Te Tini a Tuna Kaituna Action Plan 2019-2029

A plan of action prepared by Te Maru o Kaituna

Working draft for consultation, July 2019

A note for the reader:

This document is a **working draft** of the Kaituna Action Plan. It is by no means complete. This Plan has been informed by the documents listed on Page 2, consultation to date and feedback received by Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority via survey and workshops. The actions and associated projects still require refinement (including prioritising actions, cost estimates, performance measures, reo usage) and review feedback.

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Part 1: Te Upoko o te Tuna | Overview

'Te Upoko o te Tuna' means 'The head of the eel'. This part of the Plan sets the course or direction for the Action Plan, in particular, its purpose; intended use; and linkage with the Kaituna River Document.

1. About this Plan

In June 2018, Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority approved the strategic road map, the Kaituna River Document ("Kaituna, he taonga tuku iho – a treasure handed down"). The river document took effect on 1 August 2018.

ACTION PLAN PURPOSE

The purpose of this Plan is to 'give life' to the Kaituna River Document, in particular it's Vision and eight contributing Objectives.

As the name suggests, this Plan is about action: the work that we will collectively do to achieve the Vision. In particular, it is about targeted action in key areas. In other words, we will focus on a few things and do them really well.

This Plan acknowledges and supports existing projects and includes new and complimentary actions to be undertaken.

The actions are grouped into three focus areas:

- Priority actions to improve water, particularly water quality;
- Priority actions to enhance habitats and ecosystems; and,
- Priority actions to improve connectivity and support kaitaiakitanga.

Supporting actions (i.e. monitoring) are also included to ensure the success of this Plan.

GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

The geographic scope of this Plan is the same as the Kaituna River Document.

It relates to the Kaituna River and its tributaries, starting from Okere Falls to Te Awa o Ngātoroirangi / Maketu Estuary. This includes all rivers and streams flowing into the Kaituna River.

Action may involve changes on land within the catchment because activities on land have an impact on the environmental, cultural and spiritual well-being of the Kaituna River.

DEVELOPING THIS PLAN

The following informed the development of this Plan:

- The vision, objectives and desired outcomes within the Kaituna River Document (overleaf)
- Workshops with Te Maru o Kaituna
- Matters raised in submissions to the proposed Kaituna River Document.
- Any relevant outstanding actions from the 2009 Kaituna River and Ōngātoro/ Maketu Estuary Strategy.
- Relevant Iwi and hapū management plans.
- Projects listed in the long-term plans, annual plans and work programmes of relevant councils.
- Council research and monitoring reports.

PLAN FOUNDATION

The foundation for this Plan is the Kaituna River Document, which provides the overarching roadmap of where we want to be (Vision):

E ora ana te mauri o te Kaituna, e tiakina ana hoki mō ngā whakatupuranga ō nāianei, ō muri nei hoki. The Kaituna River is in a healthy state and protected for current and future generations.

The priority actions and projects within this Plan describe what steps we take to achieve the Vision. They also align with one or more of the Objectives within the Kaituna River Document (refer right).

Тнеме

This Plan is uniquely "Kaituna" and as such, the tuna / eel is interwoven throughout this Plan. For example:

- The title of this Plan refers to the "abundance of tuna". This is what we expect to see from implementing this Plan.
- The structure of this Plan aligns with the parts of the tuna (Upoko | Head; Puku | Stomach; Taharapa; Tail). Explanations are provided at the start of each divider.
- The cluster of priority actions in this Plan are inspired by what a tuna needs to thrive: good quality water; good habitat and, good connection or passage through the Kaituna catchment.



Part 2: Te Puku o te Tuna | Our Actions

'Te Takapū o te Tuna' means 'The abdomen of the eel'. This part of the Plan articulates the priority actions that will be taken to improve the environmental, cultural and spiritual well-being of the Kaituna River and all its sustains.

2. Actions Overview

For a tuna / eel to thrive, it requires three things: good quality water; good habitat and, good connection or passage through the catchment. These requirements have inspired the cluster of actions within this Plan.

Our clusters of priority actions are as follows:



Actions to improve connectivity and support kaitiakitanga

In total, there are three clusters of actions where Te Maru o Kaituna will direct efforts over the next 10 years. Refer to Sections 3--5 for further information about each cluster of actions.

PRIORITISING ACTIONS CRITERIA

The following criteria was used to help filter the 'wish list' of ideas into a suite of realistic actions / projects / tasks that are within the remit of Te Maru o Kaituna:

- Aligns with the purpose of Te Maru o Kaituna.
- Aligns with the Vision for the Kaituna River Document.
- Achieves multiple Kaituna River Document objectives and/or desired outcomes.
- Contributes towards improved water quality.
- Enables collaborative and collective impact.

