

Report to the Collaborative Stakeholder Group – for Agreement and Approval

File No: 23 10 12
Date: 27 May 2014
To: Collaborative Stakeholder Group
From: Interim Chairperson – Bill Wasley
Subject: Summary of values considered by the Collaborative Stakeholder Group to date
Section: **Agreement and Approval**

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) with a reference document that sets out:

- a) A summary of the values that have been discussed to date by the CSG at workshops 1 and 2. These include those that were put forward by members of the Collaborative Stakeholder Group, and the summary report of existing and new research presented by WRC staff¹.
- b) How values will continue to be fed into the project going forward.

This document is a working list of the values the CSG has considered to date and summarises the values the group has discussed so far.

This summary aims to wrap up the first stage of sharing values, and can be used as background material to support the next stages of the CSG's work developing a problem statement and liaising with the Technical Leaders Group. It is intended that once the CSG enter the project phase where objectives, limits and targets are developed, and dialogue with the Technical Leaders Group increases, that this summary will be reviewed and additional values included.

Recommendations:

1. That the report "Summary of values considered by the Collaborative Stakeholder Group to date" (Doc 3047875 dated 27 May 2014) be received for information.
That the Collaborative Stakeholder Group confirms:
2. That this summary is a list of values identified to date and grouped under key themes by the Collaborative Stakeholder Group at their first two workshops.
3. That this list of values is used by the Collaborative Stakeholder Group to assist with writing a problem statement and liaising with the Technical Leaders Group.
4. That the Collaborative Stakeholder Group continues to gather values from their sectors, networks and the community.

¹ Barns S, Henry J and Reed E 2013. Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2013/31. Waikato Regional Council, Hamilton.

5. That this list of values is periodically reviewed, and additional values are included, when the CSG moves into the phase of drafting policy objectives, limits and targets.

Summary of values considered by the Collaborative Stakeholder Group

CSG workshops 1 and 2: 27-28 March and 6-7 May 2014

1 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) with a reference document that sets out:

- a) A summary of the values that have been discussed to date by the CSG at workshops 1 and 2. These include those that were put forward by members of the Collaborative Stakeholder Group, and the summary report of existing and new research presented by WRC staff².
- b) How values will continue to be fed into the project going forward.

This summary aims to wrap up the first stage of sharing values, and can be used as background material to support the next stages of the CSG's work developing a problem statement and liaising with the Technical Leaders Group. It is intended that once the CSG enter the project phase where objectives, limits and targets are developed, and dialogue with the Technical Leaders Group increases, that this summary will be reviewed and additional values included.

2 Overview of the process to date

Values have been shared with, and shared by, the CSG in the following ways:

1. CSG members gave presentations to the group on their personal experiences with the rivers or their sector and the relationship with the rivers.
2. A Technical Report summarising a range of research gathering values from the community was distributed to CSG members at the end of CSG workshop 1 on 28th March 2014 and made available on the CSG member portal. The report is titled '*Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments.*'
3. A presentation was given to the CSG by council staff which highlighted some key findings from the above report at CSG workshop 2 on 7th May 2014 (see Appendix 1 for a copy).

² Barns S, Henry J and Reed E 2013. Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2013/31. Waikato Regional Council, Hamilton.

A summary of the values shared by group members and from the staff presentation are included below.

2.1 CSG members' values and experiences

CSG members were invited to share values either by:

1. Bringing an object to symbolise what they value about the river or their catchment and briefly explain the object and why it was chosen.
2. Presenting for 10mins on what they value about the river or their catchments, from both a personal and sector perspective.

Thirteen CSG members chose to share their values with the group at the first day of CSG workshop 2 on the 6th May 2014. After each individual presentation the broader group identified values they had heard.

On the second day of the workshop, 7th May 2014, the key themes that had been identified from the presentations were summarised by the group (Facilitation session notes from CSG workshop 2, 2014). These themes were grouped under use values, intrinsic values and characteristics of the people, as outlined below.

