

Kaihū River Working Group

Thursday 8 May 2025 at 10:30 am

AGENDA

Kaihū River Working Group Agenda

Meeting to be held in the SEED
Fosters Arcade
42 Victoria Street, Dargaville
on Thursday 8 May 2025, commencing at 10:30 am

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

MEMBERSHIP OF THE KAIHŪ RIVER WORKING GROUP

Chairperson, NRC Councillor John Blackwell

KDC Councillor, Ash Nayyar	Area 1 Representative, John Murray	Area 2 Representative, Bryce Wyatt
Area 3 Representative John Greensmith	Te Houhanga Marae Representative Cedric Beazley	Te Roroa Representative, Snow Tane

RĪMITI (Item)	Page
1.0 NGĀ MAHI WHAKAPAI/HOUSEKEEPING	
2.0 NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ/APOLOGIES	
3.0 REPORTS	
3.1 Record of Actions – 21 November 2024	3
3.2 Receipt of Action Sheet	7
3.3 Kaihu River Working Group - Presentation	
Attachment 1 Presentation	9
3.4 Any other business	
• Bullrush spraying	

TITLE: **Record of Actions – 21 November 2024**


From: Haylee Labelle, Personal Assistant Community Resilience

Authorised by Louisa Gritt, Group Manager - Community Resilience, on 09 April 2025
Group Manager/s:

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Record of Actions of the last meeting (attached) held on 21 November 2024 for review by the meeting.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Record of Actions - 21 November 2024 [↓](#) 

Kaihū River Working Group
21 November 2024

Kaihū River Working Group Record of Actions

Meeting held in the SEED
Fosters Arcade
42 Victoria Street, Dargaville
on Thursday 21 November 2024, commencing at 10.30am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Councillor John Blackwell
KDC Councillor, Ash Nayyar
Area 1 Representative, John Murray

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

NRC Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager, Joe Camuso
NRC Group Manager Community Resilience, Louisa Gritt
NRC Rivers & Natural Hazards Officer, Nicole Basher
NRC Secretariat, Haylee Labelle
NRC Casual Rivers Works Supervisor, Charles Chaves
Alayne Fitness

Part Meeting

NRC Biosecurity Specialist – Pest plants, Nancy Chaves (arrived 10.47am)

The meeting commenced at 10.30am.

Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Apologies (Item 2.0)

Snow Tane, NRC CE Jono Gibbard, Cr Geoff Crawford, Cr Marty Robinson, Cr Amy Macdonald, Cr Rick Stolwerk, Cr Tui Shortland, Cr Peter-Lucas Jones, Kieran Gilmour, Wayne Crump

Record of Actions – 23 May 2024 (Item 3.1)

Presented by: Cr Blackwell

Agreed action points:

- No action

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 3.2)

Presented by: Cr Blackwell

Agreed action points:

Kaihū River Working Group
21 November 2024

- **Close action 6, 17/4/24 but to continue to monitor this area for ongoing visibility of mound growth**
- **Action 3, 13/8/22 to be amended to reflect outstanding marae representation for Te Hauhanga marae as the area 3 rep action has been completed**

Secretarial note: Action 6, 17/4/24 came about as was a suggestion from working group attendee Colin McDonald. NRC was unclear as to what the working group was asking to be achieved but suspected it related to the old river channel (cut off) wanting it lowered so water will flow into the channel. LieDar indicates that channel width is remaining the same. Digger is unable to reach the river. The cost to bench and remove dirt would not be cost effective and is a lot of work for little gain

Kaihū River Working Group - Presentation (Item 3.3)

Presented by: NRC Rivers Manager, Joe Camuso

Agreed action points:

- **NRC Rivers Manager to inform KDC Councillor of contractor when the machine cleaning contract has been awarded**

Secretarial notes: Costs for the cross-sectional survey of the Kaihu River are being covered by the flood modelling budget for Northern Wairoa via CIP funding (not from the Kaihu River budget).

Machine cleaning sections of the Kaihu River between Parore Rd bridge to the Rotu bottleneck on an as needed basis (targeting the inside bends) is represented by the red line on slide 6.

2024-2025 MWR control \$30k is for one round of control. We are restricted by the EPA permission rules outside of NRC about waterways and had to break the work down into 1ha sections to gain approval. We can only 980L of active chemical (haloxyfop) per ha. Control has been working but is ongoing as MWR is hard to kill and requires multiple visits. A significant portion of the associated costs is water sampling (part of EPA requirement) approx. \$10k (herbicide we used was always under their detectable limits). Cost to spray off boat approx. \$14k. It is acknowledged that Nancy's work is around MPI funding not this work and have acknowledged her contribution to this work.

