

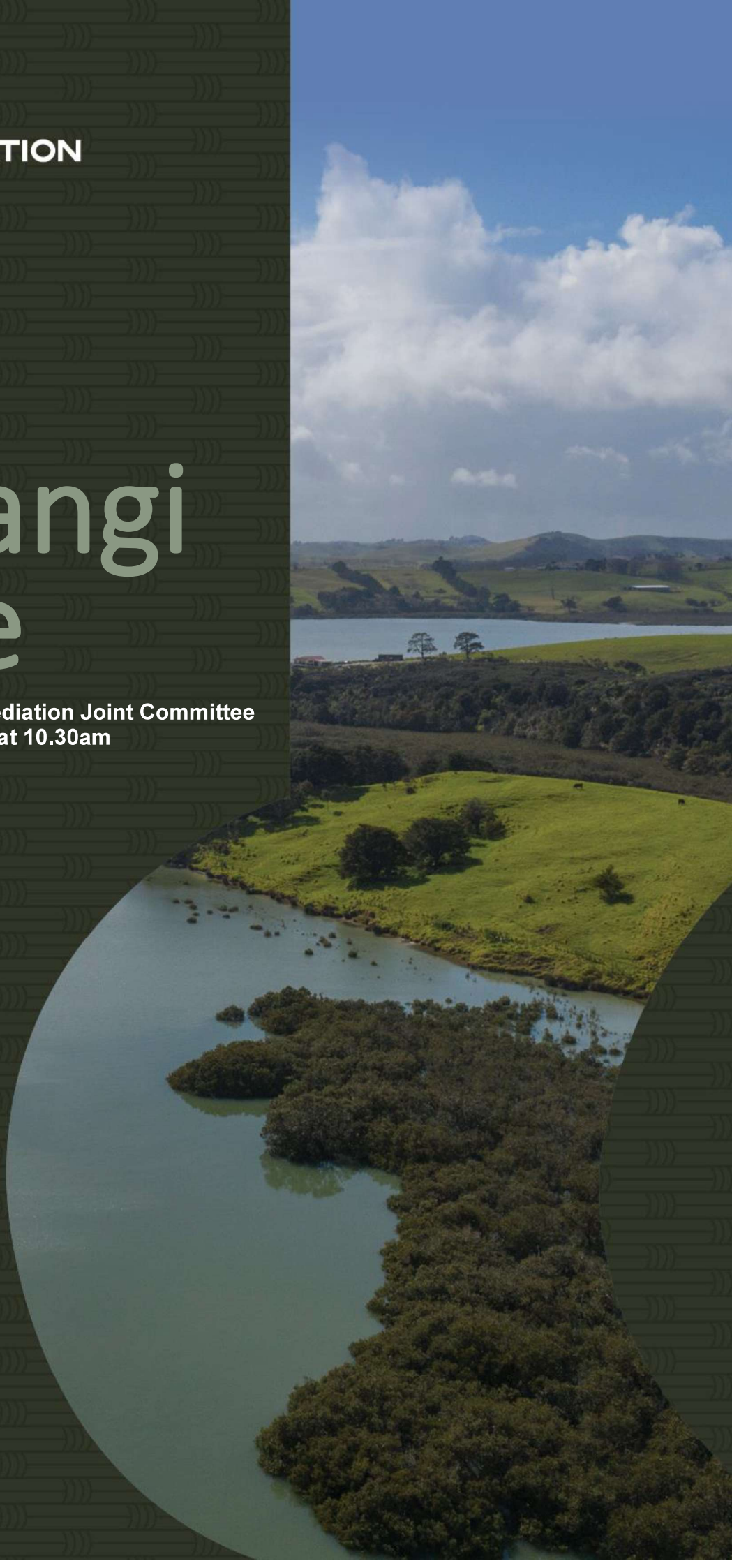
Agenda

Rārangi Take

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee
Monday 7 April 2025 at 10.30am



kmr.org.nz



Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee

Agenda

Rā Date:	Monday, 7 April 2025
Wā Time:	10.30am
Tauwāhi Location:	Microsoft Teams, Online
Ngā Mana Whakahaere Members	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council Debra Brewer, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Greg Sayers, Auckland Council Jack Craw, Northland Regional Council John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Kerrin Leoni, Auckland Council Michael Tana, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Michelle Carmichael, Auckland Council Taiāwhio Wati, Te Uri o Hau Tracy Davis, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara
Northland Regional Council Livestreaming staff member	Either Meloney Tupou or Callum Anderson

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 – February 2025

**Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer**

Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This paper serves to receive the minutes of the KMR Joint Committee meeting held in February 2025.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the minutes of the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee meeting held on 24 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Ngā Tāpiri | Attachments

Attachment 1: Joint Committee Hui Minutes (February 2025)

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee Minutes

Rā Date:	Monday, 25 February 2025
Wā Time:	9.30am
Tauwāhi Location:	Bridgehouse Lodge, Warkworth
Huihuinga Gathering	Tame Te Rangi (Chair), Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Amy Macdonald (Deputy Chair), Northland Regional Council (Online) Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Jack Craw, Northland Regional Council John Blackwell, Northland Regional Council Kerrin Leoni, Auckland Council Michael Tana, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua (Online) Michelle Carmichael, Auckland Council
Tae Mai In Attendance	Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Lisette Rawson, Amo-Rauora Koāwa, KMR Ben Hope, Ringa-Pārongo, KMR Duncan Kervell, Contractor, KMR Galilee Miles, Pou Tohutohu/Advisor, KMR Marina Ford, Ringa Taki Hononga Mana Whenua Relations Advisor, KMR Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support, KMR Emma Doré, Business Manager, KMR Patsie Karauria, Ministry for the Environment (MfE) (Observer) Fiona Kemp, Environs, Te Uri o Hau Victoria Kurupo, Environs, Te Uri o Hau Alyssce Te Huna, Environs, Te Uri o Hau

The Chair declared the meeting open at 9.45am.

