirations to restore the mauri of Wairarapa Moana.

28. The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Programme also provides guidance on a partnership approach:

    Recommendation 1 – Promotes active mana whenua leadership and participation as integral to the implementation of improved water quality and quantity management.

29. Because any significant changes to the Scheme are likely to occur in the medium to longer-term, we have the conditions for an authentic partnership with Kahungunu and Rangitāne contributing to decision making processes.

Impact of review and review outcomes

30. The review is a significant undertaking that will involve considerable multi-disciplinary work over several years. The review encompasses a range of areas including:

    a Establishing the level of flood protection in the lower Ruamāhanga in light of climate change

    b Reviewing our operation and management of the existing scheme

    c Assessing the level of effect the scheme is having on the environment

d Providing options and recommendations to improve environmental and cultural outcomes.

31. Greater Wellington will be seeking review outcomes that guide future investment in Wairarapa Moana and provide direction on future operation of the scheme.

32. A partnership approach will support mutually beneficial outcomes that are co-designed. These outcomes will include components that would usually be included in a floodplain management plan, such as asset plans, river management plans, project identification, and community engagement approaches.

33. The review may also produce outcomes and components that would not normally be included in a floodplain management plan. In which case the outcome may be a different sort of document such as a catchment plan, or an artefact designed by mana whenua.

Community engagement

34. Landowners undertaking land uses enabled by the scheme, especially lakeside landowners, will require up-to-date information and access as we progress with the review. A variety of institutional stakeholders also have a strong interest in understanding how the review is being undertaken and what roles they can play. This includes South Wairarapa District Council and Wellington Fish & Game, amongst others.

35. As a first step an update on preparations for the review was shared with the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Floodplain Management Advisory Committee (a subsidiary advisory body to Wairarapa Committee) on 3 July 2025.

36. The emergence of new catchment groups in the Lower Wairarapa Valley presents an opportunity for engagement at a more local level and discussions about specific aspects of the scheme at place.

Consent context

37. Resource consents for our operation of the scheme expire in 2027. These consent renewals are significant milestones but are not the end product of a review, which will carry on beyond the consent renewal timeline.

38. To continue to legally undertaking maintenance and operational activities, Greater Wellington must reapply for resource consent under Section 124 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) by 30 March 2027.

39. There is significant time pressure on Greater Wellington to renew resource consents, which sits at odds with our intentions for a more considered review to be conducted in partnership with others.

40. Engagement about the consent renewals with potentially affected parties, and the wider community, will need to happen in parallel with our work on the longer-term review of the scheme. This will be closely managed to ensure clarity.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

41. The budget for the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme review is allocated under the Wairarapa Loan Investigations.

42. The remaining 2024-34 Long Term Plan budget allocated for the whole of Wairarapa Investigations is currently $6.4 million.

43. The outcome of the review is likely to include options and recommendations for future investment. For example, this could include new capital works to amend components of the scheme, or changes to operational management approaches. These financial implications are currently unknown.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

44. As discussed above, this work is of critical significance to Māori.

45. Wairarapa Moana is Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa, acknowledged as “a jewel in the lives of the people of Wairarapa.” It is where mana whenua source their cultural, spiritual and physical sustenance.

46. Negative impacts on this taonga affect the inherent values of the landscape and ecosystem, and the life-sustaining relationship to te ao Māori.

47. Te Rohe o Rongokako Joint Redress Act 2022 gives effect to the respective deeds of settlement with the Crown and Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua through the co-governance structure of the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board. This provides clear and defined statutory considerations.

48. Returning tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga back to mana whenua honours the intent of 1896 Tuku Rangatira for Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment is crucial to restoring the mana and the mauri of Wairarapa Moana.

49. The renaissance of mana whenua is bringing about a determination and understanding towards tino rangatiratanga, mana motuhake, and how those rights and interests are best represented into the future.

50. Greater Wellington continues to progress our commitment and obligation towards our Te Tiriti partners as an integral part of how we support equitable outcomes for Māori and deliver better outcomes for the region.

51. The proposed review presents a significant opportunity to obtain clear direction, understand expectations and needs, elevate mātauranga Māori and strengthen Māori decision-making and strategic alignment. Through kotahitanga we can demonstrate that we are all moving forward in the right direction together.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

Preparations that are underway

52. Greater Wellington is working with Kahungunu and Rangitāne to establish the appropriate partnership framework for the review.

53. Foundational investigations that will support our review of the scheme are planned. These include hydrological modelling and environmental investigations.

54. We are also preparing for a pre-application consultation on resource consent renewals.

Working with community

55. We will be providing information to landowners directly and via catchment groups. We will also continue to inform the council advisory body for the lower Ruamāhanga. We expect to significantly increase our communication and information service to the local community as we proceed through the review.

56. Our first steps are likely to include community engagement on hydrological modelling and on potential changes to our operation of the barrage gates.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments

Number	Title
1	Links to online videos providing information about the historical background and values related to the scheme
2	Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board Interim Statement (December 2024)

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Pete Huggins – Kaiwhakahaere Manaaki Wai - Catchment Manager Ruamāhanga Nora Moore – Acting Hautū Tūhonohono Mana Whenua - Director Mana Whenua Partnerships
Approvers	Nicola Patrick – Director Catchment Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference This report provides an update on our work to conduct a review of a large-scale drainage and flood protection scheme from the 1970s, which is of strategic importance to the Wairarapa. Our management and operation of the scheme has significant impacts on the environment and Treaty settlement commitments. The report also provides information on the way we intend to approach partnerships and community engagement.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies Our work on the review was funded through a previous Long Term Plan process. The work will also contribute directly to Rōpū Taiao's 10-year outcomes: - Safeguarding and restoring ecosystems and natural environments across our rohe, and, - Strengthening regional resilience and supporting our communities. The approach we take to this work has implications for our Te Tiriti commitments and mana whenua partnership agreements.
Internal consultation This report has been co-authored by Rōpū Taiao and Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. As a report for information, there are no specific risks related to this paper.

Attachment 1 to Report 25.436

Links to online videos providing information about the historical background and values related to the scheme

The Battle of the Lakes

Video produced in 2023 under the Lakes380 programme as part of the Wairarapa Moana pūrākau kete. Interviewees include Haami Te Whaiti - the current chair of the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board.

Description provided by publisher: "Our storytellers recall a time when Wairarapa Moana used to double in size when the sandspit at Lake Onoke closed over and the autumn rains filled the southern Wairarapa plains. For Māori, this was referred to as the hinurangi – the annual inundation of water which signalled the time when eels migrate. Today this 'battle of the lakes' continues but is increasingly called into question."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkGMNJuSZlw

Threatened Valley

Video produced by authorities around the time of the scheme installation. Material includes a description of how the scheme works, and footage of the dredging, rediversion and pump station installation as it happened.

Description provided by publisher: "A documentary made for the Wairarapa Catchment Board as a record of the development of the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme from 1963 to 1968."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szvsY3Lou-Y

Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board: Interim Statement

Preamble

1. The purpose of the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board (WMSB) is to act as a guardian of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment by leading their sustainable management and promoting the restoration, protection and enhancement of these water bodies.

2. The WMSB is required to develop, implement and report on the Wairarapa Moana Document, which will set out its vision, mission, goals and work programme. This document is scheduled for completion by 2027.

3. In the interim period, the WMSB recognises that several important workstreams are being undertaken by central and local government agencies and third parties that impact on the health and use of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River. The WMSB has developed this interim statement to set out our goals, principles and expectations to provide guidance to agencies and third parties during the period while the full Wairarapa Moana Document is under development.

4. This interim statement will be superseded by the Wairarapa Moana Document when it is published.

Background

5. The WMSB was established by the Te Rohe o Rongokako Act 2022. This Act sets out, among other things, the constitution, membership, purpose, functions and reporting arrangements for the WMSB. It also includes a definition of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga Rover catchment.

6. The Act sets out the purpose and functions of the WMSB which include:

s45 Purpose

The purpose of the Statutory Board is to act as a guardian of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment for the benefit of present and future generations, by …

> … (c) providing leadership on the sustainable management of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment; and
>
> (d) promoting the restoration, protection and enhancement of social, economic, cultural, environmental and spiritual health and well-being of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment

s46 Functions of Statutory Board

(1) The principal function of the Statutory Board is to achieve its purpose.

(2) The other functions of the Statutory Board are as follows …

> … (g) to engage with, seek advice from, and provide advice to local authorities and other relevant agencies about the sustainable integrated management of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamahanga River catchment;
>
> … (i) to engage with third parties and interest groups, including by producing and disseminating information about, and awareness of, Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamahanga River catchment.

7. The full text of the Te Rohe o Rongikako Act 2022 is available at https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0076/latest/LMS14443.html?src=qs

WMSB Interim Goals

8. To give effect to its statutory purpose and functions, the WMSB has identified the following interim goals to guide its operations for the time being:

    a. **Oranga Taiao / Restoring the Water Bodies and their Ecosystems**. The WMSB seeks to restore the health of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment, including re-generating native flora and fauna within thriving ecosystems.

    b. **Oranga Tāngata / Reconnecting People with the Moana**. The WMSB seeks to support whānau, hapū, iwi and the Wairarapa community to re-connect with Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment.

    c. **Oranga Wai / Rebalancing the Use of our Water Bodies**. The WMSB seek to develop and promote an appropriate balance of use of our water bodies and their waters to support social, cultural, economic and wellbeing outcomes.

Guiding Principles

9. In order to give effect to these goals, the WMSB has developed the following interim principles to guide its actions and the activities of central and local government and third parties.

    a. **Te Tuku Rangatira**. Wairarapa Moana was gifted to the Crown by iwi in 1896. It was formally gifted back by the Crown to iwi in 2024. The parties made these gifts to reflect their commitment to an enduring relationship based on the best interests of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment. It is important to honour this commitment and engage in the

utmost good faith to recognise the intentions of the parties in making the tuku.

b. **Wairarapa Mātauranga**. All planning, work and reporting to support the WMSB goals should recognise and promote the unique knowledge systems within iwi and our local community about Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment. It is important that all planning, work and reporting are informed by and reflect the best available research and scholarship.

c. **Iwi Aspirations at the Centre**. The return of Wairarapa Moana and the establishment of the WMSB were undertaken as part of Treaty Settlements between (a) the Crown and Ngāti Kahungunu and (b) the Crown and Rangitāne. It is important to provide appropriate weighting to iwi aspirations, including reconnection, restoration, partnership and mana motuhake.

d. **Transformational Change is Required**. The health of Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment has been severely degraded over an extended period of time. Transformational change is required to achieve the goals of the WMSB, and it is important that we are courageous, persistent and ambitious for change.

e. **A Living System**. Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment represent a living, interconnected system, which includes whānau, hapū, iwi and the Wairarapa communtiy. All planning, work and reporting must address the overall system through a holistic and interconnected lens.

f. **A Long-Term, Intergenerational Kaupapa**. The restoration of Wairarapa and the Ruamāhanga River catchment will require ongoing investment and action by many parties across several generations. All planning, work and reporting should reflect the importance of short-term and long-term planning.

Expectations of Central and Local Government and Third Parties

10. The WMSB has identified the following expectations for central and local government and third parties in regard to all matters relating to Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment.

Rangatira-ki-te-Rangatira Relationships

11. The WMSB expects that central and local government agencies and third parties will engage with it on an ongoing basis to form enduring rangatira-ki-te-rangatira relationships. We expect these relationships will be led by senior leaders within the agencies and third parties, including Chairs, Mayors, Chief Executives and other senior officials. We also expect that ongoing engagement will be undertaken by our respective teams.

Information Sharing

12. The WMSB expects that central and local government agencies and third parties will provide data, financial information, records and other information about Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment as requested by the WMSB within reasonable timeframes.

Planning and Reporting

13. The WMSB expects central and local government agencies will engage the WMSB in their annual planning and reporting cycles. In particular, we expect these agencies will:

    a. Engage the WMSB at the outset and throughout their annual and long-term planning processes to discuss proposed work that impacts Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment; and

    b. Present their annual report to the WMSB in writing, and provide an opportunities for the WMSB to meet and examine senior officials and elected members about annual reporting.

Early and Ongoing Engagement on Major Issues

14. The WMSB expects central and local government agencies and third parties to engage early and often on all issues related to the Wairarapa Moana and the Ruamāhanga River catchment including, but not limited to:

    a. national and regional policy statements;
    b. resource consents for water takes;
    c. resource consents for infrastructure development;
    d. management of water infrastructure assets;

e. regional and district plan changes

15. This engagement should begin at the earliest possible opportunity and should continue on an ongoing basis until the issue has been resolved

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.403

For Decision

DONALD'S AND ABBOTS CREEKS FLOOD HAZARD MAPS

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To advise the Wairarapa Committee of the final Donald's and Abbots Creeks flood hazard maps.

He tūtohu
Recommendations

That the Committee:

1 **Notes** that the flood hazard maps have been developed in accordance with Greater Wellington's Flood Hazard Modelling Standard.

