

Agenda

Rārangi Take

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
Monday 26 February 2024 at 9.30am



kmr.org.nz



Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Agenda

Rā Date:	Monday 26 February 2024
Tāima Time:	9.30am
Tauwāhi Location:	Online Link
Ngā Mana whakahaere Members	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council Cherie Povey, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jack Craw, Northland Regional Council Jane Sherard, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Kerrin Leoni, Auckland Council Michelle Carmichael, Auckland Council Taiāwhio Wati, Te Uri o Hau Virginia Warriner, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua

The Quorum for the Joint Committee is:

- a) 7 members of the 12 Committee members, and;
- b) At least 1 member each from Auckland Council and Northland Regional Council, and;
- c) At least 2 members from Kaipara Uri (unspecified from which entities).

Recommendations contained in the agenda are NOT decisions of the meeting. Please refer to minutes for resolutions.

For any queries regarding this meeting, please contact Kaipara Moana Remediation via the website <https://kmr.org.nz/contact/>

KARAKIA | WHAKATAU

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TITLE: Confirmation of Minutes - October and November 2023

**Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer**

Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Te Kaupapa | Purpose


This paper serves to receive and note the minutes of meetings held in October and November 2023. As technical quorum was not achieved at the November meeting, the minutes will provide an informal record of the meeting held.


Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee;

1. Confirm the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation meeting held on 30 October 2023, as a true and correct record.
2. Note the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation meeting held on 27 November 2023.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: Joint Committee Hui Minutes (October 2023) [↓](#) 

Attachment 2: Joint Committee Hui Minutes (November 2023) [↓](#) 

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
30 October 2023

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Rā Date:	30 October 2023
Wā Time:	11.30
Tauwāhi Location:	Online Access
Huihuinga Gathering	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jack Crow, Northland Regional Council John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Kerrin Leoni, Auckland Council (Arrival 13.34) Michelle Carmichael, Auckland Council Taiāwhio Wati, Te Uri o Hau
I Tae Mae In Attendance	Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, Kaipara Maurikura Ben Hope, Ringa-Pārongo, Kaipara Maurikura Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Kōawa, Kaipara Maurikura Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support, Kaipara Maurikura Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi, Kaipara Maurikura William Wright, Ringa-Hononga Mana Whenua, Kaipara Maurikura Ilka Pelzer, Ministry for the Environment (Observer) Brooke Waterson, Auckland Council (Observer)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11.36am.

Karakia Tīmatanga Whakatau

Ngā whakapahā | Apologies (Item 1.0)

Moved (Macdonald / Curtis-Connelly)

That the apologies from Members Cherie Povey, Jane Sherard and Virginia Warriner for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Ngā whakapuakanga | Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

It was advised that members should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
30 October 2023

Confirmation of Minutes - October 2023 (Item 4.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell / Carmichael)

1. That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation meeting held on 24 July 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Joint Committee Action Tracker (Item 5.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Curtis-Connelly / Craw)

1. That the 'Joint Committee Action Tracker' be received.

Carried

Joint Committee Forward Workplan (Item 5.2)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Sayers / Blackwell)

1. That the 'Joint Committee Forward Workplan' be received.

Carried

Pou Tātaki Report (Item 6.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Craw / Macdonald)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 30 October 2023.

Carried

Secretarial note:

In respect to Member interests, Member Carmichael declared her longstanding work in the Tapora area. The Pou Tātaki clarified that KMR maintained, managed and periodically reported on the full register of Member interests (including that interest). In addition, direct Member interests in KMR grants were reported on at each Hui, as per advice from the Office of the Auditor-General. The Member's Tapora interests were not in this category.

Member Carmichael asked if KMR was engaging with the Healthy Waters Team, and also whether the Pou Tātaki had generally found commonality of views in her engagement with external stakeholders. The Pou Tātaki confirmed that KMR were working closely with Healthy Waters (including having an observer present at each Hui) as well as having regular engagement with wider Auckland Council interests. Feedback from external stakeholders mainly focused on: welcoming the speed of KMR's scale-up and the recent expansion of KMR activity from waterways to the whole landscape; and indicating that ongoing uncertainty in legislation, policy and regulation continued to drive a 'wait and see' position among many primary sector groups.

The Chair raised the matter of the Hikurangi swamp. In response, the Pou Tātaki confirmed that KMR funding could not be used for land purchase, that it must be used for sediment remediation purposes

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
30 October 2023

(not flood protection purposes), that all KMR contracts must be with the landowner, that our 50-50 matching co-funding requirement could not be waived, and that all KMR projects must abide by all local planning rules. That said, KMR worked across the full ecological catchment, including with landowners in the northern parts of the catchment. KMR remained ready to engage with landowners in the Hikurangi repo area if they wished to explore projects that met our funding criteria.

Member Backwell asked about Silver Fern Farms, the largest employer in Dargaville, which were promoting environmental and carbon neutral incentives. KMR confirmed that we were due to meet with Silver Fern Farms to discuss areas of mutual interest. As with any potential strategic partnership, KMR will undertake due diligence.

Member Craw asked about the Freshwater Farm Plan public consultation in Auckland. The KMR team agreed that consultation in both regions was likely create a surge in landowner engagement with KMR, but that this may create some capacity pressures, and there were some advantages if each region worked on slightly different timeframes.

Annual Report (year 3) (Item 6.2)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Macdonald / Blackwell)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Annual Report (Year 3)', by Stephanie Versteeg dated 30 October 2023.
2. Approve the final draft of the Annual Report 2022-2023 for provision to the Ministry for the Environment.
3. Delegate to the Joint Committee Chair power to approve the final Annual Report, with the ability for the Pou Tātaki to make minor editorial changes prior to publication if required.

Carried

Secretarial note:

A Word document version of the draft final Annual Report was provided to the Auditors who had accepted it. An Audit letter will be forthcoming once the Joint Committee has signed off on the report, and the Chair has signed it out for submission to the Ministry for the Environment.

Member Carmichael provided some suggestions on corrections to the image-designed version of the Annual Report tabled to the Joint Committee. The Pou Tātaki confirmed that errors in the image designed version would be rectified before finalisation the report. The Member provided positive feedback on the Report's 'plain English' and its personal stories, which aided understanding and readability. The Member suggested that the Report include acknowledgement of the work that came before KMR. In response, the Chair commented that KMR was the first of its kind in the country, with no other blueprint. The numbers, stories and milestones portrayed in the Report reflected this.

Member Sayers sought to confirm that Page 61 of the Annual Report provided a detailed enough financial breakdown and met reporting requirements. The KMR team responded that the format was agreed in the KMR Deed of Funding, was standard each year, and met Auditor requirements.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 12.41pm.

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
27 November 2023

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Rā Date:	Monday 27 November 2023
Wā Time:	12.00
Tauwāhi Location:	Te Pouna Marae, 130 Nathan Road, Kaiwaka, 0573
Huihuinga Gathering	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jane Sherard, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Virginia Warriner, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua
I Tae Mae In Attendance	Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, KMR Ben Hope, Ringa-Pārongo, KMR Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Kōawa, KMR Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support, KMR Zoe Willem-Pritchard, KMR Intern David McDermott, KMR Contractor Anne Haira, Deputy Secretary, MfE (Observer) Ilka Pelzer, Kaitātari Matua, MfE (Observer) Lorena Stephen, Director RM Implementation, MfE (Observer) Brooke Waterson, Wai Tātai, Auckland Council (Observer) Haukāinga Members

The Chair declared the meeting open at 12.09pm.

Karakia Tīmatanga Whakatau (Item 1.0)

Ngā whakapahā | Apologies (Item 2.0)

Moved (Warriner/Curtis-Connelly)

1. That the apologies from Members Amy McDonald, Cherie Povey, Jack Craw, Kerrin Leoni, Michelle Carmichael and Taiāwhio Wati for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Secretarial note:

Apologies of KMR staff members Stephanie Versteeg and Willie Wright due to illness were also noted.

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
27 November 2023

Ngā whakapuakanga | Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 3.0)

It was advised that members should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Confirmation of Minutes (Item 4.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Sayers/Sherard)

That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana remediation meeting held on 30 October, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Joint Committee Action Tracker (Item 5.1)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell/Curtis-Connelly)

1. That the Joint Committee Action Tracker be received

Carried

Joint Committee Forward Workplan (Item 5.2)

Report from Sophie Bone, PA and Governance Support

Moved (Warriner/Curtis-Connelly)

1. That the report 'Joint Committee Forward Workplan' be received.

Carried

Audit and Annual Report (Item 6.1)

Report from Ben Hope, Ringa-Pūrongo, Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

Moved (Te Rangi/Sherard)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Audit and Annual Report 2022/2023' from Ben Hope and Stephanie Versteeg dated 27 November 2023
2. Note the satisfactory audit of KMR for 2022/2023 (*Attachment 1*)
3. Note that the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Annual Report for 2022/2023 (*Attachment 2*) was sent to the Ministry for the Environment on 31 October 2023, as required under the Deed of Funding.

Carried

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
27 November 2023

Joint Committee Meetings 2024 (Item 6.2)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, Sophie Bone, PA, and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell/Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the 'Joint Committee Meetings 2024' report by Sophie Bone and Justine Daw dated 27 November 2023.
2. Adopt the indicative dates for Joint Committee meetings in 2024 (Attachment 1), noting that these dates may be used for various Joint Committee meeting types, including Hui, Workshops, Briefings and Field Trips.
3. Advise Kaipara Maurikura staff as soon as practicable of any scheduling conflicts.
4. Note that KMR may host additional online Joint Committee meetings if required to make any unforeseen but time-urgent decisions.
5. Agree the addition of public Briefings as a new meeting type for the Joint Committee in 2024, to facilitate transparent early-stage information-sharing and discussion.
6. Note that, as in 2023, KMR may still need to pivot planned in-person Joint Committee meetings to online meetings (livestreamed to maintain transparency), in response to weather events, venue closures and/or roading closures.

Carried

Pou Tātaki Report (Item 6.3)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki

Moved (Warriner/Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 27 November 2023.

Carried

Native plant allocation for Winter 2024 (Item 6.4)

Report from Dave McDermott, Nursery Lead, Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Kōawa

Moved (Blackwell/Sayers)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the 'Native plant allocation for Winter 2024' report by David McDermott and Lisette Rawson dated 27 November 2023.
2. Endorse the recommended approach to allocating native plant orders to nurseries in 2024.

Carried

Secretarial Note

Haukāinga asked about the number of nurseries used by KMR in the Kaipara Moana catchment. Dave McDermott replied that there are 20 accredited KMR nurseries, and elaborated on the range of sizes, production, and area serviced by them. He commented that pre-ordering is necessary for planning, and to ensure security of supply, but it can be challenging to understand where the demand will be in advance, and at what point over the planting season, as KMR is a voluntary programme.

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
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Haukāinga asked about the potential for support if whānau wished to set up a nursery. Dave McDermott replied that under our deed of funding, KMR is not able to invest in nursery infrastructures, and therefore worked with established nurseries only. The Pou Tātaki added that there is plentiful plant supply across the Kaipara Moana catchment (significantly more than KMR needs each year).

Member Curtis-Curtis-Connelly asked whether the nurseries are able to provide the variety of species needed. Dave McDermott responded that KMR nurseries can easily supply the diverse species set out in KMR planting plans (which always include multiple species). That said, the range of KMR species is actually relatively restricted due to the conditions planted into i.e. thick kikuyu.

Transferable Titles (Item 6.5)

Report from Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Kōawa, Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

1. Moved (Sherard/Sayers)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the 'Transferable titles' report by Lisette Rawson and Stephanie Versteeg dated 27 November 2023.
2. Approve clarifications to KMR's policy settings relating to subdivision consents, including transferable titles in the Auckland region.

Carried

Secretarial Note:

Member Blackwell asked why this change to policy settings was being suggested (i.e. a change back to what was originally agreed by the Joint Committee). The Catchment Remediation Manager noted that KMR had followed the Auckland Council Healthy Waters' policy of a 10 year period, although the Joint Committee had originally agreed to a 5 year period. However, feedback from landowners and operational groups indicated that the 10 years was a barrier to taking action under KMR, as landowners were unsure of their plans for the land that far out.

In addition, many landowners thought that the subdivision / Transferable Title obligation was a 'stand down' restriction across the full farm – in actual fact, the restriction only applied to project works funded by KMR (i.e. landowners could not meet their subdivision (Transferable Title) obligations through planting funded by KMR). Clearer communications was a key part of implementing the change proposed in the report.

A written note from Member Carmichael sought clarification about the 'clawback' provision. The Pou Tātaki clarified that any clawback would be pro-rated in terms of time from contract date.

Rephasing Procedures (Item 6.6)

Report from Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, Ilka Pelzer, MfE Observer, Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

Moved (Warriner/Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the 'Rephasing Procedures' report by Justine Daw, Ilka Pelzer and Stephanie Versteeg dated 27 November 2023.
2. Note that the KMR Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Ministry for the Environment and Member Parties acknowledges the programme is intended to run for ten years.

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3. Endorse the 'time-only extension' of the KMR programme that the Crown has granted to KMR through to 8 February 2031.
4. Note to confirm the 'time-only' extension, which is considered a minor change under the Deed of Funding, the Ministry for the Environment requires one representative of each Member Party to the Deed to sign the change request form (Attachment 1).
5. Note Joint Committee members are authorised to sign the change request form on behalf of their Member Party.

