

Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund Quarterly Report January 2022 – March 2022

Organisation: Waikato Regional Council
Project name: Piako Green Corridor
Deed number: 23704
Date of report: Date 30 April 2022

Official information and privacy

Official Information Act 1982

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Introduction

This quarterly report provides the Ministry for the Environment with information about how the delivery of your Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund project is going.

This report gives you the opportunity to record and communicate to interested parties, including the Ministry for the Environment, funding partners and the wider public, the progress made on your project, along with any significant risks, issues and/or health and safety matters encountered, and stakeholder engagement undertaken.

Quarterly reports are a key source of information for updates to the Minister and the Ministry's website on the progress of Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund projects. The different sections in this report serve different purposes:

- **Section A** is an opportunity for you to provide an update as to what has been happening during the reporting period, successes during the quarter, and key tasks/activities that are planned for the next quarter. This is a useful recording tool for the project team and any other involved parties for assessing what has been achieved to date and what is ahead, as well as providing robust information should the project come under scrutiny.
- **Section B** asks for operational details of the quarter, including funding received from external organisations, risks and issues, and health and safety. It also provides an opportunity to include any other details, which you think are relevant and the Ministry should be aware of (eg, events, publications, awards).
- **Section C 'Declaration'** section provides assurance to the Ministry that you recognise the accountability for the information provided, which may be requested by interested parties beyond the Ministry.
- You are also required to update the **Budget Tracking Spreadsheet** for this financial year, and provide the agreed deliverables for any activities which have been completed in this quarter.

Important Information

It is preferable to complete this report electronically and submit it by email.

Please discuss any problems, issues, or major changes to your project with your assigned Ministry analyst before completing and submitting this report.

When your report is complete

Your report should be submitted within four weeks of the end of each quarter, unless otherwise agreed with your assigned analyst. Please refer to page 28 of the *Guide for Recipients* which includes a detailed reporting calendar.

Email the following documents to the Ministry each quarter:

- completed quarterly report
- updated budget spreadsheet
- completed summary of expenses spreadsheet
- agreed deliverables for any activities which have been completed in this quarter.

Alternatively, you can post these to:

Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund
Hono Tahua – Communities & Freshwater Investments
Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
Wellington 6143.

What happens next?

Your assigned analyst will assess the report to ensure that you have met the requirements for funding as specified in your funding deed. During the Ministry's review of the report and supporting documentation, further information (including evidence confirming actual expenditure) may be requested. Allow at least 10 working days for the assessment of your report to take place.

Once the Ministry for the Environment is satisfied that your quarterly claim meets the deed funding requirements, your assigned analyst will arrange payment with the Ministry's finance department.

Questions?

If you have any questions relating to this report then please contact your assigned analyst.

SECTION A: PROJECT SNAPSHOT

1 Progress update and key facts

Piako Green Corridor is a 5-year project aiming to reconnect the Kopuatai Wetland to the Firth of Thames through a continuous vegetated corridor. This is supported by the replanting of the Foreshore Drainage network to benefit tuna (eel). This project is in year 2.

This quarter (Quarter 3):

- Tender for the supply, planting and maintenance of all plants for the remainder of the project has been completed. Two contracts are being awarded following this process (noting awaiting signing):

9(2)(b)(ii)

9(2)(b)(ii)