2 **Recommends** that the Environment Committee endorse the Donald's and Abbots Creeks flood hazard maps.

Te horopaki
Context

2. Flooding is a significant hazard in the Wellington Region that poses a risk to both life and property. Flooding is commonly experienced from three main sources: rivers, coastal inundation, and stormwater flooding.

3. Updating the flood risk modelling for rivers and streams is key for understanding the probability and likely extent of flooding for the current and predicted future climate. This information can then be used to understand the issues from flooding that need to be managed.

Greater Wellington Regional Council's Flood Hazard Modelling Standard

4. Flood hazard modelling is the process carried out by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to understand flood risk from significant water courses in the Wellington Region. It consists of three key elements: collection of survey information; hydrological modelling; and hydraulic modelling. The flood hazard modelling outputs are the flood maps that are included in district plans, which provide the basis of structural works and river management decision making, and inform civil defence and emergency management actions.

5. Greater Wellington developed the Flood Hazard Modelling Standard (FHMS), which was finalised in May 2021, to outline the protocols to be followed by any person

working on Greater Wellington flood hazard modelling projects. The protocols in the FHMS were developed to ensure that flood hazard modelling projects are undertaken in a robust and consistent way that is in line with accepted industry practice. The standard was designed to still allow for flexibility in approach and recognise that the optimal approach may be dependent on catchment or project specific factors. The protocols within the standard require that every stage of the process is well documented in reports or spreadsheet logs and registers.

6. *Figure 1* provides an overview of the FHMS.[1]

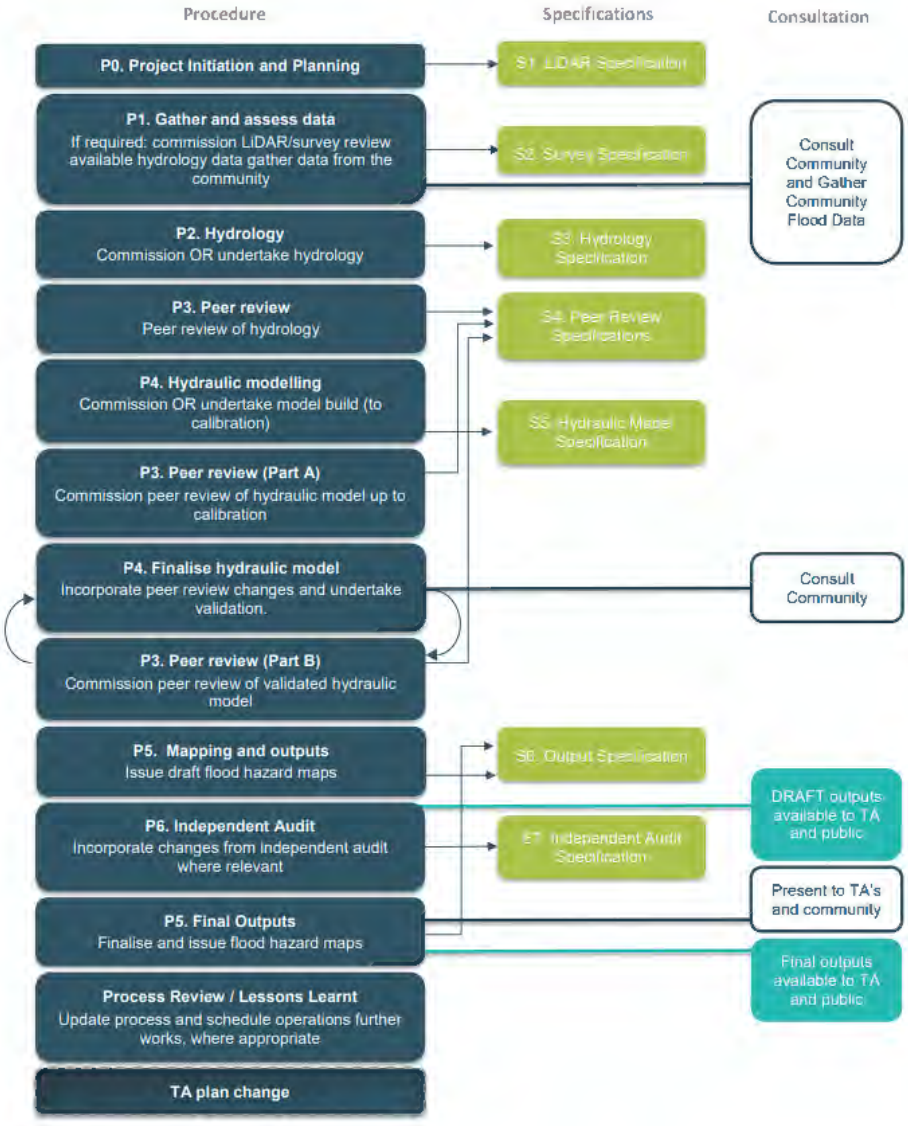


Figure 1: Overview of the Flood Hazard Modelling Standard

[1] https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/GWRC-Flood-Hazard-Modelling-Standard-R1-May-2021.pdf

Model development

7. In accordance with the Water Courses Agreement, Greater Wellington is responsible for managing the upper reaches of Donald's and Abbots Creeks, to approximately Longwood Road. To inform river management decisions for these waterbodies, Greater Wellington has undertaken detailed flood hazard modelling.

8. Flood hazard modelling for Donald's and Abbots Creeks was initiated in 2023. Both water bodies are captured within the same model and the resultant flood hazard maps therefore include both.

9. The modelling was undertaken in alignment with the FHMS (see Figure 1) by technical experts. Early in the process, a site visit was undertaken with Greater Wellington and the experts to be familiar with the site, ground truth the model data and discuss the hydrological input data. New high-resolution LiDAR (topographic data) was flown for the catchments to inform the model.

10. Following initial runs of the hydraulic model, locations of flow constrictions were identified. To improve the accuracy of the model outputs, it was decided to undertake a detailed survey of a number of key culverts and bridges within the catchment.

11. To support the modelling process, Greater Wellington sought local knowledge and data from the community. This included obtaining flood photos and other flood knowledge held by the community relating to historical flood events.

12. The outcome of this process was the development of robust flood hazard maps based on the most up to date available information.

Community engagement

13. As specified in the FHMS, several rounds of community engagement were undertaken throughout the development of the Donald's and Abbots Creeks flood hazard maps.

14. Over various periods of engagement, the activities included briefings to South Wairarapa District Council, information provided on the Greater Wellington website, an online Have You Say page, social media campaigns and hard-copy informational handouts. A series of drop-in sessions at the Featherston Farmers Market were also held which were advertised online and in the newspaper.

15. Early community engagement was undertaken jointly with Wellington Water Ltd, who were undertaking stormwater flood modelling of the Featherston area. At this time Greater Wellington sought knowledge of previous flood events from the community, including photos and other flooding information. This information helped inform the modelling process and had the secondary benefit of raising awareness of potential flood risk within the community.

16. Later in the modelling process, the draft flood hazard maps were presented to the community. The purpose was to consult on the draft flood hazard maps as well as continue to build awareness of the flood hazard.

17. During the final engagement period, the final hazard maps were presented to the community. This provided an opportunity to look at the maps and ask questions to Greater Wellington staff as well as continue to raise awareness of the flood hazard.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

Finalisation of the flood hazard maps

18. Development of the Donald's and Abbots Creeks flood hazard maps has aligned with Greater Wellington's FHMS. The hazard maps were finalised following an independent audit undertaken by Haskoning. The independent audit is provided as **Attachment 1**.

19. The independent audit concluded that all the steps of the FHMS had been undertaken, and the work is robust and defendable.

20. The independent audit encourages Greater Wellington to consider whether the potential effects of a railway line embankment breach would affect the hazard mapping. Greater Wellington considers this to be a residual hazard and therefore does not affect the final hazard maps presented in this report. It is noted that the potential effects from a railway embankment breach will be investigated in future work to investigate flood risk management options for Featherston.

21. Peak flood depth maps have been produced for a range of design flood events. The design events are assessed based on a probability of occurring in any given year and described as having an annual exceedance probability (AEP). The design flood events that have been modelled include:

    - 39% AEP, also known as the mean annual flood
    - 20% AEP, sometimes referred to as a 5-year flood
    - 10% AEP, sometimes referred to as a 10-year flood
    - 5% AEP, sometimes referred to as a 20-year flood
    - 2% AEP, sometimes referred to as a 50-year flood
    - 1% AEP, sometimes referred to as a 100-year flood

22. Each of these sized events were modelled for both the current climate (using historic climate data) and for a future climate using predicted impacts of climate change with a Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 6.0 scenario.

23. Additional modelling for the 1% AEP event included a series of uncertainty runs to represent possible scenarios that are not included in the base modelling. This includes scenarios such as different channel roughness or culvert blockages which could affect the nature of the flood hazard. This scenario also includes climate change.

24. As outlined in the FHMS and Greater Wellington procedure, allowance for these uncertainties (as well as climate change) have been included in the flood hazard mapping overlays for the Wairarapa Combined Plan.

25. A copy of the flood depth maps for each of the design flood events listed above is provided in **Attachment 2**.

26. A copy of the flood hazard map for the 1% AEP design flood event, which includes climate change and the combined uncertainty runs, is provided in **Attachment 3**.

Wairarapa Combined District Plan flood hazard overlays

27. Land use planning, through district plans, is one of the available tools for managing flood risk. It plays a vital role in ensuring that use and development within areas susceptible to flooding is appropriate.

28. Flood hazard is a function of the depth and velocity of flood waters at a particular location. It informs the likely risk to people and property as a result of flooding. Flood hazard is typically low in shallow, slow-moving waters, and increases as the depth and velocity of flood waters increase.

29. Greater Wellington has recommended that flood hazard is categorised in the following three areas for the 1% AEP event (including climate change and allowance for uncertainties) for inclusion in district plans:

    - Low Hazard Areas, where flow is typically slow, and flooding is shallow. The Low Hazard Areas include Inundation Areas as well as Residual Flood Hazard Areas.
    - Moderate Hazard Areas, where flow is deeper, or faster moving, or development is likely to increase nearby flood impacts. The Moderate Hazard Areas include Overland Flow Paths and Erosion Hazard Areas, where there is the potential for future development to be affected by fluvial erosion.
    - High Hazard Areas, where flow is deep or fast, including River/Stream Corridors.

30. Finalised flood hazard overlays using ‘low’, ‘moderate’ and ‘high’ hazard categorisations for Donald’s and Abbots Creeks have been provided to inform the Wairarapa Combined District Plan.

31. In addition to the flood hazard overlays, flood vulnerability areas for the whole Wairarapa region were also provided to inform the Wairarapa Combined District Plan. The flood vulnerability areas are based on Greater Wellington’s Regional Model.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

32. No additional financial implications are proposed for the flood hazard modelling for Donald’s and Abbots Creeks, as the process is complete.

33. The independent audit raised that the railway embankment could affect the residual flood hazard in Featherston, which Greater Welington intends to investigate as part of a future work programme. There are no additional financial implications proposed to complete this work as it will be undertaken within existing budgets.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

34. Greater Wellington is required to manage land and water within a range of statutory requirements, including giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai and considering Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the development and implementation of the Council's strategies, plans, programmes and initiatives.

35. Implementation with mana whenua partners is guided by Te Whāriki – the new Māori Outcomes Framework as part of Council's Long Term Plan 2024–34.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change

36. Climate change is considered as part of the Flood Hazard Modelling Standard process. Climate projections are modelled as part of the hydrological inputs, allowing Greater Wellington to consider increased hazard impacts.

Ngā tikanga whakatau
Decision-making process

37. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga
Significance

38. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of the matters for decision, taking into consideration Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington's *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers consider that the matter is of low significance due to the administrative nature of the decision. The matters do not impact on Council's capability and capacity, and it is consistent with existing Council policy and practice.

Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement

39. Three rounds of community engagement for the Donald's and Abbots Creeks flood hazard modelling were undertaken. This fulfils the requirements specified in the Flood Hazard Modelling Standard.

40. Early community engagement was undertaken to seek knowledge of previous flood events from the community, including photos and other flooding information. This information helped inform the modelling process and had the secondary benefit of raising awareness of potential flood risk within the community.

41. In the later stages of the modelling, the focus of community engagement was to share the flood hazard maps and gather community feedback, as well as continue to build awareness of the flood hazard.

42. A summary of this engagement is noted in paragraphs 13 to 17 of this report.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

43. The process to develop the flood hazard maps for Donald's and Abbots Creeks is complete, and no further work is required.