The contract for machine cleaning has not yet been awarded but a decision has been made will be the \$31,558ex gst option (Charles monitors this work) last season the contract was awarded to Hubands.

The powerpoint presentation was updated ahead of the meeting to include the following amendments which will be circulated with the record of actions to the working group

- *The 2024/25 budget report was added to slide 2*
- *Under the 2024/25 budget report, the YTD total for river clearance works was \$117,976. We added a new slide, slide 3, which breaks down that total.*
- *On slide 8 (2024-2025 Proposed Works Machine Cleaning), We mistakenly wrote the first quote received as \$54,000, it is corrected to the actual value which is \$56,400.*
- *Slide 11 has been added to show where we currently have cross sections along the Kaihu, to add further context to slide 10.*

Any other business (Item 3.4)

Presented by: Cr Blackwell

Agreed action points:

Kaihū River Working Group
21 November 2024

- **NRC Rivers Manager to send NRC secretariat the area map for working party representation**
- **NRC Rivers & Natural Hazards Officer to provide KDC Cr Nayyar with water flow data for Kaihu River**
- **NRC Biosecurity Specialist – Pest plants to send KDC Cr Nayyar water quality monitoring information for Kaihu River**
- **NRC Secretariat to ensure NRC Biosecurity Specialist pest plants is added to the contact list to receive optional invites to this meeting**
- **NRC Rivers Manager to send KDC Cr Nayyar the location details for the Mamaranui Bridge (Cr Nayyar has a separate matter outside of this working group to address)**

Secretarial notes: NRC Biosecurity Specialist has access to a budget to provide farmers/landowners with the chemical to do their own spraying to tackle MWR from the land side. Messaging to landowners is needed to encourage uptake.

General discussion on membership for the working party. Secretariat confirmed Hayley Christensen is in the contact group.

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 11.46am.

TITLE: **Receipt of Action Sheet**

From: Haylee Labelle, Personal Assistant Community Resilience

Authorised by Louisa Gritt, Group Manager - Community Resilience, on 15 April 2025
Group Manager/s:

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to enable the meeting to receive the current action sheet.

Nga mahi tutohutia / Recommendation

That the action sheet be received.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Action Sheet [!\[\]\(d0262bbe9d2356661a2e89321dfcc781_img.jpg\)](#) 

Kaihū River Working Group - Action Tracker

#	Date of meeting	Agenda item number	KRWG action	Responsible staff	Status	Notes
3	13/08/2022	9.0 - Representatives	One vacant position on the committee. Te Hauhanga Marae Representative	NRC rivers team	Completed	12/07/22 - Boyd confirmed he would like to stand down. No replacement found yet. Discuss with committee at April 2023 meeting. No replacement found for Te Hauhanga Marae Representative following retirement of Des Subritzky 17/04/23 - No members found 10/05/24 - Joe has been in touch with Delilah at Te Houhanga Marae, will get him to follow up with this. 3/4/25 - Cedric Beazley is affiliated with Te Houhanga Marae and has now been included in membership for the working group and sent the calendar invites
6	17/04/2023	3.8 - Other Business	NRC to investigate dropping the bank by Gary’s bridge.	NRC rivers team	Closed	27/09/23 - need to get confirmation of where this is and will include in tender. 16/11/23 - NRC will liaise with John Murray as to the exact spot 09/05/24 - Location confirmed. Need to understand exactly what the group is after here? Is this referring to the bank between the drain (Garys Bridge) and the Kaihu? 21/11/24 - Agreed at Nov 24 meeting to close this action and continue to monitor this for changes
1	21/11/2024	3.2 - Receipt of action sheet	Close action 6, 17/4/24 but to continue to monitor this area for ongoing visibility of mound growth	NRC rivers team	Completed	
2	21/11/2024	3.3 - Presentation	Inform KDC Councillor of contractor when the machine cleaning contract has been awarded	NRC Rivers Manager	Completed	The contractor awarded the contract for this work is Huband Contractors
3	21/11/2024	3.3 - Presentation	Circulate amended documentation with November meeting minutes	NRC Secretariat	Completed	3/12/24 sent to working group members
4	21/11/2024	3.4 - Any other business	Send NRC secretariat the area map for working party representation	NRC Rivers Manager	Completed	3/12/24 sent to working group members
5	21/11/2024	3.4 - Any other business	Provide KDC Cr Nayyar with water flow data for Kaihu River	NRC Rivers & Natural Hazards Officer	Completed	29/11/24 NRC Rivers manager sent via NRC secretariat the flow record for the Kaihu at Gorge site since install in March 1970.
6	21/11/2024	3.4 - Any other business	Send KDC Cr Nayyar water quality monitoring information for Kaihu River	NRC Water Quality Manager	Completed	22/11/24 email from Ricky Eyre NRC forwarded to Cr Nayyar - 22/11/2024 - We have one SOE site on Kaihu River but its fairly far up the catchment. https://www.nrc.govt.nz/environment/environmental-data/environmental-data-hub/?moduleId=5&collectionId=38&displayId=1&siteId=833&measurementId=54&daysOfData=ALL https://www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/northland-region/river-quality/northern-wairoa-river/kaihu-at-gorge We also have a predictive model located at the Trounson Holiday Park but representative for that general area of the catchment. https://safeswim.org.nz/
7	21/11/2024	3.4 - Any other business	Ensure NRC Biosecurity Specialist pest plants is added to the contact list to receive optional invites to this meeting	NRC Secretariat	Completed	22/11/2024
8	21/11/2024	3.4 - Any other business	Send KDC Cr Nayyar the location details for the Mamaranui Bridge (Cr Nayyar has a separate matter outside of this working group to address)	NRC Rivers Manager	Completed	15/4/25 map sent to Cr Nayyar