Carried

Secretarial Note:

Ilka Pelzer acknowledged the many teams and agencies involved in the rephasing project and noted that it was a proud moment for her to see this go through.

Anne Haira introduced herself, thanked everyone for the warm welcome and shared key reflections from the day.

Lorena Stephens said that although there remained a long way to go in terms of programme delivery, she wished to acknowledge KMR's progress, as confirmed in the Annual Report. She highlighted the importance of KMR telling our story, and noted the significant opportunity to extend the outcomes and benefits from the programme in the future.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 12.56pm.

TITLE: Joint Committee Forward Workplan

Kaituhi Pūrongo | Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support
Report Writer

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

This report tables to the meeting an indicative Joint Committee Forward Workplan, which sets out a high-level view of expected discussions and papers to be tabled over the calendar year 2024. It serves as a helpful record for both the Kaipara Maurikura and the Joint Committee and will be refreshed for each Joint Committee Hui.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

1. That the 'Joint Committee Forward Workplan' be received.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: Joint Committee Indicative Forward Workplan 2024 [↓](#) 

KMR Joint Committee: Indicative Forward Workplan 2024

Meeting	Hui	Briefing or Workshop	Field Trip or Other
26 February	6 Month report Programme rephasing	Freshwater Farm Plans	
8 April			Kōrero Tuku Iho
6 May	Freshwater Farm Plans Annual Work Plan	Risk and Opportunity Digital Tools	
29 July	Interests Management		
21 October	Draft Annual Report		
25 November	Audit and Annual Report Meeting Dates 2025		Stakeholder Event

TITLE: Joint Committee Action Tracker

Kaituhi Pūrongo | Sophie Bone, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support
Report Writer

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to enable the meeting to receive the current Action Tracker.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

1. That the 'Joint Committee Action Tracker' be received.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: Joint Committee Action Tracker - February 2024 [↓](#) 

KMR Joint Committee: Action Tracker

Item	Action	Who	Due	Status	Comments
1 May 2023					
Kōrero Tuku Iho (Item 6.2)	That KMR report back on the 3 proposed case studies for Kōrero Tuku Iho.	Celia Witehira, Willie Wright	April 2024	Open	An update was provided in July 2023. A further report-back will be provided in April
27 February 2023					
Reducing Barriers for Landowners (Item 6.1)	That KMR produce a map of Navigator Projects relative to existing KMR sediment reduction plans.	Stephanie Versteeg	May 2024	Open	This map will be developed when further Navigator projects are confirmed.
21 February 2022					
Catchment Reference Groups (Item 6.2)	That a report-back on progress to establish the Catchment Reference Groups be provided to the Joint Committee	Willie Wright	May 2024	Open	This report-back has been delayed due to slower than expected progress.
15 November 2021					
Kaipara Moana Remediation Freshwater Management Tool (Item 5.1)	That KMR develop a long-term agreement with Auckland Council (Healthy Waters) for hosting, operation and maintenance costs associated with KMR's Freshwater Management Tool [FWMT]	Karina Marsom / AKL Council Healthy Waters team	May 2024	Open	Timing for this report-back depends on finalisation of the KMR FWMT tool (Tātaki Wai) which is not due until early 2024 (TBC).

Note: Closed items will be removed from the table once they have been sighted by the Joint Committee.

TITLE: Draft Six Month Report (2023-2024)

**Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer**

Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi | Strategic Business Manager

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

The Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Deed of Funding requires the preparation of an abbreviated Six Month Report and provision of it to the Ministry for the Environment by 29 February 2024.

A draft Six Month Report is attached (Attachment One). It is recommended the Joint Committee approve the draft in principle and delegate to the Chair and Deputy Chair final approval for provision to the Ministry for the Environment, with the ability of the Pou Tātaki to make minor editorial changes prior to submission if required. This will ensure any additional information, including better data on project outputs, can be included and adjustments to the report made if required.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee;

1. Receive the report 'Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme Draft Six Month Report (2023-2024)' by Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi and dated 26 February 2024.
2. Approve in principle the 'Draft Six Month report' document (Appendix One).
3. Delegate the power to the Chair and Deputy Chair to approve a final draft of the Six Month Report for provision to the Ministry for the Environment, with the Pou Tātaki also delegated to make minor editorial changes prior to submission if required.

Horopaki | Background

Under the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Deed of Funding dated 9 February 2021, the Joint Committee must submit a Six Month Report to the Ministry for the Environment for the period from 1 July to 31 December in each Financial Year. The report must be submitted either within two months of 31 December, or by a later date to be agreed in writing by the parties.

A draft Six Month Report is attached for in-principle approval by the Joint Committee.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

Six Month Report Requirements

Section 4.12 of the KMR Deed of Funding (Part B) sets out what is required in each Six Month Report, including:

- An update on progress towards delivering environmental outputs as outlined in the Annual Work Plan provided, while the funding for projects the Ministry does agree with will be paid on the basis that the Annual Work Plan has been agreed and finalised. In short, disagreement in one area of the Annual Work Plan will not hinder the balance of the projects proceeding.
- Where any formal training of personnel is funded by the Grant: the number of personnel who undertook formal training, the number who completed the training, and the number of any New Zealand Qualifications Authority credits obtained.
- A financial summary that provides an update on expenditure to date.

The Six Month Report also provides an opportunity to communicate key messages to the Ministry about KMR. While the status of the KMR programme is generally well understood by Ministry staff, the Report provides a brief description of progress over the six months in continuing to scale up the engagement, strategic partnerships and the delivery of sediment remediation works, as well as key risks and opportunities.

Finalising the draft Six Month Report and delegations to the Chair and Deputy Chair

It is proposed the draft Six Month Report is approved in principle, with the Chair and Deputy Chair being delegated the power to approve a final report for submission to the Ministry for the Environment by 29 February 2024. It is also recommended the Pou Tātaki is given the ability to make minor editorial changes to the report before submission. This is to avoid the need for the Chair and Deputy Chair to approve the report a second time if typographical and other minor matters need attention.

Six Month Report formatting and look

The Six Month Report is an abbreviated report for MfE's internal use and does not require formatting or illustrations consistent with the KMR brand and identity, as is provided in the Annual Report. Rather, the report follows the formatting and look of the Annual Work Plan, which is based on a template provided by the Ministry for the Environment for all Jobs for Nature projects.

Ngā whaingā mō amuri | Next steps

If approved in principle, the draft Six Month Report will be finalised under delegation by the Chair and Deputy Chair and provided to the Ministry for the Environment by 29 February 2024. KMR staff will discuss the report with relevant Ministry staff following its submission as part of our regular engagement with KMR's primary funder.

Considerations

1. Aromātai whāinga haumi mō te oranga | Wellbeing Investment objectives and assessment

Provision of a Six Month Report to the Ministry for the Environment is a requirement under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Deed of Funding. The continuation of Crown funding, which enables the programme to meet investment objectives, is contingent on meeting obligations under the Deed.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea | Financial implications

There are no financial implications in approving the Six Month Report. Budget for its preparation is covered by the general operating budget of the Kaipara Maurikura business unit and the data used is gathered as a normal part of KMR operations.

3. Ngā hiranga me ngā hononga | Significance and Engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, the decisions arising from this report are considered to be of low significance when assessed against Northland Regional Council's significance and engagement policy. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that the Joint Committee is able to make these decisions without undertaking further consultation or engagement.¹

4. Ngā tūraruru me ngā mauru | Risks and mitigation

The Six Month report provides accountability and transparency to the work of the KMR Programme, and assurance to programme partners on performance.

5. Ngā urutau huringa-ā-rangi | Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

This paper has no direct relevance to this consideration.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: KMR Six Month Report 23-24 Draft [↓](#) 

¹ This Joint Committee operates under the Local Government Act which requires a significance and engagement policy (which identifies when matters require special consultation with tangata whenua and the community) and to have regard to that policy when making decisions. As the administrative support for the Joint Committee is provided by the Northland Regional Council, it is that Council's Significance and Engagement Policy that will apply to Joint Committee decision making.

Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme

Six Month Report, FY2023-24

28 February 2024

**Undertaken by the Kaipara Moana Remediation
Joint Committee**

Year Four 2023/24

1 Contact details			
KMR main contact (name and organisation)	Stephanie Versteeg	Ministry's main contact	Ilka Pelzer
Organisation	Kaipara Maurikura		
Email address	stephaniev@kmr.org.nz	Email address	Ilka.Pelzer@mfe.govt.nz
Phone	027 2819106	Phone	021 08799467
Postal address	c/o Northland Regional Council Private Bag 9021 Whangārei Mail Centre Whangārei 0148	Postal address	PO Box 10362 Wellington 6143
Physical address	36 Water Street Whangārei 0110	Physical address	23 Kate Sheppard Pl Wellington 6011

2 Six Month Report – overview
Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme – Six Month Report
<p>Under the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Deed of Funding, the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee will submit to the Ministry for the Environment an abbreviated report that relates to the period from 1 July to 31 December in each Financial Year. The report will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide an update on progress towards delivering environmental outputs as outlined in the Annual Work Plan • record the number of people who undertook and completed formal training • give a financial summary that provides an update on expenditure to date <p>A financial summary with projected expenditure for the following 6-month period tracked against the Annual Work Plan budget is required to invoice the Crown for funding for the following 6-month period. At 31 December 2023, KMR was working with the Ministry to draw down Crown funding for the remainder of the period to 30 June 2024, as per the year 4 Annual Work Plan budget. This funding was received in January 2024.</p>

3 Commentary on KMR Programme progress to 31 December 2023

The KMR Programme has made steady progress over the period 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023.

In the first six months of this financial year (viz. the second half of 2023), \$2.8m of total project value was contracted, with grants paid out to an additional \$1.7m worth of projects. These figures will grow as new projects are contracted and existing projects are verified (signed off for payment).

In the 12 months to 30 June 2023, KMR worked with 291 landowners to develop sediment reduction plans and projects. In the six months from 1 July 2023, KMR has worked with 120 landowners to develop sediment reduction plans and projects: 76 of them are new landowners taking action and 44 are existing KMR landowners undertaking further works. Additionally, as at 31 December 2023 over 100 projects are currently under development with new landowners, but not yet approved.

The numbers of new landowners we are working with is in line with reaching our KPI for this year. Further to this, while not a formal Jobs for Nature KPI, the growing number of 'return landowners' is a good sign: ongoing work with already engaged landowners, particularly those with larger properties that have a lot of remediation need/potential, will be an important part of the programme over time.

These results highlight continued progress to engage landowners in the Kaipara Moana catchment and work with them to develop and deliver sediment remediation projects. Building engagement and momentum continues to be critical at this stage of the programme. This involves working with those landowners who are 'ready' and engaging with others who are earlier in their journey to understand the opportunities to improve farm systems and land management in a way that benefits waterways and the Moana. A further focus in the reporting has been to engage with collectives, with a total of over 100 groups engaged by KMR to date and 54 Whenua Whānui Fund projects completed, in train or in development to date.

Through this engagement, KMR continues to learn about the opportunities and obstacles that landowners face in participating in the programme and undertaking works on their land. Landowners continue to be challenged by the lasting impacts of the adverse weather during the last financial year, the increased cost-of-living, and challenging market conditions. This impacts the uptake of new sediment reduction projects. The continued uncertainty around policy change has also impacted landowners' willingness to engage with KMR.

Nonetheless, the programme has achieved a number of major milestones and successes in the past 6 months including:

Engaging and investing to accelerate sediment reduction

- Delivery of our first hill country planting projects in winter 2023.
- Contracting KMR's 'one-millionth tree' in July 2023, with more than 1,369,000 planted or contracted for planting by 31 December 2023.
- Broad promotion of extended settings in erodible hill country between September and November 2023, leading to 103 new EOIs over that period, more than double the number received in the same period of the previous year.
- Ongoing strong delivery-oriented partnerships with Fonterra, Environs Holdings and The Forest Bridge Trust.
- Continued outreach through primary sector partners and Navigator project leaders to promote KMR through their networks.
- A pilot partnership with Kaipara AgriSolutions (veterinarians) to reach landowners (specifically drystock farmers) in the Kaipara District was completed, with lessons learnt about how to engage with landowners who are busy working on-farm.
- Hosting of one catchment-wide KMR Partnership Forum.

Integrating Te Ao Māori and enhancing mana

- Engaging kanohi ki te kanohi with mana whenua groups, on marae, and with communities. Four Whenua Whānui Fund projects have been completed between July and December 2023. Ten groups have contracted or are close to contracting with KMR, and another ten are in development with Field Advisors.
- Through Kaipara Uri, delivery of cultural awareness training as part of KMR Field Advisor training and the New Zealand Association of Resource Management (NZARM) training.
- Support for Kaipara Maurikura staff to grow in te reo Māori and tikanga.
- Three Field Advisors delivering Sediment Reduction Plans for KMR have links to Kaipara Uri.
- Ongoing work through KMR projects for our accredited contractors and nurseries, many of which are affiliated to Kaipara Uri and other groups.
- Continuation of the Kōrero Tuku Iho (Mātauranga Māori) project.

Capability Development: Investing in local people

- Continued co-funding of a Kaitiaki Workforce Coordinator role, which is hosted by Kaipara Uri, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development.
- Delivery of a Field Advisor training in partnership with the NZARM, with whom we have a Memorandum of Understanding to guide collaboration around structured and credited professional development for KMR Field Advisors.
- Training of 4 new Field Advisors to deliver Sediment Reduction Plans for KMR. Our total of contracted Field Advisors is now 20, and others who have been trained but are not contracted are often supporting the programme in other ways.
- Training Field Advisors to promote opportunities for remediation of erodible hill country with landowners, and ongoing opportunities to work with mentors to develop these projects.