- Progresses / complements existing projects.
- Involves opportunities for lwi-led projects and/or environmental education.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

For this Plan to be successful, we will do the following:

- Kia whakakotahi | Integrated thinking and action - We will take an holistic and whole systems approach to improving the health of the Kaituna River.
- Kia whakapiri | Collective action

 We will work together to effect
 positive change for the Kaituna
 River and all it sustains.
- Kia whakamārama | Collective enlightenment – We will share information / stories / data to build our collective awareness and understanding about the Kaituna Catchment.
- Kia whakamana | Community empowerment – We will encourage our communities to lead and/or be part of projects within the Kaituna River catchment. This includes tangata whenua, local care groups and schools.

PLAN FRAMEWORK



ACRONYMS / ABBREVIATIONS

BCA	Bay Conservation Alliance	NPS-FW	National Policy Statement for
BOPRC	Bay of Plenty Regional Council		Freshwater Management
DOC	Department of Conservation	NZKGI	New Zealand Kiwifruit Growers
EEF	Environmental Enhancement Fund	NZTA	New Zealand Transport Agency
F&G	Fish and Game New	RLC	Rotorua Lakes Council
1 00	Zealand	RTALSG	Rotorua Te Arawa
HortNZ	Horticulture New		Lakes Strategy Group
	Zealand	TALT	Te Arawa Lakes Trust
MfE	Ministry for the	тсс	Tauranga City Council
	Environment	TMOK	Te Maru o Kaituna
МКМ	Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku	ТРКА	Te Puke Kāhui Ako – Te Puke Community of
MOWS	Maketu Ōngātoro		Learning
	Wetland Society	WBOPDC	Western Bay of Plenty
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries		District Council
NERMN	Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Natural Environment Regional		

Monitoring Network

3. Priority actions to improve water, particularly water quality

The Kaituna River Document identify objectives and outcomes relating to water quality and quantity. At an action plan workshop, Te Maru o Kaituna identified water quality as the most significant matter for this Plan to address. For example, we know that:

- High *E.coli* concentrations in water affects swimming and mahinga kai especially in the estuary.
- There are increasing nitrates in freshwater, particularly due to land use intensification.
- There are substantial impacts on freshwater values in the lower catchment which is heavily modified.
- Maketū Estuary has poor ecological health which affects mahinga kai, cultural and recreational values. Substantial change is needed to reduce sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen loads.
- Swimming is safe at monitored freshwater sites but may not be safe in the lower catchment and is compromised in estuaries some of the time. This affects social and cultural values.
- Ecological health is compromised in lowland waterbodies and drainage canals.

The following suite of actions are intended to implement Objectives 3-5 of the Kaituna River Document.

"**Objective 3** Water quality and the mauri of the water in the Kaituna River are restored to a healthy state and meet agreed standards.

Objective 4 There is sufficient water quantity in the Kaituna River to:

- a. Support the mauri of rivers and streams.
- b. Protect tangata whenua values.
- c. Protect ecological values.
- d. Protect recreational values.

Objective 5 Water from the Kaituna River is sustainably allocated and efficiently used to provide for the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of iwi, hapū and communities, now and for future generations""

The actions in this plan provide a pathway towards water quality and quantity improvement in the Kaituna Catchment. It is notable that many of the actions overlap e.g. Actions 1, 4, 7, 8 and 10.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

Action 1. Develop and implement sub-catchment action plans

Sub-catchment action plans enable an integrated way of looking at a smaller part of the Kaituna Catchment to identify local-level solutions to help address catchment-wide issues. These plans would identify and document:

- sub-catchment issues and contributing factors.
- existing initiatives that are underway by landowners, care groups, lwi and/or schools.
- sub-catchment outcomes and initiatives to achieve those outcomes such as: riparian fencing; better aligning land use to the capability of the land; improved land management practices; riparian or wetland restoration; care group formation.
- opportunities to connect existing initiatives within the subcatchment.
- opportunities for involvement of tangata whenua, care groups, schools and/or wider communities in initiatives.
- wider connectivity of habitats and ecosystems (linking with other actions in this plan).

These plans will be prioritised in subcatchments with one or more of the following:

- significant water quality issues;
- a small number of landowners;
- a community water supply;
- active groups who are involved with or planning environmental or community initiatives.

Action 2. Set and implement freshwater quality and quantity limits

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management requires the Regional Council to set new objectives, policies and limits for rivers, streams and groundwater aquifers.

This includes both water quality **and** quantity.

This process is underway for the Kaituna-Pongakawa-Waitahanui Water Management Area and will result in a change the Regional Natural Resources Plan.

Plan Change 12 is a mechanism for addressing matters such as nutrient loss and water allocation within the catchment. The plan change will also recognise and provide for the relevant parts of the river document.

For this reason, progressing this plan change is a priority action.

Action 3. Develop and implement a programme of improvements to lowland drains and drainage canals

The Lower Kaituna River Scheme is a comprehensive river and drainage control scheme, providing benefits of flood protection and drainage to much of the land in the Lower Kaituna catchment.

Environmental monitoring of these drains indicates poor water quality, habitat values and ecological conditions, including barriers to fish passage. It also impacts whitebait spawning areas. This action seeks to initiate a programme of works based on recommendations within a recent technical report¹.