44. Any work on potential measures to manage the flood risk will be programmed as part of the wider review of the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme. See Report 25.436.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments

Number	Title
1	Donald's and Abbots Creeks flood hazard assessment independent audit
2	Flood depth maps Donald's and Abbots Creeks
3	Flood hazard map for Donald's and Abbots Creeks

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Kirsty Duff – Senior Engineer Ella Boam – Senior Project Manager – Investigations Francie Morrow – Team Leader Knowledge Water Resilience
Approvers	Evan Harrison – Manager Knowledge David Hipkins – Director Knowledge and Insights Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference The Committee is to consider areas and matters of strategic importance to the Wairarapa and recommend to Council on these matters. Donald's and Abbots Creeks are within the Wairarapa.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies The project contained within this report delivers on Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te tū pakari a te rohe/regional resilience, and support delivery of Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te oranga o te wai māori me te rerenga rauropi/freshwater quality and biodiversity.
Internal consultation Specific projects consult with groups and departments across Greater Wellington where relevant to the project. This includes Flood Operations – Delivery Function, Environment Restoration – Delivery Function, Catchment Function, various teams across Knowledge and Insights Function, and Finance.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. The purpose of implementation floodplain management plans in implementing asset management procedures is to reduce the risk to communities and improve the region's resilience. Greater Wellington has adopted procedures and processes to minimise risks. Working with community committees enables a wider understanding of the risks before adoption of work programmes.

Attachment 1 to Report 25.403

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

ATTACHMENT 1 - Independent Audit for Donald's and Abbots Creeks

Attachment 1 to Report 25.403

HASKONING NEW ZEALAND LTD.
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66 Surrey Crescent Grey Lynn 1021 Auckland
New Zealand

Email: info.nz@rhdhv.com
Website: haskoning.com

Ella Boam
Senior Project Manager - Investigations
Greater Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 614

Our reference:	PZ1073-RHD-XX-XX-CO-X-0001
Your reference:	Click to enter "YourRef"
Date:	26 August 2025
Contact name:	Ramon Strong
Telephone:	021505265
Email:	ramon.strong@haskoning.com
Classification:	Project related
Enclosures:	P6-A Independent Audit Spreadsheet

Dear Ella,

Independent Audit, Donalds and Abbots Creeks Flood Hazard Assessment

This letter summarises the independent audit completed by Haskoning New Zealand of the flood hazard assessment undertaken for Donalds and Abbots Creeks in and around the town of Featherston. The audit is in accordance with the Greater Wellington Regional Council Flood Hazard Modelling Standard dated May 2021 (FHMS or the Standard).

Donalds and Abbotts Creeks are a significant source of flood hazard for the town of Featherston and to some degree define the southwestern and northeastern edges of the town. The upper catchments for both lie within the section of the southeastern face of the Remutaka Ranges that adjoins the town - the town is effectively located at the base (eastern edge) of the Ranges. The project has been scoped and delivered over a relatively short timeframe and clearly has benefited from learnings related to other projects, particularly in regard to approach taken with catchment hydrology.

Impacts on the town attributable to the two creeks is evident from the information provided (respective reports, logs, relevant correspondence, GWRC project summary and peer review documentation); a somewhat flashy nature with the hazard exacerbated by an apparent high debris load. The summary provided notes the driver for the project timeline – the need for hazard information to inform future planning decisions. The summary suggests that the hazard mapping component was decoupled from operational aspects (a review of flood protection standards for the town) given the urgency of ensuring planning decisions are well informed in regard to flood hazard. Ideally the two would progress jointly but we appreciate the different drivers.

The matters noted in the course of this audit are relatively few and as noted above the learnings from previous nearby projects (Mangatarere and Waipoua) are apparent, particularly in regard to catchment hydrology; the challenges with a limited dataset (both temporally and spatially). Specifically, the propensity particularly with Waipoua to diverge rather than converge on a solution (with all of the

accompanying limitations that will have). Both the lead consultant and peer reviewer appear (the project summary notes a high level of interaction between the two) to have combined well to produce (in the circumstances) an effective approach to estimating hydrograph size and shape, based on a combination of modelling, observations associated with recent flood events and translocating the assessed characteristics of a nearby catchment. In that vein, with separate appointments in regard to the hydrology and hydraulics components of the projects, having the same consultant undertake both peer reviews appears beneficial (aiding project continuity).

Nevertheless, the ultimate project output (flood hazard maps) needs to be tempered (even with the sensitivity analyses undertaken) by the limited hydrological data available. The February 2023 ex-Tropical Cyclone Gabrielle event underscored how an extreme event can re-write the rule book in regard to catchment hydrology eg instances of Probable Maximum Precipitation estimates being exceeded in Hawkes Bay.

Sensitivity analyses included in the scope of work for this project included bridge/ culvert blockage (aggradation and debris), roughness, boundary conditions (upstream and downstream), land use changes and antecedent conditions, but the final maps produced did not include sensitivity analyses for rainfall/ inflows. That could be justified on the basis of the limited available hydrological information but equally there are difficulties in employing data that is in the realm of the hypothetical, particularly when it is used to inform planning decisions.

The 2024 audit of the Waipoua River project also highlighted (amongst other things) the influence that debris blockage of the Wairarapa Railway Line bridge is likely to have on flood hazard for the town of Masterton. There is a degree of subjectivity associated with determining what constitutes a reasonable assumption in regard to the degree of blockage during an extreme event, including likely debris yield (current and future land use and whether, in particular, plantation forestry might be more prevalent in the future). Railway bridges are also a particular issue – the loadings in general require a more substantial structure (more closely spaced piers and/ or larger deck beams) and hence potentially more obstruction of flow/ catching of debris, and with less flexibility in regard to alignment (in plan and elevation) when compared to road bridges, making them more problematic in a flood hazard context.

The Wairarapa Railway Line bridge crossing of Abbotts Creek has a similar influence on flood hazard for Featherston as the Waipoua does for Masterton and as we understand it (email dated 25 August 2025) GWRC staff were not able to obtain permission from KiwiRail to view the bridge; email requests to provide plans for the structure also went unanswered. Accordingly, the model assumptions in regard to bridge configuration and propensity for debris blockage were at least in part hypothetical but also subject to sensitivity analysis, concluding (GWRC memo dated 14 May 2025) low model sensitivity (included in the final maps).

Consideration in this regard is whether complete blockage is possible (the sensitivity scenario adopted is based on blockage of the two end spans of the three span bridge with the middle span remaining open). GWRC staff have noted the favourable factors that support adopting partial blockage as a reasonable assumption - the lower debris yield associated with a native forest (unlikely to change) and the presence of the two bridges upstream of the Railway Bridge (Western Lake Road and State Highway 2) also likely to collect debris in an extreme event. We're not able to verify the nature of the SH2 bridge but it is skew to the flow direction – would seem reasonable for debris effects to be distributed rather than concentrated on the Railway Bridge.

Haskoning
Enhancing Society Together

We also note some of the limitations related to consideration of impacts associated with the railway embankment – the damming effect that the embankment has (particularly if the bridge does become clogged with debris) and the potential for that embankment to fail in an extreme flood event. Failure would require head difference across the railway embankment - in our view the context and somewhat 'flashy' nature of the catchment suggests that such a scenario is a possibility. While the railway embankment is not overly high (maximum impounded depth appears to be in the range 1.5 – 2m – Figure 6.1 – 2 of the SLR report) clearly such a scenario elevates the hazard for those residential properties in the lee of the railway embankment (circled in Figure 1).

Figure 1 – SLR 1%AEP Model Output

As discussed, one component of the audit is consideration in regard to the expertise associated with both the hydrology and hydraulic modelling – the requirement in the audit spreadsheet to evaluate whether the work has been "undertaken by a suitably qualified professional". While the hydrology component (using LinkedIn to check credentials) in our view is consistent with that requirement, it is less clear with the hydraulics.

The FHMS only elaborates on this in the context of the peer reviewer, noting: "In the context of this procedure, a peer review is an independent, thorough technical assessment of a hydrological or hydraulic model, or outputs of a hydraulic model. The review is based on a 'hands-on' interrogation of a model by a suitably qualified and experienced professional who uses their technical expertise, current best-practice and unbiased judgement to review the work."

We appreciate that this is a somewhat fraught area – clearly the level of sophistication with available software makes modelling more accessible and an understanding of hydraulics, open channel flow and the math behind the computational engines at the core of those software packages less essential. As noted by GWRC staff, a good model is one that best replicates the physical reality and, in that context,

spatial/ conceptual skills along with experience are arguably more important than an understanding of the partial differential equations at the heart of the computational engine.

Suffice to say those value judgements in regard to requisite competencies were applied by GWRC staff in the course of evaluating tenders at the start of the project. As long as the team nominated by SLR in their tender is the team that undertook the work (and noting the influence that the peer review has on the quality of the final output) it's not appropriate for us to comment further.

Lastly, we note the challenges in regard to ground surface changes within the town over time and the consequential impacts on overland flow/ flood hazard – the challenge every model has (the inevitable decrease in currency/ accuracy with the passage of time). Clearly those changes encompass a wide spectrum in regard to scale and location, and in most cases it's not possible to envisage/ anticipate what those changes might be. In our opinion State Highways 2 and 53 are the most substantive consideration – unintended changes in flood hazard associated with future (post LiDAR data capture) pavement rehabilitation work. There may have been value in a sensitivity scenario specifically targeting that aspect.

In summary, all the steps of the FHMS have been undertaken, robust peer reviews are apparent, the final model report contains a comprehensive catalogue of output maps and GWRC have provided a complete summary as it relates to community engagement; the work is robust and defendable. That said we would encourage GWRC to give consideration to adjusting the hazard maps to account for potential Railway Line embankment effects (event-related breach) northeast of the Abbotts Creek bridge as discussed earlier in the report.

For and on behalf of Haskoning New Zealand Limited.

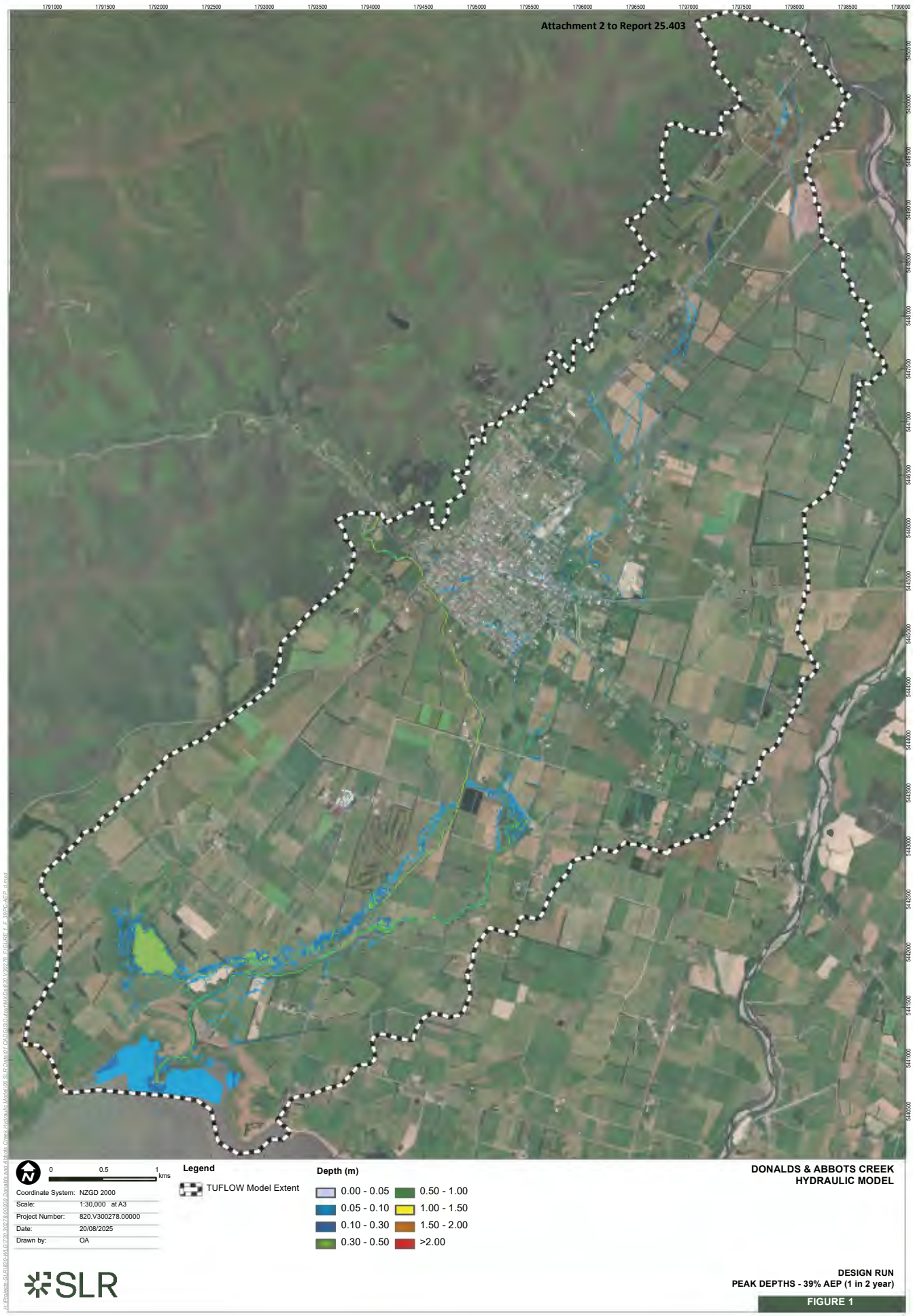
Ramon Strong

Technical Director Water
Water & Maritime

Attachment 2 to Report 25.403

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

ATTACHMENT 2 - Flood depth maps for Donald's and Abbots Creeks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Drawn by: OA
DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK
HYDRAULIC MODEL
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PEAK DEPTHS - 39% AEP (1 in 2 year)
FIGURE 1


