

Appendix 1

Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

~~Notified version (October 2016)~~

Officer's Block 2 "Tracked Changes" Recommendations

Red tracked changes are insertions or deletions
due to Variation 1

Black tracked changes are insertions or deletions
recommended by the Council Officers

Blue tracked changes are insertions or deletions
recommended by Corina Jordan

*Note: Parts in **grey shading** are part of future
recommendations.*

*Parts in **green shading** are part of previous
recommendations*

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Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

From the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee co-chairs

Tuia te rangi e tū nei

Tuia te papa e takoto nei

Tuia te muka tangata e whiria nei i te mata o te whenua

Kīngi Tuheitia - te mauri o te motu

Tuia ngā manako o ngā iwi kia whakaorangia, kia tiakina hoki te mauri o ngā wai

Paimārire

We are honoured to introduce the Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipa River Catchments (Proposed).

This document represents the start of the regional community's journey in restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato and Waipa rivers for the benefit of current and future generations, as set out in the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River/Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato.

The proposed plan change sets out an 80 year timeframe for the Waikato and Waipa rivers and their tributaries to be swimmable and safe for food collection along their entire lengths, and in doing so, achieving the requirements of the Vision and Strategy/Te Ture Whaimana, the primary direction setting document for the rivers. In achieving this outcome, it sets a higher bar than the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014's requirement of wadeable water bodies.

The proposed plan change has been developed under a unique set of circumstances.

What sets this proposed plan change apart is that six organisations – Maniapoto Māori Trust Board, Raukawa Charitable Trust, Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board, Te Arawa River Iwi Trust and Waikato Raupatu River Trust representing Waikato and Waipa River iwi – and Waikato Regional Council partnered on the project to develop this proposed plan change, Healthy Rivers: Plan for Change/Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai. The partnership gives effect to the co-management arrangements between the five River iwi and Waikato Regional Council for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers. The guardians of the Vision and Strategy/Te Ture Whaimana, the Waikato River Authority, have also been closely involved.

The policies outlined in the following pages have been principally developed by a group of exceptional individuals as part of the Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora project. Over two and a half years, the 24-strong Collaborative Stakeholder Group, led by an independent chair and assisted by a very capable facilitator, stepped up to represent stakeholders – a diverse range of sectors and the community – in developing the proposed plan change. To ensure they had the right information to make justifiable and achievable decisions, they received technical information, including Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) from a highly qualified Technical Leaders Group. The Collaborative Stakeholder Group's task has not been easy, and we would like to express our gratitude for their commitment to the process and for what they've collectively achieved.

As co-chairs of the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee, a joint decision making body of River iwi governors and regional councillors, we have been privileged to attend many of the Collaborative Stakeholder Group's workshops. It has been inspiring to witness the diverse range of interests represented in the room working together for solutions to restore and protect our precious fresh water, and putting in place a long term plan for bringing the Vision and Strategy/Te Ture Whaimana to life.

Every person who has come forward and shared their ideas with the Collaborative Stakeholder Group deserves acknowledgement for contributing to the solutions for the rivers. Whether a member of the public or part of an organisation, thank you for being part of the process that has produced this document.

Councillor Alan Livingston

Kataraina Hodge

Co-chair, Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee

Co-chair, Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee

Waikato Regional Council

Raukawa Charitable Trust

From the Waikato Regional Council chair

Waikato Regional Council is proud to have been one of the partners in the Healthy Rivers: Plan for Change/Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai project that developed this proposed plan change.

This document is important, not just for the people of the Waikato region but for all of New Zealand, given the Waikato River's national importance and its contribution to our country's cultural, social and environmental wellbeing. The plan proposes to reduce key contaminants entering water bodies in the Waipa and Waikato river catchments, which cover 1.1 million hectares.

For Waikato Regional Council, the collaborative approach taken to develop this plan change marks a new way of producing this type of policy.

Addressing water quality issues is complex. Progress can only be made through seeking sensible, practical solutions and working with others.

Everyone in the Waikato and Waipa river catchments holds a stake in the rivers, as do many beyond. The rivers' stakeholders are diverse, as reflected in the composition of the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) instrumental in developing this plan change. People and sectors hold a wide range of values for the rivers. The CSG travelled far and wide in the catchments to hear different perspectives and to experience and understand the diversity.

Initially there was little agreement on causes of the problem, no direct cause and effect relationship and, in addition, technically complex issues. The Vision and Strategy/Te Ture Whaimana also required the group to develop a plan for the rivers to be swimmable and safe for food collection. To address this an impartial group of specialists was specially formed to provide the CSG and others involved with technical information. As a result, this plan change is based on scientific evidence and also incorporates Mātauranga Māori, or traditional and contemporary Māori knowledge.

On behalf of Waikato Regional Council I thank the Collaborative Stakeholder Group, the Technical Leaders Group and the wider community for their involvement and commitment to the collaborative process and the desired outcomes for our waterways. The conversations do not stop here. Waikato Regional Council staff are available at any stage to address your questions and information needs. We want to get this plan right so I encourage you to submit your feedback. Water quality is a shared problem and we need shared solutions.

Chairperson Paula Southgate

Waikato Regional Council

Nā ngā hoa-kaihautū o te komiti o Wai Ora

Tuia te rangi e tū nei

Tuia te papa e takoto nei

Tuia te muka tangata e whiria nei i te mata o te whenua

Kīngi Tuheitia - te mauri o te motu

Tuia ngā manako o ngā iwi kia whakaorangia, kia tiakina hoki te mauri o ngā wai

Paimārire

Nō māua te hōnore ki te tāpae i te Panonitanga 1 i te Mahere ā-Rohe a Waikato - ngā Riu o ngā Awa o Waikato me Waipā (e marohitia nei).

Ko tā tēnei pukapuka, he kōkiri i te haerenga o te hāpori ā-rohe ki te whakaora, ki te tiaki hoki i te ora me te mauri o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā, hei painga mō ngā whakatupuranga o nāianei me ngā whakatupuranga o anamata, e takoto ana i roto i Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato.

E takoto ana i te panonitanga ā-mahere e marohitia nei, tētehi pae wā e 80 tau te roa, kia ora ngā wai o Waikato me Waipā me ngā kautawa hei kauranga, hei wāhi kōhi kai, i ngā wāhi katoa o aua awa, mā i ngā mātāpuna ki ngā pūaha, ā, mā reira e tutuki ai ngā herenga o Te Ture Whaimana, o te pukapuka matua e whakatau ana i te ahunga whakamuatanga mō aua awa. Ki te tutuki taua putanga, ka teitei ake te paerewa i tērā o te herenga o te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaeretanga o te Wai Māori, o te tau 2014, kia wātea ngā wai hei kautūtanga.

Kua whakaritea te panonitanga ā-mahere e marohitia nei i runga i ētehi tūāhutatanga ahureinga.

Ko te mea e motuhake ai tēnei panonitanga ā-mahere e marohitia nei, e ono ngā whakahaere i mahi ngātahi i tēnei kaupapa - arā, ko te Poari o Maniapoto rātou ko te Poari Manaaki o Raukawa, ko te Poari Māori o Tūwharetoa, ko te Tarahati o ngā Iwi o ngā Awa o Te Arawa, ko te Tarahati o te Awa o Waikato Raupatu hei māngai mō ngā iwi o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā - me te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato, ki te whakarite i tēnei panonitanga ā-mahere, i a Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai. Mā tēnei mahi ngātahitanga e whakatinana ngā whakaritenga mō te whakahaere ngātahitanga i waenga i ngā iwi e rima o te awa me te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato mō ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā. Kua āta whai wāhi mai hoki ngā kaitiaki o te Mana Whakahaere o te Awa o Waikato, o Te Ture Whaimana.

Kua whakaritea te nuinga o ngā kaupapa here e takoto ana i ngā whārangi e whai ake nei e tētehi rōpū tuatangata i roto i te kaupapa o Wai Ora. I roto i ngā tau e rua me te hāwhe, i tū ake te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga, i raro i te ārahitanga o tētehi kaihautū motuhake, i āwhinatia ai hoki e tētehi kaiwhakahaere tino mātau, hei māngai mō ngā hunga whai pānga - mō ngā momo rāngai rerekē me te hāpori, ki te whakarite i te panonitanga ā-mahere e marohitia nei. E tika ai ngā pārongo i a rātou, e whaitake ai, e tutuki ai hoki ā rātou whakatau, i whiwhi pārongo whāiti rātou, whērā i te Mātauranga Māori i ahu mai i tētehi Rōpū Kaiārahi Whāiti. Kāore i māmā noa iho te mahi a te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga, nā konei e rere nei ā māua whakamānawa ki tō rātou ū ki te tukanga, ki ngā mahi hoki i whakatutukihia petapetahia e rātou.

I ō māua tūnga hei hoa-kaihautū mō te komiti o Wai Ora, mō te rangapū whakatau tukutahi o ngā kaihautū o ngā iwi o ngā awa me ngā kaikaunihera ā-rohe, māringanui ana māua i te taenga ki ngā hui maha a te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga. Kua whakaawehia māua i te rongotanga i ngā momo tūmanako rerekē e whakakanohihia ana i te rūma, e te hunga e mahi ngātahi ana ki te kimi rongoā hei whakaora, hei tiaki hoki i ō tātou wai Māori matahīapo, e whakarite ana hoki i tētehi mahere tauroa e puta ai Te Ture Whaimana ki te ao mārama.

Me mihi ka tika ia tangata i haere mai ki te tuku whakaaro ki te aroaro o te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga, mō rātou i whakatakoto rongoā mō ngā awa. Ahakoa nō te marea, ahakoa nō tētehi whakahaere rānei, tēnā koutou i whai wāhi mai ki te tukanga i puta ai tēnei pukapuka.

Councillor Alan Livingston

Kataraina Hodge

Co-chair, Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee

Co-chair, Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee

Waikato Regional Council

Raukawa Charitable Trust

Nā te kaihautū o te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato

E ngākau whakapuke nei te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato kia noho hei hoa mahi i te kaupapa o Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai, i whakarite ai i tēnei panonitanga ā-mahere e marohitia nei.

He whakahirahira tēnei pukapuka, kua noa iho ki ngā tāngata o te rohe o Waikato, engari ki ngā tāngata katoa o Aotearoa, inā hoki, e hiranga ana te awa o Waikato ki te motu, e whai wāhi ana hoki te awa ki te orange ā-ahurea, ā-pāpori, ā-taiao hoki o tō tātou whenua. E marohi ana te mahere kia whakaitihia te urunga o ētehi matū tāhawahawa matua ki ngā wai i roto i ngā riu o ngā awa o Waipā me Waikato, 1.1 miriona heketea nei te whānui.

Ki te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato, e tohu ana te kaupapa mahi ngātahi i whāia ai ki te whakarite i tēnei panonitanga ā-mahere i tētehi huarahi hou hei whakaputa i tēnei momo kaupapa here.

He uaua te whakatau i ngā take e pā ana ki te kounga o te wai. Mā te rapu rongoā whai take, e taea ana te whakatutuki, mā te mahi ngātahi hoki me ētehi atu, mā reira rawa e neke whakamua ai te kaupapa.

He pānga tō ngā tāngata katoa kei ngā riu o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā ki ngā awa, tae atu hoki ki te tokomaha kei tua atu. He rerekē ngā hunga whai pānga ki te awa, e whakaatahia ana i te tōpū o te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga nāna tonu tēnei panonitanga ā-mahere i whakarite. He whānui ngā momo uara o ngā tāngata me ngā rāngai e pā ana ki ngā awa. I puta te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga ki ngā tōpito o ngā riu ki te whakarongo ki ngā whakaaro rerekē, ki te kite ā-kanohi i ngā rerekētanga, ki te whai māramatanga hoki ki ngā rerekētanga.

I te tīmatanga, kāore i nui ngā whakaaetanga e pā ana ki ngā pūtaka o te raruraru, karekau he hononga hāngai e kitea ai te pūtaka me te pānga, ā, hei āpiti atu, he maha ngā take whāiti i uaua. I herea hoki te rōpū e Te Ture Whaimana kia whakaritea he mahere e kauria ai ngā awa, e ora ai hoki te wai hei wāhi kohi kai. Hei whakatau i tēnei, i āta whakatūria tētehi rōpū mātanga e noho motuhake ana, hei tuku mai i ngā pārongo whāiti ki te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga me ētehi atu i whai wāhi mai. Nā konā, ka noho ngā taunakitanga ā-pūtaiao hei pūtaka mō tēnei mahere, ka whai wāhi mai hoki te Mātauranga Māori.

Hei māngai mō te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato, tēnei au e mihi nei ki te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga, ki te Rōpū Kaiārahi Whāiti, ki te hapori whānui hoki, mō rātou i whai wāhi mai, mō rātou hoki i ū ki te tukanga mahi ngātahi, ki ngā hua hoki mō ō tātou arawai e manakohia ana. Kāore ngā kōrero e mutu i konei. E wātea ana ngā kaimahi o te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato i ngā wā katoa, ki te whai kia ea ā koutou pātai me ō koutou hiahia ki ngā pārongo. E hiahia ana mātou kia tika tēnei mahere, nō reira e akiaki nei au i a koutou kia tukuna mai ō koutou whakaaro. Ka pā te raruraru o te kounga o te wai ki a tātou katoa, ā, me puta ngā rongoā i a tātou katoa.

Chairperson Paula Southgate

Waikato Regional Council

Explanatory Statement/He Tauākī Whakamārama

(This statement does not form part of the Plan Change and is for explanatory purposes only).

Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipa River Catchments to the Waikato Regional Plan pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

This document is a change to the Operative Waikato Regional Plan (WRP), to restore and protect water quality in the Waikato and Waipa Rivers by managing discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens to land in the catchment, where it may enter surface water or ground water and subsequently enter the rivers, or directly into a water body.

This plan change document is divided into five parts:

Part A inserts a new Chapter 3.11 as text to be added after Chapter 3.10 but before Module 4.

Part B inserts a new condition to section 5.1.5 as text to be added after 5.1.5 (p) iii. but before the Advisory Note.

Part C inserts new items into the Glossary of Terms in the Regional Plan, in alphabetical order.

Part D inserts amendments to existing text of the Regional Plan. Text to be deleted are shown as ~~struckthrough~~ and additional text to be added shown as underline.

Terms in the Objectives, Policies and Implementation methods of Chapter 3.11 which are bolded can be found in the Glossary. Note also, that as a convention of the Waikato Regional Plan:

- Terms marked * are defined by the Resource Management Act 1991
- Terms marked ^ are defined by the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014.
- Terms marked ´ are defined by the Waikato Regional Policy Statement 2016.
- Unless a direct source is specified in a footnote, all other terms have been developed specifically for the purpose of this plan change.

The Rules in Part A - Rules 3.11.5.1 to 3.11.5.7 of Chapter 3.11 have immediate legal effect from the date of notification ([22 October 2016](#)) in accordance with section 86B(3)(a) of the Resource Management Act 1991. The new condition (q) to section 5.1.5 in Part B, and the consequential amendments to the text in Part D have immediate legal effect from the date of notification.

PART A

Insert the following Section as a new chapter after Chapter 3.10 and before Chapter 4 of the Waikato Regional Plan

Hearing Block 2 Only

3.11 Waikato and Waipa River Catchments/Ngā Riu o ngā Awa o Waikato me Waipā

Area covered by Chapter 3.11/Ngā Riu o ngā Awa o Waikato me Waipā

This Chapter 3.11 applies to the Waikato and Waipa River catchments. The map shown in Map 3.11-1 shows the general catchment boundary. This Chapter is additional to all other parts of the Waikato Regional¹ Plan. Where there are any inconsistencies, Chapter 3.11 prevails.

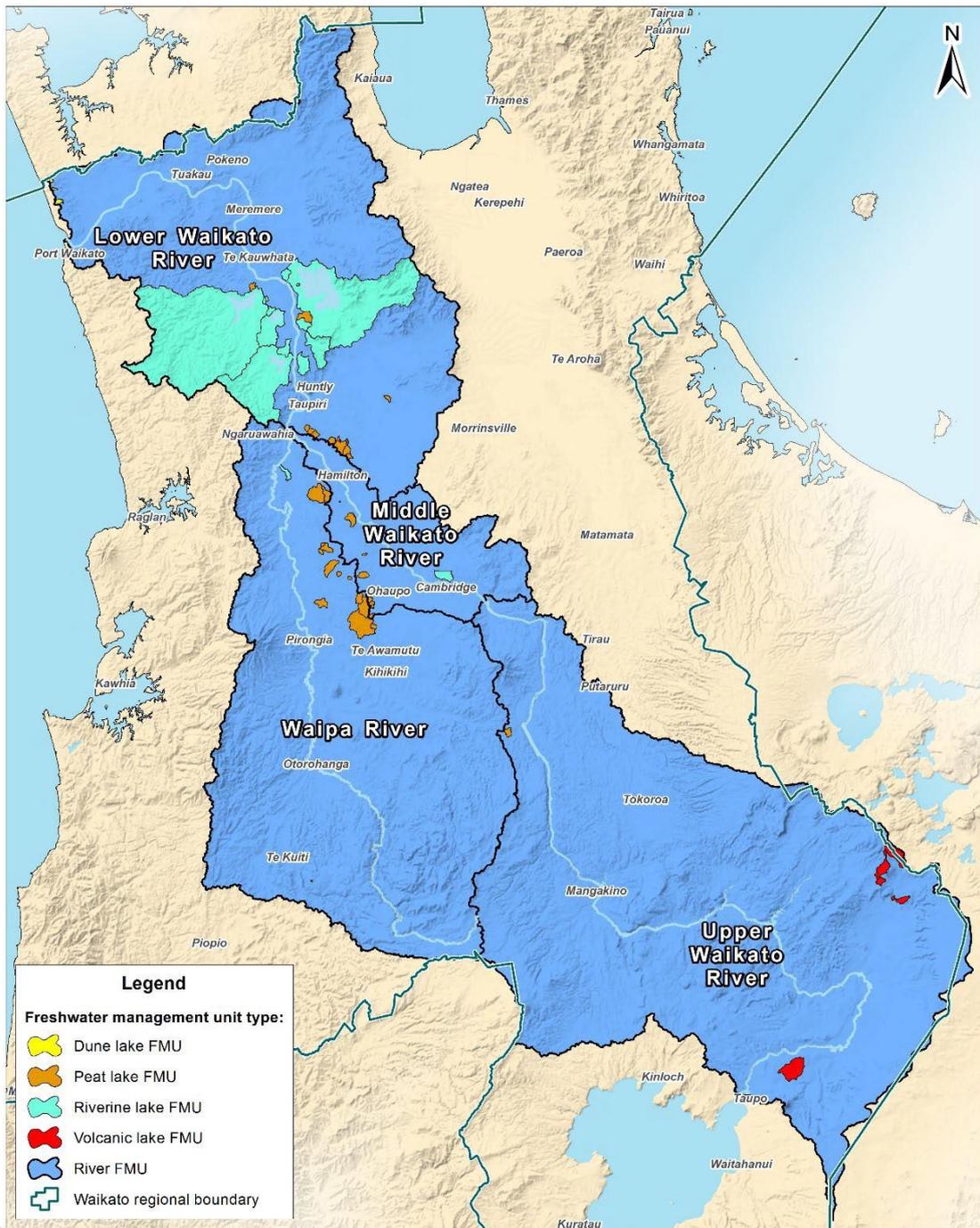
Map 3.11-1 shows the general catchment boundary and includes the boundaries of each Freshwater Management Unit[^] (FMU): The FMUs are:

- Upper Waikato River
- Middle Waikato River
- Lower Waikato River
- Waipa River
- Peat Lakes
- Riverine Lakes
- Dune Lakes
- Volcanic Lakes

FMUs are required by central government's National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014. FMUs enable monitoring of progress towards meeting targets[^] and limits[^].

The Plan maps of the Waikato and Waipa River catchments are available electronically or for viewing at Waikato Regional Council offices on request.

¹ Waikato Regional Council PC1-2976



Acknowledgements and Disclaimers
 1. © Waikato Regional Council 2013-2016. Healthy Rivers: Plan for Change / Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai Data.
 2. Digital political boundaries data sourced from Statistics New Zealand.
 3. Hydrological data sourced from Land Information New Zealand. Crown Copyright Reserved.

Freshwater management units

0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 km
 Scale at A3 = 1:630,000

Created by: A Jeffries
 Date: 21/09/2016
 Version: 1
 Job No.: 33102
 File: 33102 FMUs Lake and FMUs River.mxd



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Map 3.11-1: Map of the Waikato and Waipa River catchments, showing Freshwater Management Units

Updated map showing corrected boundaries to be inserted

Background and explanation

Co-management of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers

There are three River Acts that establish co-governance arrangements for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers and catchment. These are Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010, Ngāti Tuwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010 and Nga Wai o Maniapoto (Waipa River) Act 2012.

The iwi partners in the development of Chapter 3.11 are Maniapoto, Raukawa, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Te Arawa River Iwi and Waikato-Tainui. The processes for preparing, reviewing, changing or varying the regional plan, in terms of River Iwi involvement in the process, is set out in the legislation. This includes a requirement for Council to establish a Joint Working Party with each of the River Iwi, the purposes of which include making joint recommendations to the Council regarding the plan change.

The three River Acts established the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River/Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato (Vision and Strategy) as the primary direction setting document for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers. The Vision and Strategy prevails over any inconsistencies in a national policy statement or New Zealand coastal policy statement, and is deemed to be part of the Waikato Regional Policy Statement.

The Vision and Strategy states that the Waikato and Waipa Rivers are degraded and require, amongst other things, restoration and protection. One objective² has been given particular focus for this chapter: The restoration of water quality within the Waikato River so that it is safe for people to swim in and take food from over its entire length. The Vision and Strategy is being given effect to in Chapter 3.11 by:

- Reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogen losses from land
- Ongoing management of diffuse and point source discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens
- Giving people and communities time to adapt to the requirements of Chapter 3.11 and supporting actions to achieve short-term objectives while being clear that further reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogen losses from land will be required in subsequent regional plans
- Ensuring that Waikato Regional Council continues to facilitate ongoing research, monitoring and tracking of changes on the land and in the water to provide for the application of Mātauranga Māori and latest scientific methods, as they become available
- Preparing for future requirements on what can be undertaken on the land, with limits[^] ensuring that the management of land use and activities is closely aligned with the biophysical capabilities of the land, the spatial location, and the likely effects of discharges on the lakes, rivers and wetlands in the catchment.

Collaborative approach

The co-governance partners agreed to adopt a collaborative approach to investigate and develop fresh water management approaches that would be implemented in the Waikato and Waipa River Catchments.

A key feature of the collaborative approach was the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG), which represented stakeholders and the wider community in Healthy Rivers: Plan for Change/Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai. The CSG was the central channel for stakeholder and broader community collaboration in the project. It intensively reviewed and deliberated on technical material from a group of external technical experts from a range of disciplines. [For Proposed Plan Change 1](#), ^tThe CSG also sought input from their sectors and from the community, and ultimately proposed the contents of Chapter 3.11 to decision makers.

Consultation

[Schedule 1 of the RMA includes requirements to consult with certain parties, including iwi authorities, during the preparation of the Variation. Consultation has taken place with affected parties including the relevant iwi authorities and the issues raised during consultation have been taken into account by Waikato Regional Council in the development of Variation 1. Consultation has led to a Variation to Proposed Plan Change 1.](#)

² Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato, Objective K

Water quality and National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS FM) requires regional councils to formulate freshwater objectives[^] and set limits[^] or targets[^] (a target is a limit to be achieved within a specified timeframe). Regional councils must ensure over-allocation[^] of the water resource is avoided, or addressed where that has already occurred.