Use values

- Financial/economic contribution
 - Individual business
 - Community
 - Vibrancy of small towns, etc
- A high value, unregulated commodity
- Recreational use (navigation)
- Community water supply
- Swimmable/drinkable broader water supply
- Energy supply
- Kai/eating aquatic life, hunting/gathering
- Tourism
- Ecosystem services
- Waste disposal

Intrinsic values – river

- Aquatic life
- Biodiversity benefits for all
- Native species
- River as a corridor
- Cultural & heritage
- Spiritual – Wairua
- Amenity
- Purification (wetlands)
- Healing

Characteristics of people

- Business solutions and plans
- Personal commitment, stewardship, responsibility
- Innovation
- Management – land/farm

- Recreation and leisure
- Non-homogeneous
- Spiritual
- Organising

2.2 Research on community held values

After the CSG summarised the values they had shared with each other, a presentation was given by council staff outlining some key themes that emerged from research that has been done on values the community holds for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers. The CSG noted that they had not heard anything new in the key themes from this research from what had been identified by members the previous day.

The key themes from the community research from the staff presentation slides and discussion are listed below (see Appendix 1 for a copy of the presentation slides).

Environmental values

- Good water quality is an essential part of the natural environment
- Cleanliness was assessed as the most important aspect of the rivers
- Over the years water pollution/quality has been identified as the most important issue facing our region
- Respondents look to indicators to help them make water quality assessments eg clarity, colour, odour, weeds, pests, rubbish
- Naturalness was seen as important, including retaining native vegetation, habitat for native animals and undeveloped stretches of the rivers

Community and individual values

- The rivers are widely used by the community. Location, facilities and the type of river influenced what activities were undertaken
- The rivers provide for social, cultural and recreation needs
- The rivers are a place to spend time with family and friends, a place to gather food, a place to enjoy the natural environment and a place to play
- Water bodies were seen with a general sense of community, sustaining community wellbeing, as a shared responsibility of the community and providing opportunities for learning about the natural environment
- Waterways are an individual, community and organisational responsibility and everyone needs to work together and play a part in taking care of them
- Water bodies play an important part in family life and brought up nostalgic feelings and memories

Iwi and Māori values

- Examples of key themes identified in one study for each of the river iwi were mahinga kai (or traditional food gathering and sources), significant sites (eg. urupa or burial grounds), taonga species (native, eg. harakeke or flax), recreation and wai (type or area of water body eg. puna or springs, wetlands)
- The inter-relationship of these values, as well as the cultural and spiritual relationship with water bodies, is unique for each iwi
- In a survey conducted in 2012 respondents who identified as Māori had higher response ratings than other ethnicities across almost all areas. Examples of these include:

- Usage of the rivers
- Swimming, paddling or fishing
- That rivers should provide places for recreational activities and exercise
- That rivers support an active lifestyle
- That rivers are a source of food particularly shellfish and watercress
- That the river contributes to overall wellbeing

Economic values

- The rivers are important to the monetary economy of the Waikato Region
- The clean, green image helps attract visitors from overseas for the tourism industry
- The agricultural sector uses the 'pure' brand to export to overseas markets
- There are many specific economic uses e.g.
 - Municipal supply
 - Drinking water
 - Stock water
 - Irrigation
 - Hydroelectricity
 - Geothermal power
- The rivers provide economic opportunities and contribute to economic and social development

3 How values will continue to be fed into the process

To date the CSG have identified some key themes from other group members and heard key themes from research on community held values, which was presented by staff. Moving forward values will continue to be fed into the process and considered further via a number of avenues.