- Time taken to get to this point means that NO planting will occur this financial year, instead two rounds of planting will occur in the 2022/23 year (Aug/Sept 2022 and May/June 2023)
- The extended time taken to get plant contracting in place and beginning the planting programme is due to several contributing factors:
 - Working with our newly established supplier, 9(2)(b)(ii)
 - Processes for both contracts were repeatedly delayed due to covid, consequent changes to working arrangements, and the need for key individuals to isolate;
 - Changes to the project sites (see below for changes to the foreshore areas) meant plant species lists and plant numbers needed to be reconsidered for possible new sites, resulting in further exchanges around requirements and availability;
 - The region is currently significantly drier than normal with a soil moisture deficit that would likely reduce the survival of any plantings and we need to wait for soil moisture levels to improve before plants go in. 44,000 plants will go in over August/September.
- Animal Pest Control Plan paused following further investigation and subsequent discussion with MfE re value of work. Agreement that animal pest control works be deferred to year 3 and will focus on two sites; one area adjacent to the northern end of Kopuatai and the other near the mouth of the Piako River in order to maximise the benefits of predator control to areas of existing high biodiversity value.
- The full 4m x 19km is no longer available for planting on the foreshore drainage area. This is primarily due to unresolved landowner issues and concerns by district council around the ability for ongoing maintenance of the drainage channel.

This does not change the overall intent of reconnecting the Kopuatai Wetland to the Firth of Thames, as the project will still link with the foreshore. The width of foreshore is reduced, however the physical connection will still be made.

- Working Group meeting held with discussion around changes to drainage planting areas (this followed discussion with MfE Analysts). 8.72km of drainage channel will be removed (leaving 10.9km) from the project area and the planting width will reduce from 4m to 2m. This planting change will not result in an overall reduction in the number of plants, but will instead result in the transfer of plants to a new site. This new site will likely be Waemaro. This is a significant wetland area outside of the flood scheme and adjacent to the RAMSAR site Kopuatai. Confirmation of this approach is still needed from DOC as the landowners, but discussions are

ongoing, involve Ngati Hako and are positive. Following discussion with Mfe Analyst changes to the objectives/deliverables will be addressed through the annual work plan.

- Completion of planting plan for drainage area.
- Site preparation (spray) contractor procured for mainstem 3 area. Works instruction included. The first round of spraying has occurred in April 2022 and invoices are currently being processed. Site inspections will determine the need for follow-out applications, but field observations by WRC staff show a high level of glyceria control through the first application.

Communication and engagement

- Report to Contracts Committee – Re tender.
- Minutes from Working Group meeting provided.

Key risks and issues

- Following the boundary survey to address historical land ownership issues, it has been determined a significant area of land is privately owned on the Western end of the Foreshore Drain (Waitakaruru end). This, along with issues between the landowners and the District Council, means this section is no longer available for planting. Alternative sites are being investigated to deliver on planting and restoration requirements. Options will be presented to MFE – likely June 2022.
- Native Plant Procurement – 9(2)(b)(ii) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] This has resulted in the conclusion of the tender process with some final details being worked through to finalise the contract arrangements.
- Project continues to be labour/time hungry for WRC as a number of challenges emerge and are worked through.
 - Changes to the project areas, negotiations with landowners at the foreshore, re-design of those parts of the project that have changed, scoping the potential new sites to replace the foreshore, the tendering process for plant supply, and investigating alternatives (eg; pest animal control) for effective use of the funding has taken significant time to work through.
 - The NPS FW has now been released and the project has been caught up in the potential implications of this for the flood scheme and the need to work through this.
 - WRC labour costs have been reported as burdened costs, which over-reports expenditure on labour.
- FTE count will not be met this financial year due to planting delays. The calendar year however will be productive in terms of a number of operational delivery milestones being met.

Overall

The project has seen significant delays this year largely relating to the plant supply tender process. The impact is on this financial year only and we do not believe that the overall project timeframe will be affected. The project is being closely monitored and a project refresh workshop was held 31st March to review project needs and the upcoming financial year workplan. A detailed action plan is being developed to ensure the project will be achieved.

- This is a 5-year project, Quarter 3 of year 2 has just been completed.
- Overall, the project remains on track, noting that a lot of the activities are planned for Q4. Some works are being reprogrammed for year 3 due to planting timeframes being outside of the current financial year.
- A key deliverable has been achieved with the completion of the Native Plant Supply Tender. This will secure the planting, labour to plant and maintenance of the planting up until 30 June 2025 (project completion).
- There has been very little expenditure or employment (outside of WRC staff) this reporting period.