Insights & Tools: Optimising KMR investment

- KMR's digital farm planning tool, Mātai Onekura, is fully operational: Field Advisors are using it to prepare sediment reduction plans, in particular to identify land with high sediment risk, and to map and cost projects for KMR co-funding.
- Progress in the development of Tātaki Wai, KMR's freshwater accounting tool, which is expected to be complete in Q1 of 2024, enabling its outputs to begin to inform programme planning.

Strategy and Opportunities: Accelerating KMR uptake & impact

- Continued collaboration with Trees That Count, delivering 25,000 free trees for landowners over winter 2023 planting season.
- Continued collaboration with the Queen Elizabeth National Trust (QEII) and KMR to protect remnant forests.
- Partnering with Wai Connection to support community engagement and grow remediation outcomes by developing and supporting catchment groups
- Exploration of partnerships with third parties to increase co-funding for afforestation in winter 2024.

The financial summary provided below reflects expenditure at 31 December 2023. It should be noted that expenditure will not be evenly spread throughout this financial year. Significant budget has been committed to projects which are in progress, and for which financial transactions are either resolved at project end, or otherwise made in staged payments.

Remediation works supported by KMR grants funding and currently underway are typically accounted for at project close, when grants money is paid to landowners – this is also when in-kind contributions are counted. \$3.2 million in total project value has been contracted for in the current and previous financial year, but not yet paid out. We expect that a considerable proportion of this will be paid out this financial year, with final payment in 2024/25 for planting projects contracted to take place in winter 2024. As well as working with landowners to develop new projects, monitoring and sign off of contracted projects that are completed is a key priority for the remainder of the financial year.

4

Contribution to the Jobs for Nature Focus Area Indicators

The Kaipara Moana Remediation funding is part of the Government Jobs for Nature (J4N) Programme. This programme has specific targets and indicators that will be used to track the impact of the programme.

Context of J4N Indicators for KMR – the key performance indicators for the 2023-2024 year of the KMR Programme were developed as part of our Annual Work Plan.

As a fully voluntary programme, significant uncertainty still exists on the timing and amount of KMR grants funding that will be taken up by landowners. These factors are extremely sensitive to weather conditions and economic returns on farm. In addition, KMR has experienced headwinds over the reporting period from ongoing uncertainty relating to freshwater policies and plans, farm plans, and regulatory settings relating to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme. With the change of government, some of this uncertainty has reduced (NZETS) while other aspects have increased (freshwater, freshwater farm plans). Our experience is that some landowners are waiting to have greater certainty that KMR projects will help them achieve compliance in future.

While KMR's KPIs for 2023-2024 were developed drawing on relevant data from the previous two financial years, with KMR's shift into supporting projects across the full landscape there remains some uncertainty about whether these indicators have been set too high or too low, particularly for new areas of activity funded by KMR such as planting in hill country areas. KMR is refining on an ongoing basis our understanding of the factors that materially affect delivery for activities relevant to our KPIs.

Limitations on data provided – the data provided below is considered to be materially accurate, including the number of Farm Environment Plans completed (these include KMR Sediment Reduction Plans, Tiaki Farm Environment Plans and grant-funding remediation plans), plants planted or contracted to be planted, and metres of fencing built or contracted to be built. Areas planted are an estimated based on 4,500 stems per hectare for riparian, wetland and coastal planting which typically comprise long ribbons of riparian planting along streambanks. Areas of Afforestation are estimated based on 2,500 stems per hectare.

Funding arrangements with landowners are made as contracts, with work being undertaken at different speeds and actual timing of delivery of contracted activity depending on seasonality of activity, individual circumstances, and weather conditions. KMR verification of project works can occur some time after project works have been completed¹ – hence the inclusion of both 'completed' and 'contracted' outputs in our reporting.

While we have generally high confidence in the datasets that support our reporting against the other KPIs, the data shown in this report is less reliable for the number of people hours worked. Calculations have been made based on outputs in fencing and planting against standard hours (e.g., 120 hours for 1 hectare of planting). This is because under KMR grants, landowners can complete project works themselves or use their preferred contractors and KMR does not have line-of-sight of the specifics of the hours spent on each individual project.

¹ Sediment reduction projects are typically verified as completed up to 6 months after project completion, which allows KMR to verify survival rates of any planting undertaken.

Focus Area	Metric	Six-month actual	Six-month target	Total Year 4 target
Sediment reduction activities	Number of new Farm Environment Plans completed (total)	76 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 52 new SRP approved 24 new Fonterra FEP or grant agreements 	90 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 45 	180 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 90
	Number of projects by returning landowners	44 return landowners undertaking projects	35	70
	Area (ha) of works covered by Farm Environment Plans completed	10,607	22,500	45,000
Freshwater restoration	Number of plants planted in riparian, lake, or wetlands areas	398,618 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 265,448 signed off as completed from winter 2023 133,170 committed for winter 2024 	300,000	600,000
	Area (ha) of riparian, lake, or wetlands planting completed	80ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 53ha signed off as completed from winter 2023 27ha committed for winter 2024 	60	120
	Length (km) of new fencing constructed	144.8km <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 43.9km signed off as completed 100.9km committed 	175	350
Other soil conservation measures	Area (ha) of afforestation, space planting or biodiversity planting not in riparian, lake, or wetlands margins completed or contracted	39ha <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14ha signed off as completed from winter 2023 25ha committed for winter 2024 	100	200
Nature based employment	Number of people-hours worked in each reporting period	39,717 hours of work completed, with an additional 27,742 hours committed to in contracts with landowners*	40,000 (26 FTE)	80,000 (51 FTE)
	Number of people undertaking training in each reporting period**	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 people trained as KMR Field Advisors 	15	30

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 13 KMR Field Advisors attended NZARM training		
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* KMR counts works as completed when final grant payment is made (for planting this is up to 6 months after planting). Some works recorded as committed will have been undertaken by the landowner but not be signed off by a Field Advisor; others will be committed to undertake this year.

** Note: Through our collaboration with NZARM, we are currently exploring options to offer accredited training.

Project key tasks/activities for Year 4 (2023/24)					
Work programme	YEAR 4 Projects	Progress Update	YEAR 4 budget (\$ million)		
			Crown contribution	Other (Council, Landowner, Partner) Contribution	TOTAL Budget
Programme delivery - sediment reduction			5.837	4.819	10.656
			(2.546)	(1.721)	(4.267)
Programme delivery – sediment reduction	<p>K2022-001 Remediation grants and partnerships</p> <p>Grants funding to landowners of all types across the Kaipara Moana catchment. Funding is delivered direct to landowners through the Landowner Grants Scheme and to collective initiatives (for example, by community groups and marae) through the Whenua Whānui Fund.</p> <p>This funding provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> preparation by Field Advisors of Sediment Reduction Plans, which identify priority works to reduce sediment and act as funding agreements to undertake these. a KMR ‘contribution’ to the cost of works, at 50% of estimated project value for landowner grants and up to 70% of estimated project value for WWF projects, with the landowner covering the balance through cash or in-kind contributions. a contribution to governance, project management and administration costs (in 	<p>Uptake of Sediment Reduction Plans has continued steadily throughout the first six months of the year. As expected, there has been a slight decrease in the number of new SRPs or equivalent being taken up, but an increase in the uptake of second- or third-year projects by returning landowners.</p> <p>Timely progress in the development and delivery of Sediment Reduction Plans or Tiaki Plans has been made through delivery partners Environs, Fonterra and The Forest Bridge Trust.</p> <p>Actuals represent the amount that has been paid after on-farm remediation works are completed and signed off. Landowner contributions match grants funding that has been paid out.</p> <p>Additional to works paid out in this 6-month period, at 31 December 2023, \$3.6m in total project value (grant value plus landowner contribution) is contracted with landowners but not yet verified as complete and paid out.</p>	5.120 (2.001)	4.476 (1.721)	9.596 (3.722)

	<p>some circumstances) for Whenua Whānui Fund projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support for ‘Navigator projects’ with landowners or groups who are showcasing and sharing lessons about sediment remediation works, and • the restoration and/or relocation of KMR projects damaged in the storm events in early 2023. <p>It also supports delivery through remediation partnerships with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environs, a key delivery partner, supporting with project development and delivery of SRPs, • Fonterra who develops Tiaki Farm Environment Plans (FEPs) and delivers remediation grants, • three Catchment Reference Groups in the Mangakāhia, the Wairua and the Hōteoro river systems, which are being established to enable mana whenua not represented by Kaipara Uri entities to assess and fund remediation projects,¹ • other partners including the Forest Bridge Trust and other sub-catchment based groups/initiatives. <p>The budget also provides for payment of contracted remediation grants and the value of matching landowner contributions carried over from Year 3.</p>				
<p>Programme delivery – sediment reduction</p>	<p>K2022-002 Capability and Workforce Development</p> <p>A range of activity to support the programme to build advisory capability, and implement</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement with 20 accredited nurseries in the catchment to ensure smooth supply of native species from the relevant eco-district to KMR funded projects, and</p>	<p>0.717 (0.545)</p>	<p>0.343 (0.000)</p>	<p>1.060 (0.545)</p>

	<p>the Kaipara Moana Nursery Strategy, the Employment Strategy, and the Soil Conservation Action Plan.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing strategic and technical advice on soil conservation and nursery development • Continuation of a strategic partnership with Te Arai Native Nursery • Supporting a Community of Practice for KMR Field Advisors, in partnership with the New Zealand Association of Resource Management (NZARM) • Initiatives to support workforce development, including in partnership with MSD, Kaipara Uri and others • Support for cyclone and flood recovery, as per agreed criteria. 	<p>continuation of a partnership with Te Arai Native Nurseries.</p> <p>Continuation and refinement of a programme of a community of practice for KMR Field Advisors, including delivery of a two-day field-based training in partnership with NZARM. KMR staff continue to mentor Field Advisors, as required.</p> <p>Continued co-funding of a Kaitiaki coordinator role, hosted by Kaipara Uri, which connects local people with nature-based employment opportunities through KMR.</p> <p>Landowners have been co-funded to repair, replace or relocate cyclone and flood affected remediation projects, in line with Joint Committee direction. Some of this work is still underway and not yet paid out.</p>			
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Engagement and Partnership			0.100 (0.098)	0.100 (0.000)	0.200 (0.098)
Engagement and Partnership	<p>K2022-007 Communications and Engagement</p> <p>KMR’s communication and engagement activities enable us to reach landowners of all types, as well as update and engage programme partners and interested parties, thereby growing awareness and uptake of the programme.</p> <p>This workstream includes:</p>	<p>KMR staff, Field Advisors, and Navigator project leads attended or hosted numerous events, including planting days (three of which included schools), on-farm open days (e.g. a DairyNZ hosted On Farm Open Day) and sector events (e.g. a B + L event about managing erodible hill country).</p> <p>Kanohi ki te kanohi engagements were held on a number of marae and in communities, with Governance Entities, Mana Whenua and community groups. These focused on</p>	0.090 (0.088)	0.090 (0.000)	0.180 (0.088)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted communications about the work that KMR is doing to engage landowners and potential partners around the opportunities to work with the KMR programme. Landowner, marae or community centred engagement and outreach. These are held on-farms, at marae, via externally-hosted events or with communities, and can follow a more informal wānanga format, sharing the work KMR supports and that people are undertaking around the catchment, and allow time for dialogue and conversation. Fora with senior industry, NGOs, and those who work in and around the Kaipara Moana Catchment, and hui to share the KMR's activities across the catchment and opportunities for collaboration and partnership, and seek input and feedback from attendees. 	<p>understanding local aspirations, the KMR project as a whole, and the opportunities for Kaipara Moana Remediation to co-fund remediation projects.</p> <p>We held a Partnership Forum, which focussed on Whenua Whānui Fund projects. Six external presenters included four recipients of WWF Funding, Conservation Volunteers NZ, and the Ministry for the Environment. There were 45 attendees, representing 22 organisations, NGOs and Government Organisations.</p> <p>There were 23 media mentions of KMR across this period, as well as articles in industry, subscription and paywalled journals and digital newsletters. In addition, various marketing materials were run via print and radio. We sent 10 email Pānui, which reach ~1,700 people. We also held a further webinar.</p>			
Marketing	<p>K2023-001 Programme marketing</p> <p>This workstream will publicise the work the KMR is doing, while informing landowners and potential partners of the benefits of working with the KMR programme.</p>	<p>Creation and publication of collateral, and informational communication tools (e.g. brochures,) to promote the programme and its impact. This has included: new postcards/A5 landowner marketing materials, plus Annual Report printing, KMR branded folders for Field Advisors, landowner fence signage (placed on state highways and public thoroughfares to increase awareness), and co-branded flags for each of our delivery partners.</p>	0.010 <i>(0.010)</i>	0.010 <i>(0.000)</i>	0.020 <i>(0.010)</i>