Current water quality monitoring results show that while there is variability across the Waikato and Waipa River catchments, there are adverse effects on water bodies associated with discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens. The CSG concluded that from a water quality point of view, over-allocation[^] has occurred. Water bodies in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments are not able to assimilate further discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens, without adversely affecting community-held values. Achieving the numeric, long-term freshwater objectives[^] in Chapter 3.11 will require reductions in diffuse and point source contaminants.

The NPS FM directs the Waikato Regional Council to establish freshwater objectives[^] that give effect to the objectives of the NPS FM and describe the state that Waikato regional communities want for fresh water in the future.

The NPS FM process followed in developing Chapter 3.11, included identifying FMUs and the values for each, and then choosing relevant water quality attributes[^] and attribute states[^] that can be monitored over time. Freshwater objectives[^] and limits[^] or targets[^] set out what is required to achieve the attribute states[^]. Under the NPS FM, a limit[^] is the maximum amount of resource use available, which allows a freshwater objective[^] to be met.

The CSG identified resource use that affects the achievement of the freshwater objectives[^] and long-term desired water quality, and for achieving the Vision and Strategy. Chapter 3.11 sets out policies and methods that restrict what can be done on the land and discharged to land or water.

Full achievement of the Vision and Strategy will be intergenerational

The CSG has chosen an 80-year timeframe to achieve the water quality objectives of the Vision and Strategy. The timeframe is intergenerational and more aspirational than the national bottom lines set out in the NPS FM because it seeks to meet the higher standards of being safe to swim in and take food from over the entire length of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers and catchment. Based on the information currently available, the CSG has concluded full achievement of the Vision and Strategy by 2096 is likely to be costly and difficult. The 80-year timeframe recognises the 'innovation gap' that means full achievement of water quality requires technologies or practices that are not yet available or economically feasible. In addition, the current understanding is that achieving water quality restoration requires a considerable amount of land to be changed from land uses with moderate and high intensity of discharges to land use with lower discharges (e.g. through reforestation).

~~Because of the extent of change required to restore and protect water quality in the 80-year timeframe, the CSG has adopted a staged approach. This approach breaks the required improvements into a number of steps, the first of which is to put in place and implement the range of actions in a 10-year period that will be required to achieve 10 percent of the required change between current water quality and the long term water quality in 2096. The staged approach recognises that immediate large scale land use change may be socially disruptive, and there is considerable effort and cost for resource users, industry and Waikato Regional Council to set up the change process in the first stage. New implementation processes, expertise and engagement are needed to support the first stage. The staged approach also allows time for the innovation in technology and practices that will need to be developed to meet the targets[^] and limits[^] in subsequent regional plans to be developed.~~

~~Because of the extent of change required to meet the 80-year limits[^], achieving even the first step towards the long-term freshwater objectives in this Plan is an ambitious target. This means the effects of actions and changes on the land may not be seen as water quality improvements in the water bodies in the short term. This is partly due to the time required for the concentration of contaminants in the water to reduce, following mitigation actions being put in place, and specifically, the time it takes for nitrogen to move through the soil profile to groundwater, and then to surface water. This means that the effect of actions put in place to reduce nitrogen now may not be seen in the water for some time (the length of time lag varies across the catchment). It also means there is a nitrogen 'load to come' from historic land use that is yet to be seen in the water.~~

~~Plan change 1 therefore adopts a targeted and risked based approach to managing land and water resources which is focussed on sub catchments and which ensures that:~~

- ~~a) water quality is managed to ensure that: a. water quality is maintained in those rivers and lakes where the existing water quality is at a level sufficient to support the Values in Section 3.11.1 Objective 1A;~~
- ~~b) water quality is enhanced in those rivers and lakes where the existing water quality is not at a level sufficient to support the Values in Section 3.11.1 Objective 1A, so that the values are supported by 2097;~~
- ~~c) accelerated eutrophication and sedimentation of lakes in the catchment is prevented.~~

The approach to reducing contaminant losses from pastoral farm land implemented by Chapter 3.11 requires:

- stock exclusion from water bodies as a priority mitigation action
- Farm Environment Plans (including those for commercial vegetable producers) that ensure industry-specific good management practice, and identify additional mitigation actions to reduce diffuse discharges by specified dates, which can then be monitored
- ~~a property-scale nitrogen reference point to be established by modelling current nutrient losses from each property, with no property being allowed to exceed its reference point in the future and higher dischargers being required to reduce their nutrient losses~~
- an accreditation system to be set up for people who will assist farmers to prepare their Farm Environment Plan, and to certify agricultural industry schemes
- Waikato Regional Council to incentivise, enable, and support, sub-catchment approaches to sustainable land and water management, and adoption of edge of field mitigation where required. Regulatory, non-regulatory, and financial instruments are provided to enable and support communities working together in their watershed (sub-catchments) to address develop approaches outside the rule framework that both point source and diffuse losses of contaminants to water, allow contaminant loss risk factors to be assessed at a sub-catchment level, and implement mitigations that look beyond individual farm boundaries to identify the most cost-effective and influential solutions.

There are a number of existing provisions, including rules, in the Waikato Regional Plan that will continue to apply for point source discharges.

Municipal and industrial point source dischargers will also be required to revise their discharges in light of the Vision and Strategy and the water quality objectives, and sub-catchment limits[^] and targets[^] that have been set. This will happen as the current consent terms expire

~~There are a range of existing provisions in this Plan that deal with activities that relate to forestry. Forestry activities will continue to be managed by these existing provisions, with the addition of requirements around preparing harvest plans and notifying Waikato Regional Council of harvest activities.~~

In the short term, with the exception of farming activities which deemed to be farming within the long term water quality limits, land use change from tree cover to animal grazing, or any livestock grazing other the dairy or arable cropping to arable cropping, dairy, or any land use to commercial vegetable production, will be constrained. Provision has been made for some flexibility of land use for Māori land that has not been able to develop due to historic and legal impediments. As these impediments have had an impact on the relationship between tangata whenua and their ancestral lands, with associated cultural and economic effects, Chapter 3.11 seeks to recognise and provide for these relationships. These constraints on land use change are interim, until a future plan change introduces a second stage, where further reductions in discharges of sediment, nutrients and microbial pathogens from point sources and activity on the land will be required. This second stage will focus on Natural capital of the land land suitability and how land use impacts on water quality, based on the type of land and the sensitivity of the receiving water. Methods in Chapter 3.11 include the research and information to be developed to support this.

Reviewing progress toward achieving the Vision and Strategy

The overall intent of Chapter 3.11 is to require resource users to make a start on reducing discharges of contaminants as the first stage of achieving the Vision and Strategy, with on-farm actions carried out and point source discharges reviewed as existing resource consents come up for renewal. The staged approach gives people and communities time to adapt, while being clear that further reductions will be required by subsequent regional plans.

The Vision and Strategy contained in each of the three River Acts is required to be reviewed periodically by the Waikato River Authority, which may make changes to insert limits and methods.

The Resource Management Act requires that regional councils commence reviews of their regional plans 10 years after those plans are operative. When this is done in the future, further changes to reduce diffuse and point source discharges will need to follow the initial preparatory stage embodied in Chapter 3.11 of this Plan.

During the life of this Plan, Waikato Regional Council will track the progress of actions undertaken on the land towards achieving the Vision and Strategy. In addition, research and information collation will be used when this Plan is reviewed, to inform any future property-level allocation of contaminant discharges.

Te Horopaki me ngā Whakamārama

Te whakahaere ngātahi i ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā

E toru ngā Ture mō ngā Awa e whakatū ana i ngā whakaritenga whakahaere ngātahi mō ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā, me ngā riu o aua awa. Ko ngā ture ēnei, ko te Te Ture Whakataunga Kokoraho Raupatu a Waikato-Tainui (Te Awa o Waikato) 2010, ko Te Ture o Ngā Iwi o Te Awa o Waikato 2010, arā o Ngāti Tūwharetoa, o Raukawa, o Te Arawa anō hoki me Te Ture o Ngā Wai o Maniapoto (Te Awa o Waipā) 2012.

Ko ngā āpiti ā-iwi i whai wāhi ki te whanaketanga o te Upoko 3.11, ko Maniapoto rātou ko Raukawa, ko Ngāti Tūwharetoa, ko ngā iwi o ngā awa o Te Arawa me Waikato-Tainui. Kei roto i te ture ngā whakamārama mō te āhua o te whai wāhitanga o ngā iwi o te awa ki ngā tukanga whakarite, arotake, panoni rānei i te mahere ā-rohe. Kei reira anō hoki te here kei runga i te Kaunihera ki te whakatū i tētehi Ohu Mahi Ngātahi i te taha o tēnā iwi, o tēnā iwi o te awa, ko tētehi o ngā aronga, ko te whakatakoto ngātahi i ngā tūtohunga ki te Kaunihera mō te panonitanga o te mahere.

I whakatūria Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato e ngā Ture e toru mō ngā Awa hei pukapuka matua e whakatau ana i te anga whakamuatanga mō ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā. Mehemea ka kitea he taupatupatutanga i tētehi Tauākī kaupapa here ā-motu, i te Tauākī kaupapa here takutai moana a Aotearoa rānei, kei runga ko Te Ture Whaimana, waihoki he wāhanga tēnei nō Te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Rohe a Waikato.

E kī ana te Ture Whaimana, kua whakakinongia ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā, ā, me whakaora mai, me tiaki anō hoki ka tika, heoi he mahi anō i tua atu i ērā. E kaha arotahingia ana tētehi whāinga i tēnei upoko, arā ko te whakaoranga o te kounga wai o roto i te awa o Waikato, kia pai ai tā te tangata kaukau ki roto, kia pai ai te kahi kai i ngā wāhi katoa o te awa, mai i te mātāpuna ki te pūaha. E whakatinanahia ana te Ture Whaimana i te Upoko 3.11 mā te:

- whakaiti i te ngaronga o te hauota, o te pūtūtae-whetū, o te waiparapara me te tukumate ora poto i te whenua
- whakahaere tonu i te rukenga roha me te rukenga pū tuwha o te hauota, o te pūtūtae-whetū, o te waiparapara, o te tukumate ora poto anō hoki
- tuku i te tangata me ngā hapori kia taunga haere ai rātou ki ngā here o te Upoko 3.11 me te tautoko i ngā tūmahi kia tutuki ai ngā whāinga taupoto, i runga anō i te mārama me whai wāhi tonu ki ngā mahere ā-rohe ka whai ake, te whakaitinga o te ngaronga o te hauota, o te pūtūtae-whetū, o te waiparapara me te tukumate ora poto i te whenua
- whakaū kia whakahaere tonu te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Waikato i ngā rangahau, i te aroturuki me te mātai i ngā rerekētanga ā-whenua, i roto anō hoki i te wai kia āhe ai te whai i te Mātauranga Māori me ngā tikanga pūtaiao o te wā, ka puta mai ana aua tikanga
- whakarite i ngā herenga o anamata mō ngā mahi i runga i te whenua, me te āpiti atu i ngā tāpuitanga[^] e whakaū ana i te hāngai pū o ngā tūmahi me te whakahaeretanga o te whakamahinga whenua ki ngā āheinga ahupūngao koirora o te whenua, ki te wāhi me ngā pānga o ngā rukenga ki ngā roto, ki ngā awa me ngā repo i roto i te riu.

Te huarahi o te mahi ngātahi

I whakaae ngā āpiti hautū ngātahi ki te whai i te huarahi o te mahi ngātahi ki te whakatewhatewha me te whakawhanake i ngā huarahi whakahaere wai Māori ka whāia i ngā riu o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā.

Ko tētehi āhuatanga matua o te huarahi o te mahi ngātahi ko te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga, i noho mai hei kanohi mō te hunga whai pānga me te hapori whānui i te kaupapa o Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai. Ko te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga te huarahi matua i mahi ngātahi ai te hunga whai pānga me te hapori whānui i te kaupapa. I āta arotake, i āta whiriwhiri mārire anō te rōpū i ngā rauemi whāiti nā tētehi rōpū mātanga ā-waho i ahu mai i ētehi tūmomo pekanga mātauranga. I [te Panonitanga Tuatahi o te Mahere e Marohitia nei](#), i whai hoki te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga i ngā whakaaro o rātou rāngai me te hapori, ā, nā rātou ngā kōrero o te Upoko 3.11 i whakatakoto ki te hunga whakatau.

Te Whakawhiti Kōrero

[Kei roto i te Rārangi Whakawhiti Kōrero 1 o te RMA ngā here kia mātua whakawhiti kōrero me ētehi hunga, pērā i ngā rūrunga ā-iwi, i te wā e whakaritea ana te Whakataurangitanga. Kua oti ngā whakawhitinga kōrero me ngā hunga e pāngia ana, tae atu ki ngā rūrunga ā-iwi e hāngai ana, ā, kua āta arohia ngā take i ara ake ai i aua whakawhitinga kōrero e te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato i te whakaritenga o Te Whakataurangitanga Tuatahi. Nā ngā whakawhitinga kōrero i hua ai Te Whakataurangitanga i te Panonitanga Tuatahi o te Mahere e Marohitia nei.](#)

Te Kounga Wai me te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori

Kua herea ngā kaunihera ā-rohe e te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori 2016 ki te whakarite whāinga wai Māori[^] me te whakatakoto tāpuitanga[^], whāinga[^] rānei (he tāpuitanga te whāinga me whakatutuki i roto i te wā i tohua ai). Me mātua whakaū ngā kaunihera ā-rohe kāore e nui rawa te tohanga[^] o te rawa wai, me whakatika rānei e rātou tērā tohanga mehemea kua whērā kē.

E whakaaturia mai ana i ngā hua o te aroturuki ā-kounga wai, ahakoa ngā rerekētanga i ngā wāhi katoa o ngā riu o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā, he kino tonu ngā pānga ki ngā hōpua wai nā ngā rukenga ā-hauota, ā-pūtūtae-whetū, ā-waiparapara, ā-tukumate ora poto anō hoki. I whakatau te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga, he nui rawa te tohanga[^] i te horopaki o te kounga wai. Kāore e taea e ngā hōpua wai o ngā riu o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā te whakaputa ētehi atu rukenga ā-hauota, ā-pūtūtae-whetū, ā-waiparapara, ā-tukumate ora poto anō hoki, me te kore e puta o ngā pānga kino ki ngā uara o te hapori. Me whakaiti ngā tāhawahawatanga roha me ngā tāhawahawatanga i ngā pū tuwha e tutuki ai ngā whāinga ā-tau me ngā whāinga tauroa mō te wai Māori, o te Upoko 3.11.

Ka tohutohu te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori i te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato ki te whakarite whāinga wai Māori e whakamana ana i ngā whāinga o te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori, e whakamārama ana anō hoki i te āhua o te wai e hiahia ana e ngā hapori ā-rohe o Waikato hei ngā tau e heke mai ana.

Ko tētehi wāhanga o te tukanga o te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori i whāia ai hei whakarite i te Upoko 3.11, ko te tautuhi i ngā wae whakahaere wai māori me ngā uara o ia wae, kātahi ka kōwhiria ngā āhuatanga o te kounga wai[^] e hāngai ana me ngā āhuatanga[^] ka taea te aroturuki i roto i te wā. Mā ngā whāinga wai Māori[^] me ngā tāpuitanga[^], ngā whāinga[^] rānei e whakatau ngā here e tutuki ai ngā āhuatanga[^]. Kei raro i te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori, ko te tāpuitanga[^] te taumata o te whakamahinga o ngā rawa e wātea ana, kia āhei ai te whakatutukitanga o tētehi whāinga wai Māori.

I tautuhi te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga i te whakamahinga rawa ka pā ki te whakatutukitanga o ngā whāinga wai Māori[^], ki ngā hiahia tauroa mō te kounga wai me te whakatutukitanga o te Ture Whaimana. E takoto ana i te Upoko 3.11 ngā kaupapa here me ngā tikanga e here ana i ngā mahi i runga i te whenua me te rukenga ki te whenua, ki te wai rānei.

Ka pā ki ngā whakaturanga maha te whakatutukitanga o Te Ture Whaimana

Kua kōwhiri te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga i te 80 tau hei pae wā ki te whakatutuki i ngā whāinga kounga wai o Te Ture Whaimana. He pae wā tēnei ka pā ki ngā whakaturanga maha, ā, he nui ake hoki te tūmanako i ngā pae o raro ā-motu kua whakatakotoria i te Tauākī Kaupapa Here ā-Motu mō te Whakahaere Wai Māori, nā te mea e whai ana tēnei ki te whakatutuki i ngā paerewa teitei ake kia pai ai tā te tangata kaukau ki roto i te wai, kia pai ai hoki te kohi kai i ngā wāhi katoa o ngā awa o Waikato me Waipā, mai i ngā mātāpuna ki ngā pūaha, me ngā riu. E ai ki ngā pārongo e wātea ana ināianei, kua whakatau te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga ka nui te utu, ka uua hoki te whakatutukitanga katoatanga o Te Ture Whaimana i mua i te tau 2096. Kua kitea te ‘āputa auahatanga’ i te pae wā o te 80 tau, arā e whakatutuki katoatia ai te kounga wai me whai hangarau, me whai tikanga rānei kāore anō kia hua ake, kāore anō rānei e taea, i ngā āhuatanga ā-ōhanga. Hei āpiti atu, e mōhiotia ana ināianei, e tutuki ai te whakaoranga o te kounga wai me whakarerekē te whakamahinga o ētehi whenua nui tonu, he āhua nui, he tino nui rānei te rukenga o ērā whenua kia iti ake te rukenga (hei tauira, mā te whakaturu rākau).

Kua whai te Rōpū Mahi Ngātahi o ngā Hunga Whai Pānga i tētehi huarahi wāwāhi nā te nui o ngā panonitanga me whai kia whakaorangia mai anō, kia tiakina hoki te kounga wai i te roanga o te pae wā o te 80 tau. Nā tēnei huarahi i wāhia ai ngā whakatikahanga me puta mai, ko te tuatahi o ngā whakatikahanga he whakarite, he whakatinana anō hoki i ngā tūmomo tūmahi me mahi rawa i roto i te tekau tau, e tutuki ai te tekau ōrau o ngā panonitanga, i te kounga wai ināianei ki te kounga wai tauroa hei te tau 2096. E kitea ana i tēnei huarahi wāwāhi he raru pea ka pā ki te pāpori i te nui o ngā panonitanga ā-whakamahinga whenua i roto i te wā poto, ā, he nui te mahi, he nui hoki te utu ki te hunga whakamahi rawa, ki te ahumahi, ki te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Waikato hoki ki te whakarite i te tukanga panonitanga i te wāhanga tuatahi. Me whai tukanga whakatinana hou, me whai tohungatanga, me whakatū hui whiriwhiri kaupapa hei taunaki i te wāhanga tuatahi. Mā te huarahi wāwāhi e whai wā ai kia puta mai ngā hangarau me ngā tikanga auaha e tika ana kia puta hei whakatutuki i ngā whāinga[^] me ngā tāpuitanga[^] i roto i ngā mahere ā-rohe ka whai ake.

Nā te nui o te panonitanga me puta rawa e tutuki ai ngā tāpuitanga[^] i roto i te 80 tau, he whāinga nui tonu te whakatutuki i te wāhanga tuatahi o ngā whāinga wai Māori tauroa o tēnei Mahere. Nā konei, kāore pea e kitea i roto i te wā poto te pānga o ngā tūmahi me ngā panonitanga i runga i te whenua ki te kounga wai i roto i ngā hōpua wai. I whēnei ai, nā te roa o te wā e memeha haere ai te kukūnga o ngā tāhawahawatanga i roto i te wai, whai i muri mai i te whakaritenga o ngā mahi whakangāwari i ngā pānga, otirā nā te roa o te wā e heke ai te hauota i te oneone ki ngā wai o te whenua, tae atu ki te wai ka rere ki ngā kōawāwa. Nā konei, ka roa pea te wā kātahi ka kitea i roto i te wai te pānga o ngā tūmahi o

nāianeī kua whakaritea kia iti iho ai te hauota (ka rerekē te roa o te wā i ngā wāhi katoa o te riu). I runga hoki i tērā, he 'utanga hauota' kāore anō kia kitea i te wai e puta tonu mai ana nā te whakamahinga whenua i mua.

I runga i te huarahi e whāia ana i te Upoko 3.11 hei whakaiti i te ngaronga o ngā tāhawahawatanga i ngā pāmu kararehe, me:

- aukati i ngā kararehe i ngā hōpua wai hei tūmahi whakangāwari totoa
- whai Mahere Taiao ā-Pāmu (tae atu ki ngā kaiwhakatupu huawhenua ā-arumoni) e whakaū ana i ngā tikanga whakahaere pai ā-ahumahi, e tautuhi ana anō hoki i ētehi atu tūmahi whakangāwari hei whakaiti i ngā rukenga roha i mua i ētehi rā ka āta tohua, ka aroturukihia ai
- whakarite tauine tohu hauota ā-whenua mā te whakatauiria i ngā ngaronga whakamōmona i ia whenua, kāore tētehi whenua e āhei ki te hipa i tana tohu hei ngā tau e heke mai ana, ā, me whakaiti rawa ngā kairuke kaha rawa i ngā ngaronga whakamōmona
- whakarite tētehi pūnaha whakamanatanga mō te hunga ka āwhina i ngā kaipāmu ki te whakarite i ā rātou Mahere Taiao ā-Pāmu, ki te whakapūmau anō hoki i ngā kaupapa ā-ahumahi ahuhenua
- whakawhanake te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Waikato i ētehi huarahi kāore e herea ana ki te anga ā-ture kia āhei ai te arotake i ngā tūponotanga ngaronga tāhawahawatanga i ngā riu o ngā kautawa, ka whakatinana hoki i ngā mahi whakangāwari pānga kāore e herea ki ngā rohenga o ngā pāmu, hei tautuhi i ngā urupare, iti katoa te utu.

He nui ngā whakatau kua mana kē me ngā ture kei roto i tēnei Mahere, ka hāngai tonu ki ngā rukenga pū tuwha.

Me panoni rawa ngā kairuke i ngā pū tuwha nō ngā whakahaere ā-rohe, nō ngā ahumahi anō hoki i ā rātou rukenga kia hāngai ki Te Ture Whaimana, ki ngā whāinga hoki mō te kounga wai, ki ngā tāpuitanga[^] o ngā riu kōawāwa me ngā whāinga[^] kua whakaritea. Ka whēnei hei te paunga o ngā here ā-whakaaetanga o tēnei wā.

He nui ngā tūmomo whakataunga kei roto i tēnei Mahere e hāngai ana ki ngā mahinga ngahere. Ka riro tonu mā ēnei whakataunga ngā mahinga ngahere e whakahaere, engari ka tāpirihia atu ētehi atu here e pā ana ki te whakarite mahere hauhake me te whakamōhio i te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato ki ngā tūmahi hauhake.

Hei ngā tau e tū tata mai ana, ka herea te panonitanga ā-whakamahinga whenua, whēnei i te huringa o te ngahere hei pāmu kararehe, i te huringa rānei o te pāmu whakatupu kararehe hei pāmu miraka kau. Kua whakaritea kia āhua ngāwari ake ngā here mō te whakamahinga o ngā whenua Māori kāore anō kia whanake nā ngā raruraru ā-hitori me ngā raruraru ā-ture. Nā te mea kua pā ēnei raruraru ki te hononga i waenganui i te tangata whenua me ō rātou whenua tūpuna, me ngā pānga ā-ahurea, ā-ōhanga i puta i tērā, e whai ana te Upoko 3.11 ki te whakamana, ki te whakarite hoki i ēnei hononga. Mō tēnei wā ēnei here i runga i ngā panonitanga ā-whakamahinga whenua, kia whakatakotoria rā anōtia tētehi wāhanga tuarua i tētehi panonitanga ā-mahere o anamata, e herea ai ngā kairuke ki te whakaiti anō i ngā rukenga waiparapara, whakamōmona, tukumate ora poto anō hoki i ngā rukenga pū tuwha me ngā mahi i runga i te whenua. Ka aro tēnei wāhanga tuarua ki te pai o te whenua me te pānga o te whakamahinga whenua ki te kounga wai, i runga i te āhua o te whenua me te āhua o ngā wai taketake. Kei te Upoko 3.11 ngā tikanga whēnei i ngā rangahau me ngā pārongo me whakawhanake ake hei taunaki i tēnei.