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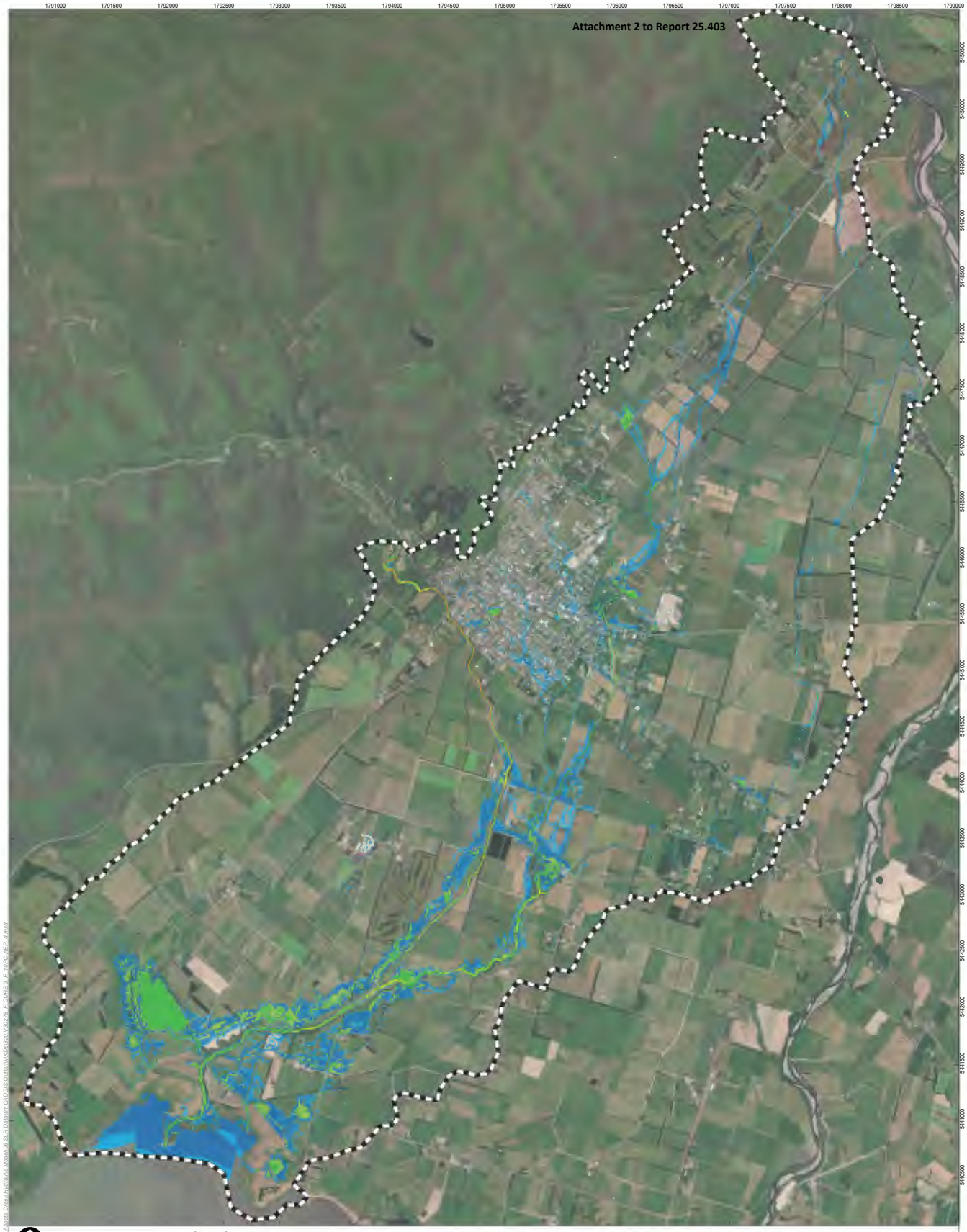
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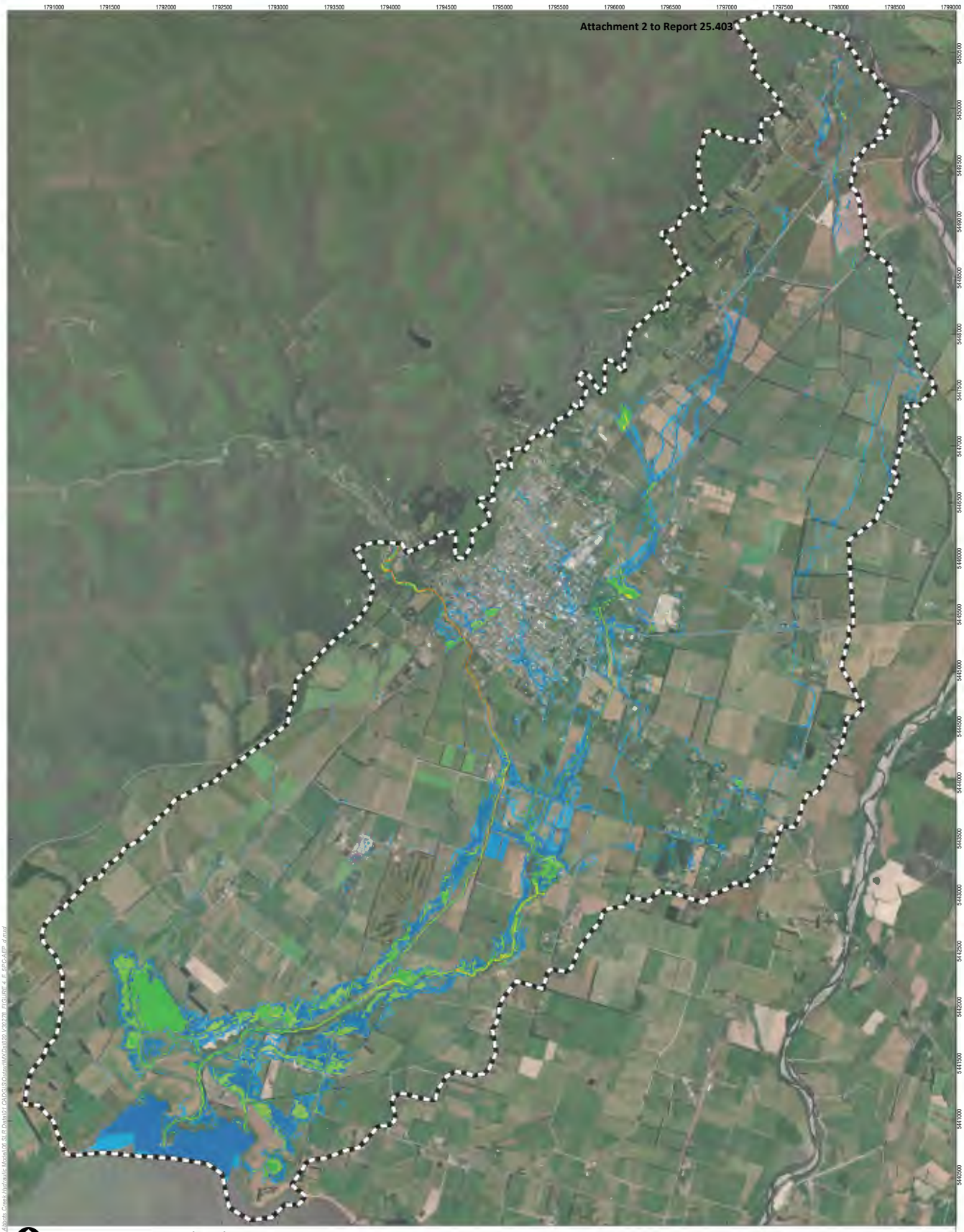
PEAK DEPTHS - 10% AEP (1 in 10 yea)
FIGURE 3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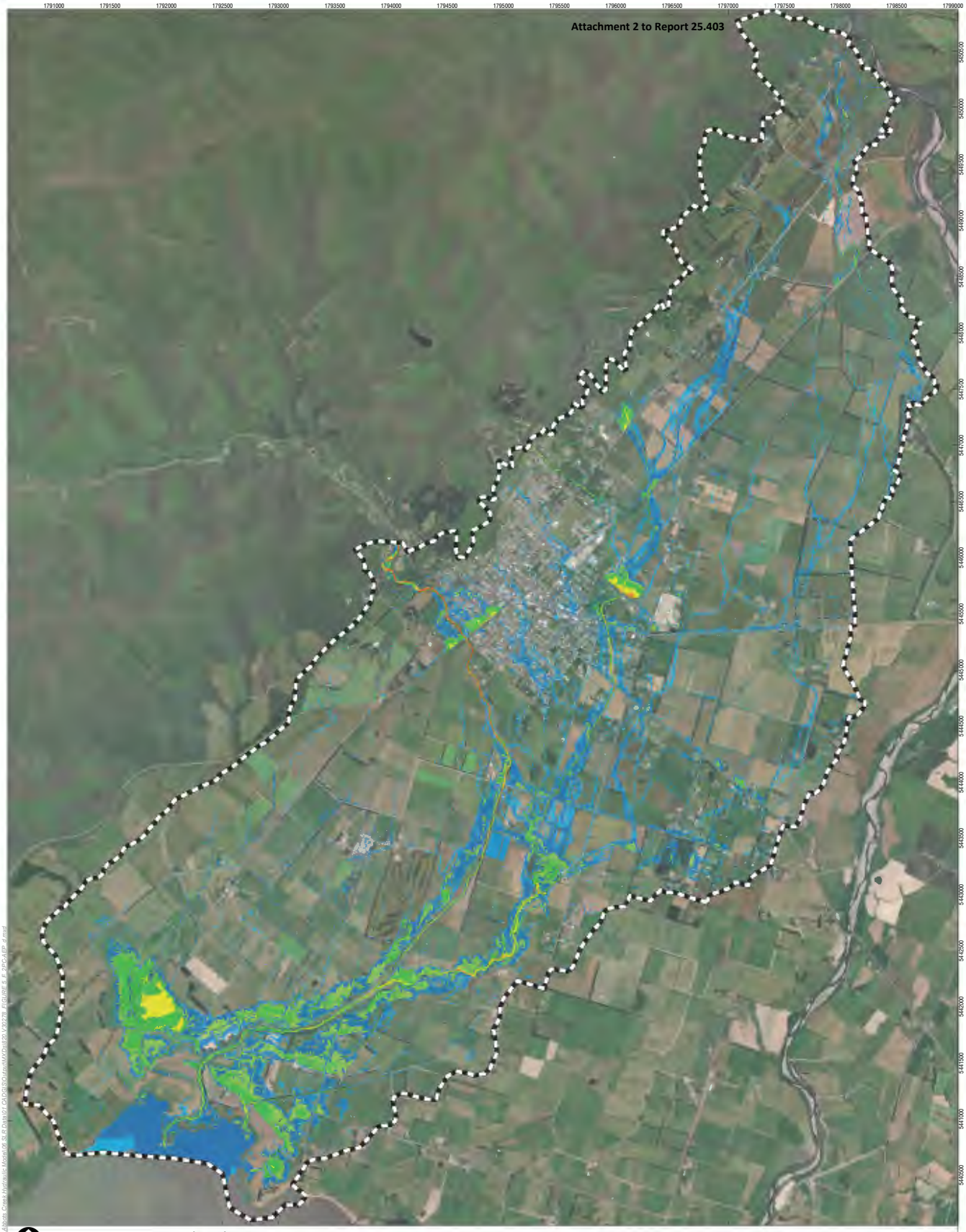
PEAK DEPTHS - 5% AEP (1 in 20 year)
FIGURE 4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HYDRAULIC MODEL
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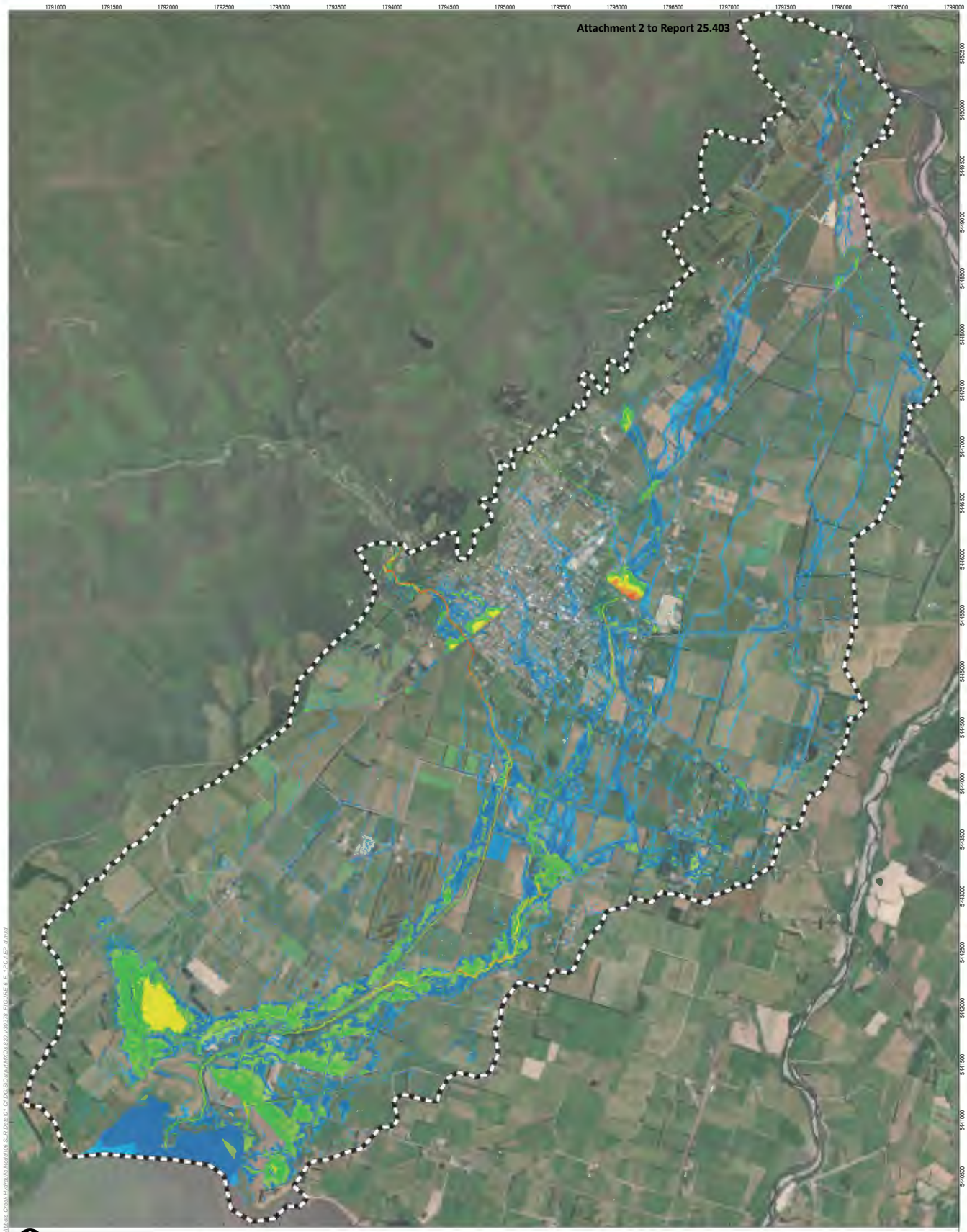
PEAK DEPTHS - 2% AEP (1 in 50 year)
FIGURE 5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Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA
SLR
DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 1% AEP (1 in 100 year)
FIGURE 6

