

Ruamahanga Whaitua Implementation Programme

Community Meetings

May 2018



Giving Effect to NPS for freshwater management

- Setting freshwater objectives and limits (for water takes and discharges) in regional plans
- Maintain or improve water quality
- National Bottom lines
- 90% 'swimmable' by 2040
- Avoid over allocation
- Reflect mana whenua values and interests

Issues

- Rivers, lakes and wetlands highly modified
- Water quality- algae, sediment/erosion, pathogens, nutrients, trophic state of lakes
- Climate change
- River flows
- Iwi rights and interests poorly represented in management decisions
- Implementation by agencies could improve

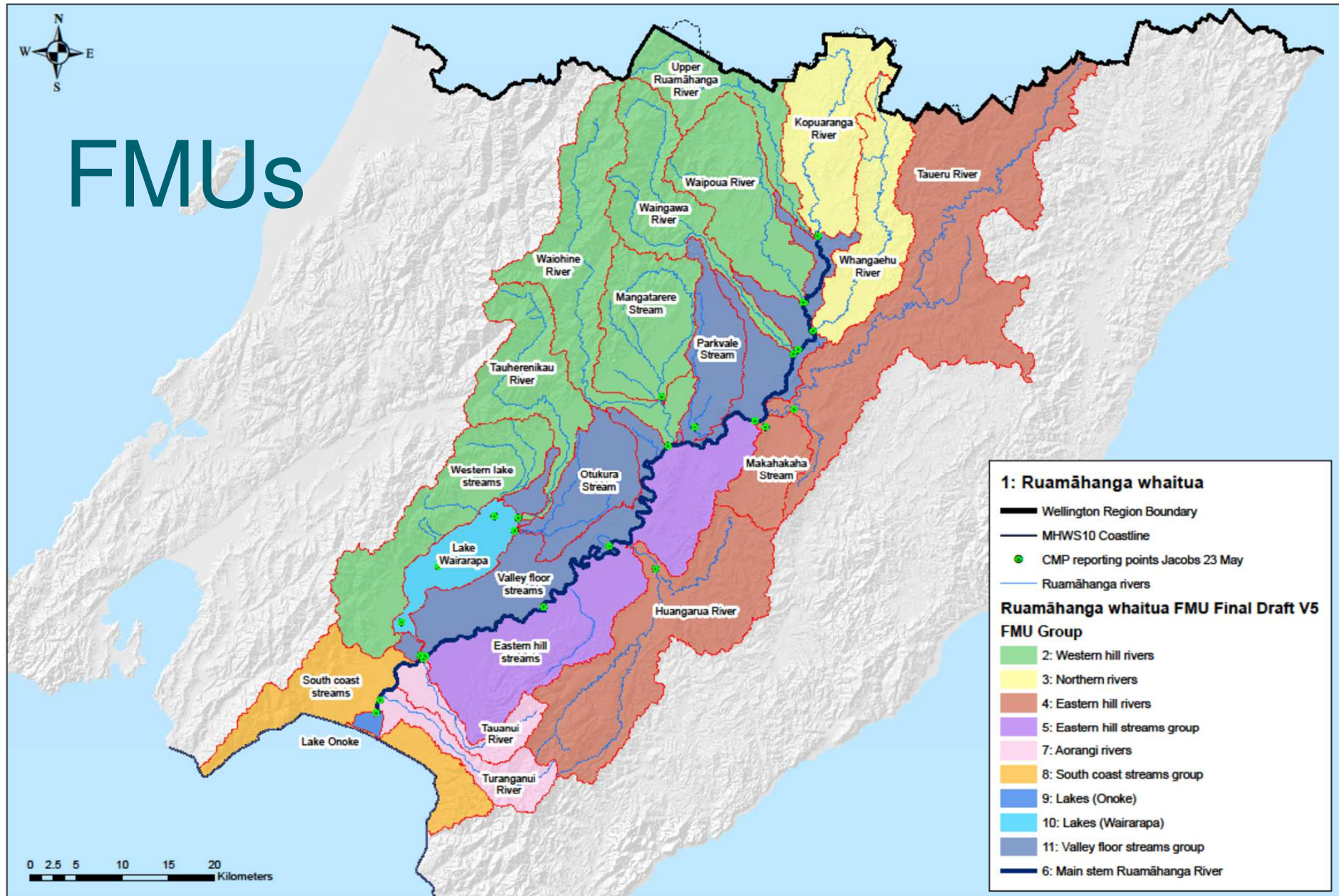
Ruamāhanga Values

- Māori Use – Mahinga kai
- Te Mana o Ruamāhanga - Mauri, Habitat, Biodiversity and Natural Character
- Our Ruamāhanga river culture
- Ruamāhanga Economic Use, Resilience and Prosperity
- Ruamāhanga community public health and wellbeing
- Ruamāhanga Recreation

Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Programme

- Freshwater management units and Objectives
- River and Lake Management
- Limits on discharges of contaminants
- Limits on taking water
- Methods to meet objectives and limits