Te arotake i te kokenga ki te whakatutuki i Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato

Ko te whāinga matua o te Upoko 3.11, he here i ngā kaiwhakamahi rawa kia tīmata rātou ki te whakaiti i ngā rukenga tāhawahawatanga, koia nei te wāhanga tuatahi e tutuki ai Te Ture Whaimana, ka whakahaerehia ētehi tūmahi i runga pāmu, ka arotakehia anō hoki ngā rukenga pū tuwha ka tata ana ki te wā e whakahoungia ai ngā whakaaetanga rawa. Mā te huarahi wāwāhi e taunga haere ai te tangata me ngā hapori, i runga i te mārama he whakaitinga atu anō ka whakaritea e ngā mahere ā-rohe ka whai ake.

Me arotake pokapoka Te Ture Whaimana kei roto i ngā ture e toru mō ngā Awa e te Te Manatū Whakahaere i Te Awa o Waikato, ākuanei pea māna e panoni aua tuhinga kia whakaurua atu he tāpuitanga, he tikanga anō hoki.

E here ana Te Ture Penapena Rawa i ngā kaunihera ā-rohe kia tīmata tā rātou arotake i ā rātou mahere ā-rohe kia pau te tekau tau e whakahaerehia ana aua mahere. Kia oti tēnei hei ngā tau e heke mai ana, me whai i muri i te wāhanga tuatahi kei roto i te Upoko 3.11 o tēnei Mahere ētehi atu panonitanga hei whakaiti i ngā rukenga roha me ngā rukenga i ngā pū tuwha.

I te wā e whāia ana tēnei Mahere, ka mātai te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Waikato i te kokenga o ngā tūmahi e kawea ana i runga i te whenua hei whakatutuki i Te Ture Whaimana. Hei āpiti atu, ka whakamahia ngā rangahau me ngā kohinga pārongo i te arotakenga o tēnei Mahere, hei ārahi i ngā tohanga ā-whenua o ngā rukenga tāhawahawatanga hei ngā tau e heke mai ana.

3.11.1 Values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers/Ngā Uara me ngā Whakamahinga o ngā Awa o Waikato me Waipā

The National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management Policy CA2 requires certain steps to be taken in the process of setting limits³. These include establishing the values⁴ that are relevant in a FMU⁵, identifying the attributes⁴ that correspond to those values⁴, and setting objectives based on desired attribute states⁴. This section describes values and uses for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers, to provide background to the objectives and limits⁴ in later sections.

This section describes the values and uses for the Waikato and Waipā Rivers. The values and uses reflect the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River. The values and uses set out below apply to all FMU's unless explicitly stated, and provide background to the freshwater objectives³, and the attributes and attribute states outlined in Table 3.11-1.

Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River/Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato⁴

“Our vision is for a future where a healthy Waikato River sustains abundant life and prosperous communities who, in turn, are all responsible for restoring and protecting the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River, and all it embraces, for generations to come.”⁵

The values below have been prepared and are supported by the Collaborative Stakeholder Group.

³ Wairakei Pastoral Ltd PC1-11260, DoC PC1-1831

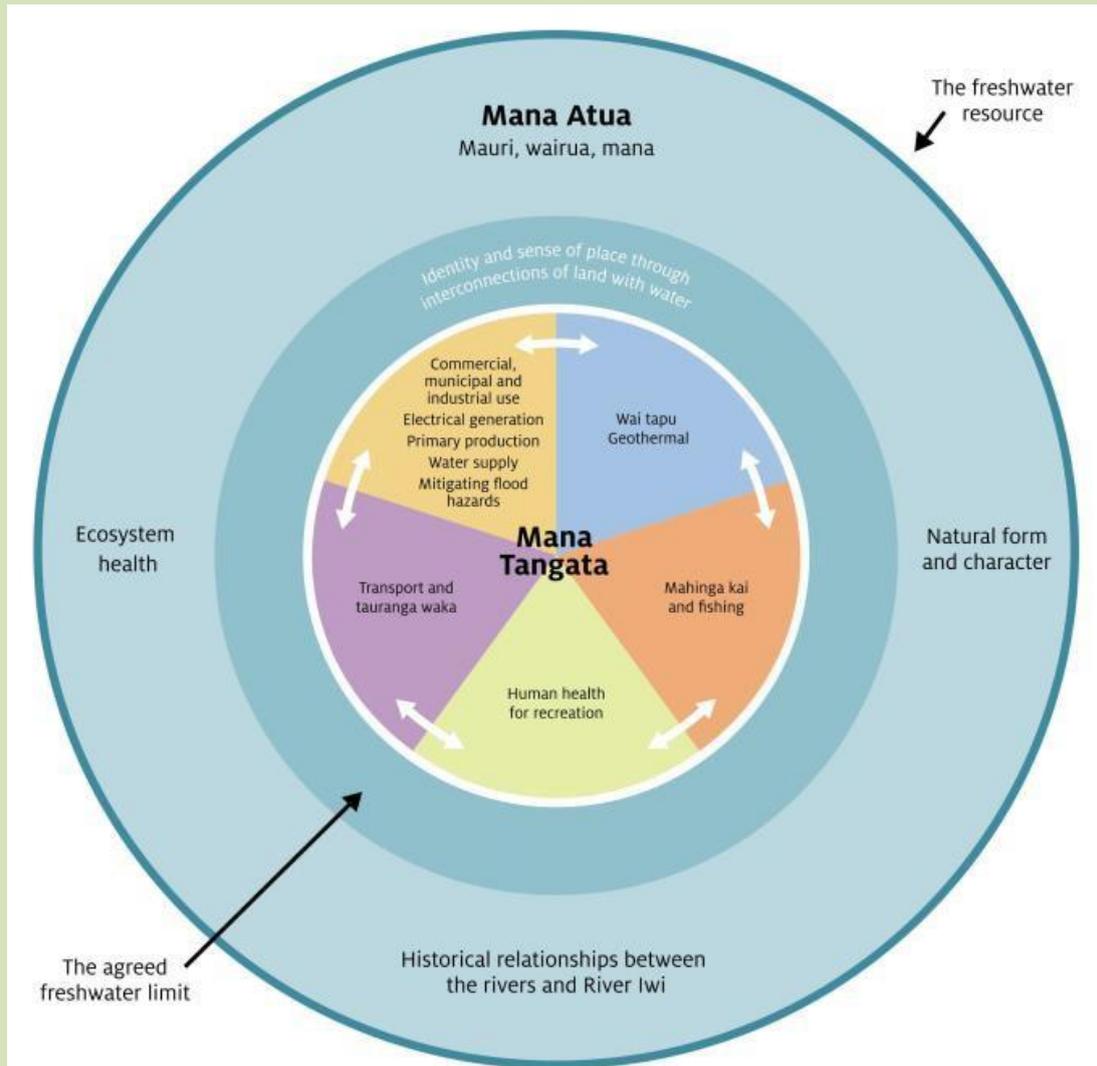
⁴ The Nga Wai o Maniapoto (Waipa River) Act 2012 extended Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato to also cover the Waipa River and its catchment

⁵ The Vision and Strategy is intended by Parliament to be the primary direction setting document for the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the Waikato River. Values and uses are intrinsic to, and embedded in the Vision and Strategy.

Te Mana o te Wai: Mana Atua, Mana Tangata

Values can be thought of in terms of Mana Atua and Mana Tangata, which represent Te Mana o te Wai⁶. Mana Atua represents the intrinsic values of water including the mauri (the principle of life force), wairua (the principle of spiritual dimension) and inherent mana (the principle of prestige, authority) of the water and its ecosystems in their natural state. Mana Tangata refers to values of water arising from its use by people for economic, social, spiritual and cultural purposes. Mana Atua and Mana Tangata values encompass past, present and future.

A strong sense of identity and connection with land and water (hononga ki te wai, hononga ki te whenua) is apparent through the Vision and Strategy and the many values associated with the rivers. This is represented in the figure below as a unifying value that provides an interface between the Mana Atua and Mana Tangata values.



Note: New diagram from Variation 1 to be inserted.

⁶ The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 states that the aggregation of a range of community and tangata whenua values, and the ability of fresh water to provide for them over time, recognises the national significance of fresh water and Te Mana o te Wai.

Hononga ki te wai, hononga ki te whenua - Identity and sense of place through the interconnections of land with water

- The rivers contribute to a sense of community and sustaining community wellbeing.
- The rivers are an important part of whānau/family life, holding nostalgic feelings and memories and having deep cultural and historical significance.
- For River Iwi and other iwi, respect for the rivers, wetlands and springs lies at the heart of the spiritual and physical wellbeing of iwi and their tribal identity and culture. The river, wetlands and springs are is not separate from the people but part of the people, “Ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au” (I am the river and the river is me).
- Whanaungatanga is at the heart of iwi relationships with rivers, wetlands and springs. Te taura tāngata is the cord of kinship that binds iwi to rivers, wetlands and springs. It is a braid that is tightly woven, tying in all its strands. It is unbroken and infinite, forming the base for kaitiakitanga and the intergenerational role that iwi have as kaitiaki.
- The rivers are a shared responsibility, needing collective stewardship: kaitiakitanga – working together to restore the rivers. There is also an important intergenerational equity concept within kaitiakitanga.
- Mahitahi (collaborative work) encourages us all to work together to achieve common goals.

3.11.1.1 Mana Atua – Intrinsic values

Intrinsic values – Ancestry and History⁷

Ko te whakapapa o ngā iwi ki ōna awa tūpuna Ko ngā hononga tūpuna me ngā hononga o mua i waenga i ngā iwi o te awa me ētehi atu iwi me ngā awa, ngā repo me ngā puna / Ancestral and Historical relationships connections between the rivers, wetlands, springs and River Iwi and other iwi

Ko ngā kōrero tūpuna me ngā Kōrero o Mua neherā / Ancestry and History

<p>Each River Iwi <u>and other iwi have</u> has their own unique and intergenerational relationship with the rivers, <u>wetlands and springs</u>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Rivers, <u>wetlands and springs</u> have always been seen as taonga (treasures) to all River Iwi <u>and other iwi</u>. ▪ The Rivers, <u>wetlands and springs</u> have always given River Iwi <u>and other iwi</u> a strong sense of identity and connection with the land and water. ▪ Rivers, <u>wetlands and springs</u> were used holistically; River Iwi <u>and other iwi</u> understood the functional relationships with and between all parts of the rivers, <u>wetlands and springs</u>, spiritually and physically <u>as kaitiaki</u>. ▪ <u>Tribal taniwha and tupua dwell in the rivers which are also the location of continued spiritual and cultural traditions and practices maintained over the many centuries.</u> ▪ <u>Iwi tupuna inhabited a rohe that teemed with life in the rivers, wetlands and springs. These resources were subject to access and use rights as an essential part of kaitiakitanga.</u> ▪ Iwi strive to maintain and restore these relationships despite the modification and destruction that has occurred through different types of development <u>along affecting</u> the rivers, <u>wetlands and springs</u>.
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Intrinsic values – Ecosystem health

Ko te hauora me te mauri o te wai / The health and mauri of water

Ecosystem health

<p>The Waikato and Waipa catchments support resilient freshwater ecosystems and healthy freshwater populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clean fresh water restores and protects aquatic native vegetation to provide habitat and food for native aquatic species and for human activities or needs, including swimming and drinking.
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⁷ Watercare V1PC1-888

of indigenous plants and animals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clean fresh water restores and protects macroinvertebrate communities for their intrinsic value and as a food source for native fish, native birds and introduced game species. ▪ Clean fresh water supports native freshwater fish species. ▪ Wetlands and floodplains provide water purification, refuge, feeding and breeding habitat for aquatic species, habitat for water fowl and other ecosystem services such as flood attenuation. ▪ Fresh water contributes to unique habitats including peat lakes, shallow riverine lakes and karst formations which all support unique biodiversity. ▪ Rivers and adjacent riparian margins have value as ecological corridors.
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Intrinsic values – Natural form and character

Ko te hauora me te mauri o te taiao / The health and mauri of the environment

Natural form and character

Retain the integrity of the lakes, rivers and wetlands within the landscape and its aesthetic features and natural qualities for people to enjoy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Lakes, rivers and wetlands⁸ have amenity and naturalness values, including native vegetation, undeveloped stretches, and significant sites. ▪ People are able to enjoy the natural environment; it contributes to their health and wellbeing. ▪ The rivers are an ecological and cultural corridor. ▪ The lakes, rivers and wetlands as a whole living entity.
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3.11.1.2 Mana Tangata – Use values

Use values – Wai tapu

Ko ngā wai tapu me ngā wai kino / Sacred and harmful waters

Wai tapu and wai kino

Area of water body set aside for spiritual activities that support spiritual, cultural and physical wellbeing or have properties that require additional caution or care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Lakes, rivers and wetlands are a place for sacred rituals, wairua, healing, spiritual nurturing and cleansing. ▪ The Lakes, rivers and wetlands provide for cultural and heritage practices and cultural wellbeing, particularly at significant sites. ▪ The Lakes, rivers and wetlands have different states of wai tapu and wai kino that are adhered to and respected.
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Use values – Geothermal

Ko ngā Ngāwhā / Geothermal

Geothermal

A valued resource that is naturally gifted to sustain certain activities (meeting spiritual and physical needs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geothermal areas and their various resources were prized by tūpuna (ancestors) for their many uses and are still valued and used today. ▪ Geothermal areas of the river have natural form and character, and unique flora found only in the geothermal environment. ▪ Geothermal areas are a special microclimate.
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Use values – Mahinga kai

Ko ngā wāhi mahinga kai / Food gathering, places of food

⁸ DoC PC1-8136, 8189, 8152, 8532, 8533, 8535, 8540

Mahinga kai

The ability to access the Waikato and Waipa Rivers, lakes, and wetlands and their tributaries to gather sufficient quantities of kai (food) that is safe to eat and meets the social and spiritual needs of their stakeholders.

- ~~The Lakes, rivers and wetlands~~ provide for freshwater native species, native vegetation, and habitat for native animals.
- ~~The Lakes, rivers and wetlands~~ provide for freshwater game and introduced kai species.
- ~~The Lakes, rivers and wetlands~~ provide for cultural wellbeing, knowledge transfer, intergenerational harvest, obligations of manaakitanga (to give hospitality to, respect, generosity and care for others) and cultural opportunities, particularly at significant sites.
- The rivers should be safe to take food from, both fisheries and kai.
- ~~The Lakes, rivers and wetlands~~ support aquatic life, healthy biodiversity, ecosystem services, flora and fauna and biodiversity benefits for all.
- The rivers are a corridor.
- ~~The Lakes, rivers and wetlands~~ provide resources available for use which could be managed in a sustainable way.
- ~~The rivers provide for recreation needs and for social wellbeing.~~⁹

~~Ise values – Human health for recreation~~

~~k~~ o te hauora me te mauri o ngā tāngata / The health and mauri of the people

~~Human health for recreation~~

~~The Lakes and~~ rivers are a place to swim and undertake recreation activities in an environment that poses minimal risk to health.

- ~~The Lakes and~~ rivers provide for recreational use, social needs and social wellbeing, are widely used by the community, and are a place to relax, play, exercise and have an active lifestyle.
- An important value for the lakes and rivers is cleanliness; the lakes and rivers should be safe for people to swim in.
- The lakes and rivers provide resources available for use which could be managed in a sustainable way.

~~Ise values – Transport and tauranga waka~~

~~Te urungi / Navigation~~

~~Transport and tauranga waka~~

All communities can use the lakes and rivers to pilot their vehicles and waka and navigate to their destinations.

- ~~The Lakes and~~ rivers provide for recreational use (navigation), and sporting opportunities.
- ~~The Lakes and~~ rivers are a corridor, mode of transport and mode of communication.
- ~~The Lakes and~~ rivers provide for culture and heritage, cultural wellbeing, and social wellbeing, particularly at significant sites.

~~Ise values – Primary production~~

~~k~~ o ngā mahi māra me ngā mahi ahu matua / Cultivation and primary production

~~primary production~~

The rivers support regionally and nationally significant primary production in the catchment (agricultural,

- The rivers support a wide variety of primary production in the catchment, including dairy, meat, wool, horticulture and forestry.
- Due to the economies of scale of these industries, other service sectors, such as agritech, aviation and manufacturing, are able to operate.

⁹ Federated Farmers V1PC1-106

<p>horticultural, forestry). These industries contribute to the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of people and communities, and are the major component of wealth creation within the region. These industries and associated primary production also support other industries and communities within rural and urban settings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ These industries combined contribute significantly to regional and national GDP, exports, food production and employment. ▪ The rivers and the surrounding land offer unique opportunities for many communities and industries to operate, contributing to the lifestyle and sense of community, pride and culture in rural <u>and urban</u>¹⁰ Waikato.
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Water supply

Ko ngā hapori wai Māori / Municipal and domestic water supply

Water supply

<p>The rivers provide for community water supply, municipal supply <u>and</u>, drinkable water supply <u>and</u> health.¹¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The catchments’ surface and subsurface water is of a quality that can be effectively treated to meet appropriate health standards for both potable and non-potable uses.
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~~Use values – Commercial, municipal and industrial use~~

Ko ngā āu putea / Economic or commercial development

Commercial, municipal and industrial use

<p>The rivers, <u>lakes, and wetlands</u> provide economic opportunities to people, businesses and industries.</p>	<p>Fresh water is used for industrial and municipal processes, which rely on the assimilative capacity for discharges to surface water bodies. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The <u>Lakes, rivers and wetlands</u> provide for economic wellbeing, financial and economic contribution, individual businesses and the community and the vibrancy of small towns. They are working <u>lakes, rivers and wetlands</u>; they create wealth. ▪ Those industries are important to the monetary economy of Waikato region, enabling a positive brand to promote to overseas markets. ▪ The <u>Lakes, rivers and wetlands</u> provide for domestic and international tourism. Promotion of a clean, green image attracts international and domestic visitors. ▪ The <u>Lakes, rivers and wetlands</u> provide assimilative capacity for wastewater disposal, flood and stormwater, and ecosystem services through community schemes or on site disposal.
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~~Use values – Electricity generation~~

Electricity generation

<p>The river provides for reliable, renewable hydro and geothermal energy sources and thermal generation, securing national self-reliance and resilience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waikato hydro scheme extends over 186km, comprising Lake Taupō storage, dams, lakes, and power stations. Tongariro Power scheme adds 20 per cent to natural inflows to Lake Taupō. ▪ Huntly Power Station’s role in the New Zealand electricity system is pivotal, particularly when weather dependent renewable generation is not available. Fresh water is used for cooling and process water.
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¹⁰ Hamilton CC PC1-10067

¹¹ Federated Farmers V1PC1-117

<p>New Zealand’s social and economic wellbeing are dependent on a secure, cost-effective electricity supply system. Renewable energy contributes to our international competitive advantage. Electricity also contributes to the health and safety of people and communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geothermal power stations located on multiple geothermal systems use fresh water for cooling, process water and drilling.
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Use values – Mitigating flood hazards

Mitigating flood hazards

<p>Flood management systems protect land used and inhabited by people and <u>livestock</u>.¹²</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River engineering, including stopbanks and diversions, protect land and infrastructure from damage by flooding.
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3.11.2 Objectives and Freshwater Objectives/Ngā Whāinga

Objective 1: Long term restoration and protection of water quality for each sub-catchment and Freshwater Management Unit/Te Whāinga 1: Te whakaoranga tauroa me te tiakanga tauroa o te kōunga wai ki ia riu kōawaawa me te Wae Whakahaere i te Wai Māori

By 2096 at the latest¹³, a reduction in the discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens to land and water results in achievement of the restoration and protection of the Waikato and Waipā Rivers, such that of the 80-year water quality attribute targets states¹⁴ in Table 3.11.1 are met¹⁵.

Objective 1 Water Management Values

Surface water bodies are managed in a manner that recognises and provides for the Mana Atua and Mana Tangata Values set out in Section 3.11.1.

Objective 1B Water Quality

Water quality is managed to ensure that:

- a) water quality is protected in those surface waterbodies where the existing water quality is at a level sufficient to support the Values in Section 3.11.1 and Objective 1A; and
- b) water quality is restored in those surface waterbodies where the existing water quality is not at a level sufficient to support the Values in Section 3.11.1, so that the Values are supported by 2096.

¹² Hamilton CC PC1-10167

¹³ Tangata Whenua – Waikato and Waipa River Iwi PC1-3245

¹⁴ Fonterra PC1-10455

¹⁵ Watercare PC1-8450; Beef and Lamb PC1-11154

¹⁶ Mercury NZ Ltd PC1-9506

¹⁷ Watercare PC1-8450

¹⁸ DoC PC1-10540

¹⁹ Southern Pastures Ltd Partnership PC1-11095

Objective 2: Social, economic and cultural wellbeing is maintained in the long term/Te Whāinga 2 Ka whakaūngia te oranga ā-pāpori, ā-ōhanga, ā-ahurea hoki i ngā tauroa

~~Waikato and Waipā communities and their economy benefit from the restoration and protection of water quality in the Waikato and Waipā¹⁶ River catchments, which enables the people and communities to continue to provide for their social economic and cultural wellbeing.~~

~~Waikato and Waipā communities and their economic and social wellbeing, vibrancy and resilience, are provided for while protecting and, where degraded, restoring the health of the Waikato and Waipā River Catchments.~~

~~Objective 3: Short term improvements in water quality in the first stage of restoration and protection of water quality for each sub-catchment and Freshwater Management Unit/Te Whāinga 3: Ngā whakapainga taupoto o te kōunga wai i te wāhanga tuatahi o te whakaoranga me te tiakanga o te kōunga wai i ia riu kōawāwa me te Wae Whakahaere Wai Māori¹⁷~~

~~Actions put in place and implemented by 2026 to reduce diffuse and point source¹⁸ discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus sediment and microbial pathogens, are sufficient to achieve the short term water quality attribute states in Table 3.11-1.¹⁹ ten percent of the required change between current water quality and the 80 year water quality attribute targets in Table 3.11-1. A ten percent change towards the long term water quality improvements is indicated by the short term water quality attribute targets in Table 3.11-1.~~

~~Objective 4: People and community resilience/Te Whāinga 4: Te manawa piharau o te tangata me te hapori~~

~~A staged approach to change enables people and communities to undertake adaptive management to continue to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing in the short term while:~~

- ~~a. considering the values and uses when taking action to achieve the attribute targets for the Waikato and Waipā Rivers in Table 3.11-1; and~~
- ~~b. recognising that further contaminant reductions will be required by subsequent regional plans and signalling anticipated future management approaches that will be needed to meet Objective 1.~~

~~OR~~

Objective 4: People and community resilience/Te Whāinga 4: Te manawa piharau o te tangata me te hapori, and the achievement of the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.