Next Quarter: Describe the key activity/tasks that will take place next quarter.

Key tasks/activities planned for the next quarter include:

- Fencing works procured (quotes have been received). The job will be split between two local fencing companies in order to spread employment and community benefit and is scheduled to occur May 2022.
- Drainage channel earthworks completed by Hauraki District Council.
- Completion of contract process for plant supply.
- New restoration area determined and agreed with DOC.
- Annual Work Plan finalised.
- Handover to new Project Manager.
- Site preparation of Main Stem 3 – commenced and anticipated to be completed by end of financial year.

2 Update on activities and objectives

Describe the progress made this quarter for each activity in the annual work plan. Include specific comments where there is something impacting on the delivery of an activity, or if there are particular successes to report).

Objective 1 By June 2025, the Kopuatai Wetland will be reconnected to the Firth of Thames through a continuous 17km vegetated corridor of 185,000 eco-sourced plants along one side of the Piako River main channel. It will continue to provide for the functioning of, and maintenance to, the Piako Flood scheme.

Activity	Progress update	% of activity completed
1.1 Site preparation and planting of 70,000 plants in main stem area 3.	<p>First round completed, second round of site prep spraying will be completed in Q4 dependent on weather (e.g. temp) so as to get best kill of glyceria. Purchase order and works instruction in place for 9(2)(b)(ii) with 9(2)(b)(ii) [REDACTED]</p> <p>Procurement for year 2 plants completed in Q3 with contracts being finalised presently. Contract awarded to 9(2)(b)(ii) [REDACTED]. Planting deferred till Q1 year 3.</p>	50% completed
1.2 Release of year 1 planting (18,000 plants).	Minor weed control carried out as required, balancing between releasing and protecting plants in dry conditions. Contract with 9(2)(b)(ii) underspent (5.5hours). Inspections by WRC staff show that the plants are in good condition with significant growth in the <i>Carex sp.</i> anticipated over the cooler months.	50% completed
1.3 Install new / upgrade 7km of fencing along the main river channel.	<p>This will not occur until Q4 (May 2022).</p> <p>Quotes received by two as required contractors.</p>	0% completed
1.4 Determine location of and install at least one sediment trap/constructed treatment wetland where internal drainage network contributes flow to the main Piako River Channel.	<p>This activity is being moved to year 3 and will be done in conjunction with the Operations team.</p> <p>7 Sites have been identified where sediment traps can be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pipiroa East Floodgate - Millers Floodgate - Limeworks Floodgate - James Floodgate - Sloans Floodgate - Blakes Floodgate - Slaughter House Floodgate 	0% completed