It includes the development and progressive implementation of a lowland drain restoration plan that:

- Identifies a suite of initiatives to reduce and/or manage macrophyte growth; and improve fish passage, water flow and riparian shading.
- Identifies opportunities for new or extended wetlands.
- Utilises innovation and technology e.g. de-nitrification beds, algal biotechnology.
- Includes a review of drain maintenance practices.
- Identifies pump station improvements to improve discharge quality and/or fish passage.
- Identifies priority areas within which to focus initiatives.
- Identifies opportunities to reduce nutrient inputs to, and outputs from, productive land.

This action overlaps with Actions 1, 4, 7, 8 and 10.

Action 4. Continue working with landowners and respective industry sectors to improve land use and land management practices

This action relates to non-regulatory approaches to land use and land management improvements including:

• the development of voluntary farm environment plans that outline onsite improvements to reduce impacts on the Kaituna River, its tributaries and groundwater aquifers;

- supporting initiatives to enhance habitats and ecosystems; and,
- show casing examples of sustainable and productive land use and management to provide an opportunity for shared learning. This could include site visits / open days / on-site demonstrations as well as inclusion in the newsletter "Kaituna Korero".

This action builds on existing 'business as usual' regional council operations and requires support and leadership from the primary sector. It is notable that this action overlaps with Actions 1, 4, 7 and 8.

Action 5. Reduce the impact of urban and industrial discharges on the Kaituna River and associated ecosystems

This action relates to a suite of actions associated with discharges from urban and industrial areas. This includes the need to:

- Be abreast of wastewater treatment plant upgrades and assessments.
- Promote low impact design in stormwater management. This includes the use of riparian strips, swales and wetlands for stormwater treatment and management.
- Meet regularly with the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group to ensure that lake catchment decisions do not compromise the health of the Kaituna River. .

Rangitaiki and Kaituna Plains. Environmental Publication 2018/05.

¹ Bay of Plenty Regional Council (2018). Ecological and water quality conditions of drains and land drainage canals in the

WORK PROGRAMME FOR ACTIONS 1-5

١	What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
1.	Develop and implement sub- catchment	a. Progress and complete action plans for the Kopuaroa and Waitepuia Catchments.	Existing Project	BOPRC	Landowners, Iwi/hapu, TCC, WBOPDC, Dairy NZ	Completed sub-catchment action plans	2019 – 2020	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management budget	 Collaboration Planning On ground works
	action plans.	b. Complete action plans for the Mid-lower Waiari Catchment.	New Project	TCC / WBOPDC	Landowners, Iwi, BOPRC	Completed sub-catchment action plan	2019 – 2020	WBOPDC Community Matching Fund	 Collaboration Planning On ground works
		c. Complete action plans for the Ford Road Catchment.	Existing Project	BOPRC	Landowners, Iwi/hapu, WBOPDC, Dairy NZ	Completed sub-catchment action plan	2021 – 2023	BOPRC Environmental Enhancement Fund	CollaborationPlanningOn ground works
		d. Complete action plans for the Parawhenuamea and Ohineangaanga Catchments.	Existing Project	BOPRC	Landowners, Iwi/hapu, WBOPDC	Completed sub-catchment action plans	2024 – 2027	Million Metres Streams Project Funding Trees that Council Fund	 Collaboration Planning On ground works
2.	Set and implement freshwater quality and quantity limits for the Kaituna catchment	 a. Develop Plan Change to the Bay of Plenty Regional Natural Resources Plan to: implement the NPS for Freshwater Management recognise and provide for the Kaituna River Document. 	Existing Project	BOPRC	Iwi/hapū, TCC, WBOPDC, RLC, primary sector, landowners	Notification of Proposed Plan Change	2020 – 2021	BOPRC Regional Planning budget	 Collaboration Planning Statutory Process

١	What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
3.	Develop and implement a programme of improveme	a. Develop a lowland drain restoration plan.	New Project	BOPRC	Iwi, Iandowners, WBOPDC, Fish and Game, DOC	Completed plan	2021 – 2023	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management	Collaboration Planning
	nts to lowland drains and drainage canals	b. Progressively implement the lowland drain restoration plan, starting with Focus Catchments (those identified in Action 1).	New Project	BOPRC	Iwi, landowners, WBOPDC, Fish and Game, DOC	 Improvement in monitoring indicators² More wetlands and/or riparian buffers 	2024 – 2026 2027+	To be confirmed on completion of the plan	 Collaboration On ground works Capital Works
		c. Complete Ford Road Pump station upgrade.	Existing Project	BOPRC	lwi, landowners, WBOPDC	Upgrade completed	2019 – 2021	BOPRC Flood Protection and Control budget	Capital works
4.	Continue working with landowners and respective industry sectors to improve land use and land managemen t practices	a. Promote development of voluntary farm environment plans for agricultural and horticultural properties, particularly within the Lower Kaituna Catchment in sub catchments with significant water quality issues.	Existing Project	BOPRC	Primary sector – Federation Farmers, Fonterra, HortNZ, NZKGI, Dairy NZ	# of properties with voluntary farm environment plans	2021 – 2023 2024 – 2026 2027+	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management	• Advisory • Planning

² Baseline data provided in technical report, "Ecological and water quality conditions of drains and land drainage canals in the Rangitaiki and Kaituna Plains (Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 2018).