Thriving Maurikura			0.231 (0.245)	1.871 (0.684)	2.102 (0.929)
Thriving Maurikura	K2021-005 Kaipara Maurikura The Kaipara Maurikura is the operational vehicle for the KMR Programme. It is established as a business unit within the Northland Regional Council, until such time as a statutory co-governance body for the Kaipara Moana Body is established. The establishment FTE for the Kaipara Maurikura is 14 FTE, including secondees. Over the reporting period, the Kaipara Maurikura employed 12 staff (11.75 FTE) with support from three secondees (0.85 FTE) and three contractors who together fulfil the leadership, engagement, communications, project management, strategic and administrative roles required to drive remediation work. A needs assessment will be undertaken before filling one remaining vacancy to ensure it meets critical capability needs. Budget includes costs of office space, IT, vehicles, financial systems, recruitment, and related costs, delivered via a Service Level Agreement with Northland Regional Council. The Pou Tātaki retains a contingency budget for consultant, legal and sundries of \$170,000.	The Kaipara Maurikura is established with 11.75 full-time equivalent staff employed, and part-time secondees from both councils and Environs bringing the total staffing complement to 12.6 FTE (our NRC secondee finished up partway through the reporting period). There is one remaining vacancy, and a new vacancy to be filled in 2024 to bring the Maurikura staffing back up to 11.75, due to a staff member moving onto a new opportunity at calendar year-end. Business, administration, and other systems continue to be refined to deliver at scale, and governance needs of the Joint Committee serviced.	0.231 (0.245)	1.871 (0.684)	2.102 (0.929)
Governance, Planning and Reporting			0.030 (0.039)	0.150 (0.013)	0.180 (0.052)
Governance, Planning and Reporting	K2021-006 Governance Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee costs including Kaipara Uri member fees, venue hire, catering, koha, travel and other associated costs.	Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee held five hui (business meetings), three of which were held on marae and also involved sessions with haukāinga.	0.000 (0.009)	0.100 (0.013)	0.100 (0.022)

	Note – Kaipara Maurikura staff provide administrative support for the Joint Committee (budgeted for separately under K2021-005 above).				
Governance, Planning and Reporting	K2022-003 Programme monitoring and evaluation Delivery of planning, reporting and audit requirements, and development of an effective, long-term and holistic framework for monitoring and evaluation.	A project to develop a more comprehensive outcomes monitoring framework will kick off in Q1 2024-2025.	0.000 (0.000)	0.050 (0.000)	0.050 (0.000)
Governance, Planning and Reporting	K2023-001 Work programme rephasing Work to understand the likely programme profile and extend programme timeframes to provide for a realistic pace of delivery.	The KMR Programme length has been extended to 10 years. Grant Thornton consultants updated the programme financial model to support this piece of work.	0.030 (0.030)	0.000 (0.000)	0.030 (0.030)
Digital Tools			0.698 (0.532)	0.522 (0.042)	1.220 (0.574)
Digital Tools	K2022-004 System development and maintenance Further development of KMR’s digital farm planning platform Mātai Onekura to reflect broader soil conservation settings and to align with Freshwater Farm Plan requirements. Completion of Tātaki Wai water quality accounting framework to support future investment decision-making, engagement and farm plan prioritisation, and accounting and reporting of water quality outcomes. Completion of the Wetland Features project. Mapping, delineation, and prioritisation of wetland features will be completed this FY due to delays in the original timeline. \$40,700 carried over from FY 22-23.	KMR Field Advisors are using Mātai Onekura to develop sediment reduction plans. Improvements to system functionality have been made. Significant progress was made in the development of Tātaki Wai, which is on track for completion and delivery to KMR in Q1. Work is underway to validate the wetlands that are identified in the geospatial dataset. This will enable completion of the contract.	0.698 (0.532)	0.522 (0.042)	1.220 (0.574)

Strategy and Opportunities			0.860	0.295	1.155
			(0.054)	(0.000)	(0.054)
Strategy and Opportunities	<p>K2022-008 Kōrero Tuku Iho (Mātauranga Māori) project</p> <p>Kōrero Tuku Iho is the cultural dimension of Kaipara Moana Remediation and one of its two foundational strategies. A hapū-led programme that intends to bring the voices of tangata whenua to the forefront, by providing an avenue to express their priorities for restoration and how they can be achieved to create change.</p> <p>Kōrero Tuku Iho proposes to use place-based case studies as the method to capture articulation of Uri values and aspirations in and around freshwater. It will lead to the creation of a template that can be used throughout the Kaipara.</p> <p>These case studies will be kaitiaki-focused and driven. The goal of these case studies is to work towards restoring the health, wellbeing, and mauri of specific locations through a range of cultural (kaitiaki) actions.</p>	<p>Confirming the purpose and structure of the Reference Rōpū to guide the selection and implementation of whakatauirā (case study) has been a main focus over the past 6 months. This has included refining the criteria for whakatauirā to enable tangata whenua-led contributions to restoring Kaipara Moana. One whakatauirā proposal is now advanced, with a budget package to enable delivery over the next year. Progress has been deeply impacted by the bereavement of whānau members to two integral members of the Kōrero Tuku Iho team.</p> <p>Over the next 6 months, the focus will be on confirming at least one further whakatauirā proposal and budget, alongside developing a communications plan to share the kaupapa of Kōrero Tuku Iho and setting the work programme for the 2024/25 year. This will include engaging with the northern hapū to find pūkenga who would be members on the Reference Rōpū.</p>	0.835 (0.032)	0.270 (0.000)	1.105 (0.032)
Strategy and Opportunities	<p>K2022-009 New Partnerships and Opportunities</p> <p>Developing opportunities with third parties that will deliver near-term benefit to KMR landowners. These opportunities are focused on reducing the cost to the landowner of KMR remediation activity, thereby increasing fund accessibility. Opportunities will also reduce the pressure on KMR budget, allowing KMR to reach more landowners, and will</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement to progress several third party opportunities. In particular, we have developed a pilot for carbon market support for landowners through 4 potential projects that, if all successfully concluded, will add approximately 1.2 million stems to KMR planting plans. We are maintaining a watching brief on biodiversity market</p>	0.025 (0.022)	0.025 (0.000)	0.050 (0.022)

	support multiple outcomes in line KMR MOU vision and investment objectives.	opportunities and informal (grey) markets for environmental restoration.			
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Declaration

This declaration must be completed by the chair of the joint committee.

As a duly authorised representative of the organisation:

- I declare that to the best of my knowledge, the information contained in all sections of this Six Month Report or supplied by us in support of our Six-Month Report is complete, true, and correct.
- I declare that I have the authority to sign this Six-Month Report and to provide this information.
- I understand that information presented to the Minister for the Environment and Ministry for the Environment is subject to disclosure under the Official Information Act 1982.

Name

Tame Te Rangi

Position

Chair, Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee

Signature

By typing your name in the space provided you are electronically signing this Annual Work Plan.

TITLE: Kaipara Moana Remediation GIS Layers

Kaituhi Pūrongo | Report Writer Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi | Strategic Business Manager
Duncan Kervell, Kervell Consulting | KMR Contractor

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This report updates the KMR Joint Committee on minor technical revisions to the GIS (mapping) layers used by KMR.

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

GIS Layers are collections of geographic data that can be visually represented (mapped). As a highly technical programme that records spatial information to unlock project co-funding, KMR relies on accurate mapping information.

KMR has used various maps through its evolution. As a result of recent technical updates and a review project to understand the implications of these updates, KMR has identified several minor areas where the previous catchment boundary requires a minor revision.

The revised catchment map will be used in Mātai Onekura, the digital platform which records and maps KMR sediment remediation projects.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report titled 'Kaipara Moana Remediation GIS Layers' by Stephanie Versteeg and Duncan Kervell dated 26 February 2024.
2. Note that as a highly technical programme that relies on mapping of projects to unlock our co-funding, KMR relies on accurate mapping information, including of the catchment itself.
3. Note the attached revised map of the catchment (Attachment 1) in which KMR operates.

Horopaki | Background

GIS Layers are collections of geographic data that can be visually represented (mapped) in the form of points, lines, shapes (polygons), or surfaces. As a highly technical programme that records spatial information to unlock project co-funding, KMR relies on accurate baseline mapping information.

KMR has used various maps through its evolution, reflecting that some of our most highly bespoke scientific information has taken (necessary) time to generate, check and visually represent. This includes LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data and imagery which are significantly more accurate than previous methods to map the elevation of land. Elevation is critical in terms of understanding where rainfall or other water applied to the land will migrate.

As a result of new information, KMR has identified several small areas where the previous catchment boundary requires a minor technical update.

This report steps the KMR Joint Committee through this technical variation in the GIS (spatial) layers used by KMR, including in Mātai Onekura, our digital platform which serves as a one-source-of-the-truth for recording and mapping KMR sediment remediation projects.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

A catchment is defined as a specific area of land that drains to a river reach, sub-catchment, catchment, or receiving environment (such as a harbour). It is a highly technical definition that relies ultimately on high-quality data about where rainfall, and other water, flow across the landscape.

KMR has used several iterations of maps that define the Kaipara Moana catchment. This is due to the data available at the time that various mapping was undertaken. The various iterations used are shown in Attachment Two.

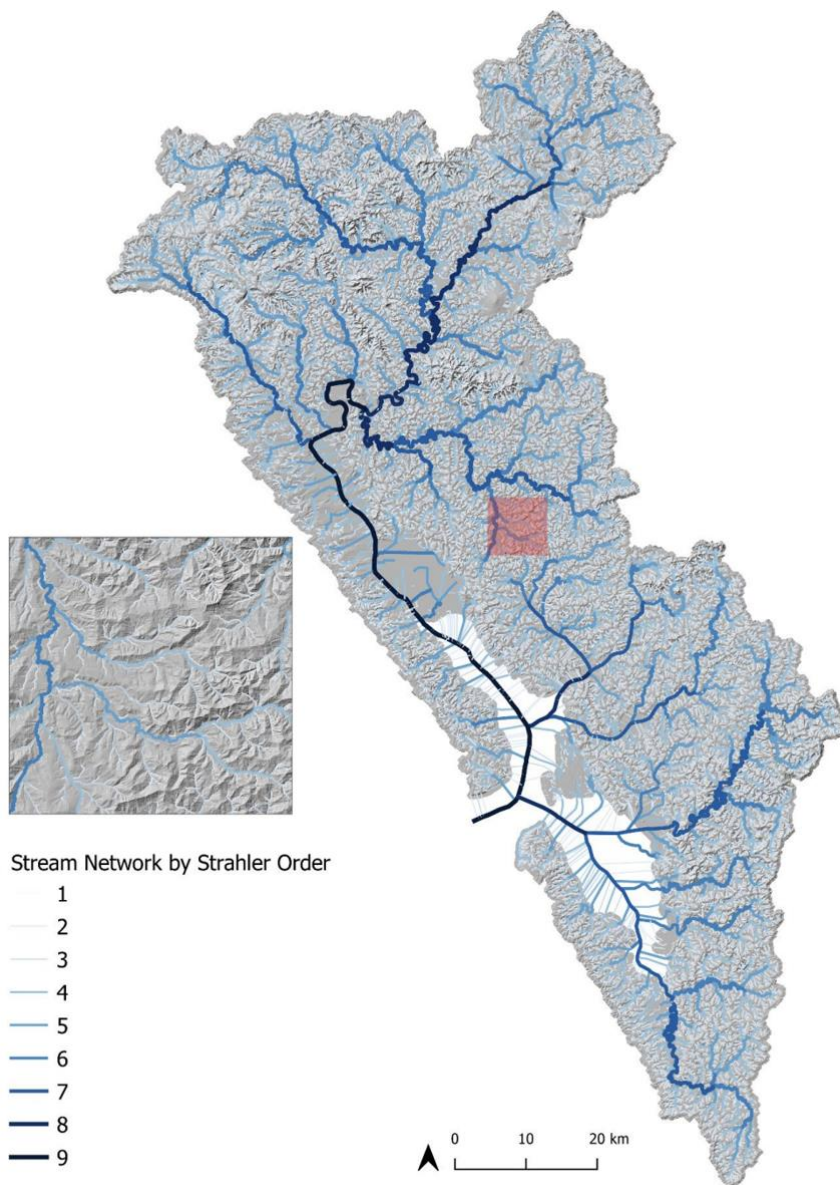
The River Environment Classification (REC) is a database of catchment spatial attributes, summarised for every segment in New Zealand's network of rivers. The attributes were compiled for river classification, while the river network description has been used to underpin national scientific models. The original datasets used in developing the Kaipara Sediment Study in 2016/17 and the subsequent KMR business case in 2018/19 were based on the (original) River Environmental Classification (also known as REC1) datasets and other supplementary layers that define the edge of the land and the harbour foreshore. Typically, updated versions of national models (e.g. CLUES) and what are known as 'REC 2' catchments, are built on a newer version of a 30m digital elevation model (NIWA 2023).

The coastal edge of the Kaipara Moana, which is highly fragmented and irregular in shape, was sourced from NRC and Auckland Council datasets at the time.

Through 2022 and 2023, KMR has invested in new catchment models based on 1m LiDAR digital elevation model, with close to paddock-scale accuracy. This scale is important to guide KMR Field Advisors to provide accurate and meaningful advice to landowners about areas of greatest erosion (sediment loss) risk.