	Discussion with Operations Manager are positive and looking likely that a sediment trap can be constructed at all of the drainage points that enter the Piako River from the true right. Design and costs will be tracked so as to use this information to roll out this approach on other drainage systems in the flood schemes. This is a positive step for tuna/eel refuge, sediment deposition and removal of nutrients from the drainage channels.	
1.5 Land licence agreements reviewed, and agreements reached with lease holders regarding timing and staging of works.	<p>Ongoing. Changes requested through land licence officer at Waikato Regional Council. Initial contact made with relevant lease holders.</p> <p>This is a well-established internal process and with clear communication being provided to existing lease holders on the upcoming changes to the area of their leases, it is not expected to offer any significant issues or risks to the project.</p>	50% completed
Objective 2 By 2025, 63,340 plants will be planted on one side of the drainage channel from Waihou River mouth along the berm to Waitakaruru (a distance of 19 km).		
Activity	Progress update	% of activity completed
2.1 Site preparation and planting of 10,400 at foreshore area 1, 18,000 at foreshore area 2 (carried over from Y1) and 25,000 at Foreshore 3.	<p>Site preparation will not commence until Q1 year 3.</p> <p>Procurement process completed with contract being finalised. 9(2)(b)(ii) and it is taking longer to work through all the set up and milestones of the project. No planting will be achieved this financial year.</p> <p>Note this objective will seek to be amended in year 3 work plan. Total drainage planting will reduce to 23,250. The surplus plants will be transferred to a new site being proposed that is adjacent to the Kopuatai wetland (site to be confirmed). Amendments to scope will be addressed though the Year Three Annual Work Plan.</p>	0% completed
2.2 Install new / upgrade 11.5 km Fencing along the drainage channel	These drainage areas are to have all grazing removed from them, as such fencing may no longer be required as adjacent grassed areas will be managed through cropping and or mowing. This is to be assessed and if not required the budget will be reallocated in year 3.	0% completed
2.3 Engage contractor for earthworks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10km of drainage digs and re-shape. 	Planned for Q4. This work is being led by Hauraki District Council. They have had trouble securing contractors to do the drain clearance and re shape work due to high level of earth works locally at present. HDC have been fully briefed as to the project's requirements and are happy with the design of the bank re-shaping (to facilitate planting) and that of the deep water refuges.	0% completed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one sediment trap/ constructed treatment wetland installed as demonstration site. 	As per 1.4 above – site selection and design of silt traps is underway.	
<p>Objective 3 <i>By 2021, an animal pest control programme will be developed for the purpose of supporting inanga spawning habitat and wetland avifauna along 19km of drainage channel and 17km of Piako River channel. The programme infrastructure will be in place by December 2021.</i></p>		
Activity	Progress update	% of activity completed
3.1 Engage contractor to undertake animal pest control survey to develop pest animal control plan for the purposes of supporting inanga spawning and avifauna.	This activity has not yet started. Following investigation it has been determined that pest animal control as originally proposed would be of low benefit. There is also an existing trap network along the foreshore area of the project. Change in approach has been agreed following discussion with MfE. This will be documented through WRC project management Change Control process. Two areas (one at the mouth of the Piako and River and one adjacent to Kopuatai) are proposed to be the focus for predator control in year three. These sites have existing higher quality habitat and threatened avifauna present.	0% completed
3.2 Develop a predator control programme and establish and commence Predator Control trap lines.	See above.	40% completed
3.3 Regular checks of animal pest control infrastructure as per plan recommendations.	Not started.	0% completed
<p>Objective 4 <i>By 2021 mātauranga Māori principles developed with mana whenua/iwi/hapu and confirmed for inclusion in work programme. By 2025, these principles incorporated into design and delivery of programme.</i></p>		
Activity	Progress update	% of activity completed

4.1 Define mātauranga Māori values and how they will be incorporated into the operational work plan.	Iwi representatives have had limited time to be involved 9(2)(b)(ii) so have not been available to support progressing this. This will be a priority for the next Quarter.	0% completed
4.2 Mātauranga Māori principles included in annual works plan as per programme developed in year 1.	See above.	Ongoing.
Objective 4 Communication and engagement		
Activity	Progress update	% of activity completed
5.1 Community open day for demonstration area.	This activity has not started and will not occur due to COVID restrictions and site safety issues.	0% completed
5.2 Communication and engagement deliverables achieved as per plan.	Factsheet developed and produced (supplied in Q1). Webpages updated. www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/shovelready E-Newsletter to key stakeholders. Joint video with MfE. WRC lead roll out, developed media release. https://www.facebook.com/WaikatoRegion/posts/4220461764670267?comment_id=4278765165506593	
Objective 6 Other miscellaneous - Project Management, Governance and Reporting (ongoing)		
Activity	Progress update	% of activity completed
6.1 Hold monthly governance group meetings, with a minimum of four per year.	Ongoing.	75% completed