FMUs

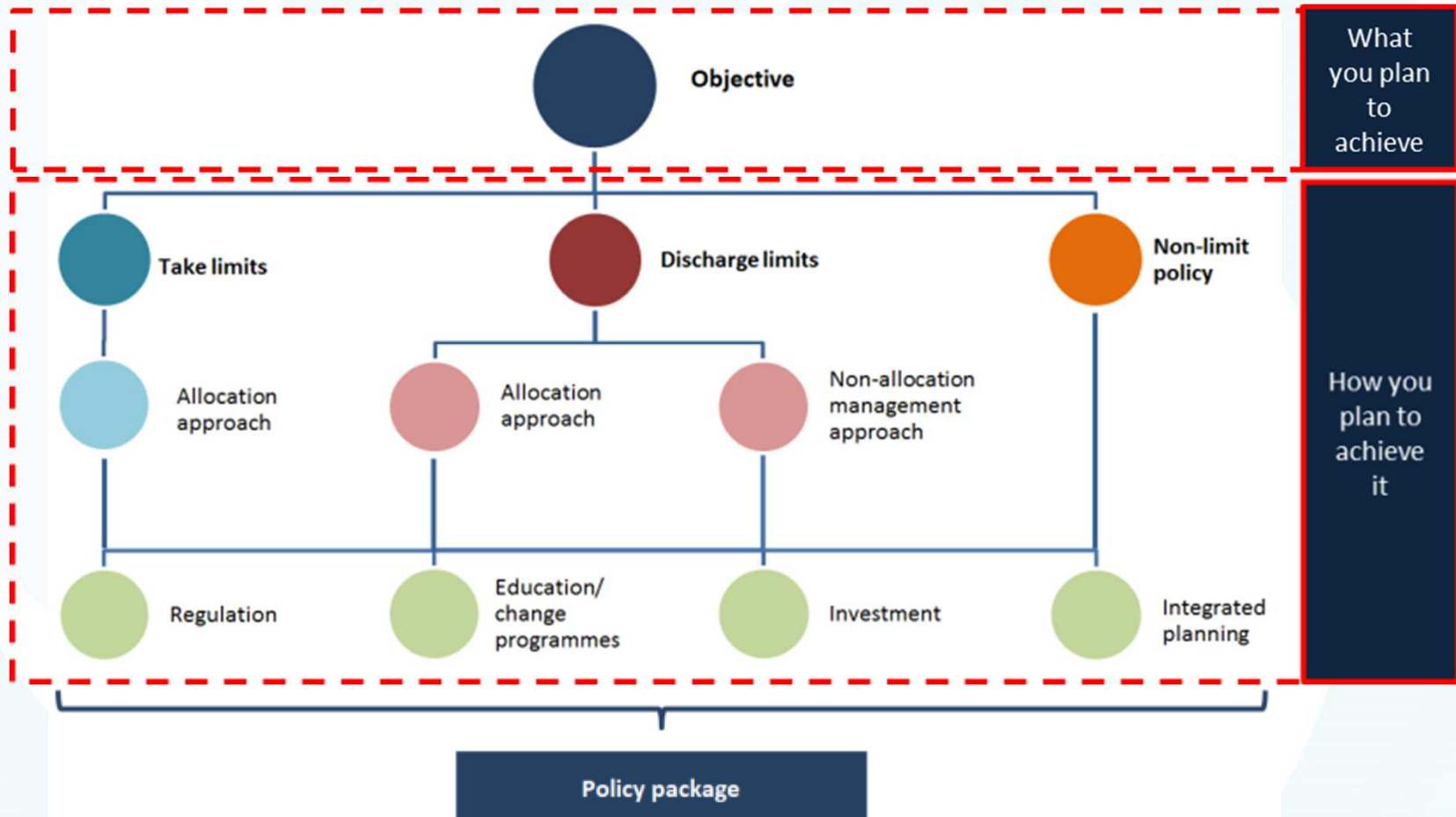


Draft water quality freshwater management units, Ruamāhanga whaitua

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Water Policy 101



RIVERS	NOF attributes								Non-NOF attributes		When by?	FMU group
	E.coli	E.coli	Periphyton	Periphyton	Ammonia toxicity	Ammonia toxicity	Nitrate toxicity	Nitrate toxicity	MCI	MCI		
	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective		
Tauanui River	D*	A	C/D*	B	A*	A	A*	A	Fair*	Good	2040	Aorangi rivers
Turanganui River	B*	B	C/D*	B	A*	A	A*	A	Fair*	Good	2040	Aorangi rivers
Taueru River	C	C	D*	C	A	A	B	A	Good	Good	2040	Eastern hill rivers
Makahakaha Stream	A*	A	?	B	A*	A	B*	A	Fair*	Good	2040 (periphyton 2030)	Eastern hill rivers
Huangarua River	B	B	C	B	A	A	A	A	Fair	Good	2080	Eastern hill rivers
Eastern hill streams ¹	?	B	?	B	?	A	?	A	?	Fair	Maintain	Eastern hill streams group
Ruamāhanga - Wardells	C*	C	B*	B	B*	A	A*	A	Fair*	Fair	2040	Main stem Ruamāhanga River
Ruamāhanga - Gladstone Bridge	D	C	B	B	B	A	A	A	Fair*	Fair	2040	Main stem Ruamāhanga River
Ruamāhanga - Waihenga	A	A	B	B	B*	A	A*	A	Fair*	Fair	2040	Main stem Ruamāhanga River
Ruamāhanga - Pukio	B	B	?	B	A*	A	A*	A	Good*	Good	Maintain	Main stem Ruamāhanga River
Ruamāhanga - upstream of confluence with Lake Wai outlet ²	B*	B	?	B	A*	A	A*	A	Fair*	Fair	Maintain	Main stem Ruamāhanga River
Kopuaranga River	D	C	D	C	A	A	A	A	Fair	Good	2040	Northern rivers
Whangaehu River ³	D	C	?	C	A	A	A	A	Fair*	Good	2040	Northern rivers
Parkvale Stream	E	C	B	B	B	A	B	A	Fair*	Good	2040	Valley floor streams group
Otukura Stream ⁴	D*	C	?	B	B*	A	B*	A	?	Fair	2040	Valley floor streams group
Valley floor streams ⁴	?	C	?	B	?	A	?	A	?	Good	2040	Valley floor streams group
Upper Ruamāhanga River	D	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	Fair	Good	2040	Western hill rivers
Waipoua River	B	A	B*	A	A	A	B	A	Fair	Good	2040	Western hill rivers
Waingawa River	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Good	Good	Maintain	Western hill rivers
Mangatarere Stream	D	B	C	B, then A	B	B (top of band)	B	A	Fair	Good	2040 (2080 for MCI)	Western hill rivers
Waiohine River	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Fair	Good	2080	Western hill rivers
Tauherikau River	A	A	A*	A	A	A	A	A	Fair	Good	2040	Western hill rivers
Western lake streams ⁵	?	A	?	A	?	A	?	A	?	Good or better	Maintain	Western hill rivers
South coast streams ⁶	?	A	?	A	?	A	?	A	?	Fair	Maintain	South coast streams group

LAKES	NOF attributes										Non-NOF attributes						FMU group
	E.coli	E.coli	Phytoplankton	Phytoplankton	Total nitrogen	Total nitrogen	Total phosphorus	Total phosphorus	Ammonia toxicity	Ammonia toxicity	Trophic level index	Trophic level index	Total suspended sediment	Total suspended sediment	Macrophytes	Macrophytes	