0 0.5 1 kms

Coordinate System: NZGD 2000
Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA

Legend

TUFLOW Model Extent

Depth (m)

0.00 - 0.05	0.50 - 1.00
0.05 - 0.10	1.00 - 1.50
0.10 - 0.30	1.50 - 2.00
0.30 - 0.50	>2.00

DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK HYDRAULIC MODEL

SLR

DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 39% AEP (1 in 2 year) RCP-6

FIGURE 7


Attachment 2 to Report 25.403
1791000
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kms
Legend
TUFLOW Model Extent
Depth (m)
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0.10 - 0.30
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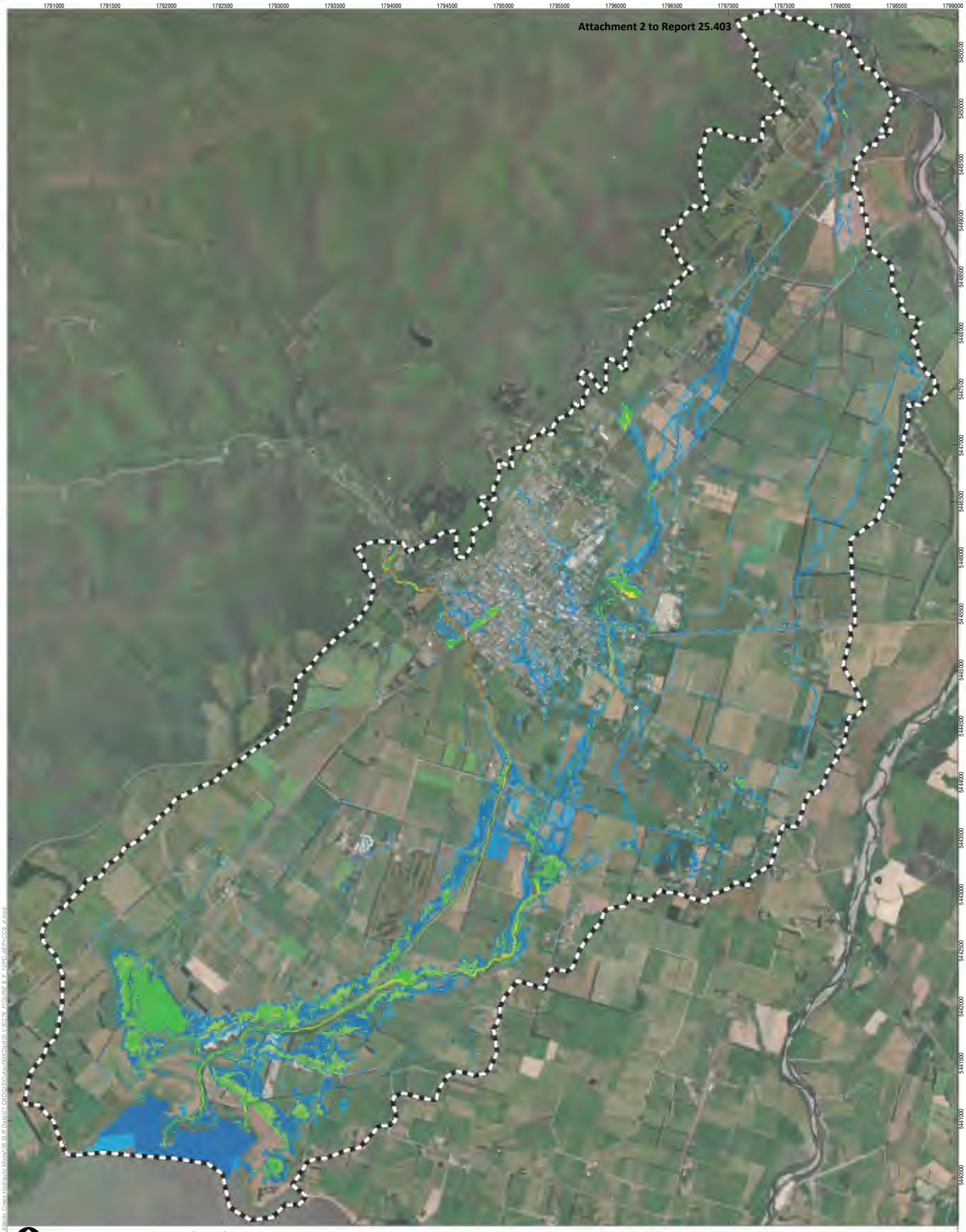
0.50 - 1.00
1.00 - 1.50
1.50 - 2.00
>2.00
Coordinate System: NZGD 2000
Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA
DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK
HYDRAULIC MODEL
SLR
DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 20% AEP (1 in 5 year) RCP-6
FIGURE 8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Coordinate System: NZGD 2000
Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA
Legend
TUFLOW Model Extent
Depth (m)
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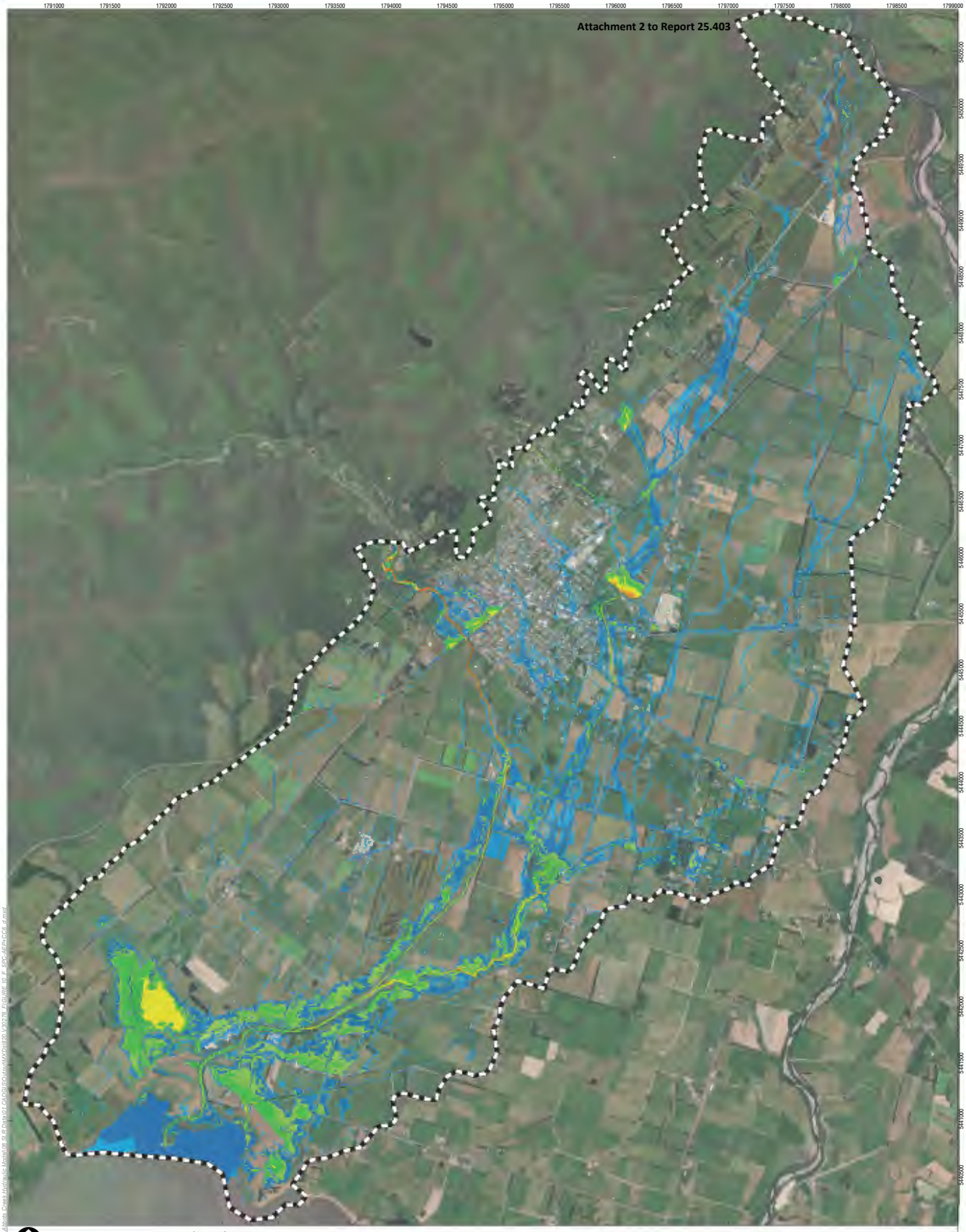
0.50 - 1.00
1.00 - 1.50
1.50 - 2.00
>2.00
DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK
HYDRAULIC MODEL
SLR
DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 10% AEP (1 in 10 year) RCP-6
FIGURE 9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Legend
TUFLOW Model Extent
Depth (m)
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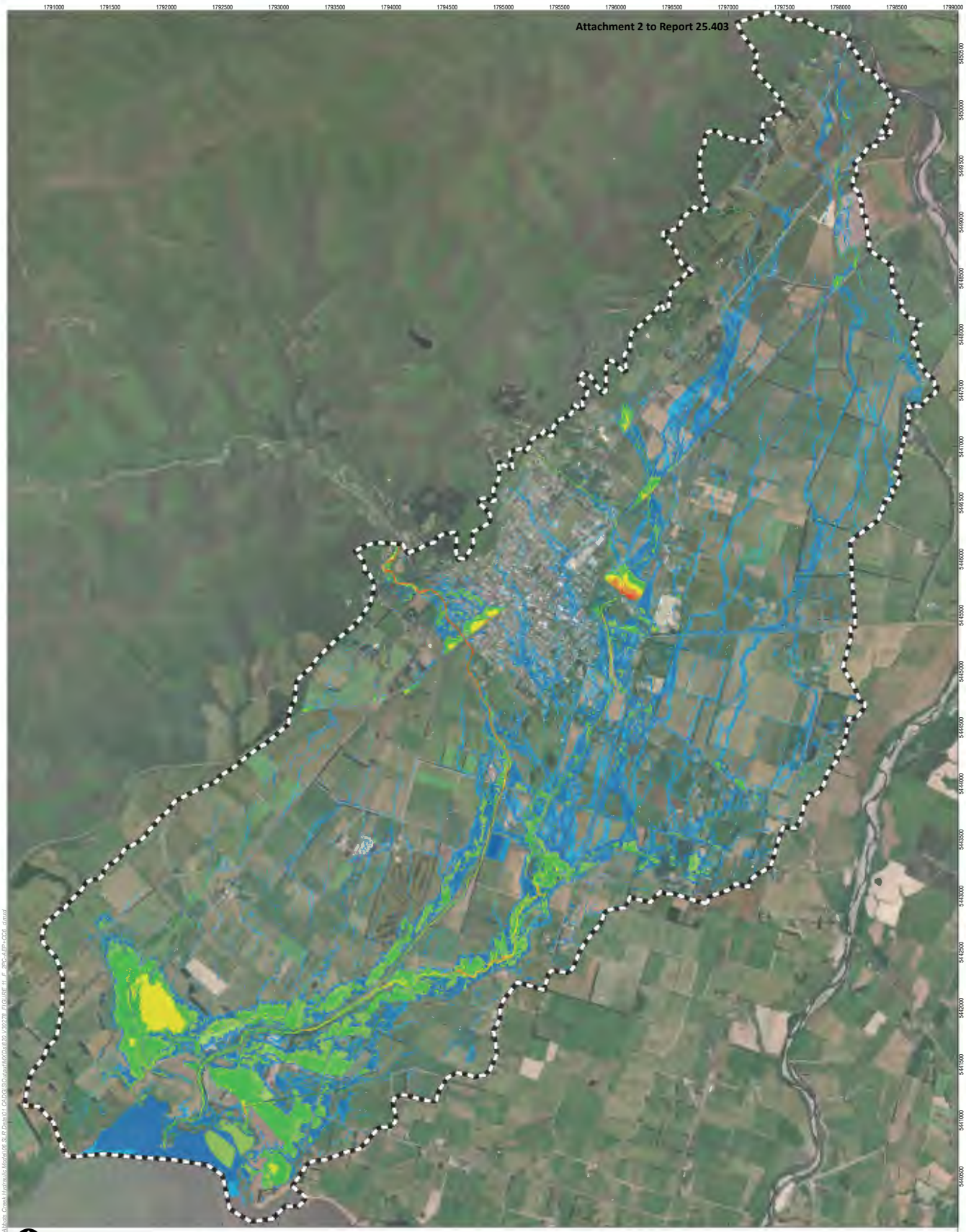
>2.00
Coordinate System: NZGD 2000
Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA
DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK
HYDRAULIC MODEL
DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 5% AEP (1 in 20 year) RCP-6
FIGURE 10
SLR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kms
Legend
TUFLOW Model Extent
Depth (m)
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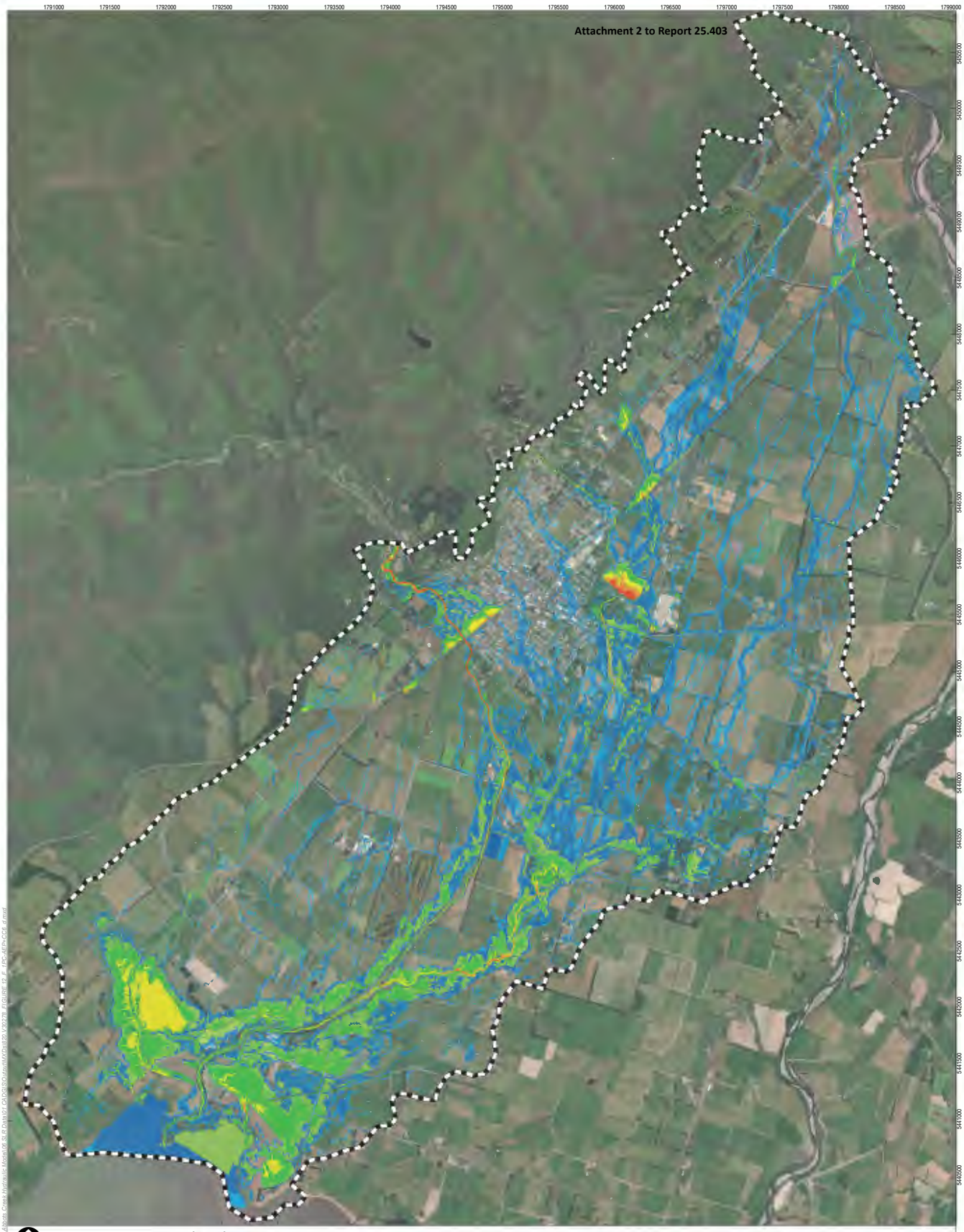
0.10 - 0.30
0.30 - 0.50
0.50 - 1.00
1.00 - 1.50
1.50 - 2.00
>2.00
Coordinate System: NZGD 2000
Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA
DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK
HYDRAULIC MODEL
DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 2% AEP (1 in 50 year) RCP-6
FIGURE 11