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	 b. Support initiatives by landowners to: Carry out planting of riparian, wetland and estuarine areas. Carry out afforestation in the upper parts of the catchment. Identify opportunities for new or extended wetlands. Showcase sustainable and productive land use. This will be prioritised in sub catchments with significant water quality issues. 	Existing Project	BOPRC	WBOPDC Primary sector – Federation Farmers, Fonterra, HortNZ, NZKGI, Dairy NZ	 Water quality monitoring Number of Environmental programmes Uptake of subsidies Area of new planting 	Ongoing	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management WBOPDC subsidies and funding One Billion Trees Fund DOC Community Conservation Fund	 Advisory Provide funding
5. Reduce the impact of urban and industrial discharges on the Kaituna River and associated ecosystems	updates on the proposed upgrades to the Rotorua and Te Puke wastewater treatment plants.	Existing Project	WBOPDC RLC		Reports to Te Maru o Kaituna	2019 – 2020 2021 – 2023 2024 – 2026	WBOPDC Wastewater Activity Budget	Reporting

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	 b. Involve and report to, Te Maru o Kaituna on the assessment of alternative discharge methods for the Te Puke Wastewater Plant. 	Existing Project	WBOPDC	-	Reports to Te Maru o Kaituna Involved in the Te Puke Wastewater Advisory Group	2019 – 2020 2021 – 2023	WBOPDC Wastewater Activity Budget	 Reporting Collaboration
	c. Identify and pursue opportunities for low impact design in stormwater management.	Existing Project	WBOPDC TCC	-	Inclusion of low impact design considerations in: • Stormwater management plans • Reserve management plans	Ongoing	Budgets • WBOPDC Stormwater; Recreation & leisure • TCC Stormwater; Parks & recreation	 Infrastructure design Planning
	d. Prepare and present an annual resource consent and compliance monitoring report to Te Maru o Kaituna.		BOPRC, WBOPDC, TCC & RLC	-	Annual report	Ongoing	Each council to fund their own input	Reporting
	e. Maintain effective relationships with the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group.		TMOK chair & deputy	RTALSG	Six monthly meetings	Ongoing	TMOK budget	 Relationship management Advocacy

4. Priority actions to enhance habitats and ecosystems

The following suite of actions are intended to implement Objective 7 of the Kaituna River Document:

"**Objective 4** Ecosystem health, habitats that support indigenous vegetation and species and wetlands within the Kaituna River are restored, protected and enhanced ".

It is notable that many of the actions overlap e.g. Actions 1, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 14.

Te Maru o Kaituna identified tuna / eel restoration and continued wetland creation as key actions for this Plan in the desired outcomes.

PRIORITY ACTIONS Action 6. Develop a

programme to bring life back to the Maketu Estuary

The Kaituna River Re-diversion is one of the most significant projects within this catchment. It will restore at least 20 percent of the freshwater flows from the Kaituna River into the estuary. The works, which are due for completion in late 2019, include:

- Excavation of a new river diversion channel.
- Removal of an existing stopbank.
- Construction of a new stopbank with rock protection.
- River dredging and channel widening.
- Installation of 12 box culverts with automated slide gates to control flow into estuary.

- Construction of a salinity block across the old river channel with new moorings
- Upgrade of public boat ramp and parking
- Restoration of farmland to a wetland.

This action is focused on completing the river re-diversion works; identifying post re-diversion tasks as well as establishing a saltmarsh and seagrass restoration programme.

Action 7. Increase the total extent of new wetlands within the Kaituna River Catchment, from 100ha set by the Strategy, to 200ha by 2029

Since the Kaituna Maketū Strategy was adopted in 2009, we identified and are progressing the creation of 100ha of new wetlands within the lower Kaituna area.

There are opportunities to continue creating and/or restoring wetlands for multiple benefits – habitat for taonga fish and bird species; places to gather food and materials; places to learn, enjoy and relax as well as an alternative use of marginal land.

We aim to create an additional 100ha of wetlands (200ha total) within the next 10 years.

Action 8. Create a network of healthy habitats and diverse ecosystems

This action seeks to promote the creation and/or connection of pathways for indigenous flora and fauna comprising fragmented corridors of riparian, wetlands, estuarine margins and areas.

The restoration of habitats for tuna (eels), inanga (whitebait), kōura (crayfish), kuku (mussels) and other taonga species of fish is a priority for Te Maru o Kaituna.

This would be prioritised in areas:

- With unique and threatened ecosystems and habitats.
- That are culturally significant e.g. where weaving resources or kai is collected.
- At, or adjacent to, areas subject to projects or programmes to implement other actions within this Plan.

This action overlaps with Actions 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 and 13.