	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	Now	Objective	
Lake Wairarapa	A	A	D	C	C	C	D	C	A	A	Very poor	Poor	Poor	Fair	D	C	Lakes
Lake Onoke	B/C	A	B	B	C	B	B	B	A	A	Poor	Average	Poor	Fair	D	C	Lakes

River and Lake Management

- “Slow water down in the catchment” and promote groundwater recharge
- Promote wetland restoration
- Emphasis on restoration of aquatic habitat and riparian margins
- Seek opportunities for enhancing natural character of rivers

River and Lake Management

- Restore lakes with emphasis on “in-lake methods”
- Further investigation- restoring Ruamahanga River flow into Lake Wairarapa, maintaining higher lake levels, different lake opening regimes, restoring macrophytes, wetland restoration

Managing Contaminants

- Limits per FMU for E.coli, nutrients, sediment
- Discharge standards for point sources
- Nitrate-N load reduction 6.6%, Phosphorus reduction 31%
- Non-point- manage land use through 'good management practice'
- Catchment Communities
- Farm Planning
- High risk land uses and intensification
- Waste water disposal to land
- Review nutrient allocation next plan review



Managing Sediment

- Reduce sediment to improve stream, river and lake health
- Set annual load target reductions for all FMUs - total load reduction 28%
- Focus on stream bank erosion across whaitua, & hill slope erosion in the top 5 FMUs (Taueru, Huangarua, Eastern hill streams, Whangaehu, & Kopuaranga)
- Improve information on sediment loss from land uses, progress sediment mitigation and monitoring of lakes and rivers

Flows and Water Allocation

- Largely confirm proposed Natural Resources Plan framework
- Climate change has large impact
- Reduce permitted activity threshold for taking water
- Raise minimum flows in the Upper Ruamāhanga and Waipoua
- Further restrict Category A groundwater takes at minimum flow
- Investigate further delineation of Cat A
- Storage and groundwater recharge



Flows and Water Allocation

- Reduce permitted activity from 20m³/day to 5m³/day and cease at minimum flow
- Minimum flows set to provide 90% habitat protection for Torrent fish
 - Increase minimum flow in Upper Ruamāhanga from 2400L/s to 3250L/s → stepped change over 20 years
 - Increase minimum flow in the Waipoua from 250L/s to 340L/s → stepped change over 10 years
- Category A groundwater takes currently reduce by 50% at minimum flows → in 10 years will cease at minimum flows

A person in a waders is fishing in a calm lake at dusk. The water is dark blue and reflects the sky and the person. In the background, there are mountains under a sky with scattered clouds. A wooden post is visible in the foreground on the left.

*Wairarapa
where water glistens*