The 2023 imagery and associated mapping is significantly more accurate than previous (i.e. REC-based) iterations. From the 1m digital elevation model, the two technical consultants working with KMR to develop the datasets needed for our digital tools, Biospatial Limited and Land and Water Science Limited, created a channel network and sediment capture zones. These stream systems and source catchments are used in Mātai Onekura, and will be used in the forthcoming Tātaki Wai catchment modelling tool as part of the KMR Digital Ecosystem:

Figure 1: Kaipara Moana Digital River Network



The new 1m DEM-derived catchment boundary defines at a very fine scale all land that drains into the Kaipara Moana Catchment. As shown over page, it differs slightly from the original REC 2 catchment boundary, and there are also differences around the fluted coastal area.

The areas shown in red are areas that do not drain to the harbour via freshwater environments and so were not captured by earlier (REC 2) mapping - they primarily drain directly to the harbour or harbour mouth - while yellow areas are areas in the catchment that were missed from earlier maps due to the lower accuracy of the original datasets.

Figure 2: Northern part of the catchment:

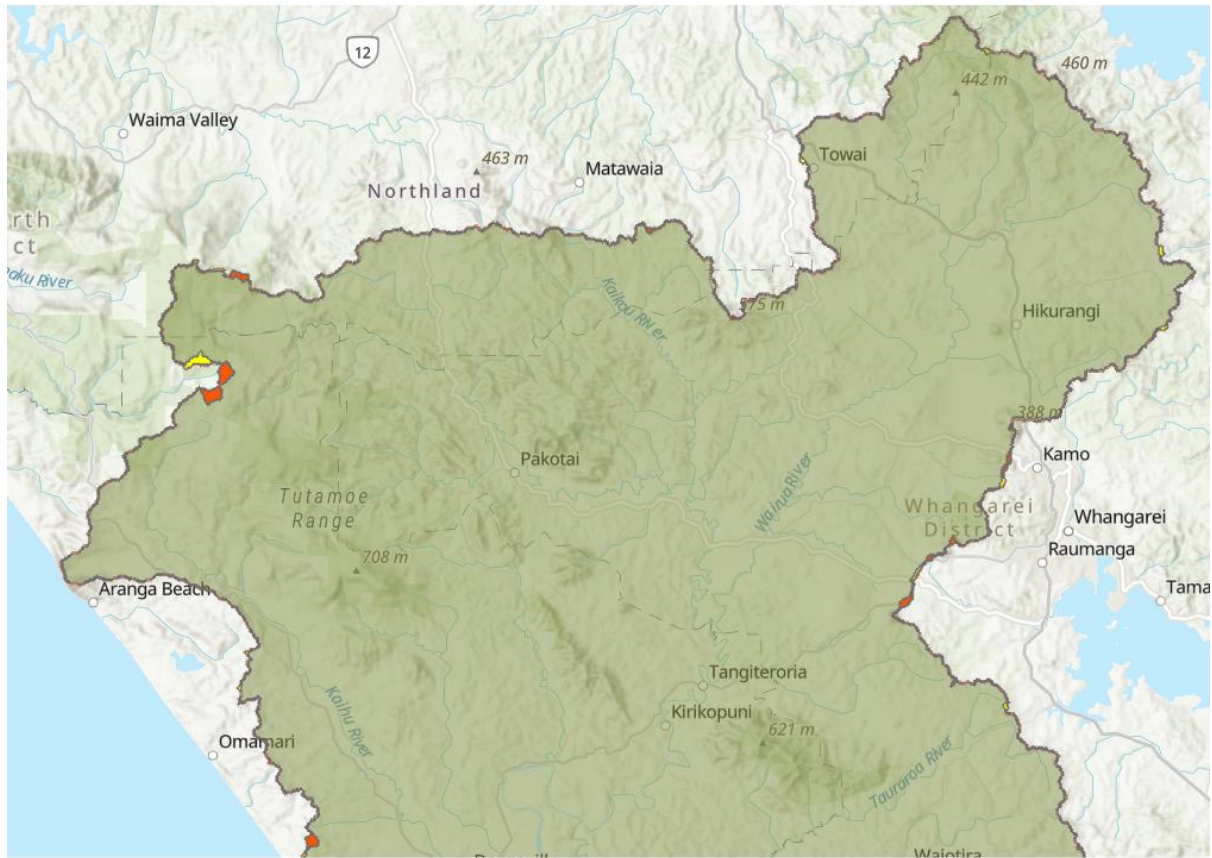
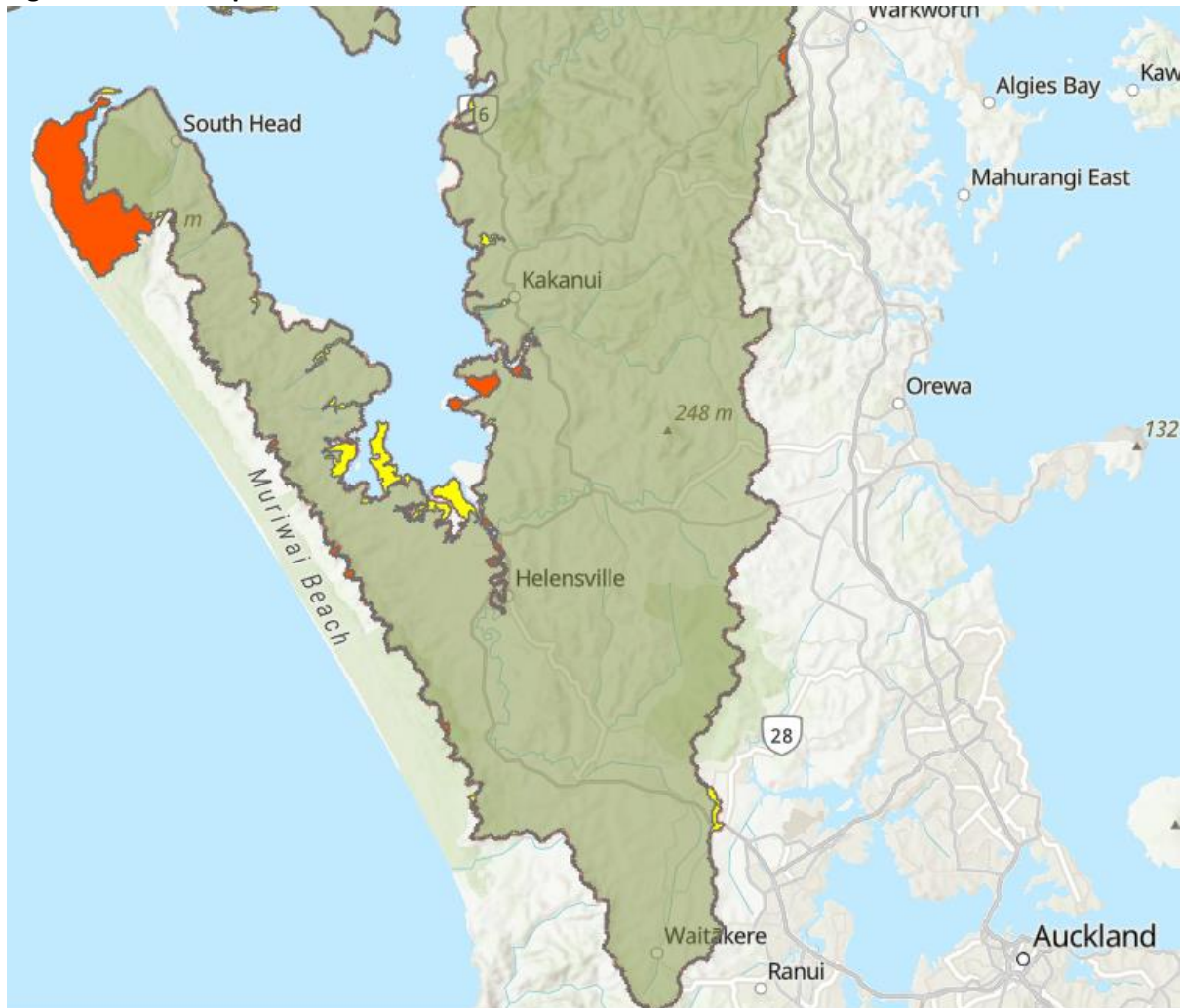


Figure 3: Central part of the catchment:



Figure 4: Southern part of the catchment:



The largest areas of boundary variation occur as follows:

- At the mouth of the harbour, where land draining to the western edge of the harbour mouth have been included in the 2024 KMR catchment map (7,604.11Ha). It should be noted that the catchment boundaries on the sand country of Poutō and South Head remain estimates due to the very limited understanding of underground water movements and the alteration of the limited overland surface water waterways. It is notable that there is very little area in these two geographies under pastoral land use (the land is mainly covered by natural vegetation and pine plantation). In addition, there is very little sediment generation on raw sand environments.
- Minor variations along the catchment boundary outside the Peninsulas. These areas are small and largely represent areas not previously recognised as land (they are coastal and may have been deemed previously to be coastal margin) or areas where new digital elevation modelling demonstrates that a micro-catchment does indeed flow into the Kaipara Moana. Some are small areas (2,475Ha) included from the MOU map that do not drain to the catchment.

It should be emphasised that the expanded catchment boundary brings the total land area of the catchment to 588,199.68Ha, which is still under the 600,000Ha originally estimated in the Business Case.

Through a technical revision, KMR will incorporate both red and yellow areas into our existing catchment layer and use this as a revised Kaipara Moana catchment boundary. This honours the agreement under the MOU, as well as reflecting best scientific information of the ecological catchment boundary.

KMR will also show for information on our mapping the bulb at the mouth of Kaipara Moana and the area within the Tirikōhua Point [South] up to the mouth of the Waipoua River then due west to the 12 nautical mile limit indicated by the blue dashed line. This area has been the basis of the negotiation for the regulatory jurisdiction under negotiation for the Kaipara Moana Body area of influence.

Ngā whāinga mō āmuri | Next steps

The revised catchment map will be used in Mātai Onekura, the digital platform which maps and records KMR sediment remediation projects, and used as a high-level outline as needed for presentations or publications. It is important we use a consistent mapping layer across the KMR programme.

Considerations

1. Aromātai whāinga haumi mō te oranga | Wellbeing Investment objectives and assessment

There are negligible wellbeing implications from this minor technical update.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea | Financial implications

There are negligible financial implications from this minor technical update.

3. Ngā hiranga me ngā hononga | Significance and Engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, the decisions arising from this report are considered to be of low significance when assessed against Northland Regional Council's significance and engagement policy. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that the Joint Committee is able to make these decisions without undertaking further consultation or engagement¹

4. Ngā tūraru me ngā mauru | Risks and mitigation

As we are including all areas previously or newly shown to be in the catchment area, KMR is honouring all previous commitments made by MOU signatories and through the Kaipara Maurikura operations. In the unlikely event that KMR has refused a landowner Expression of Interest in a particular geography (we will be able to check this once the layer is integrated into Mātai Onekura), we will contact the landowner, explain the situation and invite them to re-engage with us.

5. Ngā urutau huringa-ā-rangi | Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

This paper has no direct relevance to this consideration.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: KMR Catchment Map Iterations  

¹ This Joint Committee operates under the Local Government Act which requires a significance and engagement policy (which identifies when matters require special consultation with tangata whenua and the community) and to have regard to that policy when making decisions. As the administrative support for the Joint Committee is provided by the Northland Regional Council, it is that Council's Significance and Engagement Policy that will apply to Joint Committee decision making.

Attachment 1: Kaipara Moana Catchment Map Iterations

Figure 1: Kaipara Moana Remediation Catchment Map 2024



Figure 2: An earlier iteration of the KMR Catchment Map (Used in the KMR Business Case)