Communities are enabled to work together to sustainably manage land and water resources within sub catchments, in an adaptive manner which:

- a) recognises and provides for the Values for freshwater identified in Section 3.11.1;
- b) protects, and where degraded restores, water quality; and
- c) protects and where degraded restores biodiversity

~~A staged approach to reducing contaminant losses change²⁰ enables people and communities to undertake adaptive management to continue to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing in the short term while:~~

- ~~a. considering the values and uses when²¹ taking action to achieve the attribute targets states²² for the Waikato and Waipā Rivers in Table 3.11-1; and~~
- ~~b. recognising that further contaminant reductions will be required by subsequent regional plans and signalling anticipated future management approaches that will be needed in order²³ to meet Objective 1²⁴.~~

Objective 5: Mana Tangata—protecting and restoring tangata whenua values/Te Whāinga 5: Te Mana Tangata—te tiaki me te whakaora i ngā uara o te tangata whenua

Tangata whenua values are integrated into the co-management of the rivers and other water bodies within the catchment such that:

- a. tangata whenua have the ability to:
 - i. manage their own lands and resources, by exercising mana whakahaere, for the benefit of their people; and
 - ii. actively sustain a relationship with ancestral land and with the rivers and other water bodies in the catchment; and
- b. new impediments to the flexibility of the use of tangata whenua ancestral lands are minimised; and
- c. improvement in the rivers' water quality and the exercise of kaitiakitanga increase the spiritual and physical wellbeing of iwi and their tribal and cultural identity.

~~Objective 6: Whangamarino Wetland/Te Whāinga 6: Ngā Repo o Whangamarino~~

- ~~a. Nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogen loads in the catchment of Whangamarino Wetland are reduced in the short term, to make progress towards the long-term restoration of Whangamarino Wetland; and~~
- ~~b. The management of contaminant loads entering Whangamarino Wetland is consistent with the achievement of the water quality attribute[^]targets[^] in Table 3.11-1.~~

OR

Objective 6: Whangamarino Wetland/Te Whāinga 6: Ngā Repo o Whangamarino

- a. Nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogen loads in the catchment of Whangamarino Wetland are reduced in the short term, to make progress towards the long-term restoration of Whangamarino Wetland; and
- b. The management of contaminant loads entering Whangamarino Wetland is consistent with the achievement of the water quality attribute[^]targets[^] in Table 3.11-1.

²⁰ Rotorua Lakes DC PC1-2468

²¹ Southern Pastures Ltd Partnership PC1-11096 and Ata Rangi PC1-6113

²² Fonterra PC1-10451

²³ Southern Pastures Ltd Partnership PC1-11096 and Ata Rangi PC1-6113

²⁴ Rotorua Lakes DC PC1-2468

Principal Reasons for Adopting Objectives 1-6/Ngā Take Matua me Whai ngā Whāinga 1 ki te 6

Reasons for adopting Objective 1

Objective 1 sets long term limits²⁵ for water quality consistent with the Vision and Strategy. Objective 1 sets aspirational 80-year water quality targets²⁶, which result in improvements in water quality from the current state monitored in 2010-2014. The water quality attributes²⁷ listed in Table 3.11-1 that will be achieved by 2096 will be used to characterise the water quality of the different FMUs when the effectiveness of the objective is assessed. **Objective 1 sets the overall context for what is to be achieved in terms of water quality improvements. There is not any hierarchy of Objectives 1 to 6**²⁶

Reasons for adopting Objective 2

Objective 2 sets the long term outcome for people and communities, recognising that restoration and protection of water quality will continue to support communities and the economy. The full achievement of the Table 11-1 2096 water quality attribute²⁸ targets²⁷ may require a potentially significant departure from how businesses and communities currently function, and it is important to minimise social disruption during this transition.²⁷

Reasons for adopting Objective 3

Objective 3 sets short term goals for a 10-year period, to show the first step toward full achievement of water quality consistent with the Vision and Strategy.

The effort required to make the first step may not be fully reflected in water quality improvements that are measurable in the water in 10 years. For this reason, the achievement of the objective will rely on measurement and monitoring of actions taken on the land to reduce pressures on water quality.

Point source discharges are currently managed through existing resource consents, and further action required to improve the quality of these discharges will occur on a case-by-case basis at the time of consent renewal, guided by the targets and limits set in Objective 1.²⁸

Reasons for adopting Objective 4

Objective 4 provides for a staged approach to long term achievement of the Vision and Strategy. It acknowledges that in order to maintain the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of communities during the 80-year journey, the first stage **(the short term 10-year period)** must ensure that overall costs to people can be sustained.

In the future, a property level allocation of contaminant discharges may be required. Chapter 3.11 sets out the framework for collecting the required information so that the most appropriate approach can be identified. Land use type or intensity at July 2016 will not be the basis for any future allocation of property level contaminant discharges. Therefore, consideration is needed of how to manage impacts in the transition.

Objective 4 seeks to minimise social disruption in the short term, while encouraging preparation for possible future requirements.

Reasons for adopting Objective 5

Objective 5 seeks to ensure that this Plan recognises and provides for the relationship of tangata whenua with ancestral lands, by ensuring the other provisions of Chapter 3.11 do not provide a further impediment to tangata whenua making optimal use of their land. Historic impediments included customary tenure in the nineteenth century, public works, rating law, Te Ture Whenua Māori Act, and confiscation. Some impediments or their effects continue currently, including issues of

²⁵ Watercare PC1-8450; Beef and Lamb PC1-111541

²⁶ Oji Ltd PC1-6392

²⁷ Forest and Bird PC1-8220

²⁸ Watercare PC1-8450

governance, fragmentation and compliance with central and local government regulations such as regional and district plans, or the emissions trading scheme. Land relevant to this objective is land returned through Treaty of Waitangi settlement, and land under Māori title that has multiple owners.

Reasons for adopting Objective 6

Objective 6 seeks to recognise the significant value of Whangamarino Wetland, a Ramsar site of international importance, and the complexity of this wetland system. It seeks to recognise that the bog ecosystems (which are particularly sensitive to discharges of contaminants) need protection over time. The effort required to restore Whangamarino Wetland over 80 years is considerable and as a minimum needs to halt and begin to reverse the decline in water quality in the first 10 years. This objective describes how wetland restoration needs to be supported by restoration of the Lower Waikato Freshwater Management Unit sub-catchments that flow into Whangamarino Wetland.

Hearing Block 2 Only

3.11.3 Policies/Ngā Kaupapa Here

Policy 1A: Management of **Freshwater Health and Wellbeing** ~~surface water quality to limits and targets~~

- a) **Establish freshwater quality objectives, and load limits and targets in Table 3.11-1 at the subcatchment freshwater management unit scale to provide for:**
- freshwater ecological health and processes.**
 - Primary contact recreation;**
 - Values in section 3.11.1. Manage surface waterbodies in Freshwater Management Units by: In surface water bodies at the sub catchment freshwater management unit scale the Waikato Regional Council will in Table 3.11-1:**
- i. ~~Setting instream water quality and load limits and targets in Table 3.11-1 at the sub catchment to provide for the protection or where degraded restoration of the habitat and health of aquatic ecosystems;~~
- b) **Manage both point source and diffuse discharges of contaminants in the sub catchment so that:**
- Where water quality currently meets the relevant Table 3.11-1 Freshwater Objectives, water quality limits continue to be met beyond the zone of reasonably mixing; and**
 - Where water quality does not currently meet the relevant Table 3.11-1 water quality freshwater objectives, water quality must be managed in a manner which progressively improves existing water quality relevant to the parameter exceeded, in order to meet:**
 - The water quality target for the sub-catchment by 2096, and/or**
 - The relevant value that the water quality target is designed to safeguard.**

Policy 1: **Managed Land Use Management of Diffuse discharges** ~~managements of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens/~~ Te Kaupapa Here 1: Te whakahaere i ngā rukenga roha o te hauota, o te whetū, o te waiparapara me te tukumate ora poto pūtūtae

Reduce ~~Manage~~ and require reductions in²⁹ catchment-wide and sub-catchment-wide diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens ~~from land uses~~, by:

- a1. ~~Requiring all farming activities to operate at Good Farming Practice, or better; and~~³²
- a2. ~~Establishing, where required, a Nitrogen Reference Point for Farming consented activities~~ all properties or enterprises; and
- a. ~~Enabling activities with a low level of contaminant discharge to water bodies provided those discharges do not increase to continue or to be established where they do not exceed 30% more than Table X Land Use Capability Natural Capital based Nitrogen Leaching targets/ limits or Table X1 Land Use Capability Natural Capital based Stocking Rate Targets/ Limits; and~~
- a3. ~~Implementation of Farm Environment Plans prepared in accordance with Schedule 1 for farming activities with moderate to high levels of contaminant discharge[s] to waterbodies; and~~
- b. ~~Requiring farming activities with moderate to high levels of contaminant discharge to water bodies to progressively reduce their discharge[s] proportionate to the amount of (2016) discharge and the water quality improvements required in the sub-catchment³⁵ as set out in Table 3.11-1 and proportionate to the discharge level of the activity; and~~
- b1. ~~Calculating the [Xth] 75th percentile and 50th percentile nitrogen leaching values for each FMU and~~ Requiring farmers with a Nitrogen Reference Point greater than the 75th percentile set out under clauses b1(i, ii, iii, and iv) to reduce nitrogen loss to below the 75th percentile by 1 July 2026:
- 57kgN/ha/yr Upper Waikato FMU;**
 - 33kgN/ha/yr Middle Waikato FMU;**
 - 43kgN/ha/yr Waipa FMU; or**
 - 29kgN/ha/yr Lower Waikato; and**
- B1(a)** ~~farmers with a Nitrogen Reference Point between below the 75th percentile~~ **set out under clauses b1 (i, ii, iii, and iv) to have a Nitrogen Risk Score and where it is above green to demonstrate real and enduring reductions of nitrogen leaching, with resource consents specifying an amount of reduction or changes to practices required to take place; and**
- b2.** ~~Where Good Farming Practices are not adopted, to specify controls in a resource consent that ensures contaminant losses will be reducing;~~³⁷
- b3.** ~~Except as provided for in Policies [1(a) and] 16, generally granting only those land use and discharge consent applications where the freshwater objectives for the sub catchment are met, or where the freshwater objectives are not currently met those land uses and discharge consent applications that reduce demonstrate clear and enduring reductions in diffuse discharges of the contaminant[s] of concern for that subcatchment in relation to Table 3.11-1; nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens; and~~³⁸
- b4.** ~~Except as provided for in Policies [1(a) and] Policy 16, generally not granting land use consent applications that involve a~~

change in the use of the land, or an increase in the intensity of the use of land, where freshwater objectives are not currently met, or which would cause or contribute to a freshwater objective being not met, unless the application demonstrates clear and enduring reductions in diffuse discharges of the contaminant[s] of concern for that subcatchment in relation to Table 3.11-1 nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens; and³⁹

- c. Progressively excluding cattle, horses, deer and pigs from rivers, streams, drains, wetlands and lakes On land that is less than 15 degrees in slope, require livestock (other than sheep) to be excluded from lakes, wetlands and flowing rivers in accordance with Schedule C; or
- i. where not reasonably practicable to exclude stock then require actions through a Farm Environment Plan in accordance with Schedule 1 to manage stock away from waterbodies including identification and management of critical source areas; and
- ii. on land that is greater than 15 degrees in slope and where the stocking rate of livestock excluding sheep exceeds 18 stock units per hectare in accordance with Schedule C, either:
- ii (a) progressively exclude livestock (other than sheep) from lakes, wetlands and flowing rivers; or
- ii(b) where not reasonably practicable to exclude stock then require actions through a farm environment plan in accordance with Schedule 1 to manage stock away from waterbodies including identification and management of critical source areas.

Table X. Land Use Capability Natural Capital Based: Nitrogen Leaching Limits /Targets

<u>LUC Class</u>	<u>Upper Waikato (kg-N/ha/yr)</u>	<u>Middle Waikato (kg-N/ha/yr)</u>	<u>Lower Waikato (kg-N/ha/yr)</u>	<u>Waipā (kg-N/ha/yr)</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

Or

Table X1. Land Use Capability Natural Capital Based: Stocking Limits

<u>LUC Class</u>	<u>Upper Waikato (su/ha/yr)</u>	<u>Middle Waikato (su/ha/yr)</u>	<u>Lower Waikato (su/ha/yr)</u>	<u>Waipā (su/ha/yr)</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Policy 2: Farm Environment Plans Tailored approach to managing reducing diffuse discharges from farming activities/Te Kaupapa Here 2: He huarahi ka āta whakahāngaihia hei whakaiti i ngā rukenga roha i ngā mahinga pāmu

~~Reduce~~ Manage and require reductions in⁴⁰ catchment-wide and⁴¹ sub-catchment-wide⁴² diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens from farming activities through a tailored, property or enterprise specific Farm Environment Plans in accordance with Schedule 1⁴³ that:

- ~~a1. Set out clear, specific and timeframed minimum standards for Good Farming Practice; and~~⁴⁴
- a. ~~Take~~ Taking a tailored, risk based, and adaptive management approach to define mitigation actions on the land that will manage ~~reduce~~ diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens; by developing and implementing, ~~with the mitigation actions to be specified in a Farm Environment Plan either associated within a resource consent, or in specific requirements established by participation in a Certified Industry Scheme~~⁴⁵;
- b. A Farm Environment Plan in accordance with Schedule 1 must:~~and~~
 - i. Identify and include map[s] of the property or Enterprise's Land Use Capability Class, soil, waterbodies, and indigenous habitats; and
 - ii. Identify and document the property, enterprises or schemes natural resource vulnerabilities; and
 - iii. Identify and document critical source areas; and
 - iv. Identify and document time bound actions to avoid, remedy, or mitigate effects on Freshwater Objectives in accordance with Table 3.11-1 in the sub catchment, in order to:
 - iv (a) Meet limits in Table 3.11-1 where they are currently achieved; and
 - iv (b) Reduce discharges of contaminant[s] from the property, enterprise, or scheme, in accordance with Table 3.11-1 where the Freshwater Objectives, and targets in the sub-catchment are not met; and
 - iv(c) Where the reduction in discharges of contaminant[s] is proportionate to the water quality improvements required in the sub- catchment as set out in Table 3.11-1 and proportionate to the discharge level of the activity.
- c. Identify actions under clause b (iv) that must be implemented by the dates specified in the Farm Environment Plan to address the particular discharge[s] of concern from the property, Enterprise, or scheme relevant to the Freshwater Objectives, limits, or targets in accordance with Table 3.11-1 for the sub-catchment; and
- d. Require monitoring and auditing ~~Undergo Requiring the same level of rigour in developing, monitoring and auditing of mitigation actions on the land that is set out in a Farm Environment Plan, whether the consent holder is a member of a Certified Sector Scheme or not it is established with a resource consent or through Certified Industry Schemes~~⁴⁶; and
- e. Are Be flexible and able to be updated so that continuous improvement, new technologies and mitigation practices can be adopted, such that where necessary diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens further reduce over time.⁴⁷
- f. Enable the use of appropriate decision support tools
- ~~g. Establishing a Nitrogen Reference Point for the property or enterprise; and~~⁴⁸
- ~~h. Requiring the degree of reduction in diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens to be proportionate to the amount of current discharge (those discharging more are expected to make greater reductions), and proportionate to the scale of water quality improvement required in the sub-catchment; and~~⁴⁹
- ~~i. Requiring stock exclusion to be completed within 3 years following the dates by which a Farm Environment Plan must be provided to the Council, or in any case no later than 1 July 2026.~~⁵⁰

²⁹ DoC PC1-10643

Identifying and

³⁰ WRC V1PC1-1497

³¹ Fert NZ PC1-9707, Federated Farmers V1PC1-162

³² Dairy NZ PC1-10196

³³ Hort NZ PC1-10051, Hira Bhana and Co Ltd PC1-4020 (shifted from Pol 2 with modifications)

³⁴ Beef and Lamb PC1-12576

³⁵ Beef and Lamb PC1-12711 (shifted from Pol 2 with modifications)

³⁶ C and G Tierney PC1-7717, Sinclair Family Trust PC1-6180, Federated Farmers V1PC1-357

³⁷ Consequential to DairyNZ PC1-10196

³⁸ DoC PC1-71759

³⁹ DoC PC1-71759

⁴⁰ DoC PC1-10643

⁴¹ WRC V1PC1-1497

⁴² Consequential to WRC V1PC1-1497

⁴³ Federated Farmers V1PC1-172

⁴⁴ Ballance PC1-6862, FANZ PC1-9712

⁴⁵ South Waikato District Council PC1-12522

Policy 3: Tailored approach to reducing diffuse discharges from commercial vegetable production systems/Te Kaupapa Here 3: He huarahi ka āta whakahāngaihia hei whakaiti i ngā rukenga roha i ngā pūnaha arumoni hei whakatupu hua whenua

Manage and require reductions in diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens from commercial vegetable production through a tailored, property or enterprise-specific approach where:

- a. Flexibility is provided to undertake crop rotations on changing parcels of land for commercial vegetable production, while reducing average contaminant discharges over time; and
- b. The maximum area in production for a property or enterprise is established and capped utilising commercial vegetable production data from the 10 years up to 2016; and
- c. Establishing a Nitrogen Reference Point for each property or enterprise; and
- d. A 10% decrease in the diffuse discharge of nitrogen and a tailored reduction in the diffuse discharge of phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens is achieved across the sector through the implementation of Best or Good Management Practices; and
- e. Identified mitigation actions are set out and implemented within timeframes specified in either a Farm Environment Plan and associated resource consent, or in specific requirements established by participation in a Certified Industry Scheme.
- f. Commercial vegetable production enterprises or reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens are enabled; and
- g. The degree of reduction in diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens is proportionate to the amount of current discharge (those discharging more are expected to make greater reductions), and the scale of water quality improvement required in the sub-catchment.

Policy 3A: Certified Sector Schemes

Waikato Regional Council will support the development of Certified Sector Schemes as groups or organisations responsible for preparing and monitoring the implementation of Farm Environment Plans by:

- a. Setting out minimum standards for Certified Sector Schemes in Schedule 2; and
- b. Establishing a process for approving Certified Sector Schemes based on their ability to meet the minimum standards, including entering into a contractual agreement with each Certified Sector Scheme to meet and maintain those standards; and
- c. Requiring independent audit of the performance of Certified Sector Schemes in preparing and monitoring the implementation of Farm Environment Plans for their members.⁵¹

Policy 4: ~~Future discharge reductions~~ Enabling activities with lower discharges to continue or to be established while managing diffuse discharges to achieve Freshwater Objectives, Limits and Targets/Te Kaupapa Here 4: Te tuku kia haere tonu, kia whakatūria rānei ngā tūmahi he iti iho ngā rukenga, me te tohu ake ākuanei pea me panoni anō hei ngā tau e heke mai ana

- a) Enabling activities with a low level of contaminant discharge to water bodies to continue or to be established where they do not exceed 30% more than Table X Land Use Capability Natural Capital; Nitrogen Leaching Limits/ Targets or Table X1 Land Use Capability Natural Capital; Stocking Limits/ Targets in accordance with Policy 1; and -
- b) ~~Manage sub-catchment-wide diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens to achieve the freshwater objectives and water quality limits and targets in Table 3.11-1 by: and enable existing and new low discharging activities to continue provided that cumulatively the achievement of Objective 3 is not compromised. Activities and uses currently defined as low dischargers may in the future need to~~ To recognise that future regional plan changes or regional plans are likely to require all farming activities make further reductions in the take mitigation actions that will reduce diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens in order for Objective 1 to be met.⁵²
- i. Granting long term consents up to a term of 25 years for properties, enterprises, or schemes where freshwater objectives and limits are met in accordance with Table 3.11-1 which continue to achieve the Table 3.11-1 Freshwater Objectives and limits; and
- ii. Where sub catchment freshwater objective and targets are not met in accordance with Table 3.11-1 grant resource consents that authorise farming activities for a duration that will enable further reductions in contaminant losses to be implemented through replacement resource consents rather than by way of a review of consent conditions;
- ia. unless the application demonstrates clear and enduring ongoing reductions in diffuse discharges of contaminant[s] of concern for that subcatchment in relation to Table 3.11-1, and where the reduction in losses are proportionate to their level of effect on the freshwater value and targets in accordance with Table 3.11-1. beyond those imposed in response to the short-term water quality attribute states in Table 3.11-1 and the property is not in a Priority 1 sub-catchment.⁵³

⁴⁶ Huirimu Farms Ltd PC1-5909, Ata Rangī PC1-6244, Southern Pastures Limited Partnership PC1-11197

⁴⁷ Federated Farmers V1PC1 -175

⁴⁸ Hort NZ PC1-10051, Hira Bhana and Co Ltd PC1-4020 (shifted to Pol 1 with modifications)

⁴⁹ Beef and Lamb PC1-12711 (shifted to Pol 1 with modifications)

⁵⁰ G and J Jeffries PC1-12802

⁵¹ Huirimu Farms Ltd PC1-5909, Ata Rangī PC1-6244, Waipapa Farms Ltd and Carlyle Holdings Ltd PC1-470

Policy 5: Staged approach/Te Kaupapa Here 5: He huarahi wāwāhi

To recognise that:

- a. All farmers, businesses and communities⁵⁴ will need to contribute to achieving the water quality attribute states⁵⁵ in Table 3.11-1; and
- b. Changes in practices and activities need to start immediately⁵⁶; and
- c. The rate of change will need to be staged over the coming decades to minimise social, economic⁵⁷ and cultural disruption and enable innovation and new practices to develop; and
- d. Responding to the reasonably foreseeable effects of climate change will mean that different regulatory and non-regulatory responses may be needed in future.⁵⁸

~~Recognise that achieving the water quality attribute targets set out in Table 11-1 will need to be staged over 80 years, to minimise social disruption and allow for enable innovation and new practices to develop, while making a start on reducing discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens, and preparing for further reductions that will be required in subsequent regional plans.~~

Policy 6: ~~Managing Restricting~~ land use change/Te Kaupapa Here 6: Te here i te panonitanga ā-whakamahinga whenua

~~Except as provided for in Policy 16, land use change consent applications that demonstrate an increase in the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens will generally not be granted.~~

~~Land use change consent applications that demonstrate clear and enduring decreases in existing diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens will generally be granted.~~⁵⁹

- a) ~~Enable land use change as a permitted activity for properties, enterprises, or schemes which demonstrate compliance with Table X Land Use Capability Natural Capital; Nitrogen Leaching Limits/ Targets or Table X1 Land Use Capability Natural Capital; Stocking Limits/ Targets in accordance with Policy 1;~~
- b) ~~Enable land use change through consents where property, enterprise, or scheme demonstrate that the Table 3.11-1 Freshwater Objectives, limits, or target will be achieved, or otherwise complies with policy 16~~
- c) ~~Except as provided for in Policy 16, land use change consent applications that demonstrate an increase in the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens will generally not be granted~~

Policy 7: ~~Allocation in accordance with the Natural Capital of the Landscape~~ ~~Preparing for allocation in the future~~/Te Kaupapa Here 7: Kia takatū ki ngā tohanga hei ngā tau e heke mai ana

~~Prepare for further diffuse discharge reductions and any future property or enterprise-level allocation of diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens that will be required by subsequent regional plans, by implementing the policies and methods in this chapter. To ensure this occurs, collect information and undertake research to support this, including collecting information about current discharges, developing appropriate modelling tools to estimate contaminant discharges, and researching the spatial variability of land use and contaminant losses and the effect of contaminant discharges in different parts of the catchment that will assist in defining 'natural character of the landscape' and 'land suitability'.~~

~~Any future Allocation should consider the following principles:~~

- a. ~~Natural Capital Land suitability~~⁶⁰ which reflects ~~the~~ biophysical and climate properties, ~~the natural productive potential of soils, assimilative capacity of the landscape including soils and groundwater~~, risk of contaminant discharges from that land, and the sensitivity of the receiving water body, as a starting point ~~(i.e; and~~.
- b. ~~where the effect on the land and receiving waters will be the same, like land is treated the same for the purposes of allocation); and~~
- c. ~~Provision for land use flexibility~~
- d. ~~Provision for Allowance for flexibility of development of tangata whenua ancestral land; and~~
- e. ~~Provision for adaptive management and new farm systems~~
- f. ~~Provision for community health and wellbeing;~~
- g. ~~Minimising social disruption and costs in the transition to the 'natural capital land suitability' approach; and~~
- h. ~~Future Allocation decisions should take advantage of existing data and knowledge including existing systems for understanding the natural character of the landscape and soils, as well as new data and knowledge.~~

⁵² C Barker PC1-3748

⁵³ Federated Farmers PC1-12754, FANZ PC1-11176

⁵⁴ M & R Johnston PC1-8099, K Stokes PC1-5248

⁵⁵ Winstone Aggregates PC1-3607

⁵⁶ Forest and Bird PC1-8257

⁵⁷ Charion Investment Trust PC1-7748

⁵⁸ WRC PC1-2985

⁵⁹ Federated Farmers V1PC1-194

⁶⁰ *Future mechanisms* for allocation based on *the Natural Capital of the landscape land suitability* will consider the following criteria:

- a) The biophysical properties of the land that determine productive potential and susceptibility to contaminant loss (e.g. slope, soil type, drainage class, and geology); and
- b) the local climate regime that determines productive potential and the likelihood of water storage and runoff patterns (e.g. frost, rainfall and its seasonal distribution); and
- c) The natural capacity of the landscape to attenuate contaminant loss; and
- d) the Objective 1 *Freshwater Objectives* and water quality limits[^] *and Targets* related to nitrogen, phosphorus, microbial pathogens and sediment for the surface waters that the land is hydrologically connected to; and
- e) the desired values[^] in those receiving waters (ecological and human health) and how they are influenced by the four contaminants. *The future weightings are to be determined.*

For the avoidance of doubt, *the natural character land suitability* criteria exclude current land use and current water quality, the moderating effects of potential mitigations, and non-biophysical criteria (economic, social and cultural). Instead these factors will be of importance in analysing the implications of *a-completed the natural character land suitability* classification.