6.4 6.2 Complete Ministry Reporting Requirements Q1, Q2, Q3, annual report per schedule and Annual Work Plan (draft by the 30 April 2022).	Q3 Report provided.	75% completed
6.5 6.3 Project management, and reporting to governance group.	Ongoing.	75% completed
6.6 Procure and prepay annual independent financial audit for FY1. Note: Copy of annual financial audit to be delivered in FY2 by 31st Oct 2021.	<p>9(2)(b)(ii) were engaged to undertake independent audit as per MfE Audit Guidelines.</p> <p>Permission was granted from MfE to use 9(2)(b)(ii) as they developed the Guidelines.</p> <p>Having sought to engage 9(2)(b)(ii) and then 9(2)(b)(ii) (who declined based on the grounds that they did not have enough suitably qualified Auditors available to carry out work to that level of accuracy) 9(2)(b)(ii) became the only viable option.</p>	100% completed
6.7 Procure and prepay annual independent financial audit for FY2. Note: Copy of annual financial audit to be delivered in FY3 by 31st Oct 2022.	Contract supplied. 9(2)(b)(ii) have been engaged to provide the required audits up until 31 October 2025.	10% completed (contract in place, audit to be completed by 31 Oct 2022)

3 Quarterly progress towards Jobs for Nature Area Indicators

Indicate below how your project's activities for the quarter have contributed to the programme's focus areas. Add 'N/A' in the Metrics and/or Focus Areas that are not relevant to your project

Focus Area	Metric	Target this quarter <i>(refer to Annual Work Plan)</i>	Progress this quarter	Year target <i>(refer to Annual Work Plan)</i>	Total progress this year
Fresh water restoration	Number of plants planted in riparian, lake, or wetlands areas	0	0	123,400	0
	Area (ha) of riparian, lake, or wetlands planting completed	0	0	12.2	0
	Length (km) of new fencing constructed and maintenance of existing fencing	0	0	12	0
Pest control and fish passage	Total area (ha) of animal pest control completed	11.5	0	35	0
	Total area (ha) of plant pest control completed	4	1	12.3	1
	Number of fish passage barriers assessed	NA			
	Number of fish passage barriers remediated (removed or managed)	NA			

Nature Based Employment							
Focus Area	Metric	Target this quarter <i>(refer to Annual Work Plan)</i>	Progress this quarter		Year target <i>(refer to Annual Work Plan)</i>	Total progress this year	
			Month 1 ²	Month 2			
Nature based employment	Number of people-hours worked in each reporting period ¹	1,440	Month 1 ²	75.5	8,600	700.5	
			Month 2	81.75			
			Month 3	115			
	Number of people currently employed on the final day of reporting period ³			Month 1	3		6
				Month 2	5		
				Month 3	3		
	Number of employment starts in each reporting period ⁴			Month 1	0		0
				Month 2	0		
				Month 3	0		
	Number of people who undertook formal training in each reporting period	0		0		0	0
	Number of people who completed training, i.e. gained a NZQA credit during each reporting period	0		0		0	0
	Number of NZQA credits gained during the period	0		0		0	0
Methodology for Nature based employment							
<i>We would prefer you to use actual counts for nature based employment. If you are unable to provide actual figures, please explain below your methodology for calculating nature based employment</i>							
Actual provided.							
How much funding did you spend on Nature Based Employment this quarter?							
<i>Include how much of your total funding contributed to nature based employment. This includes Freshwater Improvement Fund contribution as well as your organisation's contribution and external funders.</i>							

\$37,275

¹ Total number of hours worked by all individuals employed in job creation initiatives in the reporting period.

² Note for recipient – these have been split by month to validate the monthly survey monkey reporting

³ The number of people employed in jobs funded by a job creation programme, where a job is an employer/employee match (including self-employment matches). People are counted on the final reporting day whether they work full-time or part-time. Casual employees are included as are self-employed people contracted by an employer funded by a job creation programme.

⁴ Employment Starts is the number of employees (including all employment types, contractors and self-employed people) funded by a job creation programme who have joined the employer in the reporting period.