3.1 CSG members

CSG members are the key avenue for bringing values into the process and can do so in the following ways:

- Different sectors will host CSG workshops and fieldtrips over the next 10 months and will share values with the group.
- CSG members will be going back to and getting feedback from the sectors they represent, and the wider community. Values that are expressed as part of this feedback will be shared with the wider group.
- The community engagement plan sets out an intensive engagement period, currently timetabled for between March and May 2015, which includes a series of workshops and meetings with stakeholders and the community. This will be another opportunity for CSG members to hear directly from the community and sectors the values that they hold.
- River iwi will be hosting CSG workshops and also leading tangata whenua engagement processes at key stages of the project. CSG heard from the Co-management Workstream Leader, James Whetu at CSG workshop 2 on 7th May.

3.2 Current projects

Gathering and understanding values is a developing field of interest for a range of organisations and areas. The information and research generated in these projects could present an additional input into this conversation that the CSG may be interested to consider.

Projects that staff are currently aware of include:

- *Nga Tohu o te Taiao: Sustaining and Enhancing Mahinga Kai and Wai Maori*
The project looks at developing knowledge and tools to enhance kaitiakitanga of mahinga kai. More specifically integrating mātauranga and science knowledge to understand what affects kai species. A multi-agency project led by Te Kotahi Research Institute at the University of Waikato and funded until September 2014 with the prospect of further funding to progress this work.
- Desktop summary of cultural values for river iwi from existing information available to Waikato Regional Council as part of the Waikato Economic Impact Joint Venture Study.
- The range of projects funded by the Waikato River Authority to a variety of groups including river iwi to protect and restore the health and wellbeing of the Waikato and Waipa rivers and catchments.

Members of the CSG will also be aware of other information sources and research available to support the continuing development of a list of values.

4 Summary

This document is a working list of the values the CSG has considered to date and summarises the values the group has discussed so far. This summary aims to wrap up the first stage of sharing values, and can be used to write a problem statement. It is intended that once the CSG enter the project phase where objectives, limits and targets are developed, and dialogue with the Technical Leaders Group increases, that this summary will be reviewed and additional values included if required. Other possible avenues for hearing values is also given, including ways CSG members are able to bring values in from sectors, stakeholders and the community, and research projects WRC staff are aware of which may produce outputs of interest to the CSG.

Emma Reed and Jacqui Henry
Policy and Transport Group and
Resource Information Group

Bill Wasley
Independent Chairperson, Collaborative
Stakeholder Group

References

Barns S, Henry J and Reed E 2013. Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2013/31. Waikato Regional Council, Hamilton.

Facilitation session notes from CSG Workshop 2. (6 and 7 May 2014) Day 1 6 May 2014 Section 5: Value themes.


Henry J and Reed E 2014. "Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments" [Powerpoint slides]. Presented 7th May 2014 at CSG meeting 2.

Ministry for the Environment 2011a. National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

Ministry for the Environment 2011b. National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011: Implementation Guide. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

Appendix 1: Presentation from WRC staff to CSG on 7th May – Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments

Community held values of rivers, lakes and streams in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments



Healthy Rivers | Wai Ora
 PLAN FOR CHANGE | HE RAUTARI WHAKAPAIPAI

Maniapoto Mahi-Tui Board
 Raukawa Charitable Trust
 Te Awamutu River Trust

Tairāhene Mahi-Tui Board
 Waikato Raukōwhiri River Trust
 Waikato Regional Council

- collate and summarise a range of information on the values people hold for the Waikato and Waipa rivers
- range of sources and methods of data gathering
- share an overview of the findings with CSG
- one input to values conversation

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 Waikato Regional Council

Approach



- Document review
 - Research from last 15-20 years
 - Eg WRISS, submissions to RPS
- Qualitative assessment - focus groups
 - Hamilton, Te Awamutu, Putaruru and Huntly in 2012
- Quantitative assessment - telephone survey
 - 1002 residents of Waikato Region in 2012



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Key themes

- Water quality underpins a range of values



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 Waikato Raukōwhiri River Trust
 Waikato Regional Council

Environmental values

- Essential part of natural environment
- Cleanliness single most important aspect
- Water pollution/quality consistently most important issue
- Looked to indicators to decide
 - Clarity, odour, debris
 - Rubbish
 - Weeds and pests
- Naturalness

Healthy Rivers | Wai Ora
 PLAN FOR CHANGE | HE RAUTARI WHAKAPAIPAI

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 Te Awamutu River Trust

Tairāhene Mahi-Tui Board
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 Waikato Regional Council



“We want a clean, unpolluted environment which is open to people and the wild life and the plants that go with it...”