Action 9. Restore and enhance tuna / eel friendly habitat within the Kaituna Catchment

Te Maru o Kaituna has identified a need for tuna / eel specific projects. For this reason, this Plan includes actions such as:

- regular tuna monitoring.
- at least two tuna restoration projects prioritised in areas where existing habitat enhancement works are occurring (e.g. Actions 3, 7, 8, 10).

- engagement with commercial fishers and MPI regarding existing commercial eeling practices.
- scoping the feasibility of small scale tuna farming for cultural use (e.g. for marae events).

This action also includes exploring the the establishment of a Tuna Project Steering Group to:

- oversee fisheries projects within this Plan as they relate to TMoK's purpose.
- connect with Iwi / hapū; other cogovernance entities; Maketu Taiapure Committee; DOC, Fish and Game, MPI and commercial eelers.

The size and composition of this group will be determined by Te Maru o Kaituna.

Action 10. Establish a programme to improve access and passage for indigenous fish.

Inanga, longfin eel, redfin bully, torrent fish and giant kokopu are found in the Kaituna Catchment. They require access to and from the sea to complete their life cycles.

A recent technical report³ recommended:

- a detailed stocktake of structures throughout the Kaituna Plains to identify priority drains that are most beneficial to fish communities.
- Installation of fish friendly floodgates and either designing 'fish friendly pumps or transferring fish below pump stations.

³ Refer to Page 9 for the reference

WORK PROGRAMME FOR ACTIONS 6-10

	hat will be done? ction)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
6.	Develop a Programme to bring life back to the Maketu Estuary	 a. Complete the Kaituna river re-diversion project b. Develop and 	Existing Project Existing	BOPRC	Landowners, Iwi/hapu, DOC, TCC, WBOPDC	Completed sub-catchment action plans	2019 – 2020 2019 - 2020	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management budget BOPRC	Capital works Planning
		implement a post re- diversion estuary restoration strategy. This includes a seagrass and saltmarsh restoration programme.	Project		MOWS, DOC, F&G	strategy	2021 - 2023	Integrated Catchment Management budget	• On ground works
7.	Increase the total extent of new wetlands within the Kaituna River Catchment from 100ha set by the Strategy to 200 hectares by 2029	 a. Complete existing wetland projects Te Pā Ika Wetland planting. Te Pourepo o Kaituna wetland creation project. Whakapoukorero Te Arawa Wetland. Those covered by existing EEF / environmental programmes. 	Existing Project	BOPRC	Landowners, Iwi/hapu, DOC, F&G, WBOPDC	Completed wetlands	2019 – 2020 2021 – 2023	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management budget	• On ground works

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	 b. Identify and pursue potential areas for an additional 100ha of new wetlands, particularly in areas where wetness is a limitation e.g. lowland areas, gullies, high water table areas.' 	New Project	BOPRC	Landowners, Iwi/hapu, DOC, F&G, WBOPDC	Updated feasibility report	Ongoing	To be confirmed – may require multiple sources of funding	• Feasibilit y
8. Create a network of healthy habitats and diverse ecosystems	a. Identify, map and pursue opportunities to connect fragmented habitats and ecosystems.	Existing Project	BOPRC	WBOPDC, TCC, RLC	# of threatened and/or culturally significant ecosystems that are protected	2021 - 2023	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management WBOPDC subsidies and funding	• Feasibilit y
	 b. Support initiatives by landowners, care groups and schools to: carry out pest plant & animal management. carry out supplementary planting along riparian and wetland areas. 	Existing Project	BOPRC	DOC, Iwi, WBOPDC, TCC, RLC, MOWS, BCA, MKM	Completed initiatives	Ongoing	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management WBOPDC subsidies and funding	• On ground works
	c. Continue catfish monitoring and, if needed, take action	Existing Project	BOPRC / TALT	ТМОК	Number of monitored sites	Ongoing	Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme	• Monitorin g

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
9. Restore and enhance tuna / eel friendly habitat within the Kaituna Catchment	a. Establish a Tuna Project Steering Group.	New Project	Te Maru o Kaituna	Iwi/hapū, DOC, Fish and Game, MPI, co- governance entities	Terms of Reference in place for the group	2019 – 2020	Te Maru o Kaituna budget (establishment phase)	 Project coordinati on Relations hips
Catchinent	 b. Carry out tuna monitoring, incorporating matauranga Māori methods 	New Project	Tuna Project Steering Group	Iwi/hapū, BOPRC science team	Monitoring reports	2021 - 2023 2027 +	Potentially - Tiaki Wai Fund	• Monitorin g
	c. Carry out at least two tuna restoration projects, prioritised in areas where existing habitat enhancement works are occurring (e.g. new wetlands)	New Project	Tuna Project Steering Group	lwi/hapū, BOPRC, DOC, Fish and Game	Tuna restoration projects completed	2021 - 2023 2004 - 2026	Potentially - Tiaki Wai Fund	 Planning On ground works
	d. Explore the feasibility of small scale tuna farming for cultural use	New Project	Tuna Project Steering Group	lwi/hapū, MPI, DOC	Feasibility Report	2021 - 2023	Potentially - Tiaki Wai Fund	• Feasibilit y
	e. Work with commercial fishers and MPI regarding commercial eeling in the Kaituna Catchment.	New Project	Tuna Project Steering Group	MPI and commercial eelers	Reduced commercial fishing in the Kaituna Catchment	2021 - 2023	Potentially - Tiaki Wai Fund	Relations hips