Attachment 2 to Report 25.403
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kms
Legend
TUFLOW Model Extent
Depth (m)
0.00 - 0.05
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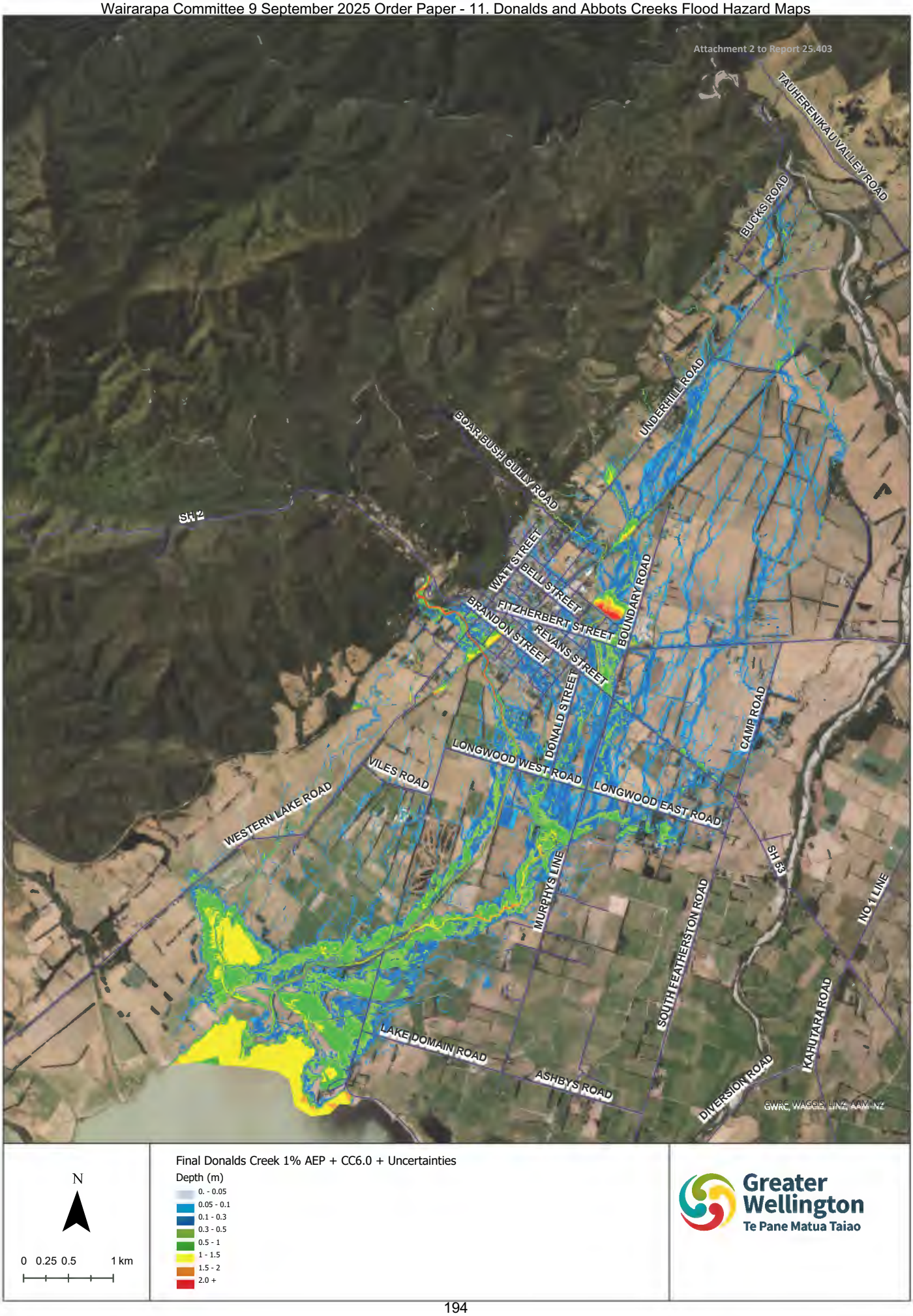
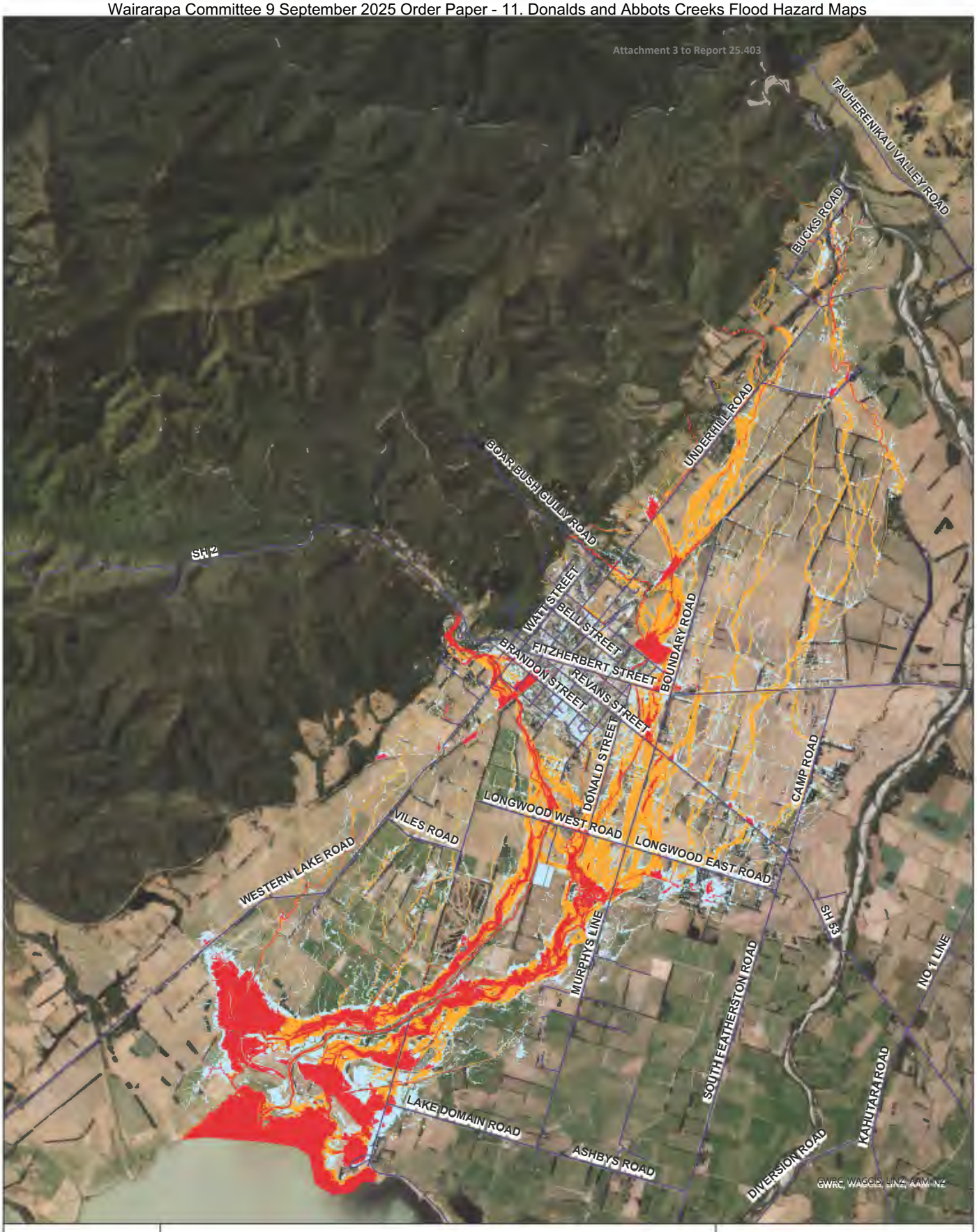
0.10 - 0.30
0.30 - 0.50
0.50 - 1.00
1.00 - 1.50
1.50 - 2.00
>2.00
Coordinate System: NZGD 2000
Scale: 1:30,000 at A3
Project Number: 820.V300278.00000
Date: 20/08/2025
Drawn by: OA
DONALDS & ABBOTS CREEK
HYDRAULIC MODEL
SLR
DESIGN RUN
PEAK DEPTHS - 1 % AEP (1 in 100 year) RCP-6
FIGURE 12