SECTION B: OPERATIONAL DETAILS

4 Other sources of funding

Provide information about other external funding used towards the cost of activities completed this quarter (other than from the Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund). Include all cash contributions from your own organisation and other funding sources as listed in your Annual Work Plan.

Insert additional rows if you have more than five partners or external funding sources

Organisation name	Total amount requested	Total amount approved	Amount received to date	Amount paid towards activities this reporting period
Waikato Regional Council	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$109,375	\$36,630
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

5 Risks and issues

List the status of any risks currently affecting the project and what is being done to manage or mitigate these (for example, activities not completed on time, unpredictable events such as weather, lack of resource commitment, time and cost estimates too optimistic, unexpected budget cuts, stakeholders changing requirements after the project has started, health and safety matters).

Risk	Management/mitigation
	<i>Describe the process you will use to minimise and manage the risk</i>
<p>Plant establishment</p> <p>There is a risk that native plant establishment fails because of weather (e.g. drought or floods) or plant/planting quality which could result in lower stocking rates than the required minimums and/or damage to plants.</p>	<p>Plan annual planting programmes utilising long term forecasts.</p> <p>Plant suitable species that can accommodate drier periods.</p> <p>Keep year 4 as a backup contingency planting season.</p> <p>Ensure plants meet required specifications ahead of planting.</p> <p>Site inspection by WRC will be undertaken to ensure quality of planting to ensure rate of survival.</p>
<p>9(2)(b)(ii)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>are a key stakeholder and have been involved in discussions around the Piako River, flood scheme, consents and associated works for decades.</p>	<p>Open communication has occurred throughout the process and WRC will continue to work with 9(2)(b)(ii) [Redacted].</p> <p>Continued communication in relation to the contract 9(2)(b)(ii) [Redacted].</p>
<p>9(2)(b)(ii)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>Maintain a separation of discussions with 9(2)(b)(ii) [Redacted].</p> <p>Mitigation has included a tender process following</p>

	<p>procurement policies and the two relationships can be managed as separate relationships for different purposes.</p> <p>Clear messaging to 9(2)(b)(ii) around this risk and the need to maintain boundaries between the two entities.</p>
<p>Project team staff retention There is a risk that core project team members leave roles during the project resulting in delays to project delivery.</p>	<p>To facilitate the delivery of shovel ready projects Waikato Regional Council has established the following to support project managers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a programme lead overseeing the delivery of shovel ready projects within the relevant geographical area. - a project co-ordinator to assist with project delivery and reporting. - a regional shovel ready programme manager to provide high level oversight and communications on the full package of shovel ready projects. <p>This structure ensures that there will be staff additional to the project manager who have a high level of familiarity with the project and key stakeholders, who can support and cover temporary vacancies and induction of new project team members.</p> <p>9(2)(a) will take up new role 28 February 2022, but will do so in a transitional way so as to continue to support this project. Handover to the new Project Manager will occur during Q4, and 9(2)(a) remains in an oversight role as the new PM in onboarding.</p>
<p>Foreshore Stopbank - Adjacent Landowners Grazing There is a risk that given there are no formal grazing licenses in place in the foreshore drainage area that when adjacent landowners who graze these areas are advised of the removal of access for grazing (pedestrian access can be maintained) and that all grazing will be ceased that it will create backlash and political intervention.</p> <p>There is additional risk that grazing will occur after formal notification of the need to cease, for example when stock feed is short, and works will be damaged.</p>	<p>Property boundary survey completed.</p> <p>Landowner discussions commenced and factsheet developed to support discussion and understanding. Access agreement is being developed to allow access to the plantings long term.</p> <p>Works will start at the eastern end this year where there are less challenges.</p> <p>Fencing can be used to clearly define project boundaries and to provide some security to plantings from stock should neighbours be tempted to periodically graze the area.</p>
<p>MfE FTE Changes There is a risk that WRC could be deemed to be failing to meet FTE expectations due to continued requests for changes by MfE as to how those numbers are calculated and reported, resulting in a damaged relationship and poor public perception.</p>	<p>PM has provided information to Analyst who has now submitted Memo to MfE director in WRC favour. We have received a copy of this memo. Have raised this as a risk in Annual report so as to ensure awareness at MfE.</p>
<p>Native Plant Supply There is a risk that eco-sourced plants are not available in quantities needed because of short notice in ordering, or ability of suppliers to provide them within the timeframes. This risk also applies where planting plans change and</p>	<p>Clarity on eco-sourcing provided to plant suppliers – should be grown from seed sourced close to the site, ie within the same ecological district and/or bioclimatic zone.</p> <p>Contracts in place covering more than one year</p>