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Policy 8: Prioritised implementation/Te Kaupapa Here 8: Te raupapa o te whakatinanatanga

Prioritise the management of land use and the management of diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens ~~land and water resources by implementing Policies 2, 3 and 9, and~~⁶¹ in accordance with the prioritisation of areas set out in Table 3.11-2, commercial vegetable production activities⁶² ~~[OPTION and dairy farming~~⁶³]. and the catchments of lakes.⁶⁴ Priority areas include:

- a. ~~Sub-catchments where there is a greater gap between the water quality targets^Δ in Objective 1 (Table 3.11-1) and current water quality; and~~
- b. ~~Lakes Freshwater Management Units^Δ; and~~
- c. ~~Whangamarino Wetland.~~

In addition to the priority sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2, the 75th percentile nitrogen-leaching value dischargers will also be prioritised for Farm Environment Plans.⁶⁵

Policy 9: Sub-catchment (including edge of field) mitigation planning, co-ordination and funding/Te Kaupapa Here 9: Te whakarite mahi whakangāwari, mahi ngātahi me te pūtea mō te riu kōawāwa (tae atu ki ngā taitapa)

Take a prioritised and integrated approach to sub-catchment water quality management by undertaking sub-catchment planning, and use this planning to support actions including edge of field mitigation measures. Support measures that efficiently and effectively contribute to water quality improvements. This approach includes:

- a. Engaging early with tangata whenua and with landowners, communities and potential funding partners in sub-catchments in line with the priority areas listed in Table 3.11-2; and
- b. Assessing the reasons for current water quality and sources of contaminant discharge, at various scales in a sub-catchment; and
- c. Encouraging cost-effective mitigations where they have the biggest effect on improving water quality; and
- d. Allowing, where multiple farming enterprises contribute to a mitigation, for the resultant reduction in diffuse discharges to be apportioned to each enterprise in accordance with their respective contribution to the mitigation and their respective responsibility for the ongoing management of the mitigation.

Policy 10: Provide for point source discharges of regional significance/Te Kaupapa Here 10: Te whakatau i ngā rukenga i ngā pū tuwha e noho tāpua ana ki te rohe

When deciding resource consent applications for point source discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens to water or onto or into land, provide for the:

- a. Continued operation of regionally significant infrastructure; and
- b. Continued operation of regionally significant industry.

⁶¹ Ravensdown PC1-10119

⁶² J Reeves & A Taylor PC1-8537

⁶³ Fonterra PC1-10489

⁶⁴ DoC PC1-10670

⁶⁵ Fonterra PC1-10489 (consequential to option to add dairy farming)

Policy 11: Application of Best Practicable Option and mitigation or offset of effects to point source discharges/Te Kaupapa Here 11: Te whakahāngai i te Kōwhiringa ka Tino Taea me ngā mahi whakangāwari pānga; te karo rānei i ngā pānga ki ngā rukenga i ngā pū tuwha

Require any person undertaking a point source discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens to water or onto or into land in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments to as a minimum,⁶⁶ adopt the Best Practicable Option* to avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of the discharge, ~~at the time a resource consent application is decided~~⁶⁷.

Where ~~it is not practicable to avoid or mitigate all any~~⁶⁸ adverse effects, ~~cannot be reasonably avoided, they should be mitigated, and where they cannot be reasonably mitigated, it is encouraged that~~⁶⁹ an offset measure ~~may~~ be proposed in an alternative location or locations to the point source discharge, for the purpose of ensuring positive effects on the environment to lessen any residual adverse effects of the discharge(s) that will or may result from allowing the activity provided that the:

- a. Primary discharge does not result in any significant or⁷⁰ toxic adverse effect at the point source discharge location; and
- b. Offset measure is for the same contaminant; and
- c. Offset measure occurs preferably within the same sub-catchment in which the primary discharge occurs and if this is not practicable, then within the same Freshwater Management Unit[^] or a Freshwater Management Unit[^] located upstream, and
- d. Offset measure remains in place for the duration of the consent and is secured by consent condition or another legally binding mechanism⁷¹.

Policy 12: ~~Additional considerations for~~ Considering point source discharges in relation to water quality targets/Te Kaupapa Here 12: He take anō hei whakaaro ake mō ngā rukenga i ngā pū tuwha e pā ana ki ngā whāinga ā-kounga wai

When deciding a resource consent application, ~~c~~Consider⁷² the contribution made by a point source discharge to the nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogen catchment loads and the impact of that contribution on the ~~likely~~⁷³ achievement of the short term water quality attribute states[^] targets[^] in Table 3.11-1 Objective 3 or the progression towards the 80-year water quality attribute states[^] targets[^] in Objective 1 Table 3.11-1⁷⁴, taking into account:

- a. The relative proportion of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens that the particular point source discharge contributes to the catchment load; and
- b. Past ~~technology~~ upgrades undertaken to ~~model, monitor and~~⁷⁵ reduce the discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens within the previous consent term; and
- c. ~~The ability~~ Whether it is appropriate to stage future mitigation actions to allow investment costs to be spread over time ~~and to~~⁷⁶ meet the water quality attribute states[^] targets[^] specified above; ~~and~~
- d. ~~The diminishing return on investment in treatment plant upgrades in respect of any resultant reduction in nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens when treatment plant processes are already achieving a high level of contaminant reduction through the application of the Best Practicable Option*.~~⁷⁷

⁶⁶ BT Mining PC1-9924

⁶⁷ Tangata Whenua – Waikato and Waipa River Iwi PC1-3349

⁶⁸ DoC PC1-10694

⁶⁹ DoC PC1-10694

⁷⁰ Fish & Game PC1-10887

⁷¹ GBC Winstone PC1-2947

⁷² Hamilton CC PC1-10843

⁷³ Tangata Whenua – Waikato and Waipa River Iwi PC1-3353

⁷⁴ Fonterra PC1-10609

⁷⁵ Hamilton CC PC1-10843

⁷⁶ Fish & Game PC1-10888

⁷⁷ Tangata Whenua – Waikato and Waipa River Iwi PC1-3353

Policy 13: Point sources consent duration/Te Kaupapa Here 13: Te roa o te tukanga tono whakaaetanga mō te pū tuwha

When determining an appropriate duration for any point source discharge⁷⁸ consent granted consider the following matters:

- a. The appropriateness of a longer consent duration ~~A consent term exceeding 25 years, where the applicant demonstrates that the discharge is consistent with achieving the water quality attribute states set out in Table 3.11-1 the approaches set out in Policies 11 and 12 will be met~~⁷⁹; and
- b. The magnitude and significance of the investment made or proposed to be made in contaminant reduction measures and any resultant improvements in the receiving water quality; and
- c. The need to provide appropriate certainty of investment where contaminant reduction measures are proposed (including investment in treatment plant upgrades or land based application technology).

Policy 14: Lakes Freshwater Management Units/Te Kaupapa Here 14: Ngā Wae Whakahaere Wai Māori i ngā Roto

Restore and protect lakes by 2096 through the implementation of a tailored lake-by-lake approach, guided by Lake Catchment Plans prepared over the next 10 years, which will include collecting and using data and information to support improving the management of land use⁸⁰ activities in the lakes Freshwater Management Units[^].

Policy 15: Whangamarino Wetland/Te Kaupapa Here 15: Ngā Repo o Whangamarino

Protect and make progress towards restoration of Whangamarino Wetland by reducing the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens in the sub-catchments that flow into the wetland to:

- a. Reduce and minimise further loss of the bog ecosystem; and
- b. Provide increasing availability of mahinga kai; and
- c. Support implementation of any catchment plan prepared in future by Waikato Regional Council that covers Whangamarino Wetland.

Policy 16: Flexibility for development of land returned under Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements and multiple owned Māori land/Te Kaupapa Here 16: Te hangore o te tukanga mō te whakawhanaketanga o ngā whenua e whakahokia ai i raro i ngā whakataunga kokoraho o Te Tiriti o Waitangi me ngā whenua Māori kei raro i te mana whakahaere o te takitini

For the purposes of considering land use change applications under Rule 3.11.5.7, land use change that enables the development of tangata whenua ancestral lands shall be managed in a way that recognises and provides for:

- a. The relationship of tangata whenua with their ancestral lands; and
- b. The exercise of kaitiakitanga; and
- c. The creation of positive economic, social and cultural benefits for tangata whenua now and into the future;

Taking into account:

- i. Best management practice actions for nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens for the proposed new type of land use; and
- ii. The suitability of the land for development into the proposed new type of land use, reflecting the principles for future allocation as contained in Policy 7, including the risk of contaminant discharge from that land and the sensitivity of the receiving water body; and
- iii. The short term water quality attribute states targets⁸¹ to be achieved in Objective 3.

Policy 17: Considering the wider context of the Vision and Strategy/Te Kaupapa Here 17: Te whakaaro ake ki te horopaki whānui o Te Ture Whaimana

⁷⁸ Mercury PC1-9577

⁷⁹ Forest & Bird PC1-8325

⁸⁰ Tangata Whenua – Waikato and Waipa River Iwi PC1-3404

⁸¹ Fonterra PC1-10451

When applying policies and methods in Chapter 3.11, seek opportunities to advance those matters in the Vision and Strategy and the values[^] for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers that fall outside the scope of Chapter 3.11, but could be considered secondary benefits of methods carried out under this Chapter, including, but not limited to:

- a. Opportunities to enhance biodiversity, wetland values[^] and the functioning of ecosystems; and
- b. Opportunities to enhance access and recreational values[^] associated with the rivers.

Hearing Block 2 Only

3.11.4 Implementation methods/Ngā tikanga whakatinana

3.11.4.1 Working with others/Te mahi tahi me ētehi atu

Waikato Regional Council will work with stakeholders including Waikato River iwi partners, Waikato River Authority, Waikato River Restoration Strategy partners, Department of Conservation, territorial authorities, industry and sector bodies, to implement Chapter 3.11 including all the following methods in 3.11.4. This will include coordinating priorities, funding and physical works, promoting awareness and providing education, to assist in giving effect to the *Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River/Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato* for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers.

3.11.4.2 Certified Industry Scheme/Te kaupapa ā-ahumahi kua whai tohu

Waikato Regional Council will develop an industry certification process for industry bodies as per the standards outlined in Schedule 2. The **Certified Industry Scheme** will include formal agreements between parties. Agreements will include:

- a. Provision for management of the **Certified Industry Schemes**;
- b. Oversight, and monitoring of **Farm Environment Plans**;
- c. Information sharing;
- d. Aggregate reporting on **Certified Industry Scheme** implementation; and
- e. Consistency across the various **Certified Industry Schemes**

3.11.4.3 Farm Environment Plan/Ngā Mahere Taiao ā-Pāmu

Waikato Regional Council will prepare parameters and minimum requirements for the development of a certification process for professionals to develop, certify and monitor **Farm Environment Plans** in a consistent approach across the region. A **Farm Environment Plan** will be prepared by a certified person as per the requirements outlined in Schedule 1, and will assess the risk of **diffuse discharges** of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and **microbial pathogens** and specify actions to reduce those risks in order to bring about reductions in the discharges of those contaminants. Waikato Regional Council will develop guidance for risk assessments, auditing and compiling **Farm Environment Plans**.

Waikato Regional Council will take a risk based approach to monitoring **Farm Environment Plans**, starting with more frequent monitoring and then moving to monitoring based on risk assessment. Robust third party audit (independent of the farmer and **Certified Farm Environment Planner**) and monitoring will be required.

3.11.4.4 Lakes and Whangamarino Wetland/Ngā Roto me ngā Repo o Wangamarino

Waikato Regional Council, working with others, will:

- a. Build on the Shallow Lakes Management Plan by developing Lake Catchment Plans and investigate lake-specific options to improve water quality and ecosystem health, and manage pest species. In many instances, this may require an adaptive management approach.
- b. Prepare and implement Lake Catchment Plans with community involvement which include:
 - i. A vision for the lake developed in consultation with the community.
 - ii. Description of the desired state of lake and recognition of the challenges (e.g. costs) and opportunities (e.g. benefits) in achieving it.
 - iii. An evidence-based description of the problem (i.e. what is the gap between the current state and desired state) that recognises the presence of multiple stressors and uncertainty in responses and time frames.
 - iv. Community engagement in defining actions that will move the lake towards its desired state.
 - v. Responsibility for achieving the agreed actions and expected timeframes, developed in consultation with those who will be undertaking the work.
 - vi. A monitoring regime that will provide evidence of the implementation of the defined actions and any changes in the state of the lake.
- c. As a priority, undertake the development and implementation of the Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland Catchment Management Plan using the process set out in b).
- d. Work towards managing the presence of pest weeds and fish in the shallow lakes and connected lowland rivers area, including Whangamarino Wetland.
- e. Support research and testing of restoration tools and options to maintain and enhance the health of shallow lakes and Whangamarino Wetland (e.g. lake modelling, lake bed sediment treatments, constructed wetlands, floating wetlands, silt traps, pest fish management, and farm system management tools).
- f. Support lake and Whangamarino Wetland restoration programmes including, but not limited to, advice, funding, and project management. Restoration programmes may have a wider scope than water quality, including hydrological restoration, revegetation and biodiversity restoration.
- g. Develop a set of 10-year water quality attribute^ targets^ for each lake Freshwater Management Unit^.

3.11.4.5 Sub-catchment scale planning/Te whakamāherehere mō to whānuitanga o ngā riu kōawaawa

Waikato Regional Council will work with others to develop **sub-catchment** scale plans (where a catchment plan does not already exist) where it has been shown to be required. **Sub-catchment** scale planning will:

- a. Identify the causes of current water quality decline, identify cost-effective measures to bring about reductions in contaminant discharges, and coordinate the reductions required at a **property**, **enterprise** and **sub-catchment** scale (including recommendations for funding where there is a public benefit identified).
- b. Align works and services to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and **microbial pathogen** discharges including riparian management, targeted reforestation, constructed wetlands, sediment traps and sediment detention bunds.
- c. Assess and determine effective and efficient placement of constructed wetlands at a **sub-catchment** scale to improve water quality.
- d. Support research that addresses the management of wetlands, including development of techniques to monitor ecological change and forecasting evolution of wetland characteristics resulting from existing land use in the wetland catchments.
- e. Integrate the regulatory requirements to fence waterways with the requirements for effective drainage scheme management.
- f. Coordinate funding of mitigation work by those contributing to water quality degradation, in proportion to that contribution.
- g. Utilise public funds to support **edge of field mitigations** where those mitigations provide significant public benefit.

3.11.4.6 Funding and implementation/Te pūtea me te whakatinanatanga

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a. Provide staff resources and leadership within the organisation for the implementation of Chapter 3.11.
- b. Seek to secure funding for the implementation of Chapter 3.11 through the annual plan and long term plan processes.

3.11.4.7 Information needs to support any future allocation/Ngā pārongo e hiahiatia ana hei taunaki i ngā tohanga o anamata

Gather information and commission appropriate scientific research to inform any future framework for the allocation of diffuse discharges including:

- a. Implementing processes that will support the setting of property or enterprise-level diffuse discharge limits in the future.
- b. Researching:
 - i. The quantum of contaminants that can be discharged at a sub-catchment and Freshwater Management Unit[^] scale while meeting the Table 3.11-1 water quality attribute[^] targets[^].
 - ii. Methods to categorise and define 'land suitability'.
 - iii. Tools for measuring or modelling discharges from individual properties, enterprises and sub-catchments, and how this can be related to the Table 3.11-1 water quality attribute[^] targets[^].

3.11.4.8 Reviewing Chapter 3.11 and developing an allocation framework for the next Regional Plan/Te arotake i te Upoko 3.11, te whakarite hoki i tētehi anga toha mō te Mahere ā-Rohe e whai ake ana

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a. Develop discharge allocation frameworks for individual **properties** and **enterprises** based on information collected under Method 3.11.4.7, taking into account the best available data, knowledge and technology at the time; and
- b. Use this to inform future changes to the Waikato Regional Plan to manage discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and **microbial pathogens** at a **property** or **enterprise**-level to meet the targets[^] in the Objectives.

3.11.4.9 Managing the effects of urban development/Te whakahaere i ngā pānga o te whanaketanga ā-tāone

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a. Continue to work with territorial authorities to implement the Waikato Regional Policy Statement set of principles that guide future development of the built environment which anticipates and addresses cumulative effects over the long term.
- b. When undertaking sub-catchment scale planning under Method 3.11.4.5 in urban sub-catchments engage with urban communities to raise awareness of water quality issues, and to identify and implement effective solutions for the urban context.

3.11.4.10 Accounting system and monitoring/Te pūnaha kaute me te aroturuki

Waikato Regional Council will establish and operate a publicly available accounting system and monitoring in each Freshwater Management Unit[^], including:

- a. Collecting information on nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and **microbial pathogen** levels in the respective fresh water bodies in each Freshwater Management Unit[^] from:
 - i. Council's existing river monitoring network; and
 - ii. **Sub-catchments** that are currently unrepresented in the existing monitoring network; and
 - iii. Lake Freshwater Management Units[^].
- b. Using the information collected to establish the baseline data for compiling a monitoring plan and to assess progress towards achieving the Table 11-1 water quality attribute[^] targets[^]; and
- c. Using state of the environment monitoring data including biological monitoring tools such as the Macroinvertebrate Community Index to provide the basis for identifying and reporting on long-term trends; and
- d. An information and accounting system for the **diffuse discharges** from **properties** and **enterprises** that supports the management of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and **microbial pathogens diffuse discharges** at an **enterprise** or **property** scale.

3.11.4.11 Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Chapter 3.11/Te aroturuki me te arotake i te whakatinanatanga o te Upoko 3.11

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a. Review and report on the progress towards and achievement of the 80-year water quality objectives of Chapter 3.11.
- b. Research and identify methods to measure actions at a **sub-catchment, property** and **enterprise** level, and their contribution to reductions in the discharge of contaminants.
- c. Monitor the achievement of the values[^] for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers and the uses made of those rivers.
- d. Collate data on the number of land use resource consents issued under the rules of this chapter, the number of **Farm Environment Plans** completed, compliance with the actions listed in **Farm Environment Plans, Nitrogen Reference Points** for **properties** and **enterprises**, and nitrogen discharge data reported under **Farm Environment Plans**.
- e. Work with industry to collate information on the functioning and success of any **Certified Industry Scheme**.

3.11.4.12 Support research and dissemination of best practice guidelines to reduce diffuse discharges/Te taunaki i te rangahautanga me te tuaritanga o ngā aratohu mō ngā mahi tino whai take hei whakaiti i ngā rukenga roha

Waikato Regional Council will:

- a. Develop and disseminate **best management practice** guidelines for reducing the **diffuse discharges** of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and **microbial pathogens**; and
- b. Support research into methods for reducing **diffuse discharges** of contaminants to water.