Attachment 2 to Report 25.403
TAUHERENIKAU VALLEY ROAD
BUCKS ROAD
UNDERHILL ROAD
BOAR BUSH GULLY ROAD
SH 2
WATT STREET
BELL STREET
FITZHERBERT STREET
BRANDON STREET
REVANS STREET
BOUNDARY ROAD
DONALD STREET
CAMP ROAD
LONGWOOD WEST ROAD
LONGWOOD EAST ROAD
VILES ROAD
WESTERN LAKE ROAD
MURPHYS LINE
SH 53
SOUTH FEATHERSTON ROAD
NO 1 LINE
KAHUTARA ROAD
LAKE DOMAIN ROAD
ASHBYS ROAD
DIVERSION ROAD
GWRC, WAGGIS, LINZ, AAM NZ
N
0 0.25 0.5 1 km
Final Donalds Creek 1% AEP + CC6.0 + Uncertainties
Depth (m)
0. - 0.05
0.05 - 0.1
0.1 - 0.3
0.3 - 0.5
0.5 - 1
1 - 1.5
1.5 - 2
2.0 +
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Attachment 3 to Report 25.403

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

ATTACHMENT 3 - Flood hazard map for Donald's and Abbots Creeks


Attachment 3 to Report 25.403
TAUHERENIKAU VALLEY ROAD
BUCKS ROAD
UNDERHILL ROAD
BOAR BUSH GULLY ROAD
SH 2
WATT STREET
BELL STREET
FITZHERBERT STREET
BRANDON STREET
REVANS STREET
BOUNDARY ROAD
DONALD STREET
CAMP ROAD
LONGWOOD WEST ROAD
LONGWOOD EAST ROAD
VILES ROAD
WESTERN LAKE ROAD
MURPHYS LINE
SH 53
SOUTH FEATHERSTON ROAD
NO 1 LINE
KAHUTARA ROAD
LAKE DOMAIN ROAD
ASHBYS ROAD
DIVERSION ROAD
GWRC, WAGGIS, LINZ, AAM NZ
N
0 0.25 0.5 1 km
Final Donalds Creek 1% AEP CC +Uncertainties
Hazard
Low
Medium
High
Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.410

For Information

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE ON WAIRARAPA FLOOD PROTECTION COMMUNITY INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee on the recent flood protection community information campaign, *Working for the Wairarapa*. This was part of a series of flood protection community information campaigns, which originally started with the Hutt Valley.

Te horopaki
Context

2. The purpose of our localised flood protection community information campaigns is to increase awareness and understanding of Greater Wellington's flood protection activities across the region.
3. Our Working for the Wairarapa campaign (June 16 – July 7 2025) was developed based on insights from our flood protection research 2024[1] and the learnings from our successful Te Awa Kairangi focused campaign, *For the Aroha of this Place,* which ran from Jan - July 2024.
4. Research tells us there is very low awareness of both the role and responsibilities that Greater Wellington manages within the region and confusion around how our role differs to that of territorial authorities. One of our clearly defined roles is providing flood protection.
5. While there are flood resilience projects happening across numerous sites in the region, this campaign focused solely on the works happening in the Wairarapa. We wanted to create awareness of both engineering and nature-based solutions that are underway, often on private or remote land (limited visibility to the public) that create flood resilience in the region.
6. With the cost-of-living crisis biting hard, rising rates and tough times for those in the agricultural sector, it's important that we demonstrate our value.
7. Our 2024 Research told us:

[1] https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Documents/2024/07/Flood-protection-awareness-and-perceptions-survey-report.pdf

a Only 16% of Greater Wellington residents felt they had a good understanding of flood risk management activities.

b Only one in three residents felt flood risk was being well managed well.

c 50% of residents felt there is a high risk of flooding, with only 22% aware that Greater Wellington are carrying out these works.

Verbatim from the research included comments such as: *"GW should give regular media updates as to its activities, so the general public are aware of these activities. At the moment we hear next to nothing."*

8. Our first campaign in flood protection was targeted to Hutt residents. Channels selected were press, radio and social media. We told the story of the work being done along Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River corridor, which included nature-based solutions and engineering methods (diggers in the river). This approach informed how we ran the next campaign in the series, focusing on the Wairarapa.

9. While we recognise that not every campaign will resonate with everyone, insight from our community research was consistent across the region and the campaign also aligned with Greater Wellington's Long-Term Plan strategic priorities.

Figure 1: Some of the images used in our Wairarapa campaign to illustrate the types of work we do in the flood protection space (e.g. fish passage, erosion control, engineering methods.)

Figure 2: Imagery of our Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt Valley campaign, For the Aroha of this place (with break-out additional creative for our social platforms to capture greater reach).

Paid Media/Advertising

10. To spread our messages wider than just our owned channels (which has limited reach and limited intersection between our followers and those we want to talk to), we created assets for radio, social and press.

11. **Creative Development –** Utilising a Wairarapa local as our voice (Barry Saunders, Warratahs), we have created advertising assets which can be reused. They are ready to roll out again next winter, as a timely reminder and creating cost-efficiency.

12. Our paid channels reached over half of Wairarapa residents.

    a Our social media (Facebook) campaign achieved 230,000+ impressions and over 1,300 clicks through to our website.

    b Radio in Wairarapa reached around 50% of our audience

    c The Wairarapa Times Age had a distribution of 22,000.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

13. At a total budget of $21,000, the advertising budget was extremely modest and appropriate for targeting a regional audience.

14. At a time when public spending and local government value is under scrutiny, it's vital we communicate the benefits of our work clearly and effectively. We're aware of the counter-risk of spending ratepayer money – we mitigate this by keeping costs down and focusing the messaging in the most targeted and relevant ways possible.

15. The budget was split along the following lines:

    a $11,000 media

    b $10,000 production

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

16. We know repeated and consistent long term communication outperforms one-off campaigns and it's important to be visible, highlighting our role and awareness of our value in this space.

17. We will:

    a Continue updating our flood protection website pages, showcasing recent works across the Wellington Region

    b roll out further flood protection community information campaigns in both Kāpiti and Porirua, given that we have highlighted works in other parts of our region

    c flight existing creative in the Hutt and Wairarapa next winter as a reminder of value and ongoing works.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Carmen Sellwood – Team Leader Marketing and Communications
Approvers	Matthew O'Driscoll – Head of Communications Nicola Patrick – Director Catchment Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference This report highlights an activity of relevance to the Wairarapa community.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies There are no implications for Council's/Greater Wellington's strategies, policies and plans.
Internal consultation This report has been developed in collaboration with Environment Group.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. There are no risks.

Wairarapa Committee
9 September 2025
Report 25.444

For Information

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REFORM UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose

1. To update the Wairarapa Committee on the Government's resource management reform agenda and how this is affecting Council's resource management planning process, and to also update on Local Government Act changes and Local Water Done Well.

Te horopaki
Context

2. Across local government, change is occurring at pace and scale and is reshaping the environment in which councils operate.
3. The Fast-track Approvals regime is now live, offering a streamlined pathway for major projects. Amendments to national direction under the Resource Management Act are underway, with a full legislative replacement on the horizon.
4. Public transport faces mounting funding pressures, and the Local Water Done Well reforms are locking in new water service entities and regulatory frameworks.
5. Proposed changes to the Local Government Act signal a shift in council purpose, with a renewed focus on core services, rate caps, and performance measures.
6. Meanwhile, broader constitutional and regulatory reforms (such as the Treaty Principles Bill and the Regulatory Standards Bill) are also underway.
7. These developments, alongside numerous other reforms in climate adaptation, housing, and infrastructure, are producing a rapidly shifting policy and legislative landscape.

Te tātaritanga
Analysis

8. Significant reforms are underway across most Resource Management Act (RMA) national direction instruments. Of note are major proposed changes to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater management 2020 (NPS-FM). Council has submitted feedback on this draft national direction supporting initiatives that improve water security and storage, while advocating to retain current policy settings for wetlands and forestry. The Council has expressed strong opposition to

changes that would alter the concept of Te Mana o te Wai or introduce a 'rebalancing' of freshwater management priorities. For the Wairarapa, these national direction changes are likely to delay any further regional plan updates until the new direction is confirmed and its implications are fully understood.

9. In addition to national direction changes, the Water Services Act will introduce environmental performance standards. The first of these will cover end-of-pipe wastewater discharges for treatment plants. Other standards are proposed. When existing consents expire, some treatment plants in Wairarapa may not meet the standards. The final version of the legislation and standards is still to come.

10. While the new Resource Management system is still being shaped, it is expected the new system will require a single combined plan per region, with individual chapters for a spatial plan, environment plan, and district plans for each territorial authority. There is also likely to be some centralising of compliance and enforcement functions.

11. Plan Change 1 has been paused in the short term and RPS Change 1 is currently finishing mediation; aiming for operative status this triennium. New national direction will be reviewed to determine next steps and any future short- term changes.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

12. The exact nature of the financial implications of the resource management reforms is still not clear. Once the full suite of draft legislation has been released, then the financial implications will be clearer.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

13. Proposed changes to Te Mana o te Wai in the NPS-FM and to how Treaty Settlements are considered in replacement resource management legislation are all likely to have implications for Māori. The scale of these implications is not yet clear and will become clearer when draft legislation is released. From consultation documents released so far, there is a risk that changes to Te Mana o te Wai could significantly undercut tangata whenua/mana whenua participation in managing freshwater.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change

14. The resource management reforms are highly likely to have impacts for how Council creates policy for climate change but until draft legislation is released the nature of these impacts is not clear.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

15. Council officers will continue to monitor the resource management reforms and can provide further updates as requested.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments

Number	Title
1	Resource Management Reform Update

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writers	Matt Hickman – Principal Advisor Strategy, Policy & Regulation
Approvers	Fathima Iftikar – Director Strategy, Policy & Regulation Lian Butcher – Group Manager Environment

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga **Summary of considerations**
Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference Resource management reforms relate to Council's statutory roles and functions. Changes to the resource management framework will directly affect all land uses in the Wairarapa eventually replacing the Regional Policy Statement and Natural Resources Plan.
Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies Any resource management reforms will have implications for Council's work programme and environmental management policy.
Internal consultation There is an existing working group within Council that provides analysis and advice on resource management reforms.
Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc. Depending on the eventual legislation, the resource management reforms may have an impact on Council's role in this space.

