

**Natural Resources Working Party**  
Wednesday 12 June 2019 at 1.00pm

# **AGENDA**

## Natural Resources Working Party Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Kaipara Room  
on Wednesday 12 June 2019, commencing at 1.00pm

**Please note: working parties and working groups carry NO formal decision-making delegations from council. The purpose of the working party/group is to carry out preparatory work and discussions prior to taking matters to the full council for formal consideration and decision-making. Working party/group meetings are open to the public to attend (unless there are specific grounds under LGOIMA for the public to be excluded).**

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES WORKING PARTY

Chairman, Councillor Justin Blaikie

Councillor David Sinclair	Councillor Rick Stolwerk	Councillor Joce Yeoman
Councillor Bill Shepherd (Ex-Officio)	Non Elected Member from TTMAC	

Item	Page
1.0 APOLOGIES	
2.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	
3.0 REPORTS	
3.1 RECORD OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING	
a. WETLAND MAPPING – verbal update (James Griffin)	
b. CARBON SEQUESTRATION RATES IN WETLANDS – verbal update (Lisa Forester)	
3.2 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR PLANTATION FORESTRY – Opportunities for non-regulatory support and what is our strategic direction to manage erosion in terms of forestry harvesting activities? (General Discussion)	
3.3 UPDATE ON HCEF FUNDING PROJECTS, ASPIRATIONAL SOIL CONSERVATION PROGRAMME AND 1BT – verbal update (Duncan Kervell)	
3.4 UPDATE ON FRESHWATER IMPROVEMENT FUND PROJECTS AND HATEA RIVER PROJECT – verbal update (Imogen Field, Lisa Forester and Lorna Douglas)	
3.5 CATCHMENT GROUP UPDATES – verbal update (Duncan Kervell)	
3.6 WETLAND CONDITION INDEX MONITORING – verbal update (Katrina Hansen/Lisa Forester)	
3.7 ENHANCED MARINE PROTECTION FOR MIMIWHANGATA (Justin Murfitt)	

## Natural Resources Working Party Record of Actions

Meeting held in the Council Chambers  
36 Water Street, Whangārei  
on Wednesday 6 March 2019, commencing at 1.00 pm

### Present:

Chairman, Councillor Justin Blaikie  
Councillor Bill Shepherd (Ex-Officio)  
Councillor Joce Yeoman  
Councillor Rick Stolwerk

### In Attendance:

#### Full Meeting

Duncan Kervell, Land Manager & Deputy Group Manager  
Lorna Douglas, Eastern Coast Land Manager  
Lisa Forester, Biodiversity Manager  
Nola Sooner, Record of Actions Taker

#### Part Meeting

Malcolm Nicolson, NRC Chief Executive  
David McDermott, Land Management Advisor - Afforestation  
Imogen Field, Land Management Advisor – Freshwater Project  
John Ballinger, Land Management Advisor  
Joseph Camuso, Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager  
James Griffin, Policy Analyst

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm.

### Apologies:

Councillor David Sinclair  
Bruce Howse, Group Manager – Environmental Services & Deputy CEO  
Juliane Chetham – Non-Elected Member from TTMAC

**Declarations of conflict of interest:** Nil

## **Record of Actions from Previous Meeting and Matters arising (Item 3.1)**

**Presented by:** Cr Justin Blaikie

### **Riparian Buffer Distances**

John Ballinger gave a verbal presentation.