Kaihu River Working Group

8th May 2025 Meeting



Kaihu River Financial Report

5003

Description	2023/24			2024/25		
	Full year Budget	YTD	Variance	Budget YTD March 25	YTD March 25	Variance
Operating Expenses						
Consultants	0	0	0	0	110	(110)
Valuation Consultants	5,378	4,300	1,078	4,033	3,975	58
Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stopbank & River Schemes works	0	0	0	0	0	0
River Clearance Works	63,131	117,976	(54,845)	63,131	* 21,537	41,594
Advertising - Statutory Notices	366	0	366	366	0	366
Sundry Supplies	0	54	(54)	0	0	0
Rate Collection Cost - TA's	1,450	1,332	118	1,087	1,089	(2)
Labour Charged	0	3,398	(3,398)	0	2,776	(2,776)
Vehicle Running Costs Charged	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Expenses	70,325	127,061	(56,736)	68,617	29,487	39,130
Operating Income						
Rates Revenue	69,452	68,449	1,003	52,089	49,515	2,574
Contract Revenue	0	4,361	(4,361)	0	4,361	(4,361)
Interest - Internal	0	3,877	(3,877)	0	2,067	(2,067)
Operating Income	69,452	76,687	(7,235)	52,089	55,944	(3,855)
Net operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(873)	(50,373) ✓	49,501	(16,528)	26,457	(42,985)
Capital expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less depreciation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net operating and capital surplus / (Deficit)	(873)	(50,373) ✓	49,501	(16,528)	26,457	(42,985)
Surplus / (Deficit) carried forward	48,255	92,429	(44,174)	51,299	42,056	9,243
Surplus / (Deficit) at balance date	47,382	42,056 ✓	5,327	34,771	68,513	(33,742)

*24/25 Machine Cleaning - \$30,140 (\$9000 outstanding)