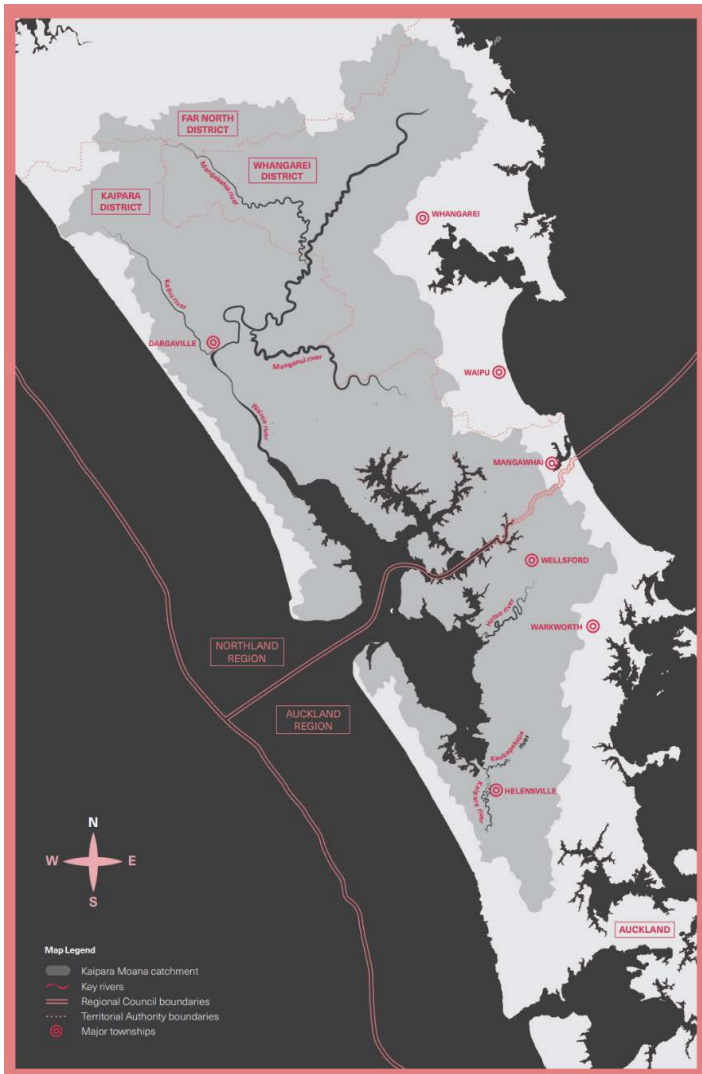
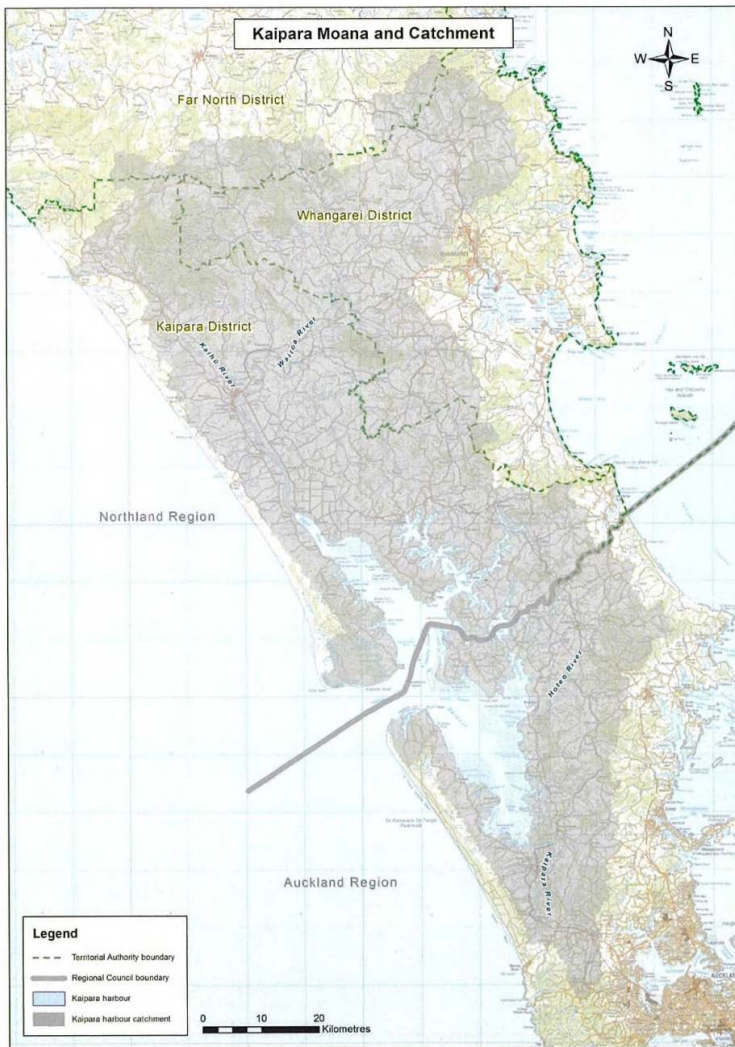


Figure 3: An earlier iteration of the KMR Catchment Map (Used in in Appendix 1 of the KMR MoU)



TITLE: Rephasing Procedures

Kaituhi Pūrongo | Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki

Report Writer Stephanie Versteeg, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This paper tables for information the signed minor change form required to implement the ‘time-only’ extension of the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) programme.

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

In October 2023, Cabinet agreed to a ‘time-only’ extension to KMR to enable the programme to continue to operate until 7 February 2031, in line with the intent of the KMR Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which provides for a ten-year programme.

This extension was implemented by amending clause 2.2 of the Deed of Funding (the Deed), which sets out the phasing of the programme. As per the Deed, the Minor Change process set out in the Deed was used to implement the amendment.

To confirm the change, authorised representatives of MfE and one member of each of the five Member Parties to the Deed signed the Minor Change request form in November 2023. In the MOU, KMR Joint Committee members are explicitly recognised as authorised representatives.

The signed change request is attached for the record.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the ‘Rephasing Procedures’ report by Justine Daw and Stephanie Versteeg dated 26 January 2024.
2. Note that the KMR Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Ministry for the Environment and Member Parties acknowledged the KMR programme was intended to run for ten years.
3. Note the ‘time-only extension’ of the KMR programme that the Crown has granted to KMR through to 8 February 2031.
4. Note the signed documentation (Attachment 1) which was used to implement the ‘time-only’ extension, a minor change under the KMR Deed of Funding.

Horopaki | Background

Kaipara Moana Remediation was originally funded by the Crown as a \$200m, 6-year programme through a Deed of Funding between Member Parties (Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust, Northland Regional Council and Auckland Council) and MfE.

The Crown’s \$100 million contribution to the programme was secured through the *Jobs for Nature* programme. A number of factors (including ongoing COVID-19 impacts, economic headwinds, ongoing policy uncertainty, and enduring flood and cyclone impacts) mean that programme uptake has not matched original modelled assumptions. However, in the 23 months since KMR has been fully operational, KMR has laid solid foundations and is increasingly well-positioned to deliver the outcomes envisaged in the MOU, despite continued uncertainty in the wider operating context.

There have been ongoing discussions with MfE about the case to rephase the Crown’s funding commitment to better reflect the context in which KMR now operates and allow for more realistic uptake by landowners across the catchment, including iwi/hapū, catchment and community groups, and other collectives.

KMR staff and MfE agreed in April 2023 to make a case for a time-only extension. Programme modelling was undertaken from May to July 2023, with direction on preferred scenarios gained from the Joint Committee in July.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

In October 2023, Cabinet agreed to a 'time-only' extension to KMR to enable the programme to continue to operate until 7 February 2031, in line with the intent of the KMR Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which provides for a ten-year programme.

This extension was achieved by amending clause 2.2 of the Deed of Funding (the Deed), which sets out the phasing of the programme. Under the Deed, this amendment is considered a Minor Change. The change process set out in the Deed was used to make the amendment.

To confirm the change, both MfE and one member of each of the five Member Parties to the Deed signed a change request form. A signature was needed from authorised representatives and members of the KMR Joint Committee are authorised representatives, as set out in the MOU.

The signed change request is tabled for information (Attachment 1).

Extending KMR's Deed of Funding has given the programme time to invest significantly more in restoring the mauri of the Moana, thereby having significantly greater impact in line with the KMR MOU. The extension supports the long-term engagement and partnership needed to achieve KMR's vision as set out in the MOU and the associated four KMR investment outcomes.

Considerations

1. Aromātai whāinga haumi mō te oranga | Wellbeing Investment objectives and assessment

A 'time-only' extension to KMR's Crown funding until 7 February 2031 will enable KMR to continue to invest in line with the commitments, including the investment outcomes, set out in its founding MOU. A 10-year programme directly mirrors the original intent and timeframes of the MOU, and is more aligned to operational realities and landowner capacity to match KMR co-funding.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea | Financial implications

The implementation of a time-only extension allows Crown funding to be continued over a 10-year period to 7 February 2031, under the same conditions that apply to current funding.

No change to Council contributions is currently required, and this has been discussed with both Councils.

3. Ngā hiranga me ngā hononga | Significance and Engagement

A decision on this matter by Joint Committee members was in line with the provisions of the MOU and Terms of Reference, which specifically establish the Joint Committee to carry out decision-making relating to KMR.

4. Ngā tūraru me ngā mauru | Risks and mitigation

Expectation for KMR to deliver in line with MOU outcomes and funding model remains high, and KMR must demonstrate ongoing delivery in line with these. KMR will continually monitor and adapt our settings to ensure we continue to operate in line with expectations. This will include:



- Once Tātaki Wai is available in 2024, KMR will revise estimated programme outputs and impact, and reflect these in future Annual Work Plans. The Ministry for the Environment has already signalled that this programme perspective and annual work planning will play an important role in maintaining confidence in programme delivery over the life of the programme. KMR has robust systems to monitor delivery of outputs, and an outcomes monitoring framework will also be developed to enable KMR to understand its progress towards wider objectives over time.

- As part of our year-end reconciliation, we already ensure Crown expenditure each financial year is matched by contributions from Councils, landowners and other contributors. Of the \$200 million programme value, KMR's funding model assumes that \$40 million (comprising \$20 million of Crown contribution and matching council contributions) will cover non-remediation costs (i.e. costs that can't be matched by landowners). Non-remediation costs as a proportion of annual programme value are expected to reduce over time as we move out of 'start-up' and as remediation value scales. It will be more difficult to limit non-remediation costs to \$40 million over a 10-year programme, but there are opportunities to adapt fund settings to manage this risk. In 2024, KMR will actively explore options to continue to maintain a balanced funding model into the longer term, while incentivising landowners to take action.

5. Ngā urutau huringa-ā-rangi | Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

A time-only extension to KMR will enable the programme to have greater impact over time, in line with the wider investment outcomes set out in the MOU, and will facilitate greater investment by KMR, landowners and third-party co-funders in nature-based solutions that can benefit both climate change mitigation and adaptation outcomes.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: Signed Minor Change Request Form  



Kaipara Moana Remediation Fund Change Request Form (Minor Change)

Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) c/o Northland Regional Council Deed #24013	
Change Title:	Year 4 change request to Kaipara Moana Remediation Deed of Funding
Change Request #:	3
Date requested:	27/11/2023
Date Change Request required by (indicate if urgent):	asap
Change Request prepared by:	Ilka Pelzer
PART 1: CHANGE REQUEST DETAILS	
Justification	Requested Change (include high level details of the Change, and which Project Objective it relates to):
	<p>The Kaipara Moana Remediation programme KMR is seeking a no-cost, time-only extension to the programme delivery from 6 years to 10 years. An extension of the current Deed of Funding #24013 signed 7 February 2021 would mean that activities currently planned will be delivered over a longer timeframe (from 8 February 2026 to 7 February 2031).</p> <p>Cabinet has met on the 2 October 2023 and agreed to extend the KMR appropriation to meet this request.</p>
	Reason for Change (also provide any consideration given to alternative scenarios):
<p>Programme delivery has been slower than anticipated due to delays with KMR programme set-up and programme policy development, Covid-19 lockdowns and a lack of confidence in the future regulatory environment. The KMR maurikura (delivery arm) has procured a Grant Thorndon report to model output delivery for 6 years, 10 years and 12 years. The 10-year model is in line with the MOU and shows full funding could be utilised. Since moving into operational delivery, KMR performance has been encouraging with delivery confidence increasing.</p>	
List all relevant supporting documents (this may include correspondence and planning details relevant to the change):	<p>Document title: Deed of Funding</p> <p>Document title: Grant Thorton report</p>
PART 2: IMPACT ASSESSMENT	



General Project Impact	Impact on Project scope or purpose:	Activities currently planned will be delivered over a longer timeframe of 10 years. The scope, purpose and budget of the project is not affected.	
	Impact on resources to deliver the change (ie, staff, volunteers):	This change will support the project to deliver on planting targets (KPIs) for this winter, and to continue to sustainably scale through timely and planful approach to implementation of the soil conservation strategy.	
	Impact on Project outcomes or benefits:	Both of these impacts mean that KMR is more likely to achieve its KPIs in this and next financial years.	
Impact on Project budget (include any new activities):			
Impact on costs	Activity:	Current Crown budget:	Revised Crown budget:
	All activities as per existing deed of funding.	\$100,000,000	\$100,000,000 (none)
		Current timeline:	Revised timeline:
	All activities as per existing deed of funding.	Ending 7 February 2026	Ending 7 February 2031
Impact on Project risks			
Impact on risks	Impact on current risks (include mitigations):	<p>If the programme is not extended, risks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the programme being unable to meet the long-term sediment reduction outcomes anticipated within current timeframes and funding the programme being limited in its ability to support the necessary capacity and capability build required to support implementation of the Essential Freshwater Reforms losing leveraged external co-funding that has been secured through this investment – currently matched dollar for dollar. reputational damage to the goodwill and partnerships between the Crown and delivery partners (including tangata whenua of Kaipara Uri, local government and rural communities). 	
	Details of any new risks (include mitigations):	<p>N/A</p> <p>The work programme delivery even with the new timeline is still ambitious.</p>	



PART 3: CHANGE AUTHORISATION	
Reviewed for by Recipient and recommended for signature	
Name:	Justine Daw
Role:	Pou Tātaki, KMR
Signature:	
Date:	14 November 2023
Signed for by Recipient	
Northland Regional Council	
Name:	JOHN BLACKWELL
Role:	Councilor for Northland Regional Council
Signature:	
Date:	27/11/2023
Signed for by Recipient	
Auckland Council	
Name:	Greg Sayers
Role:	Councilor Auckland Council
Signature:	
Date:	27/11/2023
Signed for by Recipient	
Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust	
Name:	Georgina Connelly
Role:	General Manager
Signature:	
Date:	27/11/2023
Signed for by Recipient	
Ngā Maunga Whakahī o Kaipara Development Trust	
Name:	Jase Sherard
Role:	Trustee
Signature:	
Date:	27/11/2023
Signed for by Recipient	
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua	
Name:	VIRGINIA WARRINER
Role:	TRUSTEE
Signature:	
Date:	27/11/2023
Recommended for approval by the Ministry for the Environment	
Name:	Ilka Pelzer
Role:	Senior Analyst – Strategic Investments
Signature:	Electronically signed, Ilka Pelzer, Senior Analyst



Date:	3/11/2023		
Reviewed and recommended for signing by Deputy Secretary and a minimum of 5 Joint Committee members of each original signatory parties as listed above.			
Name:	Michael Mitchell		
Role:	Senior Solicitor		
Signature			
Date:	6/11/23		
Reviewed and recommended for approval by the Ministry for the Environment			
Name:	Sarah Vaughan		
Role:	Manager– Strategic Investments		
Signature			
Date:	6/11/23		
Reviewed and recommended for approval by the Ministry for the Environment			
Name:	Wes Patrick		
Role:	Acting Director, PID Investments		
Signature			
Date:	7/11/2023		
Signed for and on behalf of the Ministry for the Environment			
Decision: (circle one)	Approve	Decline	
Name:	Nadeine Dommissie		
Role:	Deputy Secretary, PID		
Signature:			
Date:	9/11/2023		



Schedule of Changes to the Deed

Effective Date: On the date this Minor Change has been signed by all six parties

Changes

Change to Part C, clause 2.2 of the Deed

1. Balance Grant amount: The Parties acknowledge that subject to special term 10, Schedule 5, and all other respective obligations and limitations within this Deed, it is intended that the Ministry will contribute up to one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) towards the Project, being a payment of twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) for the 2020/2021 Financial Year (as above) and the balance over the subsequent nine (9) years.

