

King Country River Care Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028



Vision: Farmers taking charge of improving our environment together with the community

KCRC is an incorporated society with two primary objectives that are interconnected. To facilitate and promote “on farm good practice” of sustainable land management principles. This includes identifying good management practice already being done on farms and highlighting this to external stakeholders. Secondly to ensure our regions farmers have a voice and representation in the development of policy through the Waikato Regional Council West Coast Plan Change (WCPC) process and the WRC Healthy Rivers Plan Change process.

Key Strategic Themes

1. Promote excellent on farm management
2. Committed Farmer Membership
3. Build key stakeholder relationships and promote KCRC
4. Active, engaged sub-catchment groups in Mokau and Awakino Catchments
5. Gather evidence, identify and manage research needs.

KCRC Key statistics & Measurements

Catchments	Awakino	Mokau						
Subcatchments			Upper Mokau	Mapiu/Mapara	Mid Mokau	Mangaotaki	Mokauiti	Lower Mokau
Length	77km	167km						
Tributaries	502km	2003km						
Total Area; • Reserve/DOC • Farm • Forestry	383km sq •	1444km sq						
No. monitored sites	4	6	1			1	2	2
Landowners ¹	?40	250						
Farmers engaged ²	35	145	26	23	19	25	33	19
Fencing (km) ³		250						
Retired (ha) ⁴	6765	3200						

¹ Greater than 10ha

² Attended or apology at SC meeting

³ Estimate for 2019

⁴ Estimate for 2019

Strategic Theme 1: Promote excellent on farm management practice.

Strategic Priority	Outcomes	Measures	Targets & Timeframes
<p>Promote excellent on farm management</p>	<p>Behaviours align with the Good Farming Practice Action Plan.</p> <p>Members and SC groups put in place Farm Environment Plans (FEPs), review existing FEPs, and promote the adoption of practical good farm practice, while maintaining financial viability.</p>	<p>Risk Mitigation workshops completed (no.) FEPs completed (%)</p> <p>Around wetlands/waterways /native bush: Fencing completed (km) Area retired (ha) Trees/plants/poles planted (no.)</p> <p>Changes in land use Changes in on farm stocking rate Changes in cropping practices – establishment, area, timing, management Changes in attitude/awareness</p>	<p>All members supported to have minimum of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil/topography map within 12 months of joining • current FEP within 24 months of joining • 60% Landowners have FEP in 5yrs • 80% native bush (>1ha) to be retired in 10yrs • 60% permanent waterways to have cattle excluded in 10yrs <p>Further targets and timeframes to be developed by Sub-catchment groups</p>

	<p>Investigate Pilot farms in each sub-catchment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactive, open farmer(s) • Possibly MitAgator (Ballance), Overseer, LUCI, other models 	<p>Pilot farms or pilot projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 pilot farms or projects underway June 2019
	<p>Educate and inform members and SC groups. Plan and run workshops/field days where needed.</p>	<p>Number of workshops/feildays held Number of attendees Survey requirements and whether meeting need SCs to advise their needs going forward</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk mitigation or similar to all interested SCs by May2019 • 60% attendance • WQ workshop to members by April2019



Strategic Theme 2: Committed Farmer Membership

Strategic Priority	Outcomes	Measures	Targets & Timeframes
Committed Farmer Membership	KCRC is well supported by farmers within Awakino & Mokau catchments. Wider West Coast region farmers and SC groups engaged and supported as required.	Number of farmer members Area of farm land involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% of all farmers are members by end 2019 • 60% of farmers members by 2024 • 80% of farm land involved by 2024
	Each sub catchment attracts members	% members by catchment sub group	20% membership of each sub catchment by end 2019
	Farmers actively participate in KCRC events	Level of attendance at sub catchment meetings	75% of members attend each sub catchment meeting/event



Strategic Theme 3: Build Key Stakeholder relationships and promote KCRC.

Strategic Priority	Outcomes	Measures	Targets & Timeframes
Build key Stakeholder relationships and promote KCRC	Collaborative, strategic networks with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRC West Coast zone committee and staff • WRC elected councillor • Waitomo District Council • Local iwi 	Regular communication Attendance at meetings	There is a list of all key stakeholders and a prime contact by June 2019 Meet each party at least once by December 2019
	A diverse membership – targeting sub-catchment group formation, including wider community and stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools • Dairy NZ, B+LNZ • Fish & Game, Fed Farmers, DOC • NZ Landcare Trust • Local businesses 	Regular communication Attendance at meetings	Meet or talk with each party at least once by June 2019
	KCRC influences future regulations for WRC West Coast Zone – encourages policy that results in actions that improve environmental outcomes.	KCRC members understand current and future policy – national and regional	Ongoing

	Positive, trusted media relationship	Regular coverage in Waitomo News, Piopio Birdtalk, wider Waikato media and national rural media	Coverage at least twice a year locally and once a year in wider media.
	Regular email communication Interactive, informative Facebook page and	Members, stakeholders and public are well-informed around KCRC activities and thinking	Monthly member emails 500 fb followers by December2019
	Secure external funding for KCRC and SC group activities	Funding sources identified, applications completed.	One external funder by June2019



Strategic Theme 4: Active, engaged sub-catchment groups in Mokau and Awakino Catchments

Strategic Priority	Outcomes	Measures	Targets & Timeframes
Active, engaged sub-catchment groups in Mokau and Awakino Catchments	Sub-catchment progress monitored and reported	Reports to KCRC meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings/actions • Project/resource requests • Level of attendance 	Reports to each KCRC meeting. Co-ordinator to follow-up
	Each sub catchment group is operating as an effective unit	There is a lead farmer and membership list for each sub catchment	All sub catchments are operational by June 2019
	Each sub catchment implements its own plan	Every sub catchment has a plan	Sub catchment plans agreed by Dec 2019
	Communities are engaged through each sub catchment having an environmental theme	Each sub catchment encouraged to have a plant, animal or similar as a community focus	5 sub catchments have adopted a plant/animal/critter theme by Dec 2019



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Strategic Theme 5: Gather evidence, identify and manage research needs.

Strategic Priority	Outcomes	Measures	Targets & Timeframes
Gather evidence, identify and manage research needs	Improved understanding of water quality and stream /river health. Evaluate need for further WQ testing sites	Members and SC groups understand monthly WRC WQ results Discussion within SCs around most appropriate measures for their area and requirement for sites	Stream health/WQ feildays run (WRC, NIWA) First by June 2019; follow-ups in SCs if required Monitor & report monthly WQ results – ongoing; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC groups • Local newspaper Refer Sub catchment plans - agreed by June 2019
	Improved understanding around measures for soil health, biodiversity and carbon neutrality.	Investigate future measures and targets for healthy soils, thriving biodiversity and reduced carbon emissions	By 2020
	Improve understanding of social and economic impact for farming in our region.	Develop social & economic KPIs for region, also KPIs for evaluating effectiveness of on farm actions	Engage with interested parties – Landcare, WRC, AgResearch, NIWA By 2020