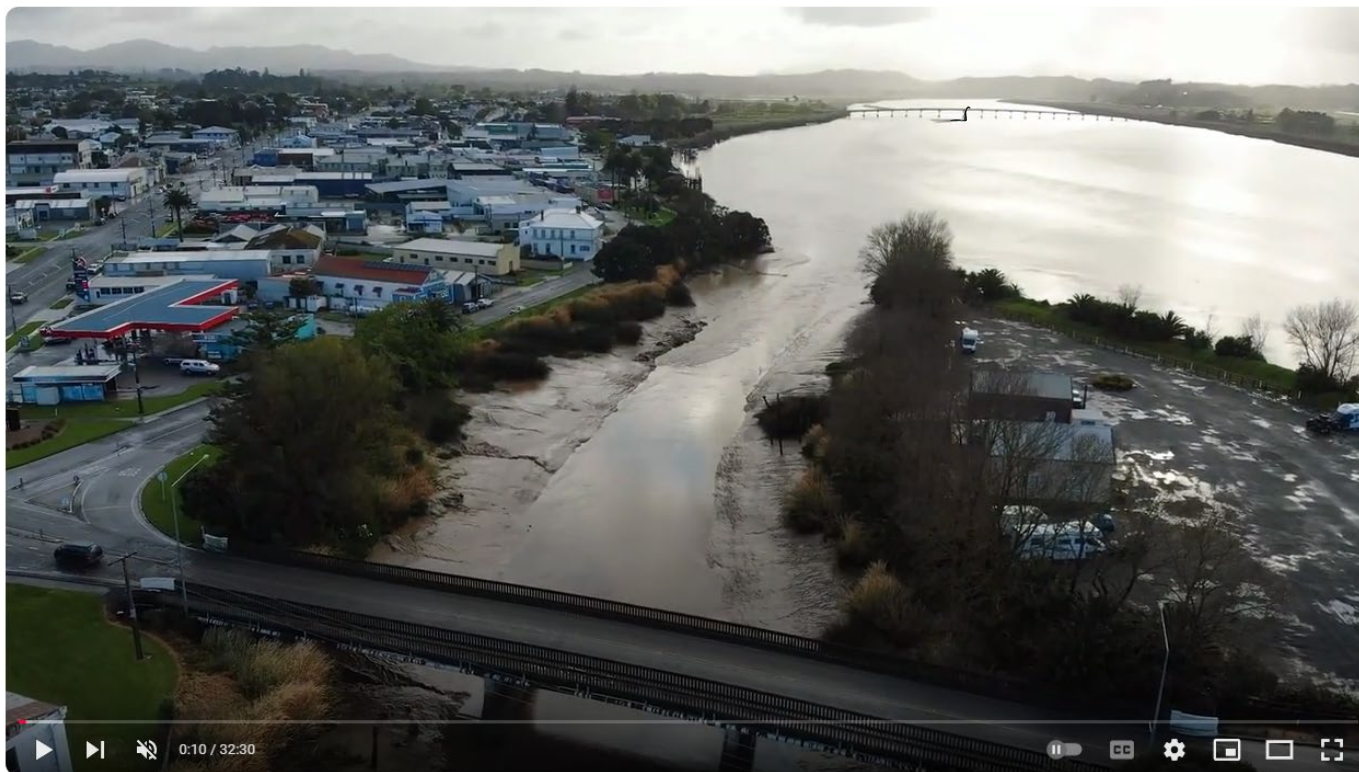
PROPOSED WORKS SEASON BUDGET

No.	Item	Estimated Cost
1	Confluence to Parore Road Bridge	
1a	Machine cleaning of right bank from Duck Creek to Parore Road Bridge OR left bank from 73 Beach Road to Parore Road Bridge*	\$ 20,000
1b	Spraying Manchurian Wild Rice Grass on the left and right banks from the Confluence to Parore Road Bridge	\$ 30,000
2	Parore Road Bridge to the Bottleneck	
2a	Machine cleaning sections from Parore Road Bridge to Bottleneck on an as needed basis	\$ 8,000
3	North of the Bottleneck	
3a	Tree Removal Upper Kaihu as needed	\$ 10,000
	Total	\$ 68,000

* Each bank will be cleaned on a biennial basis (every second year).

2024-2025 Works Programme

- 2024 Drone Flight
- Machine Cleaning of True Left-Bank from 73 Beach Road to Parore Road Bridge
- Machine cleaning on an as needed basis from Parore Road Bridge to the Bottleneck
- MWR Spring Control
- Cross-sectional survey of the Kaihu River



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kygV4oJTUI8>

2024-2025 Works Update Machine Cleaning

Machine cleaning completed along the true left-hand bank of the Kaihu river from 73 Beach Road to Parore Road Bridge (yellow line)



2024-2025 Works Update Machine Cleaning

Machine cleaning sections of the Kaihu River between Parore Road Bridge to the Rotu Bottleneck on as needed basis





2024-2025 Works Update MWR Control

- We proposed an Autumn control round with a budgeted cost of approx. \$30,000
- Did not proceed as landowners did not want this worked carried out
- Does the working group support this work moving forward?



2024-2025 Works Programme Model & Cross-Sectional Survey

- New flood modelling for the Kaihu and the Northern Wairoa expected to be released mid to late 2025
- Cross sectional survey of the Kaihu from the confluence to Parore Road Bridge was undertaken week starting 28th April (this is weather dependent)*

*If the cross sectional survey, mentioned on the previous slide goes ahead the week starting 28th April, we will include some slides showing what data is available at the time of the meeting.