TITLE: Pou Tātaki Report

**Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer** Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This report provides the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Joint Committee with a brief strategic overview of the year ahead for KMR, and updates on key initiatives since we last reported.

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

KMR has started 2024 in good heart, and we are seeing strong momentum as we head into Winter 2024, our first winter of planting across the full landscape.

Two recent independent surveys demonstrate that both the landowners working with us, and our own Kaipara Maurikura staff, are very engaged and positive about their experience working in KMR.

That said, 2024 will not be without change or challenge. Against a backdrop of ongoing economic headwinds and policy and regulatory uncertainty, the conversations we expect to have with governors this year include KMR's role in the forthcoming Freshwater Farm Plan system, how we optimally leverage opportunities from carbon and biodiversity markets, how KMR will progress and integrate Kōrero Tuku Iho into our work, and how Tātaki Wai will best inform decision-making.

The Key Performance Indicators demonstrate ongoing good progress in scaling up, with the latest results likely reflecting a growing number of larger-scale projects in the hill country.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 26 February 2024.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

The year ahead for KMR

KMR has started 2024 in good heart. Buoyed by excellent progress as we completed our first two years of full operational delivery, KMR has begun the year with good momentum and energy as we head into Winter 2024, our first winter of planting across the full landscape (i.e. beyond waterways). The accompanying draft Six Month Report highlights how far KMR has come since this time last year.

Two recent independent surveys demonstrate that both the landowners working with us and our own Kaipara Maurikura staff are very engaged, and positive about their experience working in KMR. You will hear more about the surveys later in this report and at this month's Joint Committee Briefing. As both our landowners and our staff are critical enablers of success, the survey results were very pleasing indeed.

While KMR is demonstrating programme maturity and solid delivery in areas of core business, that is not to say that 2024 will be without change or challenge. A major decision this year includes what role KMR will play in the forthcoming Freshwater Farm Plan system, a conversation made more difficult by ongoing uncertainty about the shape and timing of new policy and regulatory settings.

We expect to see some positive momentum this year in the Kōrero Tuku Iho programme, as well as growth in community-, iwi- and catchment-led initiatives that KMR has been developing and nurturing at early stages, for example via our Navigator projects. We are also looking to make headway in identifying a pathway to integrate the findings of Kōrero Tuku Iho into KMR operations. Similarly, we will look to understand how Tātaki Wai, the Freshwater Management Tool developed

largely by Auckland Council for KMR use, can best inform KMR decision-making and programme delivery.

The ongoing economic headwinds will play into many conversations, including those about communications and engagement with both current and future landowners and groups. You will hear more about our current state of play in these areas in this month's Joint Committee Briefing.

Closer to year end, we also expect to have conversations with governors on how we are leveraging opportunities from carbon and possibly biodiversity markets. The timing for some of these conversations will depend on the speed and scope of forthcoming decisions by central government and subsequent responses by regional government.

With a new government and many wider changes in KMR's operating environment, a key focus this year has been, and will remain to be, engaging at senior levels with key decision-makers on the strategic value of KMR. As one of only 3 external speakers invited to address the BlueGreens Conference in late February, the Pou Tātaki is making good progress in ensuring that KMR is understood and our value proposition heard. Our Briefing to Incoming Ministers and Key Decision-Makers (Attachment 1) has been very well received, and widely circulated along with our latest Annual Report.

Programme performance

The Key Performance Indicators for January 2024 – which reflect programme delivery 25 months into operational delivery – demonstrate ongoing progress in scaling up since we last reported. Usually, January is a light month, so the uplift shown between December and January figures likely reflects the impact of expanding KMR activities into the hill country.

Jobs & Skills

- 57 people trained as KMR Field Advisors – many from local iwi/hapū
- New work created in rural communities – the same as a year's work for >145 people.
- \$13.6m committed to sediment reduction Projects, supporting local, nature-based employment

Engagement

- KMR has engaged with around half of the pastoral landowners in the catchment
- 576 co-funded project plans have been developed with landowners
- ~100 schools, hapū, marae and community groups engaged
- 54 projects led by collectives or groups completed, underway or in development

Nature

- Around 1.5 million plants in the ground or contracted to plant
- 347 hectares of riparian planting completed or contracted
- 627km of fencing completed or contracted (more than the distance from Kaitaia to Taupō)
- >110,000 hectares managed under KMR plans

External engagements and communications

The KMR team have been out and about at a number of events in the community in 2024, with many more to come over the summer months. We're enjoying hearing from a wide range of farmers, other landowners, nurseries, suppliers and local kaitiaki as we meet at various local environmental events, A&P Shows, Field Day events and industry- and iwi/hapū-facing gatherings.

This month’s Joint Committee Briefing provides more information on our communications and engagement work programme, including in respect of engagement with mana whenua and through the Whenua Whānui Fund.

In the past quarter, the Pou Tātaki has undertaken a wide suite of senior-level engagements to communicate KMR performance, discuss several new partnerships and engage key decision-makers on the Briefing to Incoming Ministers and Key Decision-Makers (Attachment 1) along with our latest Annual Report. Note that this list does not include regular operational meetings with programme partners, delivery partners or suppliers.

Strategic engagements since we last reported		Planned engagements (Q1)
Whangārei District Council	Beef+Lamb NZ	Blue Greens Conference Science NZ (incl various CRIs) Ministry for the Environment Fonterra The Forest Bridge Trust Auckland Council NRC
Te Tumu Paeroa	DairyNZ	
Silver Fern Farms	Grant McCallum	
Foundation North	Ministry for the Environment	
Auckland Council	Te Uru Rākau	
The Forest Bridge Trust	Te Ārai Native Nursery	
Environs / Te Uri o Hau	The Forest Bridge Trust	
Agri-Women’s Development Trust	NZ Association of Resource Management	
PIP Global	Tāmata Hauhā	
Beca	Auckland Council	
Fonterra	NRC	
University of Auckland	Ministry for Primary Industries	
Grant Thornton	Dept of Conservation	
Fish and Game NZ	Conservation Volunteers NZ	
Game Bird Habitat Trust	Wai Connection	
QEII National Trust	Foundation North	
Ngā kaitiaki o ngā Wai Māori	Fonterra	
Spark	NZ Rural Support Trust	
Phathom	Northland Inc	
Geobind	Manulife	
Dept of Internal Affairs	Northland Forestry	
VMC Consulting	Environmental Working Group	
Waste Management NZ	Universities of NZ	
Groundtruth		

Since we last reported, KMR has updated and released our Planting Guide to reflect the expansion from waterway protection to also supporting projects on erodible hillsides. We have also hosted two further webinars this year - the first on KMR’s expansion into projects on erodible hillsides and the second on KMR’s approach to planting.

As more than 60% of our landowners heard about KMR by word of mouth, and nearly a quarter heard about KMR by reading about someone like themselves taking action, we have also developed a refreshed set of stories about landowners, kaitiaki, communities, schools and groups working with KMR for print and other media.

Performance benchmarking

As part of KMR’s benchmarking activities, working in partnership with the Ministry for the Environment’s system change experts, KMR recently ran a survey of KMR landowners who had been through the full Sediment Reduction Plan process (i.e., from expressing interest, working with a KMR Field Advisor to design the project, contracting with us, delivering the project, through to post-project payment). The survey aimed to understand the end-to-end ‘user experience’ and identify

areas for adaptation and improvement. While this month's Briefing to the Joint Committee will provide more information on the survey, a summary of the results is provided below.

Independent survey of KMR landowners

The results of the survey were very pleasing, particularly given KMR was still establishing and experiencing teething problems when the surveyed landowners took action with us.

The survey had a baseline response rate of 13% of 88 surveyed landowners. A 5-10% response rate is not unusual in this type of unprompted, non-incentivised, and anonymous survey.

The survey showed that:

- The application process for the KMR grant was 'easy' or 'very easy' (66.7%)
- Overall, the KMR contracting process was 'easy' or 'very easy' (75%)
- Although some respondents responded 'neutrally', none indicated that the KMR grant and contracting process was 'difficult' or 'very difficult'
- The interactions with KMR Field Advisors were positive (66.7%)
- Questions posed to KMR Field Advisors were answered adequately (75%)
- No negative interactions with KMR Field Advisors were noted
- Respondents were very positive about KMR's way-of-working, describing it as easy, efficient and professional
- KMR was particularly commended for getting planting projects underway effectively, and working towards shared results with landowners
- The overall experience of working with KMR is described very positively
- Most respondents could not think of any ways KMR could do things better

KMR plans to run the survey on an annual basis, although we will likely wish to understand other aspects of our engagement with landowners and so may well augment the survey questions.

Financial performance

The financials shown in Table 1 continue to demonstrate that KMR is scaling up at pace, as indicated by the value of total Programme Expenditure (Activity) six months into the year.

KMR has contracted an additional \$4.302m worth of projects as at 29 January 2024, some of which will be completed but not yet paid out. This reflects the lag between landowners contracting to undertake sediment reduction projects, completing projects, KMR arranging project review and sign-off, landowners submitting invoices, and KMR paying invoices. As a result, Table 1 shows financial payments made to 31 December 2023, rather than project activity completed.

Note: This report does not show a scheduled Crown drawdown made in January 2024 to cover the expected costs of contracted projects that are likely to be invoiced in the current financial year (see paragraph above). This drawdown value will be reflected in the January 2024 financial report.

Table 1: KMR Financials

KMR Financials (31 December 2023)

Funding contributions^{2 3}


MfE	5,956,124
MfE other	50,000
Northland Regional Council (NRC)	12,730
Auckland Council (AC)	11,810
Interest earned	212,321
Subtotal (Funds available)	6,242,985
Less KMR expenditure (Activity incl. Grants)	3,529,163
Funds remaining	2,713,822
Co-funding (Matching Contributions)	
NRC in-kind labour	38,564
NRC in-kind Opex costs	662,893 (incl. salaries)
AC in-kind labour	46,200
AC in-kind Opex costs	-
Total in-kind expenditure	747,658
Landowners / Other contributors	1,712,461
Total Programme Expenditure (Activity)	5,989,282

Table 2: Joint Committee Grant Interests

Who	Grant type	KMR Grant Contribution (excl. GST)	Status	Nature of Interest
Virginia Warriner	Landowner Grant (fencing and planting)	\$9,160.25	Contracted	The grant applicant is a related party. No benefit, direct or indirect, accrues to the Member through this Grant. Note: Project value may increase if DoC Community Agreement is agreed (Crown marginal strip was part of the original Sediment Reduction Plan)
Virginia Warriner	Navigator project (Winter Planting)	\$35,949 (WWF) \$33,834 (KMR Workforce)	In train The planting is on DoC land (the Ōkahukura Conservation Area).	The Tapura Land and Coast Care Group is a public good community group that runs projects on public lands. The Joint Committee member is a Trustee of the Tapura Land and Coast Care Group (the grant applicant) but no benefit, direct or indirect, accrues to the Member through this Grant.

Taipuha Farms	Landowner Grant	Project 1 (2023) \$12,086.50 Project 2 (2024) \$12,692	Internal Review / Expression of Interest	Taipuha Farms is a subsidiary of the Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust. Any potential financial benefit from this environmental restoration grant (e.g. in terms of future land use value) would accrue to all beneficiaries of the Te Uri o Hau Trust. The OAG has provided a ruling to KMR that iwi/hapū membership does not constitute a LAMIA conflict.
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Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: KMR Briefing to Key Decision Makers [↓](#) 

E kore e mōnehunehu te pūmahara ki ngā whēinga o neherā nā rātou nei i toro te nukuroa o Te Moana-nuiā-Kiwa o Te Moana Tāpokopoko ā Tāwhaki me Papahoro-nuku. Ko a rātou tapuwae kua kākahutia ki te kiri o Papa-tū-ā-nuku e hora nei – Kaipara Moana he tawhiti tōna roa, he manatunga, he taonga, he tapu ... he ngaru nui mā te tauihu o te waka e wawāhi.

Kaipara Moana is an ancient bastion of nature, alive with history of days, of eras past. It is a place of deep spiritual and cultural value, a space with its own mauri and identity imbued with a mana of its own.