Focus group participant, Key Research 2012


Healthy Rivers | Wai Ora
 PLAN FOR CHANGE | HE RAUTARI WHAKAPAIPAI

Maniapoto Mahi-Tui Board
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 Waikato Raukōwhiri River Trust
 Waikato Regional Council

Community and individual values

- Rivers widely used by community
- Provided for social, cultural and recreational needs of the community
- Sustains community wellbeing
- Shared sense of responsibility
- Opportunities for learning
- Part of family life



"It isn't just about our life, it is about the future generations in terms of resources and how we use and treat them..."

Focus group participant, Key Research 2012

Healthy Rivers | Wai Ora
 PLAN FOR CHANGE | HE RAUTAKEI WHAKAPAIPAI
 Maniapoto Iwhiri Trust Board
 Raukawa Charitable Trust
 Te Arawa River Trust
 Tairāhene Iwhiri Trust Board
 Waikato Raupatu River Trust
 Waikato Regional Council

Iwi and Māori values

- Mahinga kai
- Significant sites
- Taonga species
- Recreation
- Wai
- Unique inter-relationships for each iwi
- Cultural and spiritual relationship with water



Iwi and Māori values

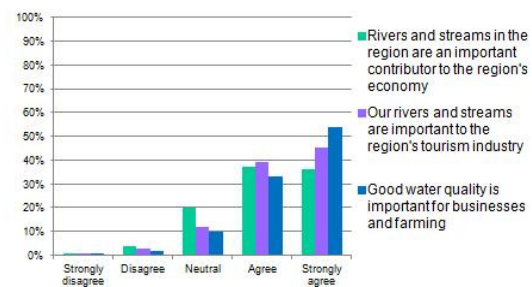
- Māori had higher response ratings than other ethnicities across almost all areas
 - Usage of the rivers
 - Swimming, paddling or fishing
 - That rivers should provide places for recreational activities and exercise
 - That rivers support an active lifestyle
 - That rivers are a source of food particularly shellfish and watercress
 - That the river contributes to overall wellbeing


Economic values

- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Economic uses e.g. municipal supply, drinking water, stock water, irrigation, hydroelectricity and geothermal power
- Provides economic opportunities and contributes to economic and social development






Agreement on values: Economic





"Water is the life blood for farming and many businesses, it is essential for our health so needs to be of excellent quality..."

Focus group participant, Key Research 2012

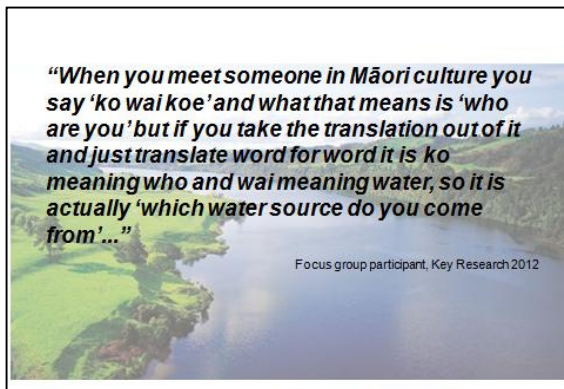
Summary

- Stock take of existing research
- Brought together results from a range of research
- Additional research meant:
 - Information is current
 - Research spans a long period of time
 - Values collected directly from the community
- Values are strongly held and consistent over time

One input into the values conversation










"When you meet someone in Māori culture you say 'ko wai koe' and what that means is 'who are you' but if you take the translation out of it and just translate word for word it is ko meaning who and wai meaning water, so it is actually 'which water source do you come from'..."

Focus group participant, Key Research 2012










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