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	f. Further projects may be added following engagement							•
10. Establish a programme to improve access and passage for indigenous fish.	a. Develop and implement a plan to progressively address impediments to fish passage.	Existing Project	BOPRC	DOC, Fish and Game, Tuna Project Steering Group, WBOPDC, TCC, NZTA, DOC, F&G	Completed plan	2021 - 2023	BOPRC Integrated Catchment Management	 Planning Capital works
	 Retrofit drainage scheme flood gates, pumps, and culverts with fish-friendly devices in the Lower Kaituna Catchment. 	To be confirmed	BOPRC	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	2021 – 2023 2024 – 2026 2027+	BOPRC Flood Protection and Control budget	Capital works
	c. Investigate the practicality of transferring eels above and below pump stations in the Lower Kaituna Catchment.	New Project	Tuna Project Steering Group	BOPRC Rivers and Drainage	Feasibility Report	2021 - 2023	To be confirmed	• Feasibilit y
	d. Further projects may be added following engagement							•

5. Priority actions to improve connectivity and support kaitiakitanga

The following suite of actions are intended to implement Objectives 1, 2 and 8 of the Kaituna River Document:

"Objective 1 The traditional and contemporary relationships that iwi and hapū have with the Kaituna River are provided for, recognised and protected.

Objective 2 Iwi-led projects which restore, protect and/or enhance the Kaituna River are actively encouraged, promoted and supported by Te Maru o Kaituna through its Action Plan.

Objective 8 Te Maru o Kaituna in collaboration with iwi and the wider community, enable environmental, economic, social, educational and cultural aspirations for the restoration, protection and enhancement of the Kaituna River."

Te Maru o Kaituna identified, in particular, collaboration, environmental education and lwi-led projects as key actions for this Plan.

It is notable that many of the actions overlap or contribute to the completion of other actions. For this reason, the actions (including associated consultation) could be carried out concurrently.

Action 11. Establish a Kaituna Catchment bluegreen network

Blue-green network planning is an integrated approach to planning around waterways (blue) and greenspace (green). It is a way at looking at a catchment in a more holistic manner.

It enables the visual layering of different values and outcomes associated with the Kaituna Catchment. For example, integration of walking and cycling infrastructure with ecological restoration, cultural recognition elements, improved stormwater management and flood protection.

The output of this action is a bluegreen network plan which could incorporate the outputs of other actions (e.g. 7, 8, 12 and 14). The engagement to inform each plan could occur together. This way the plans could be developed at the same or staggered.

Action 12. Facilitate enhanced access to, and along, the Kaituna River and its tributaries

This suite of actions seeks to enhance access:

- to the river e.g. via jetty, ramp, taunga waka, jumping platforms.
- along the river e.g. cycleways and walkways.

Two further actions are included which incorporate enhancement of social and cultural values. These are:

- An upper catchment 'Gateway'.
- A coastal park in the Lower Kaituna Catchment.

Upper Catchment 'Gateway'

This would indicate the start of the river and ensure that those visitors to the area understand the historical and cultural significance of the river. The project *could* include:

- A gateway, pou or sign
- Safer parking
- Signage and/or interpretation panels.
- Information for commercial operators to share with customers.
- Additional outcomes from Action 13(b)

Regional coastal park

A regional coastal park has been highlighted by Councils as well as submitters to the Kaituna River Document and past Long Term Plans.

This plan includes a regional coastal park in the Lower Kaituna area to:

- build on the existing open space network
- create a diverse range of recreational, cultural and educational opportunities

 protect significant landscapes, heritage, ecological and cultural features.

The coastal park would incorporate key wetland areas such the Lower Kaituna Wildlife Management Reserve; Te Pourepo o Kaituna, Te Pa Ika and the Te Tumu wetlands. It would also align with or run concurrently with other Projects (e.g. Actions 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 subactions and 14).

Regional or sub-regional parks are generally purchased and owned by Regional and/or District Councils. In this case, the coastal park would be located on a mix of Council, conservation and potentially private land. This means that project costs do not have to include land purchase.

Action 14. Celebrate cultural heritage and revitalise cultural practices associated with the river

Te Maru o Kaituna has identified a number of specific lwi-led projects.

Cultural interpretation plan

A cultural interpretation plan is way of visualising multiple layers of cultural values relating to the Kaituna River catchment. This includes:

- appropriate places for taunga waka (waka landing)
- appropriate places for pou, interpretation panels, artwork, etc.
- protection of sites or areas of cultural significance.
- sites or areas of cultural significance to showcase or celebrate e.g. with interpretation panels.

This is to ensure that the right cultural elements are in the right place for the right reason. It also ensures connectivity with other actions e.g. cycleway, coastal park, blue-green network.