<p>plant composition and numbers may change in order to be ecologically appropriate, for example, for a new site to the project.</p>	<p>provide certainty for growers and lead in time for plant production.</p> <p>Annual process of confirming plants for following year to ensure availability as far as possible.</p> <p>Tender process commenced – although contract signing is still pending at end of Q3.</p>
<p>Flooding There is a risk that the site is inundated due to flooding resulting in reduced planting/earth works times. This would result in needing to reschedule planting and therefore impact timeframes</p>	<p>Plan annual planting programmes utilising long-term forecasts.</p> <p>Allow for some infill/replacement planting due to mortality which may occur.</p> <p>Keep year 5 as a backup contingency.</p>
<p>Hauraki District Council There is a risk that Hauraki District Council do not want work to occur on their land and drainage areas which would result a significant portion of the project not being delivered.</p>	<p>Ongoing discussions have mitigated this risk significantly. ^{9(2)(b)(ii)} are supportive and ongoing communications continue to ensure any concerns can be addressed.</p> <p>Opportunity around tuna habitat and managing fall out following summer droughts by digging deeper water refuges are being planned for Q4, possibly extending into Q1 year 3.</p> <p>9(2)(b)(ii)</p>
<p>Accidental discovery There is a risk of accidental discovery of artefacts which could result in delays to the project timeframes, or a change of site scope.</p>	<p>Cease work in the area concerned and follow Accidental Discovery of artefacts protocol / advising landowner and relevant iwi authority.</p>
<p>Land licence agreements There is a risk that existing land licence agreements cannot be amended or that existing licence holders create issues in regards to changes to lease.</p>	<p>1 Oct 2021 One on one discussions with Landowner commenced and are ongoing.</p> <p>New risk added in regard to the potential to lose part of channel area.</p> <p>Planning around different license areas to enable implementation in those that are resolved.</p>
<p>COVID 19 - Impact on deliverables There is a risk that restrictions or illness amongst contractors and/or staff due to Covid 19 will impact project delivery resulting in time delays and increased cost.</p>	<p>Ensure local supply of labour and materials wherever possible.</p> <p>WRC has standard operating procedures for working under Alert levels.</p> <p>Ensure that approved contractors have COVID Alert level risk management included in their H&S plans.</p> <p>Keep year 5 as a backup contingency planting season.</p>
<p>There is a risk of future COVID restrictions and uncertainty as we move into the 'traffic light system' and risk of staff or contractors having to isolate in large numbers due to being close contacts or ill. This puts further pressure on resources that are already constrained as identified in the lessons learnt reviews, and may impact ability of projects to deliver agreed outcomes.</p>	<p>Risk raised across the Programme and COVID plans sought from providers through procurement processes.</p> <p>WRC has standard operating procedures for working under Traffic light levels. This provides for undertaking field-based restoration work safely at Orange and Red.</p> <p>Use local providers of labour and materials wherever possible. Use of more than one supplier (eg; for</p>

