



REGIONAL FORUM

People Water and Land – *Te Mana o te Tangata, te Wai, te Whenua*

RECORD OF WORKSHOP

Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 April 2021
Phase 3, Workshop 12 held at Hokonui Rūnanga

Present

Fiona Smith (chair) absent day 1
Phil Morrison
Bernadette Hunt
Cain Duncan
Darren Rewi
David Diprose
Estelle Pera-Leask
Ewen Pirie
Hayden Slee
Kelsi Hayes

Lisa Pearson
Michelle Roberts
Paul Marshall
Rose Hanley-Nickolls
Sean Bragg
Steph Blair
Vaughan Templeton

Focus of the workshop

1. All Regional Forum members are brought together to form a new group
2. The Regional Forum is updated with the latest science information
3. The application of Ngāi Tahu timeframes and methods are understood
4. the Regional Forum has the opportunity to talk with stakeholders

Sessions

Day one

Start and welcome

The Regional Forum were welcomed to Hokonui Rūnanga with a Mihi Whakatau. This was followed by a korero giving Regional Forum members a deeper understanding of the history of Hokonui Rūnanga and current projects being undertaken by the Rūnanga.

Introductions between the original and new Regional Forum members

Independent facilitator Barbara Nicholas led the group through an introductory session. All members introduced themselves and original forum members were encouraged to share something they had learned through the process so far.

Update and discussion about recent science work

Co-science leads Karen Wilson, team leader science, strategy and design - Environment Southland and Ned Norton Land, Water, People, discussed the recent work they have undertaken with a science technical stakeholder group. The conversation focused around which stakeholder groups were involved, levels of engagement from stakeholders and how this engagement was being received.

The group then had discussions about periphyton, soft-bed versus hard-bed waterways and how mātauranga Māori was being included. Karen then explained how sites were monitored and how many monitoring sites there were around the region.

The group agreed that there was a need to accept a level of uncertainty. The numbers may change slightly as things are finalised, but the scale of change was not going to alter.

Scope of the Regional Forums work

Lauren Maciaszek, senior policy planner and Delia Riley, Regional Forum lead at Environment Southland, presented the Regional Forum with a plan for how they could progress through their work programme over the coming 18 months. This plan will be further developed through feedback from Regional Forum members. Alongside this work programme development, Regional Forum deputy chair Phil Morrison is working with Delia to develop a Journey Map to give an overview of the Regional Forums progress since it started through until its completion in June 2022.

Communication preferences

Environment Southland senior communications coordinator Adrienne Henderson split the Regional Forum into three groups where they discussed different communications topics. One group discussed their preferences for how they communicated with stakeholders and the community. The second group discussed the use of social media for communication. While the third group began a plan for a promotional video for the forum's work. These discussions and opportunities will be further developed at the June and July workshops.

Day 2

Debrief the day before

Chair Fiona Smith led the forum in a round table check in. The group discussed how they had found the group development session held the day before, as well as the other sessions

throughout day one. The group agreed they felt as if a new team had successfully been formed and they were looking forward to getting on with the challenge ahead.

Climate Change

Anastazia Raymond, policy planner at Environment Southland, started the morning off with a discussion on climate change implications for freshwater in the region. The Regional Forum discussed how they needed to consider climate change impacts when developing their advice in more detail. The conversations led to discussions on the effects of increased snow melt, ground water levels, changing rainfall events, coastal erosion, water storage capacity and changes in water flow. In-depth discussions were held on climate change impacts on land use, economic, non-economic and cultural values.

Application of Ngāi Tahu timeframes and methods

Eva Hendriks, kaitohutohu/principal iwi advisor for Te Ao Marama Incorporated, and Emma Moran, principal policy planner/economist Environment Southland, built on the discussions from the workshop in February. The forum agreed that the work undertaken by Ngāi Tahu in developing these timeframes and methods was extremely valuable and would like to understand more about bringing this into their thinking. The group agreed that while they were comfortable with the goals, they would need to consider the timeframes in more detail. The Regional Forum also discussed that they would like to look more deeply into the concept of co-governance and how this could be used in different ways throughout the region.

Initial methods preference exercise

Karl Erikson, principal land sustainability officer for Environment Southland, reminded the Regional Forum about the sessions held in Invercargill and how the group expressed some methods they would like to consider in their advice package. Karl explained that these methods, along with comments from the group had been compiled into a survey. Members were given a copy of the survey and were asked to give a rating value to each option and provide any additional commentary or additional preferred methods. The results of this will be compiled into one document, shared with the group and developed further at the June workshop. The forum discussed how this will enable the group to see how their thinking is evolving and help them when developing their advice package.

Discussion with Gore District Council

Ramesh Sharma, general manager infrastructure, Gore District Council, and Keith Hovell, consultant planner for Gore District Council, joined the Regional Forum. They discussed working with Iwi, the District Plan, stormwater initiatives in the Gore District, roading infrastructure, the district rating base and potential funding mechanisms. The Regional Forum noted to Ramesh and Keith how useful it was for them to develop a deeper understanding of the work being undertaken by the region's territorial authorities, both now and in the future.

Key messages from Regional Forum members

- We welcomed our new members and we're excited where this new waka will take us. The Regional Forum has now formed as a cohesive group and we're looking forward to the mahi going forward.
- We would like to recognise the contribution of previous forum members and acknowledge and thank them for supporting us this far on the journey.
- We're looking forward to new engagement opportunities over the next 18 months. We understand that freshwater management is one of the major challenges facing Southland and recognise we all have a part play.
- We understand that there are other issues including climate change which will impact on freshwater management and we're keen to continue to understand how these issues work together as part of the bigger picture.
- We appreciate the Gore District Council spending time talking with us and look forward to having a similar korero with Invercargill City and Southland District Councils. These conversations help cement the forum's thinking.
- We recognise the work and effort of the Kaititui in sharing science with stakeholders. While the extent of the challenge to be solved has a level of uncertainty around it, a large proportion of it is clear and we know we need to get on with the task. The level of uncertainty is minor compared to the size of the task at hand.
- We would like to thank Hokonui Runanga for allowing us to hold our workshop there. Their welcome, hospitality and sharing of knowledge was appreciated.