## **Northern Wairoa FIF Update (Item 3.2)**

**Presented by:** Imogen Field

## **Dune Lakes FIF Update (Item 3.3)**

**Presented by:** Lisa Forester

\*2.25pm Malcolm Nicolson, CEO arrived

## **Hill Country Erosion Funding Update (Item 3.4)**

**2018/2019 Boost Funding Presentation (Item 3.4a)**

**Presented by:** David McDermott

**2019/2022 Sustainable Hill Country & Regional Priorities (SHARP) Programme & 1 BT (1 Billion Trees) (Item 3.4 b))**

**Presented by:** Duncan Kervell

## **Contract Arrangements for Poplars & Willows (Item 3.5)**

**Presented by:** Duncan Kervell

## **Summary of Farm Plan Phone Survey (Item 3.6)**

**Presented by:** Lorna Douglas

### **Awanui LTP (Long Term Plan) River Works (Item 3.7)**

**Presented by:** Joseph Camuso

### **Waipu & Paparoa Flood Maps (Item 3.8)**

**Presented by:** Joseph Camuso

### **Wetland Mapping in Northland (Item 3.9)**

**Presented by:** Cr Justin Blaikie

#### **Agreed action points:**

- Provide an update on wetland mapping at the next Natural Resources Working Party meeting. **Action: James Griffin**
- Provide information regarding carbon sequestration rates in wetlands. **Action: Lisa Forester**
- Provide an update to Council on Wetland Condition Index Monitoring. **Action: Lisa Forester**

### **Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 3.55pm.

**TITLE:** Enhanced marine protection for Mimiwhangata

**ID:** A1189989

**From:** Justin Murfitt, Strategic Policy Specialist

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### Executive summary/Whakarāpopototanga

The Ngātiwai Trust Board has expressed a desire to build on existing marine protection already in place at Mimiwhāngata with a view to enhancing the ecological and cultural values of the marine environment for the benefit of both Māori and the wider community. While the marine park in place at Mimiwhāngata prohibits commercial fishing and provides partial protection from the effects of recreational fishing, the Ngātiwai Trust Board seeks to build on this existing mechanism using traditional tikanga approaches. Council staff and Ngātiwai have been in discussions as to how this could be progressed collaboratively (council has allocated resource specifically to support such initiatives in the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan). This paper outlines a proposed approach for consideration by the Working Party.

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### Recommended actions

1. The Natural Resources Working Party provides feedback on the proposed approach.
2. That staff prepare a detailed project plan in partnership with a project team representing key partners.
3. That regular updates / progress reports are provided to future meetings of the Natural Resources Working Party.

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### Background/Tuhinga

Council supports greater protection of marine resources in our region given the unique ecological and cultural values present and the relatively low percentage of the north-eastern bioregion that is currently protected. However, creating new marine protected areas in New Zealand has proven difficult primarily due to the limited mechanisms and flexibility provided by current legislation (such as the Marine Reserves Act 1977). Northland, while having a unique and highly valued marine environment, has a relatively low area of its coastal marine area under formal protection from fishing / harvest activity (about 0.12% in marine reserve and 0.06% in marine park). We are also aware that several communities have struggled to progress proposals for enhanced marine protection despite thorough research and consultation and a high level of public support. For these reasons, council has allocated resources for supporting marine protected area proposals in its 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

Councils view is that the most practical way to advance marine protection is to support / partner with community led initiatives that can demonstrate environmental, cultural, social and economic benefits and contribute to a national and regional marine protected area network. The Marine Management Working Party (now disestablished) previously considered several community led proposals in Northland against a set of criteria – these were:

- Cost (to get proposal operative)
- Time (to become operative)
- The capability behind the proposal (expertise and resourcing)

- Buy-in (from Maori, community, commercial and recreational fishers)
- Impact (Ecological, economic and recreational)

Of the three proposals assessed against these criteria, Mimiwhāngata proved to be the most feasible option, provided tangata whenua were supportive and ready to proceed (results of this assessment are available on request: Document Reference A976287). The Ngātiwai Trust Board has advised that iwi and hapu are now supportive and would like to proceed.

Also, in response to a letter sent by the CEO's of both Ngātiwai Trust Board and council to the Minister of Conservation (Hon Eugenie Sage) in April of this year, the Northland conservancy of the Department of Conservation has also indicated a willingness to participate in the project.

The first key steps would be to establish a project team with representatives from Ngātiwai, the Department of Conservation and council (and possibly other stakeholders / agencies). This would then be followed by development of a detailed project plan.

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#### **Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga**

Nil

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#### **Authorised by Group Manager**

**Name:** Jonathan Gibbard  
**Title:** Group Manager - Strategy, Governance and Engagement  
**Date:**