3.11.5 Rules/Ngā Ture

3.11.5.1 Permitted Activity Rule – Small and Low Intensity farming activities/Te Ture mō ngā Mahi e Whakaaetia ana – Ngā mahi iti, ngā mahi pāiti hoki i runga pāmu

~~Rule 3.11.5.1 – Permitted Activity Rule – Small and Low Intensity farming activities~~

The use of land for farming activities (excluding commercial vegetable production) and the associated diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens onto or into land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water is a permitted activity subject to the following conditions:

1. The property is registered with the Waikato Regional Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
2. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C; and

Either:

3. The property area is less than or equal to 4.1 hectares; and
4. The farming activities do not form part of an enterprise being undertaken on more than one property; or

The property area Where the property area is greater than 4.1 hectares:

5. For grazed land, the stocking rate of the land is less than 6 stock units per hectare; and
6. No arable cropping occurs; and
7. The farming activities do not form part of an enterprise being undertaken on more than one property.^{82,83}

3.11.5.1 A Interim Permitted Activity Rule – Farming

Rule 3.11.5.1A – Interim Permitted Activity Rule – Farming

The use of land for farming, which is not a permitted activity under Rule 3.11.5.2, is a permitted activity until:

1. The later of 1 September 2021 or 6 months after this Plan becomes operative, for properties in Priority 1 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2, and all properties with a Nitrogen Reference Point greater than the 75th percental leaching value set out under clause 1(i, ii, iii, or iv);
 - i. 57kgN/ha/yr Upper Waikato FMU;
 - ii. 33kgN/ha/yr Middle Waikato FMU;
 - iii. 43kgN/ha/yr Waipa FMU; or
 - iv. 29kgN/ha/yr Lower Waikato FMU; and
- e. The later of 1 March 2025 or 1 year after this Plan becomes operative for properties in Priority 2 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2;⁸⁴ and
- f. 1 January 2026 for properties in Priority 3 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2 subject to the following conditions:
 1. The property is registered with the Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
 2. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C; and
 3. No commercial vegetable production occurs; and
 4. A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for properties in Priority 1 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2, and all properties with a Nitrogen Reference Point greater than the [Xth] 75th percentile leaching value the property in conformance with Schedule B; and
 5. Full electronic access to Overseer or any other software or system that models or records diffuse contaminant losses for the farming land use authorised by this rule is granted to the Council; and⁸⁵
 6. There has been less than a cumulative net total of 4.1 hectares of change in the use of land from that which was occurring at 22 October 2016 within a property or enterprise from:
 1. Woody vegetation to farming activities; or
 2. Any farming activity other than dairy farming to dairy farming; or
 3. Any farming activity to Commercial Vegetable Production⁸⁶

⁸² Fonterra V1PC1-757, Waipa DC PC1-3249, Waitomo DC PC1-10312

⁸³ H Oatway PC1-6524

⁸⁴ Beef + Lamb V1PC1-1719, J Craig PC1-9675, Drummon Dairy Holdings Ltd PC1-5652, K and A Reese PC1-7784

⁸⁵ WRC V1PC1-218

⁸⁶ Fonterra V1PC1-757, Waipa DC PC1-3249, Waitomo DC PC1-10312

3.11.5.2 Permitted Activity Rule – Other Small and Low intensity farming activities/Te Ture mō ngā Mahie Whakaaetia ana – Ētehi atu mahi i runga pāmu

Rule 3.11.5.2 - Permitted Activity Rule – Other Small and Low intensity farming activities

The use of land for farming activities (excluding commercial vegetable production) and the associated diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens onto or into land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water where the property area is greater than 4.1 hectares, and has more than 6 stock units per hectare or is used for arable cropping,⁸⁷ is a permitted activity subject to the following conditions:

- A. For all properties:**
1. The property is registered with the Waikato Regional Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
 2. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C and Conditions 3(e) and 4(e) of this Rule; and
- ~~2A. The farming activities do not form part of an enterprise; and~~
~~2B. No commercial vegetable production occurs; and~~
~~2C. No dairy farming or grazing of dairy cattle occurs; and~~
2D. No feedlots or sacrifice paddocks are used on the property; and
2E. No more than 5% of the land used for farming is used for cropping, including winter forage crops; and⁸⁸
- B3. Where the property area is less than or equal to 20 hectares; or:**
- a. The farming activities do not form part of an enterprise being undertaken on more than one property; and
 - b. Where the land is:
 - i. used for grazing livestock, the stocking rate of the land is no greater than the stocking rate of the land at 22 October 2016; or
 - ii. not used for grazing livestock, the land use has the same or lower diffuse discharges of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens as the land use at 22 October 2016; and
 - c. Upon request, the landowner shall obtain and provide to the Council independent verification from a Certified Farm Environment Planner that the use of land is compliant with either (b)(i) or (b)(ii) above; and
 - d. Upon request from the Council, a description of the current land use activities shall be provided to the Council; and
 - e. Where the property or enterprise contains any of the water bodies listed in Schedule C, new fences installed after 22 October 2016 must be located to ensure cattle, horses, deer and pigs cannot be within three metres of the bed of the water body (excluding constructed wetlands and drains).⁸⁹
- C4. Where the property or enterprise area is greater than 20 hectares, and either:**
1. ~~The stocking rate of the land is less than 6 stock units per hectare; or~~
 2. The only farming activity occurring on the property is the raising, training or housing of horses; or⁹⁰
 3. ~~The stocking rate of the land~~
 4. ~~The nitrogen leached from the land does not exceed by more than 30% the Table X Land Use Capability Natural Capital; Nitrogen Leaching Limits/ Targets on a whole of farm property or whole of Farming Enterprise basis, based on a 5 year rolling average greater than 6 stock units but less than 10 stock units per hectare; and~~⁹¹
 - a. A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for the property or enterprise in conformance with Schedule B; And or
 5. ~~The stocking rate on the land do not exceed the Table XI Land Use Capability Natural Capital; Stocking Limits/ targets on a whole of farm property or whole of Farming Enterprise based on a 5 year rolling average; and~~
 - a. The diffuse discharge of nitrogen from the property or enterprise does not exceed either:
 - i. the Nitrogen Reference Point; or
 - ii. 15kg nitrogen/hectare/year;whichever is the lesser, over the whole property or enterprise when assessed in accordance with Schedule B; and⁹²
 6. No part of the property or enterprise over 15 degrees slope is cultivated; and ~~of 1-~~
~~No part of the property over XX degrees of slope is~~⁹³ grazed; and
 7. No winter forage crops are grazed in situ; and
 8. Where the property or enterprise contains any of the water bodies listed in Schedule C:
 - a. There shall be no cultivation within 5 metres of the bed of the water body; and
 - b. New fences installed after 22 October 2016 must be located to ensure cattle, horses, deer and pigs cannot be within three metres of the bed of the water body (excluding constructed wetlands and drains); and⁹⁴
 9. For all properties greater than 4.1 hectares, ~~f~~From 31 March 2019 30 November 2020, in addition to the requirements of Schedule A, the following information ~~is~~ must be provided to the Waikato Regional Council by 1

September each year:

- a. The monthly average Annual stock numbers of each stock class from 1 July to 30 June in the following year; and
 - b. Tonnes and type of Annual fertiliser applied from 1 July to 30 June in the following year use; and
 - c. Tonnes of and type of Annual brought in animal feed brought onto the property in the previous 12 months.; and⁹⁵
- i. If rules C4 and C5 apply full electronic access to Overseer or any other software or system that models or records diffuse contaminant losses for the farming land use authorised by this rule is granted to the Council; and⁹⁶
 - ii. Upon request, the landowner shall obtain and provide to the Council independent verification from a Certified Farm Environment Planner that the use of land is compliant with the conditions of this Rule within 20 working days of the request (unless otherwise agreed in writing by Council).⁹⁷

⁸⁷ Fonterra V1PC1-757, Waipa DC PC1-3249, Waitomo DC PC1-10312

⁸⁸ J Alcock and J Easton PC1-9217, L Ashton PC1-7032, G Gleeson PC1-6410

⁸⁹ P Hurley PC1-1088, Federated Farmers V1PC1-338

⁹⁰ G Kilgour PC1-1906, R Cave PC1-3900

⁹¹ P Keeling PC1-5497, Fonterra V1PC1-765

⁹² Fonterra V1PC1-765, Balle Bros Group PC1-11423, Hill Country Farmers Group PC1-7845

⁹³ Hill Country Farmers PC1-7845

⁹⁴ G Holmes PC1-4693, Huirimu Farms Ltd PC1-5908, A McGovern PC1-8319

OPTION

3.11.5.2A Controlled Activity Rule – Medium intensity farming/

Rule 3.11.5.2A - Controlled Activity Rule – Medium intensity farming

The use of land for farming, which is not a permitted activity under Rules 3.11.5.1A to 3.11.5.2, is a controlled activity subject to the following conditions:

1. The property is registered with the Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
2. A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for the property in conformance with Schedule B; and
3. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C; and
4. The farming activities do not form part of an enterprise; and
5. No commercial vegetable production occurs; and
6. Full electronic access to Overseer or any other software or measuring system, or decision support tool (that is approved by the Chief Executive of the Waikato Regional Council) that models or records diffuse contaminant losses for the farming land use authorised by this rule is granted to the Council; and
7. A Farm Environment Plan has been prepared in conformance with Schedule 1 and has been approved by a Certified Farm Environment Planner, and is provided to the Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged; and
8. ~~Either:~~
9. The 75th percentile nitrogen leaching rate for the Freshwater Management Unit Nitrogen Reference Point as set out under clause 9 (i, ii, iii, or iv) is not exceeded
 - i. 57kgN/ha/yr Upper Waikato FMU;
 - ii. 33kgN/ha/yr Middle Waikato FMU;
 - iii. 43kgN/ha/yr Waipa FMU; or
 - iv. 29kgN/ha/yr Lower Waikato FMU; and
 - v. The stocking rate of the land is no greater than 18 stock units per hectare and has not increased above the stocking rate during the Reference Period in Schedule B; and
6. There has been less than a cumulative net total of 4.1 hectares of change in the use of land from that which was occurring at 22 October 2016 within a property or enterprise from:
 1. Woody vegetation to farming activities; or
 2. Any farming activity other than dairy farming to dairy farming; or
 3. Any farming activity to Commercial Vegetable Production and
7. The property or enterprise has a Nitrogen Risk Scorecard¹ Assessment.

Waikato Regional Council reserves control over the following matters:

- i. The content, compliance with and auditing of the Farm Environment Plan, to manage diffuse discharges of sediment, phosphorus, pathogens, and nitrogen in accordance with Table 3.11-1 Freshwater Objectives, limits, or targets for the sub catchment.
- ii. Where the Nitrogen Risk Scorecard Assessment Grade is yellow or above, the actions and timeframes to achieve improvements in the grade—achieve Good Farming Practices or better in order to reduce the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens to water or to land where they may enter water.
- iii. For enterprises, the procedures and limitations, including Nitrogen Reference Points, to be applied to land that enters or leaves the enterprise.
- iv. Where the Nitrogen Reference Point exceeds the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value, actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure the diffuse discharge of nitrogen is reduced so that it does not exceed the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value by 1 July 2026.
- v. The term of the resource consent.
- vi. The timeframe and circumstances under which the consent conditions may be reviewed.
- vii. Procedures for reviewing, amending and re-approving the Farm Environment Plan.

⁹⁵ Consequential to Ballance PC1-6570, FANZ PC1-10642

⁹⁶ WRC V1PC1-218

⁹⁷ Shifted from within the rule ((3)(c)).

Hearing Block 2 Only

OPTION

3.11.5.3 Permitted Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan under a Certified Industry Sector Scheme/Te Ture mō ngā Mahi e Whakaetia ana – Ngā mahi i runga pāmu kua whai Mahere Taiao ā-Pāmu i raro i te Kaupapa ā-Ahumahi kua Whai Tohu

Rule 3.11.5.3 - Permitted Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan under a Certified Industry Sector Scheme

Except as provided for in Rule 3.11.5.1 and Rule 3.11.5.2 (The use of land for farming activities (excluding commercial vegetable production) where the land use is registered to a Certified Industry Sector Scheme, and the associated diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens onto or into land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water is a permitted restricted discretionary activity subject to the following conditions:

1. The property is registered with the Waikato Regional Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
2. A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for the property or Enterprise in conformance with Schedule B; and
3. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C; and
4. The Certified Industry Sector Scheme meets the criteria set out in Schedule 2 and has been approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Waikato Regional Council as meeting the standards set out in Schedule 2; and
5. A Farm Environment Plan which has been prepared in accordance with Schedule 1 and has been approved by a Certified Farm Environment Planner, and is provided to the Waikato Regional Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged; and as follows:
 - a. By 1 July 2020 1 March 2022 for properties or enterprises within Priority 1 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2, and all properties or enterprises with a Nitrogen Reference Point greater than the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value;
 - b. By 1 July 2023 1 March 2025 for properties or enterprises within Priority 2 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2;
 - c. By 1 July 2026 for properties or enterprises within Priority 3 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2; and
- 5a. Full electronic access to Overseer or any other software or system that records farm data and models or records diffuse contaminant losses for the farming land use authorised by this rule is granted to the Waikato Regional Council; and
- 5b. There have been less than a cumulative net total of 4.1 hectares of change in the use of land from that which was occurring at 22 October 2016 within a property or enterprise from:
 1. Woody vegetation to farming activities; or
 2. Any farming activity other than dairy farming to dairy farming; or
 3. Any farming activity to Commercial Vegetable Production
6. The nitrogen leached from the land (measured or modelled as a loss from the root zone using Overseer or an alternative model approved by Waikato Regional Council and as a five year rolling average) shall not exceed the schemes Schedule B NRP;
7. By 1 July 2026 the scheme must not exceed the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching rate for the Freshwater Management unit as set out under clauses 7 (i, ii, iii, or iv):
 - i. 57kgN/ha/yr Upper Waikato FMU;
 - ii. 33kgN/ha/yr Middle Waikato FMU;
 - iii. 43kgN/ha/yr Waipa FMU;
 - iv. 29kgN/ha/yr Lower Waikato FMU;
8. The use of land shall be undertaken in accordance with the actions and timeframes specified in the Farm Environment Plan; and
9. The Farm Environment Plan provided under Condition 5 may be amended in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule 1 and the use of land shall thereafter be undertaken in accordance with the amended plan; and
10. A copy of the Farm Environment Plan amended in accordance with condition (7) shall be provided to the Waikato Regional Council within 30 working days of the date of its amendment.

Waikato Regional Council restricts its discretion to the following matters:

- i. The content, compliance with and auditing of the Farm Environment Plan, to manage diffuse discharges of sediment, phosphorus, pathogens, and nitrogen in accordance with table 3.11-1 Freshwater Objectives, limits, or targets for the sub catchment.
- ii. The actions and timeframes to achieve Good Farming Practices or better in order to reduce the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens to water or to land where they may enter water.
- iii. The effects, including cumulatively, of diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens, particularly where the activity may lead to an increase in the discharge of one or more contaminants.
- iv. For enterprises, the procedures and limitations, including Nitrogen Reference Points, to be applied to land that enters or leaves the enterprise.

- v. Where the Nitrogen Reference Point exceeds the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value for the FMU, actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure the diffuse discharge of nitrogen is reduced so that it does not exceed the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value by 1 July 2026.
- vi. The term of the resource consent.
- vii. The timeframe and circumstances under which the consent conditions may be reviewed.
- viii. Procedures for reviewing, amending and re-approving the Farm Environment Plan.

Hearing Block 2 Only

3.11.5.4 **Controlled Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan not under a Certified Industry Scheme/Te Ture mō ngā Mahi ka āta Whakahaerehia – Ngā mahi i runga pāmu kua whai Mahere Taiao ā-Pāmu kāore i raro i te Kaupapa ā-Ahumahi kua Whai Tohu**

Rule 3.11.5.4 – ~~Controlled Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan not under a Certified Industry Scheme~~

Except as provided for in Rule 3.11.5.1 and Rule 3.11.5.2, ~~the use of land for farming activities (excluding commercial vegetable production) where that land use is not registered to a Certified Industry Scheme, and the associated diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens onto or into land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water, which is not a permitted activity under Rules 3.11.5.1A to 3.11.5.2, or controlled under Rule 3.11.5.2A or restricted discretionary under Rule 3.11.5.3 is a Restricted Discretionary permitted⁹⁸ activity until:~~
~~1. 1 January 2020 1 September 2021 for properties or enterprises in Priority 1 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2-2;~~
~~1 January 2023 1 September 2024 for properties or enterprises in Priority 2 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2; 3. 1 January 2026 for properties or enterprises in Priority 3 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2;~~⁹⁹
subject to the following conditions:

1. The property is registered with the Waikato Regional Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
2. A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for the property or enterprise in conformance with Schedule B; and
3. No commercial vegetable production occurs; and
4. A Farm Environment Plan has been prepared in conformance with Schedule 1 and has been approved by a Certified Farm Environment Planner, or prepared under a Certified Sector Scheme, and is provided to the Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged; and¹⁰⁰
5. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in accordance with Schedule C; and¹⁰¹
6. Full electronic access to Overseer or any other software or system that models or records diffuse contaminant losses for the farming land use authorised by this rule is granted to the Waikato Regional Council; and¹⁰²
7. There have been less than a cumulative net total of 4.1 hectares of change in the use of land from that which was occurring at 22 October 2016 within a property or enterprise from:
 1. Woody vegetation to farming activities; or
 2. Any farming activity other than dairy farming to dairy farming; or
 3. Any farming activity to Commercial Vegetable Production¹⁰³
8. The nitrogen leached from the land (measured or modelled as a loss from the root zone using Overseer or an alternative model approved by Waikato Regional Council) shall not exceed the property or Enterprises nitrogen leaching occurring at 22 October 2016, estimated using a 5 year rolling average;
9. By 1 July 2026 the property or enterprise must not exceed the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching rate for the Freshwater Management unit as set out under clause 9 (i, ii, iii, or iv) below
 - i. 57kgN/ha/yr Upper Waikato FMU;
 - ii. 33kgN/ha/yr Middle Waikato FMU;
 - iii. 43kgN/ha/yr Waipa FMU; or
 - iv. 29kgN/ha/yr Lower Waikato FMU;

After the dates set out in 1), 2) and 3) above the use of land shall be a controlled activity (requiring resource consent), subject to the following standards and terms:

- a. ~~A Farm Environment Plan has been prepared in conformance with Schedule 1 and has been approved by a Certified Farm Environment Planner, and is provided to the Waikato Regional Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged by the dates specified in I-III below; and~~
- b. ~~The property is registered with the Waikato Regional Council in conformance with Schedule A; and~~
- c. ~~A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for the property or enterprise in conformance with Schedule B and is provided to the Waikato Regional Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged; and~~
- d. ~~Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C.~~

~~Waikato Regional Council restricts its discretion to the following matters: Matters of Control~~

~~Waikato Regional Council reserves control over the following matters:~~

- i. ~~The content, compliance with and auditing of the Farm Environment Plan, to manage diffuse discharges of sediment, phosphorus, pathogens, and nitrogen in accordance with table 3.11-1 Freshwater Objectives, limits, or targets for the sub catchment.~~
- ii. ~~Compliance with Schedule C including methods to manage stock away from waterbodies, and reduce losses of pathogens to waterbodies, and timeframes for implementation;~~
- iii. ~~The actions and timeframes to achieve Good Farming Practices or better in order to for undertaking mitigation actions that maintain or reduce the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens to water or to~~

~~land where they may enter water.~~

- ~~ii.a. The effects, including cumulatively, of diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens, particularly where the activity may lead to an increase in the discharge of one or more contaminants.~~
- ~~ii.b. For enterprises, the procedures and limitations, including Nitrogen Reference Points, to be applied to land that enters or leaves the enterprise.~~
- ~~iv. The actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure that the diffuse discharge of nitrogen from the property or enterprise, as measured by the five-year rolling average annual nitrogen loss as determined by the use of the current version of OVERSEER[®], does not increase beyond the property or enterprise's Nitrogen Reference Point, unless other suitable mitigations are specified.~~
- v. Where the Nitrogen Reference Point exceeds the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value for the FMU, actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure the diffuse discharge of nitrogen is reduced so that it does not exceed the 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value by 1 July 2026.
- vi. The term of the resource consent.
- vii. The monitoring, record keeping, reporting and information provision requirements for the holder of the resource consent to demonstrate and/or monitor compliance with the Farm Environment Plan.
- viii. The timeframe and circumstances under which the consent conditions may be reviewed ~~or the Farm Environment Plan shall be amended.~~
- ix. Procedures for reviewing, amending and re-approving the Farm Environment Plan.
- x. Information to be provided to show that the property is being managed in a way that would not cause an increase in loss of contaminants, which may include annual Overseer modelling for the property or enterprise, or information on matters such as stocking rate, fertiliser application, imported feed and cropping

Dates:

- I. ~~For Priority 1 sub-catchments, and properties with a Nitrogen Reference Point of greater than 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value, by 1 July 2020~~
- II. ~~For Priority 2 sub-catchments, by 1 July 2023~~
- III. ~~For Priority 3 sub-catchments, by 1 July 2026~~

Notification:

~~Consent applications will be considered without notification, and without the need to obtain written approval of affected persons.¹⁰⁴~~

⁹⁸ H G and S J Brooks PC1-86, Denzie, B PC1-3617

⁹⁹ Fonterra V1PC1-757, Waipa DC PC1-3249, Waitomo DC PC1-10312

¹⁰⁰ Previously part of rule (condition a) with addition of Certified Sector Schemes.

¹⁰¹ Previously part of rule (condition d)

¹⁰² WRC V1PC1-218

¹⁰³ Fonterra PC1-10644

~~3.11.5.6 Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – The use of land for farming activities/Te Ture mō ngā kōwhiringa mahi e herea ana – te whakamahinga o te whenua mō ngā mahinga pāmu~~

~~Rule 3.11.5.6 – Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – The use of land for farming activities~~

~~The use of land for farming activities that does not comply with the conditions, standard or terms of Rules 3.11.5.1 to 3.11.5.5 and the associated diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens onto or into land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water is a restricted discretionary activity (requiring resource consent)~~

~~Waikato Regional Council restricts its discretion over the following matters:~~

- ~~i. Cumulative effects on water quality of the catchment of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers.~~
- ~~ii. The diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens.~~
- ~~iii. The need for and the content of a Farm Environment Plan.~~
- ~~iv. The term of the resource consent.~~
- ~~v. The monitoring, record keeping, reporting and information provision requirements for the holder of the resource consent.~~
- ~~vi. The time frame and circumstances under which the consent conditions may be reviewed.~~
- ~~vii. The matters addressed by Schedules A, B and C.~~

~~Notification:~~

~~Consent applications will be considered without notification, and without the need to obtain written approval of affected persons.~~

3.11.5.6 A Discretionary Activity Rule

Rule 3.11.5.6A - Discretionary Activity Rule

The use of land for farming that does not meet one or more of [conditions (1) to (5a) of Rule 3.11.5.3 or] conditions (1) to (6) of Rule 3.11.5.4 is a Discretionary activity.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰⁴ Forest and Bird PC1-8208

3.11.5.7 Non-Complying Activity Rule —Land Use Change/Te Ture mō ngā mahi kāore e whai i ngā ture – Te Panonitanga ā-Whakamahinga Whenua

Rule 3.11.5.7 - Non-Complying Activity Rule —Land Use Change

The use of land for farming that does not meet [condition (5b to 7) of Rule 3.11.5.3 or] condition (7 to 9) of Rule 3.11.5.4 is a non-complying activity.¹⁰⁶

Notwithstanding any other rule in this Plan, any of the following changes in the use of land from that which was occurring at 22 October 2016 within a property or enterprise located in the Waikato and Waipa catchments, where prior to 1 July 2026 the change exceeds a total of 4.1 hectares:

1. ~~Woody vegetation to farming activities; or~~
2. ~~Any livestock grazing other than dairy farming to dairy farming; or~~
3. ~~Arable cropping to dairy farming; or~~
4. ~~Any land use to commercial vegetable production except as provided for under standard and term g. of Rule 3.11.5.5 is a non-complying activity (requiring resource consent) until 1 July 2026.~~

Notification:

~~Consent applications will be considered without notification, and without the need to obtain written approval of affected persons, subject to the Council being satisfied that the loss of contaminants from the proposed land use will be lower than that from the existing land use.]~~¹⁰⁷

3.11.5.8 Permitted Activity Rule – Authorised Diffuse Discharges

The diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and or microbial contaminants from farming onto or into land in circumstances that may result in a contaminant entering water that would otherwise contravene section 15(1) of the RMA is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

1. the land use activity associated with the discharge is authorised under Rules 3.11.5.1 to 3.11.5.7; and
2. the discharge of a contaminant is managed to ensure that after reasonable mixing it does not give rise to any of the following effects on receiving waters:
 - (a) any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials; or
 - (b) any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity; or
 - (c) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals; or
 - (d) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.¹⁰⁸

3.11.5.9 Non-Complying Activity Rule – Unauthorised Diffuse Discharges

The diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and or microbial contaminants from farming onto or into land in circumstances that may result in a contaminant entering water that would otherwise contravene section 15(1) of the RMA that does not meet one or more of the conditions of Rule 3.11.5.8 is a non-complying activity.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁵ Fonterra PC1-10506

¹⁰⁶ Fonterra V1PC1-757, Waipa DC PC1-3249, Waitomo DC PC1-10312

¹⁰⁷ Forest and Bird PC1-8214

¹⁰⁸ Ata Rangi PC1-11127, Southern Pastures Limited Partnership PC1-11070

¹⁰⁹ Ata Rangi PC1-11127, Southern Pastures Limited Partnership PC1-11070

3.11.5.5 Controlled Activity Rule – Existing commercial vegetable production/Te Ture mō ngā Mahi ka āta Whakahaerehia – Te whakatupu hua whenua ā-arumoni o te wā nei

Rule 3.11.5.5 - Controlled Activity Rule – Existing commercial vegetable production

The use of land for commercial vegetable production and the associated diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and microbial pathogens onto or into land in circumstances which may result in those contaminants entering water, is a permitted activity until 1 January 2020, from which date it shall be a controlled activity (requiring resource consent) subject to the following standards and terms:

- a. The property is registered with the Waikato Regional Council in conformance with Schedule A; and
- b. A Nitrogen Reference Point is produced for the property or enterprise in conformance with Schedule B and provided to the Waikato Regional Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged; and
- c. Cattle, horses, deer and pigs are excluded from water bodies in conformance with Schedule C; and
- d. The land use is registered to a Certified Industry Scheme; and
- e. The areas of land, and their locations broken down by sub-catchments [refer to Table 3.11-2], that were used for commercial vegetable production within the property or enterprise each year in the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2016, together with the maximum area of land used for commercial vegetable production within that period, shall be provided to the Council; and
- f. The total area of land for which consent is sought for commercial vegetable production must not exceed the maximum land area of the property or enterprise that was used for commercial vegetable production during the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2016; and
- g. Where new land is proposed to be used for commercial vegetable production, an equivalent area of land must be removed from commercial vegetable production in order to comply with standard and term f.; and
- h. A Farm Environment Plan for the property or enterprise prepared in conformance with Schedule 1 and approved by a Certified Farm Environment Planner is provided to the Waikato Regional Council at the time the resource consent application is lodged.