	<p>fencing, plant supply) can spread the risk and enable parts of the project to continue if other areas are restricted.</p> <p>Ensure that approved contractors have COVID Alert level risk management included in their H&S plans.</p> <p>Native plant nurseries are considered an essential service and are able to continue to maintain their plants and collect seed under Orange and Red.</p>
<p>Iwi contractors</p> <p>There is a risk that iwi contractors will not be able to recruit enough capacity in time to undertake works resulting in iwi expectations and project timeframes not being met.</p>	<p>Plan annual planting programmes utilising long term forecasts.</p> <p>Keep year 4 and 5 as a backup contingency planting season.</p>
<p><i>List any issues (problems related to the project that are about to occur or are currently occurring) that need to be raised, together with options for resolution.</i></p>	
Issue	Resolution
	<p><i>Describe the action(s) being taken to resolve the issue</i></p>
<p>Western Foreshore Boundary</p> <p>Landowners are not supportive of some of the planting work proposed in the foreshore area which has resulted in a reduction in the drainage area by approximately 4km. This means that the original project expectations can not be met at this site.</p>	<p>An alternative site is being investigated – Waemaro – a degraded and currently grazed wetland adjacent to Kopuatai which is administered by DOC. DOC and Ngati Hako have been approached in regard to the inclusion of this site into the project. Discussions are still in early stages, and if confirmation of support is given, planning the restoration of the site would commence in Year 3 (or possibly Q4 Year 2).</p>
<p>It is unlikely that Year 2 delivery will be achieved. Impacts of this include reduced confidence from MfE that WRC can meet the project targets which could damage the ability for WRC to engage in partnership projects in the future, poor public perception around performance, and a squeezed time-frame for delivery with high demands on WRC staff.</p>	<p>Continue to progress works wherever possible into Q4.</p> <p>Planning effectively for year 3 delivery and putting contracts in place early in order to give providers sufficient lead in time and time for delivery.</p> <p>Dialogue with service providers being engaged to ensure ability to deliver within required timeframes and commitment to those timeframes.</p> <p>Continued early and ongoing discussion with MfE analyst in relation to the project and its progress.</p> <p>Consider additional resources that could support the project delivery.</p>

6 Health and safety

Have there been any health and safety incidents during this reporting period?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, for each incident that occurred please briefly describe the incident, the action taken and outcome, and any lessons learned.</i>
Describe what health and safety activities taken place during this reporting period. <i>For example, provision of information, training, instruction or supervision of staff or volunteers, updates to H&S Plan etc.</i>	<p>Contractors supporting this project (WRC approved/as required contractors) have updated H and S documentation to include COVID parameters for working at different alert levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction of works. • H&S plan induction. • Contractor site induction. • Contractors COVID policies provided. • Record of vaccination status of contractors and staff kept.

7 Other information

Is there any other information that you would like to share in relation to the delivery of your project? For example, significant stakeholder engagement, events or media coverage?

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SECTION C: PAYMENT REQUEST

8 Payment Information (funding and contributions)

Provide information about costs incurred during this payment period, amount requested from PWER and other external funding used towards the cost of activities completed this quarter (other than from PWER). Include all cash contributions from your own organisation and other funding sources as listed in your Annual Work Plan.

Insert additional rows if you have multiple external funding sources

(A) Your organisation's cash contribution for this payment period	\$36,630
(B) Total external funding contribution for this payment period <i>(Please confirm amounts from each funding source in Table 4)</i>	\$0.00
(C) Amount requested from the PWER Deed of Funding for this payment period	\$645.00
Total cost incurred for payment period (A+B+C)	\$37,275.00

SECTION D: DECLARATION

9 Declaration

This declaration must be completed by a person with the organisation's signing authority.

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 Quarterly report, payment request or supplied in support of our Quarterly Report and payment request is complete, true and correct.
- I declare that I have the authority to sign this Quarterly Report and Payment Request, and to provide this information.
- I confirm that all costs incurred are directly attributable to the delivery of the agreed Annual Work Plan
- I confirm that I have updated the Budget Tracking spreadsheet
- 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

9(2)(a)

Position

Shovel Ready Programme Manager

Signature

9(2)(a)

2 May 2022

By typing your name in the space provided you are electronically signing this Quarterly Report.