Cultural resource area

A cultural resource area is a designated place for gathering kai (e.g. watercress) and/or cultural materials as well as a place to share knowledge about traditional and contemporary practices. There may be one or more of these areas already in existence within our rohe. These will be prioritised in areas linked with other actions (e.g. Actions 4, 8, 9, 11).

Intergenerational knowledge and cultural practices

Action 14(d) seeks to incorporate intergenerational knowledge and cultural practices into action plan projects. Examples of this in practice include:

- use of cultural indicators for monitoring.
- use of tools such as rahui.
- timing of planting or eel monitoring with the appropriate lunar cycle phase (maramataka).

These are practical ways to incorporate matauranga Māori when developing a monitoring plan to implement Policy CB1 of the NPS-FM and the Regional Council's He Korowai Mātauranga Framework.

Action 15. Connect our communities and visitors to our river and to our projects

This action seeks to engage and connect our communities and visitors. We want them to know and understand why the Kaituna River catchment is special and what work we are doing to achieve the Vision. It is about engaging the heart and mind and therefore, a range of methods are proposed.

This includes:

- holding community events.
- collating and telling our stories and histories about the river.
- establishing a cultural and environmental education at Te Pourepo (which if connected to a cycle way, could also fulfil the role of an i-site information centre).
- connecting the network of education providers to collaboration and share resources relating to environmental and cultural education within the Kaituna Catchment.

Action 16. Establish a River restoration and enhancement fund

This action seeks to establish a dedicated fund to:

- facilitate public donations and corporate sponsorship.
- contribute towards lwi and community-led projects.

WORK PROGRAMME FOR ACTIONS 11-15

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
11. Establish a Kaituna Catchment blue-green network	 a. Develop a blue-green network plan for the Kaituna Catchment. This will be informed by other actions in this plan, including, but not limited to: Cultural interpretation plan (13a) Cycle-walkway strategy (12d) Coastal park master plan (12f) 	New Project (action from the WBOP District Council Environment Strategy)	WBOPDC	TMOK members	Plan completion	2021 – 2023	To be confirmed	Planning Collaboration
12. Facilitate enhanced access to water and across the catchment	 a. Assess and pursue workable options associated with A jetty or ramp at Waitangi. Safe platforms for river jumping at two areas within the Kaituna Catchment (e.g. Waiari Bridge). 	New Project	WBOPDC	TMOK members	Completed structure(s)	2021 – 2023	To be confirmed	 Planning Collaboration Capital works
	b. Investigate the establishment of a taunga waka / waka launching site.	New Project	TMOK lwi	lwi/hapū	Completed scoping report	2021 – 2023	To be confirmed	 Planning Collaboration Capital works

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	c. Implement a walkway / cycle strategy for the Kaituna Catchment	New Project (community- led strategy already in develop- ment)	WBOPDC	Te Maru o Kaituna, Iwi/hapū, Community groups	Completed strategy	2019 – 2020	WBOPDC, NZTA, TECT	 Planning Collaboration Capital works Community- led
	d. Establish a gateway in the Upper Catchment of the Kaituna River (e.g. Okere).	New Project	RLC	TMOK members Other Iwi / hapū NZTA Whitewater NZ Commercial kayak and raft operators	Concept plan completed	2021 – 2023	To be confirmed	 Collaboration Planning Cultural recognition Capital works On the ground works
	e. Establish a regional coastal park in the Lower Kaituna Catchment. This could be located on a mix of Council, conservation and potentially private land.	New Project	WBOPDC / TCC	BOPRC, Iwi, DOC, Fish and Game, Bay of Plenty Regional Parks Establishment Group	Concept plan completed	2021 – 2023	To be confirmed	Collaboration Planning

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
13. Celebrate cultural heritage and revitalise cultural practices associated with the river	a. Develop and progressively implement a cultural interpretation plan.	New Project	TMOK Iwi represent- tatives	TMOK, DOC, Heritage NZ	Completed Plan	2019 – 2020	To be confirmed	Planning Collaborating
	b. Establish and/or restore two cultural resource areas, with at least one involving watercress. These would be prioritised in areas where existing habitat enhancement works are occurring (e.g. Actions 4, 8, 9, 11).	New Project	TMOK Iwi represent a-tives	lwi / hapū	Restored areas	2020 – 2023 2024 -2027	To be confirmed	 Planning Collaborating On ground works
	c. Involve Iwi and hapu in the Te Tumu Structure Plan	Existing Project	TCC	SmartGrowth, iwi/hapū, Te Tumu landowners	Urban and landscape planning reflects lwi / hapū values	2019 – 2020 2021 – 2023	To be confirmed	Planning Collaborating
	d. Incorporate intergenerational knowledge and cultural practices into action plan projects.	New Project	TMOK Iwi represent atives	lwi / hapū	To be confirmed	Ongoing	To be confirmed	 Planning Collaborating
	e. Further projects may be added following engagement							•