Matters of Control

Waikato Regional Council reserves control over the following matters:

- i. The content of the Farm Environment Plan.
- ii. The maximum area of land to be used for commercial vegetable production.
- iii. The actions and timeframes for undertaking mitigation actions that maintain or reduce the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus or sediment to water or to land where those contaminants may enter water, including provisions to manage the effects of land being retired from commercial vegetable production and provisions to achieve Policy 3(d).
- iv. The actions and timeframes to ensure that the diffuse discharge of nitrogen does not increase beyond the Nitrogen Reference Point for the property or enterprise.
- v. The term of the resource consent.
- vi. The monitoring, record keeping, reporting and information provision requirements for the holder of the resource consent to demonstrate and/or monitor compliance with the Farm Environment Plan.
- vii. The time frame and circumstances under which the consent conditions may be reviewed.
- viii. Procedures for reviewing, amending and re-certifying the Farm Environment Plan.

Notification:

Consent applications will be considered without notification, and without the need to obtain written approval of affected persons.

Advisory note: Under section 20A(2) of the RMA a consent must be applied for within 6 months of 1 January 2020, namely by 1 July 2020.

Schedule A - Registration with Waikato Regional Council/Te Āpitihianga A – Te rēhita me te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato

Properties with an area greater than ~~2 hectares~~ 4.1 hectares¹¹⁰ (excluding urban properties) must be registered with the Waikato Regional Council in the following manner:

1. Registration must occur between ~~1 September 2018~~ 1 May 2020 and ~~31 March 2019~~ 30 November 2020.
2. Registration information set out in clause 5, and where relevant in clause 6, below must be provided.
3. Proof of registration must be provided to the Waikato Regional Council within 7 working days of a request by to the Waikato Regional Council being made (unless otherwise agreed in writing by Council) if requested by the Council.¹¹¹
4. Registration information must be updated by the new owner of a property within 30 working days of the new owner taking possession of the property, or otherwise at the request of the Waikato Regional Council.
5. All ~~property~~ owners must provide:
 - a. The following information in respect of the ~~land~~ property¹¹² owner, and the person responsible for using the land (if different from the ~~land~~ property owner):
 - i. Full name.
 - ii. Trading name (if applicable, where the owner is a company or other entity).
 - iii. Full postal and email address.
 - iv. Telephone contact details.
 - b. Legal description ~~of the property as per the~~ and certificate(s) of title references (computer freehold registers) for all of the land in the property.¹¹³
 - c. Physical address of the property.
 - d. A description of the land use activity or activities undertaken on the property as at 22 October 2016, including the land area of each activity.
 - e. The total land area of the property.
 - f. Where the land is used for grazing, and no NRP is required under this Plan,¹¹⁴ the annual average and maximum¹¹⁵ stocking rate of animals grazed on the land.
 - g. If the property forms part of an enterprise, the name of that enterprise.¹¹⁶
6. Properties that graze livestock must also provide a map showing:
 - a. ~~The~~ the location of:
 - i. Property boundaries; and
 - ii. Water bodies listed in Schedule C for stock exclusion within the property boundary and fences adjacent to those water bodies; and
 - iii. Livestock crossing points over those water bodies and a description of any livestock crossing structures.

¹¹⁰ WRC PC1-3536

¹¹¹ WRC PC1-3536

¹¹² WRC PC1-3536

¹¹³ Waipa DC PC1-3225

¹¹⁴ WRC V1PC1-216

¹¹⁵ J Liefing PC1-7166

¹¹⁶ Waipa DC PC1-3225

Schedule B - Nitrogen Reference Point/Te Āpitianga B – Te tohu ā-hauota

A property or enterprise with a cumulative area greater than 20 hectares or which is not a permitted activity under Rule 3.11.5.2 (or any property or enterprise used for commercial vegetable production) must have a Nitrogen Reference Point calculated as follows:

- a. The Nitrogen Reference Point must be calculated through the use of monitored data such as lysimeters, or a decision support tool approved by the Chief Executive of the Waikato Regional Council, or by a Certified Farm Nutrient Advisor ~~to determine by modelling~~ the amount of nitrogen being leached from the property or enterprise during the relevant reference period specified in clause f), except for any land use ~~change~~ approved under Rules 3.11.5.6 or 3.11.5.7 where the Nitrogen Reference Point shall be determined through the Rule 3.11.5.6 or 3.11.5.7 consent process.
- b. The Nitrogen Reference Point shall be the highest modelled annual nitrogen leaching loss that occurred during a single year (being 12 consecutive months) within the reference period specified in clause f), except for commercial vegetable production in which case the Nitrogen Reference Point shall be the average annual nitrogen leaching loss during the reference period.
- c. The Nitrogen Reference Point must be calculated using the ~~current~~ most recent version of the OVERSEER® Model as the default model (or any other decision support tools, measurements, or models that are may be approved for use by the Chief Executive of the Waikato Regional Council, if justified on a case-by-case basis). The Nitrogen Reference Point must be updated using the initial reference data whenever a new version of the OVERSEER® Model, or any other approved decision support tool, measurement, or model used to prepare the Nitrogen Reference Point, is released.
- d. The Nitrogen Reference Point data shall comprise the data used by electronic output file from the OVERSEER® or other approved decision support tool, measurement, or model to calculate the Nitrogen Reference Point, and where the OVERSEER® Model is used, it must be calculated using the OVERSEER® Best Practice Data Input Standards ~~2016~~ or replacement technical guidance that relate to the version of the OVERSEER® model being used; with the exception of climatic data which can be obtained from the closest NIWA Weather station to the property, enterprise, or scheme; or on farm measured rainfall or climatic data; and with the exceptions and inclusions set out in ~~Schedule B Table 1~~ a Waikato Regional Council Nitrogen Reference Point Guide. Where another approved model is used, it will conform to the data input standards as approved by the Chief Executive of the Waikato Regional Council.
- e. The Nitrogen Reference Point Analysis (inputs and outputs) and the Nitrogen Reference Point data must be provided published to Waikato Regional Council within the period ~~1 September 2018 1 May 2020~~ to 31 March 2019 30 November 2020.
- f. The Nitrogen Reference Period reference period is the two financial years covering 1 July 2014/2015 and 2015/ to 30 June 2016, except for commercial vegetable production in which case the reference period is 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2016.
- g. The following records (where relevant to the ~~land use undertaken on the property or enterprise~~ calculation and compliance auditing of the Nitrogen Reference Point) must be retained for the life of the plan and/or relevant consent, whichever is longer, and provided to Waikato Regional Council at its request:
 - i. ~~Stock numbers as recorded in annual accounts together with stock sale and purchase invoices~~ Records of stock numbers and stock classes, births and deaths, stock movements on and off the property, grazing records and transport records;
 - ii. ~~Dairy production data~~ Total annual milk solids as stated in the milk supply statement;
 - iii. ~~Invoices for fertiliser applied to the land~~ Records of fertiliser type and amount, including annual accounts, and any records of fertiliser application rates and placement;
 - iv. Quantity and type of invoices for feed supplements sold or purchased and used on the property;
 - v. Water use records for irrigation (to be averaged over 3 years or longer) in order to determine irrigation application rates (mm/ha/month per irrigated block) and areas irrigated;
 - vi. Crops grown on the land property (area and yield), quantities of each crop consumed on the property, and quantities sold off farm; and
 - vii. Horticulture crop diaries and NZGAP records; and
 - viii. The Nitrogen Reference Point Data as defined in Schedule B clause d; and
 - ix. Soil test data – including anion storage capacity; and
 - x. A map which shows property boundaries, block management areas, retired/non-productive areas and areas used for effluent irrigation.

Advice note: For the avoidance of doubt, financial information contained within the above records may be redacted (blacked out) prior to it being provided to Waikato Regional Council.

Table 1- Data input methodology for ensuring consistency of Nitrogen Reference Point data using the OVERSEER® Model¹¹⁷

¹¹⁷ Ballance PC1-6570, FANZ PC1-10642, Beef and Lamb PC1-11506, Fonterra PC1-10517

OVERSEER®Parameter	Setting that must be used	Explanatory note
Farm model Pastoral and horticulture	To cover the entire enterprise including riparian, retired, forestry, and yards and races. The model is to include non-contiguous properties that are part of the enterprise that are in the same sub-catchment. If the farm (for example where dairy animals are grazed or wintered) is part of another farming business such as a drystock farm, the losses from those animals will be represented in the drystock farm's Overseer model.	To capture the "whole farm" in one Overseer® file, where possible, to truly represent nitrogen losses from farm in the catchment area.
Location Pastoral and horticulture	Select Waikato Region	This setting has an effect on climate settings and some animal characteristics and is required to ensure consistency.
Animal distribution — relative productivity pastoral only	Use "no differences between blocks" with the following exceptions: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grazed pines or other woody vegetation. In this case use "Relative yield" and set the grazed pine blocks to 0.4 (40%). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Where the farm has a mixture of irrigated and non irrigated areas. In this case use "Relative yield" and set the irrigated area to 1 (100%), and the non irrigated areas to 0.75 (75%).	
Wetlands	Entered as Riparian Blocks	As per the 2016 OVERSEER® Best Practice Data Input Standards.
Stock number entry	Based on specific stock numbers only	To ensure consistency and accuracy of stock number inputs.
Animal weights	Only use OVERSEER® defaults — do not enter in weights and use the age at start setting where available (national averages).	Accurate animal weights are difficult to obtain and prove.
Block climate data	Only use the Climate Station tool For contiguous blocks use the coordinates from the location of the dairy shed or the middle of the farm area (for non dairy). For non-contiguous blocks use individual blocks' climate station coordinates.	
Soil description	Use Soil Order — obtained from S-Map or where S-Map is unavailable from LRI 1:50,000 data or a soil map of the farm.	To ensure consistency between areas of the region that have S-Map data and those that don't.
Missing data	In the absence of Nitrogen Referencing information being provided the Waikato Regional Council will use appropriate default numbers for any necessary inputs to the OVERSEER® model (such default numbers will generally be around 75% of normal Freshwater Management Unit ^Δ average values for those inputs).	Some farms will not be able to supply data, therefore a default must be established.

Schedule C - Stock exclusion/Te Āpitianga C – Te aukatinga o ngā kararehe

Except as provided by Exclusions I. ~~and II.~~ and III, cattle, horses, deer and pigs ~~stock~~¹¹⁸ must be excluded from the water bodies listed in ~~6. i. to iv.~~ below as follows:

1. The water bodies on land with a slope of up to ~~15~~ degrees¹¹⁹ or on land over 15 degrees where the stocking rate exceeds 18su/ha, must be fenced either by a temporary, permanent, or virtual fence to exclude cattle, horses, deer and pigs, unless those animals are prevented from entering the bed of the water body by a stock proof natural or constructed¹²⁰ barrier formed by topography or vegetation.

Advice note: Clause 1 does not authorise the construction of fences or other barriers in the bed of a river or lake, or in a wetland.

2. New temporary, permanent or virtual¹²¹ fences installed after 22 October 2016 must be located to ensure cattle, horses, deer and pigs will be excluded from the bed of the water body. The fences must be located at a distance of not less than ~~cannot be within one metre of the water body (excluding constructed wetlands).~~
 - ~~a. 1 metre from the outer edge of the bed for land with a slope of less than 15 degrees; and~~
 - ~~b. 3 metres from the outer edge of the bed for land with a slope between 15 and 25 degrees; and~~
 - c. 10 metres from the outer edge of the bed for artificial or modified watercourses that are the full responsibility of a territorial authority or Waikato Regional Council for maintenance purposes.¹²²
3. Livestock Cattle, horses, deer and pigs¹²³ must not ~~be permitted to~~¹²⁴ enter onto or pass across the bed of the water body, except when using a livestock crossing structure ~~{OPTION TO ADD~~ or when they are being supervised and actively driven across a water body in one continuous movement provided no more than one crossing per week occurs.

Advice note: Clause 3 does not authorise the construction of stock crossing structures in the bed of a river or lake, or in a wetland.¹²⁵

4. For land use authorised under Rules 3.11.5.1 or 3.11.5.2, clauses 1 and 2 must be complied with:
 - a. By 1 July 2023 for properties and enterprises within Priority 1 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2.
 - b. By 1 July 2026 for properties and enterprises within Priority 2 and Priority 3 sub-catchments listed in Table 3.11-2.
5. For land use authorised under Rules [3.11.5.3,] 3.11.5.4 or 3.11.5.5, clauses 1 and 2 must be complied with by the date and in the manner specified in the property's or enterprise's Farm Environment Plan, which shall be within 3 years following the dates by which a Farm Environment Plan must be provided to the Council, or in any case no later than 1 July 2026.
6. Water bodies from which cattle, horses, deer and pigs must be excluded:
 - a. The bed of a river (including any stream and modified river or stream) or artificial watercourse that is permanently or intermittently flowing ~~{OPTION TO ADD~~ and where the bed is predominantly unvegetated and comprises exposed fine sediment, sand, gravel, boulders or similar material or aquatic vegetation; and
 - b. The bed of any lake; and
 - c. Any wetland, including a constructed wetland.
 - ~~i. Any river that continually contains surface water.~~
 - ~~ii. Any drain that continually contains surface water.~~
 - ~~iii. Any wetland, including a constructed wetland.~~
 - iv. Any lake.¹²⁶

Exclusions:

The following situations are excluded from clauses 1, ~~2~~ and ~~3~~:

- I. Where the entry onto or passing across the bed of the water body is by horses that are being ridden or led.
- II. ~~Where the entry onto or passing across the bed of the water body is by a feral animal.~~¹²⁷
- III. Constructed ponds or constructed wetlands in which deer or pigs fallow that are located at least 10m away from the bed of a water body and which are not connected by an overland flow path to a water body.

¹¹⁸ Dairy Goat Co-Operative (N.Z) Ltd PC1-4135

¹¹⁹ Beef and Lamb PC1-11507

¹²⁰ Fish and Game PC1-11022

¹²¹ Ashby, J L and R J V1PC1-879, Beef and Lamb V1PC1-1724

¹²² Cl. 16 to ensure consistency with Rule 4.2.18.1 of the WRP

¹²³ Dairy Goat Co-Operative (N.Z) Ltd PC1-4135, A and S Dudin PC1-4910, A and M Goddard PC1-2341

¹²⁴ Fonterra V1PC1-757, Waipa DC PC1-3249, Waitomo DC PC1-10312

¹²⁵ Beef and Lamb PC1-11507

¹²⁶ DoC PC1-11055

¹²⁷ G Kilgour PC1-1923, A McGovern PC1-8327, Waipapa Farms Ltd and Carlyle Holdings Ltd PC1-4716

Schedule 1 - Requirements for Farm Environment Plans/Te Āpiti hanga 1: Ngā Herenga i ngā Mahere Taiao ā-Pāmu

A Farm Environment Plan shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements of A below. The Farm Environment Plan shall be certified as meeting the requirements of A by a Certified Farm Environment Planner.

The Farm Environment Plan shall identify all sources of sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and microbial pathogens, and identify actions, and timeframes for those actions to be completed, in order to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects~~reduce the diffuse discharges of these contaminants.~~

The plan shall contain a schedule of actions that will be undertaken to:

- a) Reduce discharges of contaminant[s] from the property, enterprise, or scheme, in accordance with Table 3.11-1 where the Freshwater Objectives, and targets in the subcatchment are not met; and
- b) Where the reduction in discharges of contaminant[s] is proportionate to the water quality improvements required in the sub-catchment as set out in Table 3.11-1 and proportionate to the discharge level of the activity; or
- c) Protect water quality where freshwater objectives and limits in accordance with Table 3.11-1 are achieved.

The Farm Environment Plan must clearly identify how specified minimum standards will be complied with.

The requirements set out in A apply to all Farm Environment Plans, including those prepared within a Certified Industry Scheme.

This schedule applies to all farming activities, but it is acknowledged that some provisions will not be relevant to every farming activity.

A. Farm Environment Plans shall contain as a minimum:

1. The property or enterprise details:

- (a) Full name, address and contact details (including email addresses and telephone numbers) of the person responsible for the property or enterprise.
- (b) Trading name (if applicable, where the owner is a company or other entity).
- (c) A list of land parcels which constitute the property or enterprise:
 - (i) the physical address and ownership of each parcel of land (if different from the person responsible for the property or enterprise) and any relevant farm identifiers such as the dairy supply number, Agribase identification number, valuation reference; and
 - (ii) The legal description of each parcel of land.

2. An assessment of the risk of diffuse discharge of sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and microbial pathogens associated with the farming activities on the property, and the priority of those identified risks, having regard to sub-catchment targets in Table 3.11-1 and the priority of lakes within the sub-catchment. As a minimum, the risk assessment shall include (where relevant to the particular land use):

- (a) A description of where and how stock shall be excluded from water bodies for stock exclusion including:
 - (i) the provision of fencing and livestock crossing structures to achieve compliance with Schedule C; and
 - (ii) for areas with a slope exceeding ~~25~~ 15 degrees and where stream fencing is impracticable, the provision of alternative mitigation measures.

- (b) A description of setbacks and riparian management, including:
- (i) The management of water body margins including how damage to the bed and margins of water bodies, and the direct input of contaminants will be avoided, and how riparian margin settling and filtering will be provided for; and
 - (ii) Where practicable the provision of minimum grazing setbacks from water bodies for stock exclusion [which take into account the geology of landscape, stocking rate and type, soil, and slope; 1 metre for land with a slope of less than 15° and 3 metres for land with a slope between 15° and 25°](#); and
 - (iii) The provision of minimum cultivation setbacks of 5 metres.
- (c) A description of the critical source areas from which sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and microbial pathogens are lost, including:
- (i) the identification of intermittent waterways, overland flow paths and areas prone to flooding and ponding, and an assessment of opportunities to minimise losses from these areas through appropriate stocking policy, stock exclusion and/or measures to detain floodwaters and settle out or otherwise remove sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and microbial pathogens (e.g. detention bunds, sediment traps, natural and constructed wetlands); and
 - (ii) the identification of actively eroding areas, erosion prone areas, and areas of bare soil and appropriate measures for erosion and sediment control and re-vegetation; and
 - (iii) an assessment of the risk of diffuse discharge of sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and microbial pathogens from tracks and races and livestock crossing structures to waterways, and the identification of appropriate measures to minimise these discharges (e.g. cut-off drains, and shaping); and
 - (iv) the identification of areas where effluent accumulates including yards, races, livestock crossing structures, underpasses, stock camps, and feed-out areas, and appropriate measures to minimise the risk of diffuse discharges of contaminants from these areas to groundwater or surface water; and
 - (v) the identification of other 'hotspots' such as fertiliser, silage, compost, or effluent storage facilities, wash-water facilities, offal or refuse disposal pits, and feeding or stock holding areas, and the appropriate measures to minimise the risk of diffuse discharges of contaminants from these areas to groundwater or surface water.
- (d) An assessment of appropriate land use and grazing management for specific areas on the farm in order to maintain and improve the physical and biological condition of soils and minimise the diffuse discharge of sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus and microbial pathogens to water bodies, including:
- (i) matching land use to land use capability (LUC); and
 - (ii) identifying areas not suitable for grazing; and
 - (iii) stocking policy to maintain soil condition and pasture cover; and
 - (iv) the appropriate location and management of winter forage crops; and
 - (v) suitable management practices for strip grazing.
- (e) A description of nutrient management practices including a nutrient budget for the farm enterprise calculated using the model OVERSEER® in accordance with the OVERSEER® use protocols, or using any other model or method [including measurement through lysimeters](#) as approved by the Chief Executive Officer of Waikato Regional Council.
- (f) A description of cultivation management, including:
- (i) The identification of slopes over 15° and how cultivation on them will be avoided; unless contaminant discharges to water bodies from that cultivation can be avoided; and
 - (ii) How the adverse effects of cultivation on slopes of less than 15° will be mitigated through appropriate erosion and sediment controls for each paddock that will be cultivated including by:
 - (a) assessing where overland flows enters and exits the paddock in rainfall events; and
 - (b) identifying appropriate measures to divert overland flows from entering the cultivated paddock; and
 - (c) identifying measures to trap sediment leaving the cultivated paddock in overland flows; and
 - (d) maintaining appropriate buffers between cultivated areas and water bodies (minimum 5m setback).
 - (e) A description of collected animal effluent management including how the risks associated with the

operation of effluent systems will be managed to minimise contaminant discharges to groundwater or surface water.

- (f) A description of freshwater irrigation management including how contaminant loss arising from the irrigation system to groundwater or surface water will be minimised.
3. A spatial risk map(s) at a scale that clearly shows:
- (a) The boundaries of the property; and
 - (b) The locations of the main land uses¹²⁸ that occur on the property; and
 - (c) [A Map of the Land Use Capability \(LUC\) classifications within the farm and the areas within each LUC.](#)
 - (d) The locations of existing and future mitigation actions to manage contaminant diffuse discharges; and
 - (e) Any relevant internal property boundaries that relate to risks and mitigation actions described in this plan; and
 - (f) The location of continually flowing rivers, streams, and drains and permanent lakes, ponds and wetlands; and
 - (g) The location of riparian vegetation and fences adjacent to water bodies; and
 - (h) The location of critical source areas for contaminants, as identified in 2 (c) above.
4. ~~The plan shall contain a schedule of actions that will be undertaken~~ [A description of the actions that will be undertaken](#) in response to the risks identified in the risk assessment in 2 above, and which:
- (a) [Reduce discharges of contaminant\[s\] from the property, enterprise, or scheme, in accordance with Table 3.11-1 where the Freshwater Objectives, and targets in the subcatchment are not met; and](#)
 - (b) [Where the reduction in discharges of contaminant\[s\] is proportionate to the water quality improvements required in the sub- catchment as set out in Table 3.11-1 and proportionate to the discharge level of the activity; or](#)
 - (c) [Protect water quality where freshwater objectives and limits in accordance with Table 3.11-1 are achieved.](#)
- 4a. ~~The schedule of actions shall have~~ [regard to their relative priority](#); as well as where the mandatory time-bound actions will be undertaken, and when and to what standard they will be completed.
5. A description of the following:
- (a) [Where the activity is undertaken in accordance with Rule 3.11.5.3 or Rule 3.11.5.4](#) Actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure that the diffuse discharge of nitrogen from the property, ~~or~~ enterprise, ~~or~~ scheme as measured by the five-year rolling average annual nitrogen loss as determined by the use of the current version of OVERSEER®, does not increase beyond the property, ~~or~~ enterprise's, ~~or~~ scheme's Nitrogen Reference Point unless other suitable mitigations are specified; or
 - (a1) [Where the activity is undertaken in accordance with Rule 3.11.5.2A and requires a Nitrogen Risk Scorecard, the actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure that the property' s, or Enterprise' s Nitrogen Risk Assessment Scorecard Grade does not exceed orange and is improved overtime;](#)
 - (b) Where the [Nitrogen Leaching] exceeds the [Xth] ~~75th~~ percentile nitrogen leaching ~~rate~~ value, actions, timeframes and other measures to ensure the diffuse discharge of nitrogen is reduced so that it does not exceed the [Xth] ~~75th~~ percentile nitrogen leaching value by 1 July 2026, ~~except in the case of Rule 3.11.5.5.~~

Vegetable growing minimum standards

Farm environment plans required under Rule 3.11.5.5 shall, in addition to the matters set out above, ensure the following matters are addressed.

¹²⁸ For dairy farms this might be the OVERSEER® blocks, for drystock farms this might be Land Use Capability blocks

Schedule 2 - Certification of ~~Industry Sector~~ Schemes/Te Āpiti hanga 2 – Te whakamana i ngā tohu o ngā Kaupapa Ahumahi

The purpose of this schedule is to set out the minimum standards for Certified Sector Schemes. ~~criteria against which applications to approve an industry scheme will be assessed.~~

~~The application~~ Applications for approval as a Certified Sector Scheme shall be lodged with the Waikato Regional Council, and shall include information that demonstrates how the following requirements standards are met. The Waikato Regional Council may request further information or clarification on the application as it sees fit.