Attachment 1 to Report 25.444

Central Government reform

Fathima Iftikar, Director – Strategy, Policy and Regulation

Matt Hickman, Principal Advisor – Strategy, Policy and Regulation

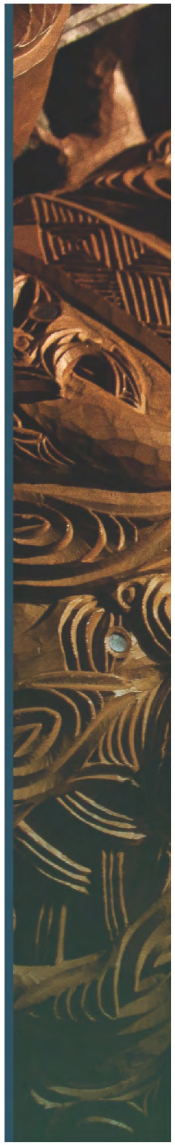
Richard Sheild, Project Lead – Policy

Greater Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

What we will cover today

There is a lot going on and a lot of change in the system

- Overview of reform agenda
- Resource Management reform – impact on planning processes
- Some observations on Local Government Act changes and Local Water Done Well

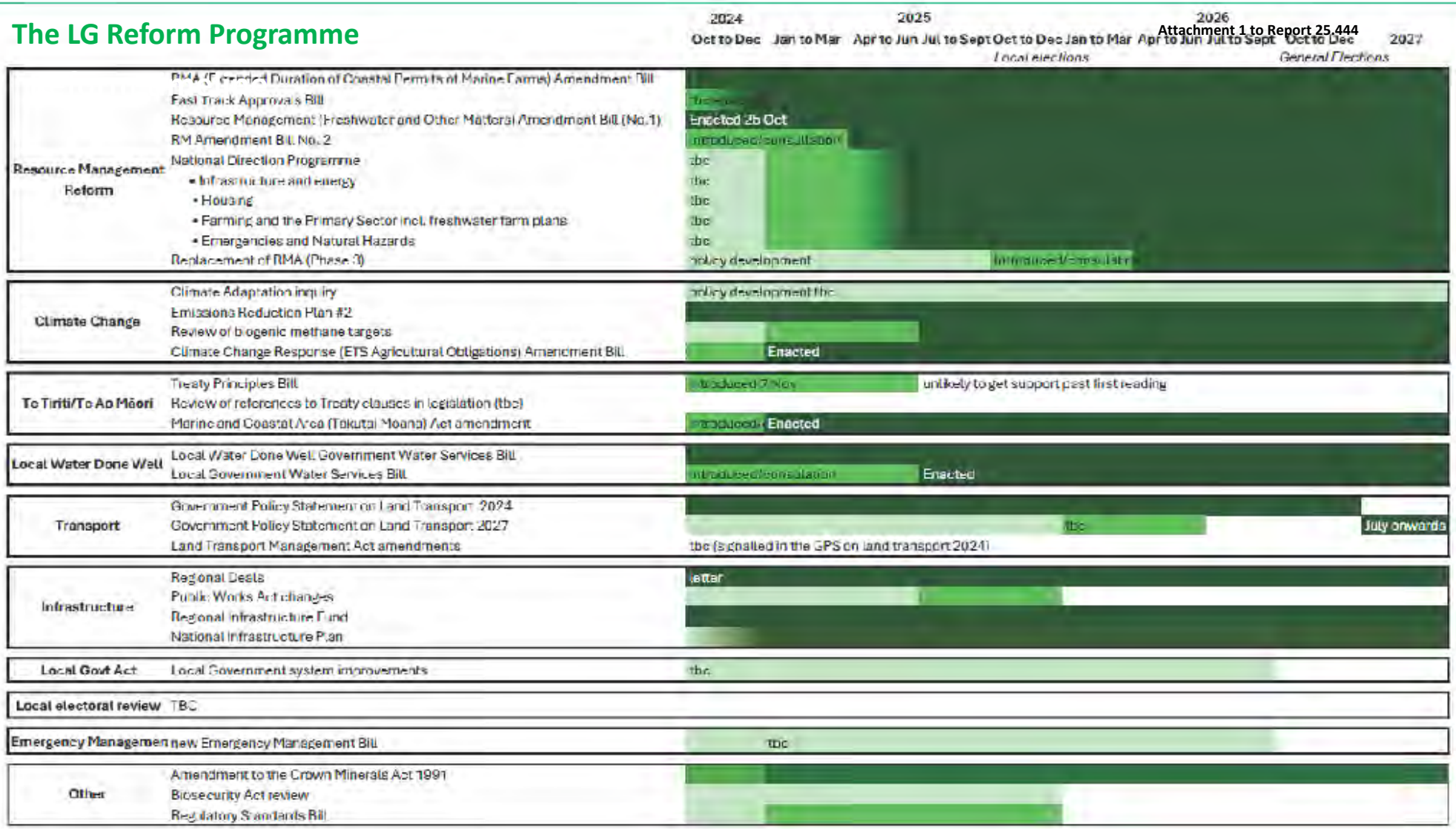


Overview of reform

Change wherever you look

- Fast-track approvals – now open for business
- RMA national direction and changes to the current Act
- Replacement to the RMA – new system incoming
- Public transport – funding pressures
- Local Water Done Well – new entities being locked in
- Local Government Act – change to purpose of Act, core services, rate caps
- Treaty Principles Bill
- Regulatory Standards Bill
- Plus many other areas ..

The LG Reform Programme



Focusing on resource management

Changes to National Direction and the RMA

- Significant changes to most of the national direction that sits under the RMA (National Policy Statements, National Environmental Standards, other secondary leg)
- Major changes planned to freshwater management NPS
- GW has put in a submission; key points:
  - Support proposals that enhance water security and storage
  - Seek to retain current policy direction for wetlands and forestry
  - Oppose changes to Te Mana o te Wai and 'rebalancing' freshwater management
  - Continuous reform is costly for everyone.

- What this could mean for the Wairarapa: not likely for there to be further regional plan changes, at least until national direction has landed and we understand the implications.

Focusing on resource management

A shift to wastewater environmental performance standards

- The Water Services Act introduces environmental performance standards
- The first standards cover end-of-pipe wastewater discharges for treatment plants

Draft proposed:

- Standards for E. coli, enterococci, ammonia, nutrients, solids
- Standards become consent conditions - can't require higher or lower levels of treatment – granted for 35 years
- When existing consents expire, some treatment plants in Wairarapa may not meet the standards
- For discharges where there is low dilution - normal RMA consent process apply instead

Final version of the legislation and standards still to come – likely to be some changes.

Attachment 1 to Report 25.444

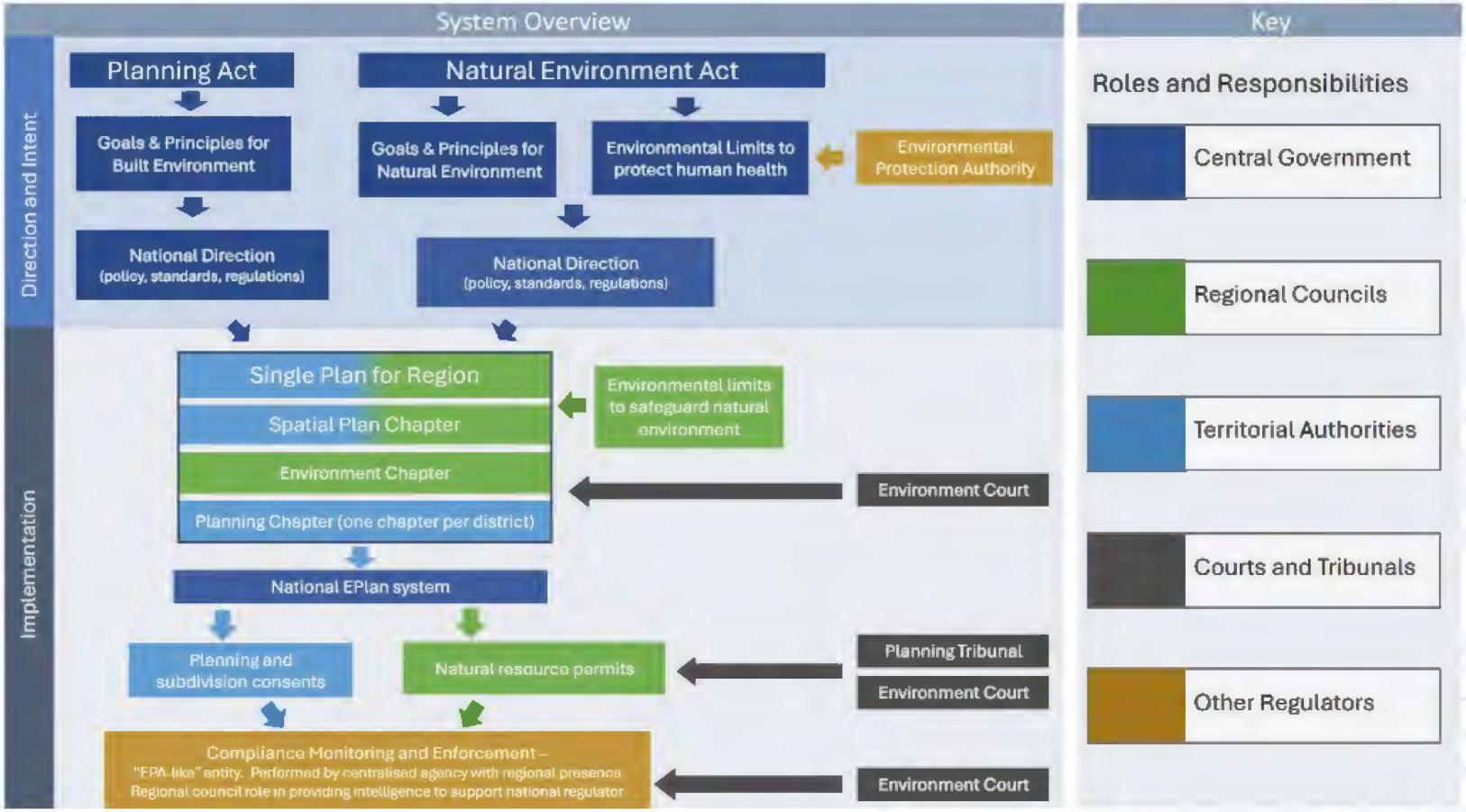
Focusing on resource management

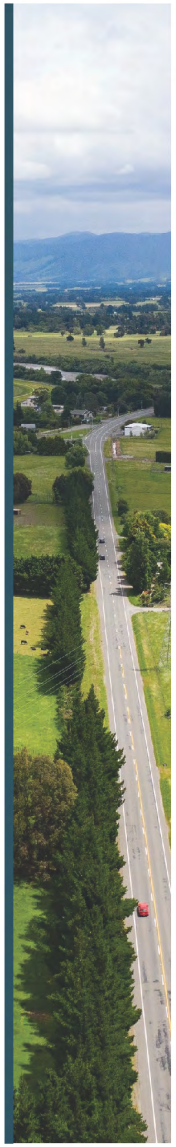
Further Amendments to the current RMA

	Relevance for Wairarapa?
Focus on enabling urban development and infrastructure (especially energy)	Yes
Changing approach to freshwater plans and who certifies s70 changed – tried to ensure farming doesn't require a consent for current operations	Yes
Stronger natural hazards rules	Yes
Consenting changes: information requests commensurate to size of consent, access to draft conditions	Yes
Compliance & enforcement changes: raising of fines, raising of imprisonment time, taking into account compliance history	Yes
Plan stops and increase in Ministerial powers.	Yes PC1 paused, limited impact in Wairarapa

Attachment 1 to Report 25.444

New resource management system





Focusing on resource management

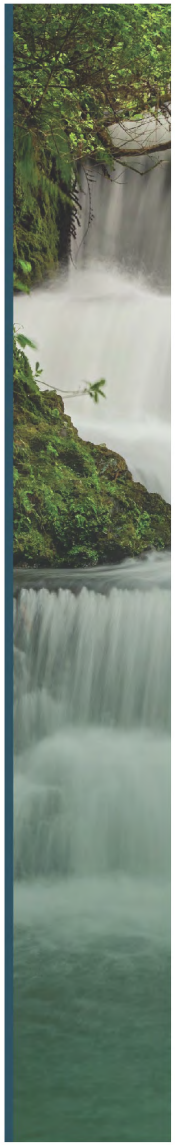
A new system – two new acts, implement from 2027?

- There will be one combined plan per region
- Each combined plan will include:
  - a spatial planning chapter (region?)
  - an environment chapter (region?) and
  - planning chapters (one per territorial authority area)
- Likely to be some centralising of compliance and enforcement functions
- Bills expected in the House November / December this year; enacted 2026
- Compliance and enforcement centralising is on a longer timeframe.

GW's approach to reform

Wait and see, build a response

- Plan Change 1 has been paused in the short term
- RPS Change currently finishing mediation; aiming for operative status this triennium.
- New national direction will be reviewed to determine next steps and any future short-term changes
- For example, consideration given to a Variation and small water allocation plan change with focus on practical workability
- Future system will see a combined plan, spatial plan and the need for all councils to collaborate and work together.



LWDW and changes to the LGA

A narrowing of focus for councils

- Local Water Done Well:
  - Regional consents will need to be transferred to the new entity; it's a simple template
  - GW remains as environmental regulator; Taumata Arowai and Commerce Commission now in the regulatory mix
  - GW also a shareholder in new metro water entity given bulk water role.

- There are also proposed changes to the LGA:
  - Narrowing its purpose, taking out four wellbeing's
  - Focus on core services
  - Potential for rate caps in the future
  - Currently in Select Committee process.

Any questions / points for discussion?