Vision: The mauri of Kaipara Moana is restored and protected and its significance - for Kaipara Uri and all New Zealanders - is recognised.

Mission: KMR invests in projects and people to halve sediment flows into the Kaipara Moana.

KMR Investment Goals aim to deliver intergenerational outcomes:

- **Natural Capital - Tiaki taiao:** Kaipara Moana Mauri restored so it is healthy, self-sustaining and naturally productive
- **Social Capital - Tātai Hononga:** Kotahitanga empowers Kaipara Uri and local community participation including hapū and marae, in local solutions, leveraging opportunities
- **Human Capital - Manaaki Tangata:** Kaipara Uri and local skills and capability support innovation, effective land management and community resilience
- **Physical & Financial Capital - Ōhanga:** Sustainable, resilient and optimised primary production in the Kaipara catchment and harbour



The Kaipara Moana has unique values

All waterways are important, but the Kaipara has unique global and national values, including important economic values.



6,000km² (600,000 Ha) of catchment covering:

- 2 regions
- 7 major river systems
- ~3,500 sub-catchments
- ~92,000 micro-catchments
- 9 (planting) eco-districts

The Kaipara is the largest harbour in the Southern Hemisphere, and one of the largest in the world.

It is ecologically and culturally significant, with some of NZ's most at-risk ecosystems (dunes, seagrasses, wetlands).

The Kaipara also has unique national and economic value as the nursery for much of New Zealand's snapper fishery.

Sediment is the problem in the catchment

An estimated 700,000 tonnes of sediment flow into the Moana each year - 7 times the natural rate. Sediment smothers riverbeds and seabed habitats & reduces light, with major impacts on fish, shellfish and plant life.



The Sediment Challenge

- Sediment is a master contaminant carrying nutrients, microbes and heavy metals that affect human, animal & environmental health
- The loss of environmental quality has major flow-on impacts on the Kaipara's fisheries, tourism, recreational and cultural values
- Dredging doesn't solve the problem (suspended sediments)
- **NZ's valuable soils are best when they stay on the land**

What's at stake? Snapper Case Study

- **Snapper is NZ's top commercial catch for inshore fisheries**
- **Annual export value of ~\$35 million (2017)**
- In latest 5 year band, NZ's inshore commercial fishing contributed \$460m to GDP and 3,861 jobs
- **Snapper contributes 15% of this ~\$69m to the economy & 579 jobs - each & every year**
- **A snapper fishery collapse would be costly**
- High correlation between seagrass blade densities and juvenile snapper abundance

KMR underpinned by MOU commitments

- **KMR is a decade long programme**, recognising sediment is an intergenerational issue
- **A tight focus on sediment:** KMR retires and plants waterways & erosion-prone land
- **MfE primary funder** (\$100m) with Crown funding unlocked by **matched funding** by Auckland and Northland Councils (\$10m each), and landowners (\$80m)
- **A voluntary programme** - KMR works with willing landowners & groups

Crown and Council commitments to KMR are formalised in an MOU with Kaipara Uri. KMR's Deed of Funding from the Crown reflects the MOU commitments.

KMR is performing strongly

KMR has the confidence of programme partners, stakeholders and landowners, and is delivering well against its KPIs.

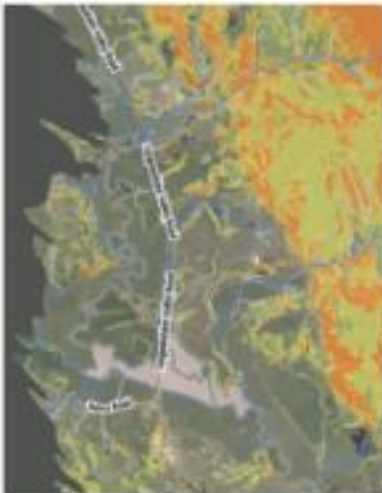
KMR is the largest harbour restoration programme in New Zealand.
2 years into operations, KMR is scaling up at pace as planned (data as at 31 December 2023)

- 28 local businesses & 20 nurseries accredited as KMR suppliers
- 57 people trained as KMR Field Advisors - many from local iwi/hapū
- > 190,000 hours of new work created (30 June 2023 data)
- > \$13m in project value completed or contracted, supporting local nature-based employment
- 746 landowners have expressed interest in KMR - almost half of the estimated eligible pastoral landowners in the catchment
- 1000s of meetings with iwi/hapū, professional and rural networks, community groups & landowners
- 547 KMR co-funded plans have been developed with landowners
- > 1.365 million plants planted or contracted for planting
- > 585 km of fencing completed or contracted: More than the distance from Pouto Beach to South Head and back, via Whangārei
- > 300 hectares planted or contracted to plant mainly in narrow riparian strips (KMR was focused on waterways until September 2023)
- > 103,000 hectares managed under KMR plans



KMR is now investing across the full landscape

At its start, KMR invested in projects to protect waterways. From September 2023, KMR has been able to invest in projects across the landscape, accelerating our scale-up & ability to reduce sediment.



Half the catchment is erosion prone:

- 300,000ha of Highly Erodible Land (LUC>6e)
- 45% is on pasture (80% drystock, 17% dairy).

~13% of land generates ~40% of sediment into the Moana

- Sediment disproportionately from pastoral land.

Roughly 50/50 stream bank vs. hill slope erosion, but the catchment is not uniform:

- Northern = more hill slope erosion (>60%).
- Southern = more stream bank erosion (>70%).

KMR provides a Plan and on-farm advice

- Landowners are connected with a trained Field Advisor.
- The Field Advisor walks the land to understand erosion risks & identify best options to reduce erosion.
- A Sediment Reduction Plan (SRP) records agreed project.
- KMR contracts the landowner to deliver the project.

Focus of KMR Investments

- Highly erodible land.
- Land with direct connectivity to waterways or the Moana itself.

Our grants support a (necessary) diversity of projects

To achieve our outcomes, KMR runs 2 grants: Landowner Grant and Whenua Whānui Fund. KMR also invests in Navigator demonstration projects to share learnings and best practice.

Landowner Grants

- "1:1" contract between KMR and landowner.
- Sediment Reduction Plan developed with a **trained local Field Advisor** (free service).
- KMR co-funds **up to 50%** of estimated project costs in the Plan e.g. fencing and planting.

Whenua Whānui Fund (WWF) Grants

- "1:Many" contract between KMR & community group, iwi/hapū, marae, catchment group.
- WWF can support projects on **collectively-owned land**.
- WWF also supports projects on **public land** that involve community.
- KMR co-funds **project planning** and development of a **Sediment Reduction Plan** (free).
- KMR co-funds **up to 70%** of estimated costs in the Plan and some **project overheads** to reflect the real time/costs needed to engage, coordinate and project manage groups.
- Applicants include groups and landowners where there is **collective benefit** from a project.
- Groups include iwi/hapū, marae, landcare groups, fish and game entities, trusts on land with multiple ownership, public landowners, reserve boards, kaitiaki, **legal and non-legal** entities.

Navigator Projects

- KMR 'Navigator projects' are flagships that demonstrate best practice in reducing sediment losses from the land, and share learnings with the community, sector or iwi/hapū.
- Across the catchment, 13 Navigator projects are contracted or in development.

KMR engagement is targeted

As a voluntary programme, positive communications & user-experience are key to engaging & retaining landowners, our core customers.

Landowner Survey Feedback

The experience of working with KMR is described very positively:

- The application process for the KMR grant was deemed as 'easy' or 'very easy' (66.7%), as was the KMR contracting process (75%).
- All other responses to this question were 'neutral'.
- KMR was especially commended for effective planting projects, and working towards shared results with landowners.

Most landowners could not think of any ways KMR can improve:

- KMR is seen as a significant, forward-thinking leader that contributes to environmental well-being in the catchment.
- Respondents appreciated the opportunity to kick-start sustainable farming practices and native-planting.

Changing landowner mix

While KMR is working with more dairy farmers overall, a growing proportion of sediment reduction projects are with drystock farmers:

- Dairy: 291
- Drystock: 216
- Lifestyle blocks: 10
- Other/unspecified: 39

KMR creates new local jobs & career pathways

As a Jobs for Nature programme, KMR has a dual focus on supporting people into jobs and providing training and development. A particular focus for KMR is to develop nationally-relevant training and career pathways to grow a cohort of Freshwater Farm Planners.

KMR creates new, local employment in rural areas, right across the catchment:

- **28 local businesses and 20 nurseries** accredited as **KMR project suppliers**.
- Landowners can also do the work themselves, meeting KMR standards.
- As at 30 June 2023, through KMR project investments **255,000 hours of new work** were completed or contracted for delivery.

KMR pilots national qualifications

Working with the NZ Association of Resource Management (NZARM), KMR is lifting training and employment outcomes in the Kaipara Moana catchment. In 2023, KMR and NZARM piloted the development and roll-out of two national training courses to help KMR Field Advisors obtain future qualifications in Freshwater Farm Planning.

KMR Field Advisors will shortly pilot the Capability Assessment Tool for freshwater farm planners and receive in return receive in return a tailored qualifications development plan which will be supported by KMR.



Case Study: KMR supporting dairy farmers to meet new environmental standards

Nestlé is the largest food and beverage supplier in the world, and Fonterra's largest customer. In August 2023, Nestlé announced it would no longer offset embedded carbon emissions in its supply chain. As a result, Fonterra will soon need to ensure that the milk product ingredients it supplies to Nestlé are already carbon-neutral.

In response, in December 2023, Fonterra announced a farm-level carbon emissions reduction target. Overall, it is estimated that around 8% of Fonterra farmer emissions can be offset via new tree planting on farm, including around wetlands, rivers and streams, and on erosion-prone land. Such planting not only offsets on-farm emissions, but also reduces sediment loss, improves biodiversity and pollination services, and protects and restores precious waterways and species on farm. KMR is already working with the majority of Fonterra farmers in the catchment, and will focus in 2024 on supporting activities that also help them to achieve carbon reduction goals.

Our projects improve rural resilience....

KMR's project investments in rural and often remote areas not only support local employment, they strengthen rural resilience to extreme weather, climate shocks and economic downturns. In particular, tree planting and hillside stabilisation will reduce future flooding and landslide impacts.

Cyclone Recovery

In 2023, **Gabrielle & the Auckland Anniversary floods** caused almost **\$1.9 billion in property damage, as well as damaging many farm systems**. The cost of repairing fences and/or fencing around slips reduced many landowners' ability to co-invest in KMR projects.

Working closely with the Ministry for the Environment, we rapidly designed and rolled out a **KMR Cyclone Recovery Fund** to support the recovery and/or relocation of affected KMR projects.



....and reduce primary sector risk

Globally, New Zealand's highest value markets are setting increasingly stringent environmental standards, driven by shareholder and customer demands. Through our work, KMR is supporting New Zealand's primary sector to successfully respond.

The New Zealand primary sector feeds around 40 million consumers a year. **We are therefore highly exposed to changing global market norms and standards**. As with the recent decision by Nestlé to set new carbon emissions standards, New Zealand exporters are facing **more stringent requirements for environmental sustainability** in our food and fibre exports.

It is not just consumers and private companies lifting the bar for environmental performance. The EU has recently introduced the **European Green Deal**, a plan for Europe to be the first 'climate-neutral continent', with no net greenhouse emissions by 2050.

KMR's co-funding of sediment reduction projects can reduce landowner and sector exposure to climate-related market risk. In addition, KMR can provide important third-party verification of project scope and completion via our digital tools.

Farm Plans remain a sector priority

All of the main primary sector producers in New Zealand have committed to farm environment plans to achieve water quality and other outcomes. Irrespective of regulation, there remain strong industry drivers for landowners to take action to improve environmental performance on farm. KMR can help with planning, co-investment and verification of relevant actions.

KMR accelerates progress towards Council goals

Auckland Council's 10 Year Budget 2021 - 2031 lists water quality as one of the top issues facing the region. The region's Long Term Plan specifically commits to cleaning up the Kaipara Harbour via its contribution to KMR.

Northland Regional Council's current Long Term Plan (2021 - 2031) notes sediment as a primary issue for Northland, and sets out its commitments to hosting and co-funding the KMR programme.

KMR aligns to national priorities

KMR activities are well aligned to the new Government's ethos of voluntary action (c.f. regulation), local solutions (c.f. national prescription) and investing directly to achieve outcomes.

KMR activities align directly with central and local government priorities to boost **resilience** to floods and other **extreme weather**, support **'localism'**, sustain **rural communities**, and **grow the economy**.

KMR activities align to and can provide momentum to the Government's 100 Day Plan priorities, specifically:

- Regional requirements for Cyclone and flood recovery including:
 - Restoring wetlands.
 - Planting near stream banks to reduce floodwater erosion.
- New approaches to Three Waters, including:
 - Rewilding natural corridors to allow for stormwater flows.
- Local economic diversification including:
 - Growing new revenue streams on-farm from small-scale farm forestry.
 - Growing new local industries from project "by-products" (food and fibre, nutraceuticals, etc).

Areas of focus in 2024

In 2024, KMR's ongoing focus is to scale up the programme across the catchment. We are well on our way to our 2nd millionth tree, with Winter 2024 the first season of large-scale hill country afforestation.

We will continue to work with NZARM to develop training and Farm Planning qualifications for KMR Field Advisors. A key decision will be how we align with and support the Freshwater Farm Plan system.