Approval will be at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer of the Waikato Regional Council subject to the Chief Executive Officer being satisfied that the scheme will meet the standards set out in sections A to D below ~~effectively deliver on the assessment criteria.~~

Assessment Criteria

A. Certified Industry Scheme System

The application must demonstrate that the Certified Industry Scheme:

1. ~~Is consistent with:~~
 - (a) ~~the achievement of the water quality targets referred to in Objective 3; and~~
 - (b) ~~the purposes of Policy 2 or 3; and~~
 - (c) ~~the requirements of Rules 3.11.5.3 and 3.11.5.5.~~
2. ~~Has an appropriate ownership structure, governance arrangements and management.~~
3. ~~Has documented systems, processes, and procedures to ensure:~~
 - (a) ~~Competent and consistent performance in Farm Environment Plan preparation and audit.~~
 - (b) ~~Effective internal monitoring of performance.~~
 - (c) ~~Robust data management.~~
 - (d) ~~Timely provision of suitable quality data to Waikato Regional Council.~~
 - (e) ~~Timely and appropriate reporting.~~
 - (f) ~~Corrective actions will be implemented and escalated where required, including escalation to Waikato Regional Council if internal escalation is not successful.~~
 - (g) ~~Internal quality control.~~
 - (h) ~~The responsibilities of all parties to the Certified Industry Scheme are clearly stated.~~
 - (i) ~~An accurate and up to date register of scheme membership is maintained.~~
 - (j) ~~Transparency and public accountability of Certified Industry Schemes~~
 - (k) ~~The articles of the scheme are available for public viewing.~~

B. People

The application must demonstrate that:

1. ~~Those generating and auditing Farm Environment Plans are suitably qualified and experienced.~~
2. ~~Auditing of Farm Environment plan requirements is independent of the Farm Environment Plan preparation and approval.~~

C. Farm Environment Plans

~~The application must demonstrate that Farm Environment Plans are prepared in conformance with Schedule 1.~~

A. Governance and management

Applications must include:

1. A description of the governance arrangements of the Scheme;
2. The contractual arrangements between the Scheme and its members;
3. A description of the process for gaining and ceasing membership;
4. A description of the Scheme area, including land uses, key environmental issues, property boundaries and ownership details of members' properties;
5. A procedure for keeping records of the matters in (4) above and advising WRC of changes;
6. A draft contractual agreement with the Waikato Regional Council that will require the Scheme, on certification, to meet and maintain the standards outlined in Section A to D below.

B. Preparation of Farm Environment Plans

Applications must include:

1. A statement of the Scheme's capability and capacity for preparing and certifying Farm Environment Plans that meet the requirements of Schedule 1, including the qualifications and experience of any personnel employed by or otherwise contracted to the Scheme to prepare or certify Farm Environment Plans;
2. An outline of timeframes for developing Farm Environment Plans for its members.

C. Implementation of Farm Environment Plans

Applications must include:

1. A statement of the Scheme's capability and capacity for monitoring and assessing the implementation of Farm Environment Plans, including the qualifications and experience of any personnel employed by or otherwise contracted to the Scheme to monitor or assess implementation of Farm Environment Plans;
2. A description of the expectations and agreements around landowner and property record-keeping;
3. A strategy for identifying and managing poor performance in implementing Farm Environment Plans.

D. Audit

Applications must include a description of an annual audit process to be conducted by an independent body, including:

1. A process for assessing performance against agreed actions in Farm Environment Plans at an individual property level;
2. A statement of how audit results will be shared with the Scheme's members and the wider community;
3. A process for assessing the performance of any personnel employed by or otherwise contracted to the Scheme to prepare, certify, and audit the implementation of Farm Environment Plans.

A summary audit report must be submitted to the Waikato Regional Council annually.¹²⁹

¹²⁹ Fonterra PC1-10561, Ata Rangi PC1-6244, DOC PC1-10648, Southern Pastures Limited Partnership PC1-11197

PART B

Insert the following Condition to section 5.1.5 of the Waikato Regional Plan after 5.1.5(p)iii. and before the Advisory Note.

Hearing Block 2 Only

5.1.5 Conditions for Permitted Activity Rule 5.1.4.11 and Standards and Terms for Controlled Activity Rules/Ngā āhuatanga o te Ture 5.1.4.11 mō ngā Mahi e Whakaaetia ana, me ngā Paerewa me ngā Herenga mō ngā Ture mō ngā Mahi ka āta Whakahaerehia

q) In the Waikato and Waipa Catchment the Waikato Regional Council shall be notified in writing at least 20 working days prior to commencing harvest operations in a forest. The written notice must include a harvest plan unless otherwise agreed with Waikato Regional Council.

Harvest Plan

For the purposes of 5.1.5 (q) a forest harvest plan means a documented plan, including a harvest plan map, which clearly identifies the area to be harvested and the method to be followed to ensure identified risks to water bodies arising from the harvesting operation are managed.

The harvest plan should include:

- a. A harvest plan map to a scale of up to 1:10,000 showing:
 - i. Title, date, north arrow and harvest area boundary.
 - ii. The locations of all existing and proposed roads, tracks, landings, fire breaks and stream crossings.
 - iii. The locations of all water bodies, streams and wetlands.
 - iv. The location of any protected riparian vegetation including significant natural areas.
 - v. The proposed harvest methodology including cable and ground based harvest areas and the proposed direction of extraction.
 - vi. Proposed slash disposal areas.
- b. Associated text specifying the controls on the harvest operations to manage the identified risks to water bodies in the block from the harvesting operations including:
 - i. Measures to control sediment discharges to water.
 - ii. Management of slash.
 - iii. Operations restrictions around water bodies.
 - iv. Areas of existing riparian vegetation to be protected.

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Hearing Block 2 Only

PART C

Insert the following terms into the Glossary in alphabetical order.

Hearing Block 2 Only

Additions to Glossary of Terms/Ngā Āpiti hanga ki te Rārangi Kupu

~~Definition – 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value~~

~~[Xth] 75th percentile nitrogen leaching value: The [Xth] 75th percentile value (units of kg N/ha/year) of all of the Nitrogen Reference Point values for dairy farming properties and enterprises within each river (including properties within any lake Freshwater Management Unit within the relevant river Freshwater Management Unit)¹³⁸ Freshwater Management Unit¹³⁸ and which are is determined by the Chief Executive of the Waikato Regional Council and published on the Waikato Regional Council website and can be based on aggregated data supplied to the Waikato Regional Council and individual farm data¹³⁹ received by the Waikato Regional Council by 30 November 2020¹⁴⁰YY.~~¹⁴⁰

~~Definition – Arable cropping~~

~~Arable cropping: means the following arable crops:~~

- ~~i. grain cereal, legume, and pulse grain crops~~
 - ~~ii. herbage seed crops~~
 - ~~oilseeds~~
 - ~~iii. crops grown for seed multiplication for use in New Zealand or overseas~~
 - ~~iv. hybrid and open pollinated vegetable and flower seeds~~
- ~~and includes maize grain, maize silage, cereal silage, and mangels.~~

~~Definition – Best management practice/s~~

~~Best management practice/s: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means maximum feasible mitigation to reduce the diffuse discharge of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment or microbial pathogens from land use activities given current technology.~~

~~Definition – Certified Farm Environment Planner~~

~~Certified Farm Environment Planner: is a person or entity certified by the Chief Executive Officer of Waikato Regional Council and listed on the Waikato Regional Council website as a Certified Farm Environment Planner and has as a minimum the following qualifications and experience:~~

- ~~a. five years' experience in the management of pastoral, horticulture or arable farm systems; and~~
- ~~b. completed advanced training or a tertiary qualification in sustainable nutrient management (nitrogen and phosphorus); and~~
- ~~c. experience in soil conservation and sediment management.~~

~~Definition – Certified Farm Nutrient Advisor~~

~~Certified Farm Nutrient Advisor: is a person or entity certified by the Chief Executive Officer of Waikato Regional Council and listed on the Waikato Regional Council website as a certified farm nutrient advisor and has the following qualifications and experience as meeting the following criteria:~~

- ~~a. Is a certified as a Nutrient Management Adviser under the Nutrient Management Adviser Certification Programme Ltd; or¹⁴¹ Has completed nutrient management training to at least intermediate level, and~~
- ~~b. Has completed nutrient management training to at least an advanced level¹⁴², and hHas at least two years experience in nutrient management planning.¹⁴³~~

¹³⁸ Federated Farmers V1PC1-790

¹³⁹ DairyNZ PC1-10253

¹⁴⁰ N and C Prendergast PC1-1779, R Hathaway PC1-5399

¹⁴¹ Ballance PC1-7090, FANZ PC1-10663, Ravensdown PC1-10199

¹⁴² DairyNZ PC1-10251, Genetic Technologies Ltd PC1-3290, S.J. Williams PC1-5959

¹⁴³ Genetic Technologies Ltd PC1-3290, NZIPIM PC1-8446

and agrees to follow the procedures and guidelines set out by Waikato Regional Council and audits of the Certified Farm Nutrient Advisor's work by Waikato Regional Council show that that the Advisor is preparing robust and reliable nutrient loss reports.¹⁴⁴

Note: Certified Farm Nutrient Advisors will be listed on the Waikato Regional Council's website.¹⁴⁵

Definition – Certified Industry Scheme/s

Certified Industry Sector¹⁴⁶ **Scheme/s:** is a scheme group or organisation responsible for preparing and assisting with the implementation of Farm Environment Plans¹⁴⁷ that has been certified by the Chief Executive Officer of Waikato Regional Council and listed on the Waikato Regional Council website as meeting the standards¹⁴⁸ assessment criteria and requirements set out in Schedule 2 of Chapter 3.11.

Definition – Commercial vegetable production

Commercial vegetable production: means the following vegetables grown in New Zealand for commercial purposes:

- i. artichokes, Asian vegetables, beans, beetroot, boxthorn, broccoflower, broccoli, broccolini, Brussels sprouts, burdock, cabbage, capsicums, carrots, cauliflower, celeriac, celery, chilli peppers, chokos, courgettes, cucumbers, eggplant, Florence fennel, garland chrysanthemum, garlic, gherkins, herbs, Indian vegetables, kohlrabi, kumara, leeks, lettuces, marrows, melons, okra, parsnips, peas, puha, pumpkin, purslane, radishes, rakkyo, rhubarb, salad leaves, salsify, scallopini, scorzonera, shallots, silverbeet, spinach, spring onions, sprouted beans and seeds, squash, swedes, sweetcorn, taro, turnips, ulluco, watercress, witloof, yakon, yams, zucchinis, potatoes, tomatoes, asparagus, onions; and
- ii. the hybrids of the vegetables listed in subparagraph i.

Definition – Cultivation

Critical Source Area (CSA): is a landscape feature like a gully, swale or a depression that accumulates runoff from an adjacent immediate area, and delivers it to surface waterways such as wetlands, rivers and lakes, artificial waterways and field tiles.

Cultivation: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means preparing land for growing pasture or a crop and the planting, tending and harvesting of that pasture or crop, but excludes:

- a. direct drilling of seed.
- b. no-tillage practices.
- c. recontouring land.
- d. forestry.

Definition – Dairy Farming

Dairy Farming: means farming of dairy cows on a **milking platform** for milk production¹⁴⁹.

Definition – Diffuse discharge/s

Diffuse discharge/s: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means the discharge of contaminants that results from land use activities including cropping and the grazing of livestock and includes non-point source discharges.

Definition – Drain

Drain: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means an artificially created open¹⁵⁰ channel designed to lower the water table and/or reduce surface flood risk but does not include any modified (e.g. straightened) natural watercourse.

Definition – Drystock Farming

¹⁴⁴ Forest and Bird PC1-8494

¹⁴⁵ A McGovern PC1-8292

¹⁴⁶ Mercury PC1-9684

¹⁴⁷ Maniapoto Maori Trust Board PC1-9338

¹⁴⁸ Fonterra PC1-10583

¹⁴⁹ Forest and Bird PC1-8292

¹⁵⁰ Fert NZ PC1-10668

Drystock Farming¹⁵¹: means pasture grazing beef cattle, dairy animals grazed off a **milking platform**, sheep, and deer for meat, wool, or velvet production.

Definition – Edge of field mitigation/s

Edge of field mitigation/s: mitigation actions or technologies to reduce loss of contaminants from farm land by intervening at edge of field either on or off-farm, and includes constructed wetlands, sedimentation ponds and detention bunds.

Definition – Enterprise/s

Enterprise/s: means one or more parcels of land held in single or multiple ownership to support the principle land use or land which the principle land use is reliant upon, and constitutes a single operating unit for the purposes of management. An enterprise is considered to be within a sub-catchment if more than 50% of that enterprise is within the sub-catchment.

Definition - Escherichia coli (E. coli)

Escherichia coli (E. coli)¹⁵²: is a bacterium used as an indicator that faecal contamination of the water has almost certainly occurred, so pathogens may be present in the water (Pathogen: an organism capable of causing an illness in humans).

Definition – Farm Environment Plan/s

Farm Environment Plan/s: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means a plan developed in accordance with Schedule 1.

Definition – Farming activities

Farming activities: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, the grazing of animals or the growing of produce, including crops, commercial vegetable production and orchard produce but not does not include:

- a. _____planted production forest; or
- b. _____ the growing of crops on land irrigated by consented municipal wastewater discharges; or
- c. _____ production or growing of produce undertaken entirely within a building; or¹⁵³
- d. _____ production or growing produce for consumption by the occupier of the property or their family.¹⁵⁴

Definition – Five-year rolling average

Five-year rolling average¹⁵⁵: means the average of modelled nitrogen leaching losses predicted by OVERSEER® from the most recent 5 years.

Definition – Forage crop

Winter¹⁵⁶ **Forage crop**: means crops, annual or biennial, but excluding pasture species,¹⁵⁷ which are grown to be utilised by grazing or harvesting as a whole crop between 1 May and 30 September of each year.¹⁵⁸

Definition – Good Management Practice/s

¹⁵¹ adapted from NIWA 2016. https://www.niwa.co.nz/our-science/freshwater/tools/kaitiaki_tools/land-use/agriculture/dry-stock

¹⁵² Ministry of Health Drinking-water Standards for New Zealand 2005 (Revised 2008) definition pg 146

¹⁵³ Gourmet Mokai Ltd PC1-7250, Tuaropaki Trust PC1-3009

¹⁵⁴ H Clarke PC1-8466

¹⁵⁵ Adapted from Freeman, M.; (ed). (2016). *Using Overseer- Establishing national guidance for the appropriate and consistent use of Overseer by regional councils in setting and managing water quality limits Consultation Draft Overseer Guidance Project, Overseer Management Services Ltd. Wellington, New Zealand*

¹⁵⁶ New Zealand Grain and Seed Trade Association PC1-1680

¹⁵⁷ Genetic Technologies Ltd PC1-3341, A McGovern PC1-8295

¹⁵⁸ New Zealand Grain and Seed Trade Association PC1-1680

Good Management Farming¹⁵⁹ Practice/s: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means industry agreed and approved practices and actions undertaken on a property or enterprise that reduce or minimise the risk of contaminants entering a water body.

Definition – Livestock crossing structure

Livestock crossing structure: means a lawfully established structure installed to allow that enables¹⁶⁰ livestock to cross a water body such that the livestock do not enter or have access to the bed of the water body¹⁶¹.

Land Use Capability Class (LUC) means a classification of areas of land within a farm property or farming enterprise in terms of its physical characteristics or attributes (e.g. rock, soil, slope, erosion, vegetation). The land use capability classes can be derived either from the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory at a scale of 1:50,000, or a suitably qualified person specifically assessing and mapping the land use capacity classes of land within a farm property or farming enterprise at a scale of 1:10,000 or 1:5,000. Where the LUC is assessed by a suitably qualified person that person shall use the land use capacity survey handbook – a New Zealand handbook for the classification of land. 3rd Edition, Hamilton., Ag. Research; Lincoln, Landcare Research; Lower Hutt, GNS Science.

Definition – Mahinga kai

Mahinga kai: the customary and contemporary gathering and use of naturally occurring and cultivated foods (also known as Hauanga kai).

Definition – Microbial pathogen/s

Microbial pathogen/s¹⁶²: A microorganism capable of inducing illness in humans.

Definition – Milking platform

Milking platform: means that area devoted to feeding cows on a daily basis and includes land used for the growing of feed for the cows within the same property during the milking season¹⁶³.

Definition – Nitrogen Reference Point

Nitrogen Reference Point: The nitrogen loss number (units of kg N/ha/year) that is derived from an OVERSEER[®] use protocol compliant OVERSEER[®] file that describes the **property** or farm **enterprise** and farm practices in an agreed year or years developed by a **Certified Farm Nutrient Advisor**, using the current version of the OVERSEER[®] model (or another model approved by the Council) for the **property** or **enterprise** at the "reference" point in time.

The nitrogen discharge benchmark established for a farm, when the farm system in place during the reference period is modelled using the most recent version of the Overseer model (or an alternative model approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Waikato Regional Council) as described in Schedule B.¹⁶⁴

Definition – Offset/s

Offset/s: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11 means for a specific contaminant/s an action that reduces residual adverse effects of that contaminant on water quality.

Definition – Point source discharge/s

Point source discharge: A stationary or fixed facility from which contaminants are discharged or emitted. For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, ~~means discharges from a stationary or fixed facility, including~~ includes the irrigation onto land from consented industrial and municipal wastewater systems.¹⁶⁵

Regionally significant industry: means an economic activity based on the use of natural and physical resources in the region, which is demonstrated to have benefits that are significant at a regional or national scale. These may include social, economic or cultural benefits.¹⁶⁶

Regionally significant infrastructure: includes:

¹⁵⁹ Ballance PC1-6862, FANZ PC1-9712

¹⁶⁰ WRC PC1-3672

¹⁶¹ Fish and Game PC1-11017

¹⁶² Adapted from Ministry of Health. 2008. *Drinking-water Standards for New Zealand 2005 (Revised 2008)*. Wellington

¹⁶³ Pamu PC1-5938

¹⁶⁴ Fonterra PC1-10580, Pamu PC1-5932

¹⁶⁵ Fonterra PC1-10593

¹⁶⁶ Trustees of Highfield Deer Park PC1-3978

- a. pipelines for the distribution or transmission of natural or manufactured gas or petroleum;
- b. infrastructure required to permit telecommunication as defined in the Telecommunications Act 2001;
- c. radio apparatus as defined in section 2(1) of the Radio Communications Act 1989;
- d. the national electricity grid, as defined by the Electricity Industry Act 2010;
- e. a network (as defined in the Electricity Industry Act 2010);
- f. infrastructure for the generation and/ or conveyance of electricity that is fed into the national grid or a network (as defined in the Electricity Industry Act 2010);
- g. significant transport corridors as defined in Map 6.1 and 6.1A;
- h. lifeline utilities, as defined in the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002, and their associated essential infrastructure and services;
- i. municipal wastewater treatment plants, water supply treatment plants and bulk water supply, wastewater conveyance and storage systems, municipal supply dams (including Mangatangi and Mangatawhiri water supply dams) and ancillary infrastructure;
- j. flood and drainage infrastructure managed by Waikato Regional Council;
- k. Hamilton City bus terminal and Hamilton Railway Station terminus; and
- l. Hamilton International Airport.¹⁶⁷

Definition – Restoration

Restoration: is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed. It is an intentional activity that initiates or accelerates an ecological pathway, or trajectory through time, towards a reference state consistent with Objective 1.¹⁶⁸

Definition – Setback

Setback: means the distance from the bed of a river or lake, or margin of a wetland.

Definition – Stock unit

Stock unit: means an animal that eats 6,000 megajoules of metabolisable energy per year, and for the stock listed, is determined by and is illustrated in¹⁶⁹ the following stocking rate table¹⁷⁰:

Stock class	Number of Stock Units per animal	Animal performance definition
Dairy bull	6.1	620kg Friesian breeding bull
Dairy cow	10.4	450kg F8J8 dairy cow producing 400kg MS
Dairy heifer 1-2 years age	5.1	F8J8 199 – 419kg Jul to Apr
Dairy heifer calf (weaned)	1.6	F8J8 110 – 199kg Dec to Jun
Beef bull	6	620kg Beef cross MA breeding bull
Beef cow	7.5	480kg MA Beef cross breeding cow calving at 96%
Bull 1-2 years age	6.8	Friesian bull 209kg to 535kg slaughter weight
Steer 1-2 years age	5.8	WF steer 203kg to 478kg slaughter weight
Heifer 1-2 years age	5.7	WF heifer 208kg to 420kg slaughter weight
Steer calf < 1 year (weaned)	2.7	WF steer 100kg to 203kg Dec to Jun
Bull calf < 1 year (weaned)		Fresian 100kg to 209kg bull Dec to Jun

¹⁶⁷ Trustees of Highfield Deer Park PC1-3978

¹⁶⁸ Federated Farmers V1PC1-807

¹⁶⁹ WRC V1PC1-1535

¹⁷⁰ Table adapted from Perrin Ag Consultants Ltd 2016. Bay of Plenty Regional Council: Methodology for creation of NDA reference files and stocking rate table; version 2. Table 1: Stocking rate table pg. 18.

Heifer calf < 1 year (weaned)	1.6	WF heifer 90kg to 208kg Dec to Jun
Ram	1	73kg Romney ram, 4.5kg wool
Adult ewe	1.01	63kg Romney MA ewe lambing at 126%, 4.5kg wool
Sheep 1-2 years of age	0.9	Romney hogget 46kg to 66kg, 4kg wool
Sheep <1 years of age (weaned)	0.5	Romney 26kg to 46kg from Dec to June, 2kg wool
Bucks & does < 1 year (weaned)	0.5	OVERSEER® default
Angora does	1.1	OVERSEER® default
Feral does	0.9	OVERSEER® default
Feral bucks & wethers	0.5	OVERSEER® default
Stag	2.4	Red stag 200kg, 4kg velvet
Breeding hind	2.5	Red hind 110kg, 86% fawning
Hind 1-2 years age	1.2	Red hind 53kg – 75kg
Hind fawn (weaned)	1	Red hind 37kg – 53kg over 4 months, annualised to 12 months
Stag 1-2 years age	2.3	Red stag 55kg – 159kg over 12 months, 2kg velvet
Stag fawn (weaned)	1.1	Red stag 42kg – 55kg over 4 months, annualised to 12 months
Alpaca	0.8	OVERSEER® default
Llama	1.6	OVERSEER® default
Pony	6	OVERSEER® default
Pony brood mare w/foal	8	OVERSEER® default
Small hack	8	OVERSEER® default
Small hack broodmare w/foal	10	OVERSEER® default
Large hack	12	OVERSEER® default
Thoroughbred	12	OVERSEER® default
Large hack broodmare w/foal	14	OVERSEER® default
Milking ewe	0.9	70kg ewe producing 50kg MS
Milking goat	1.8	80kg nanny producing 140kg MS

Definition – Sub-catchment

Sub-catchment: For the purposes of Chapter 3.11, means an area of land within the Waikato River catchment representing the contributing area draining to one of [6974](#)¹⁷¹ locations in the stream and river network, and used as the basic spatial unit for analysis and modelling.

Definition – Tangata whenua ancestral lands

¹⁷¹ Refer to Map 3.11-2.

Tangata whenua ancestral lands: means land that has been returned through settlement processes between the Crown and tangata whenua of the catchment¹⁷², or is, as at the date of notification ([22 October 2016](#)), Māori freehold land under the jurisdiction of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

Definition – Woody vegetation

Woody vegetation: means indigenous vegetation, planted production forest, and any other non-pastoral vegetation (excluding weed species).

¹⁷² Iwi of Hauraki V1PC1-455

Hearing Block 2 Only