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
14. Connect our communitie s and visitors to our river and to our projects	 a. Hold Kaituna River community events. This includes, but is not limited to: River celebration events. Fishing days or events. Symposia to share science and matauranga based research and projects. 	New Project	Te Maru o Kaituna	To be confirmed	At least one event per year	Ongoing	TMOK budget	Collaboration Community
	 Develop a communication and information strategy for Te Maru o Kaituna 	New Project	BOPRC	TMOK Partners	Completed Strategy	2019 – 2020	TMOK budget	• Planning
	c. Create a Te Maru o Kaituna website to be a repository for all reports, research, monitoring information, agendas, presentations and events.	New Project	BOPRC	TMOK Partners	Completed Strategy	2019 – 2020	TMOK budget	Planning
	d. Pursue opportunities to use TMOK branding in signage within the catchment.	New Project	ТМОК	To be confirmed	TMOK- branded signage in place	Ongoing	TMOK budget	Brand awareness

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	a. Prepare an updated 'state of the Kaituna Catchment' Environmental Monitoring Report. This would incorporate the current Regional Council NERMN modules and incorporate matauranga Maori. Consideration is also given to the value of citizen science in delivering this action.	Existing Project	BOPRC	ТМОК	Report completion	BY 2023	BOPRC Technical Services budget	 Monitoring Reporting
	 b. Progressively collect, collate and tell our stories⁴ about the river through a range of touch points audio/video online story maps temporary or permanent artwork, signage interactive information boards 	New Project	ТМОК	To be confirmed	Number of touchpoints in place and in use	Ongoing	To be confirmed	 Communicatio Education Research

⁴ Historical (including flax mills), recent history (including river re-diversion) and contemporary (current work). Aimed at general public, schools, tourists

What will be done? (Action)	What are the key steps to achieving this? (Sub action / Project)	Project Type	Lead Agency	Key Partners	Measured by	Timeframe	Funding source	Type of Action
	c. Investigate the establishment of a cultural and environmental education centre at Te Pourepo.	New Project	ТМОК	To be confirmed	Feasibility completed	2024 – 2027	To be confirmed	 Education Communication n Cultural recognition
	d. Facilitate an education network to identify opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources relating to environmental and cultural education within the Kaituna Catchment.	New Project	WBOPDC	Schools, Te Puke Kāhui Ako MOWS, BCA, Iwi	To be confirmed	Six-monthly meetings	To be confirmed	 Education Communication Cultural recognition Community
15. Establish a River restoration and enhanceme nt fund	Establish a River restoration and enhancement fund.	New Project	Te Maru o Kaituna	To be confirmed	Contributions from external parties Number of funding applications	Ongoing	TMOK budget External parties	Administration

Part 3: Te Taharapa o te Tuna | Implementing and Monitoring this Plan

'Te Taharapa o te Tuna' means 'The tail of the eel'. This part of the Plan outlines how we are implementing and monitoring this Plan to ensure its stays on course.

6. Plan Implementation

HOW THIS PLAN WILL BE

IMPLEMENTED

Te Maru o Kaituna will be responsible for 'owning' this plan.

This Plan will be used to set and focus the annual work programme for Te Maru o Kaituna.

Funding Actions

Some actions within this plan are existing projects and therefore have funding secured (in part or in full). Te Maru o Kaituna will need to pursue opportunities for funding, such as through Council Long Term Plan funding or external funding providers (e.g. Tiaki Wai Fund, Million Metres Streams Project Funding)

Resourcing Requirements

Dedicated staffing will be needed to:

- coordinate projects across all Te Maru o Kaituna members
- coordinate projects with key project partners (e.g. lwi / hapū, DOC, F&G, BCA, local community groups and schools).
- identify funding opportunities for projects.
- be responsible for project monitoring and reporting, including regular reports to Te Maru o Kaituna.
- communicate progress to project partners, key stakeholders and the general public.

HOW OFTEN WILL THIS PLAN WILL BE REVIEWED

The 15 actions within this Plan will be reviewed by 2028. This will coincide with the review of the Kaituna River Document.

The sub-actions or projects to implement those 15 actions are summarised in work programmes on Pages 11, 17 and 25 outline projects. These will be reviewed on an annual basis in the sense that they will inform the TMOK annual work programme. This enables the prioritisation (or reprioritisation) of projects depending on matters such as resourcing and urgency.

HOW PLAN PROGRESS

WILL BE REPORTED

To be effective, this Operational Plan relies on active implementation of projects and providing meaningful updates on progress to TMOK members and the wider community.

For this reason, Results Based Accountability (RBA) will be used to ensure there is focus on results and overall progress against the Action Plan and the Kaituna River Document. Progress reporting will be focused on three key questions:

- How much did we do?
- How well did we do it?
- Are we better off? In other words, are we making a different? did we contribute to the vision for the Kaituna River (including its tributaries):

E ora ana te mauri o te Kaituna, e tiakina ana hoki mō ngā vhakatupuranga ō nāianei, ō muri nei hoki.

An annual dashboard report will also be produced along the same lines. It will also outline:

- Barriers to implementation of tasks (e.g. resourcing, funding).
- What resourcing (funding, people) has
- been secured to implement projects.
- Priority projects for the coming 12
- months.