KARAKIA TĪMATANGA / WHAKATAU

The Chair welcomed Patsie Karauria (Ministry for the Environment), Emma Doré (the new KMR Business Manager), and Mike Tana (the new Joint Committee member from Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua).

NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ | APOLOGIES (ITEM 2.0)

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Craw)

1. That the apologies from Members Cherie Povey, Jane Sherard, Taiawhio Wati-Kaipō and Greg Sayers for non-attendance be received.
2. That the apologies from MfE representative Celia Solomon-Te Kani for non-attendance be received.

Carried

NGĀ WHAKAPUAKANGA | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 3.0)

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

Secretariat note:

The Chair asked the Kaipara Maurikura to provide the appropriate template and information to the new Joint Committee member and staff member to ensure that declarations of interest could be recorded and managed as appropriate.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (ITEM 4.1)

Report from Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Moved (Craw/Curtis-Connelly)

That the Joint Committee:

1. *Confirm* the minutes of the KMR JC Meeting held on 21 October 2024 as a true and correct record.

Carried

JOINT COMMITTEE ACTION TRACKER (ITEM 5.1)

Report from Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Moved (Blackwell/Carmichael)

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

Carried

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD WORKPLAN (ITEM 5.2)

Report from Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Carmichael)

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

Carried

Secretariat note:

The Pou Tātaki discussed the proposed induction of new KMR JC Members and new Kaipara Maurikura staff in March. A placeholder date had been indicated but this would likely move to accommodate availability.

The Pou Tātaki noted that the KMR JC must meet in October, irrespective of local government election timeframes (or quorum), to review and endorse the draft KMR Annual Report which was required for tabling to the Minister for the Environment by 31 October. The KMR JC would also have to meet once quorum could be achieved following the local government elections in November to formally receive the Annual Report.

The Pou Tātaki noted that a further induction of new Members was indicatively planned for November following the local government elections, alongside an optional field trip, but that that date was also subject to diary availability of new Members.

In response to a question, the Pou Tātaki further clarified that the Chair and Member Blackwell were proposed to meet in Wellington with Minister Simmonds and Minister Hoggard in April, although no date had been confirmed as yet. She agreed that should Ministers visit KMR in the catchment, wider invitations to local leaders, MPs and Uri would be made.

DRAFT SIX MONTH REPORT (2024–2025) (ITEM 6.1)

Report from Galilee Miles, Pou Tohutohu/Advisor – Monitoring and Evaluation

Moved (Blackwell/Craw)

1. That the report 'Draft Six Month Report (2024-2025)' by Galilee Miles, Pou Tohutohu/Advisor – Monitoring and Evaluation and dated 31 December 2024 be received.

Carried

Secretariat note:

Member Carmichael asked if the KPIs for nature-based employment included contractors such as local fencing and planting contractors. The Pou Tohutohu confirmed that this employment was included, but work undertaken by groups or landowners as part of the required co-funding contribution was not included.

The Pou Tātaki further clarified that the reporting in the 6 Month Report focused on reporting against the standard KPIs that contractually must be reported to the Crown, and noted that these were largely activity and output measures. As would be demonstrated later in the meeting, KMR was adding and reporting other metrics as data and resources allowed in order to demonstrate the impact of the activity/outputs.

The Deputy Chair acknowledged the KMR team for the report and the excellent results for the 6 months under review.

In response to a question by the Chair about more disaggregated and local reporting on projects – such as those shown in KMR's Our People stories – the Pou Tātaki agreed that these stories brought to life KMR's work and its many benefits in the community and to the environment. Our Annual Report, website, social media and wider media regularly shared these stories. Internally, KMR also monitoring in our digital (GIS-based) system local project coverage and noted that it was very evenly distributed across the Kaipara Moana catchment, which was pleasing. Unless an area was heavily forested already, KMR was most likely working in it to support landowners and groups to take action.

Member Tana asked if KMR could take guidance from Te Arawa Lakes Trust on real-time monitoring of the rivers within the Kaipara Moana catchment. The Pou Tātaki noted that environmental monitoring was specifically excluded from the funding contract with the Crown as this was a statutory Council function. KMR had nonetheless received some free-of-charge monitoring support within the Moana itself from commercial and research partners such as Spark, Phathom and the University of Auckland. The Pou Tātaki further noted that she would seek to resume earlier conversations with both Councils about environmental monitoring in the Kaipara harbour, particularly NRC whose monitoring had been delayed for various reasons.

Moved (Blackwell/Craw)

2. That the report 'Draft Six Month Report (2024-2025)' document (Appendix One) be approved in principle
3. That the power to given to the Chair and Deputy Chair to approve a final draft of the Six-Month Report for provision to the MfE, with the Pou Tātaki also delegated to make minor editorial changes prior to submission if required.

Carried

Kōrero Tuku Iho –Reference Rōpū Membership Item (6.2)

Report from Marina Ford, Ringa Taki Hononga , and Victoria Kurupō, Environs Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Lead

Moved (Carmichael/Blackwell)

1. That the report 'Kōrero Tuku Iho –Reference Rōpū' by Marina Ford, Ringa Taki Hononga , and Victoria Kurupō, Environs Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Lead and dated 24 February 2025 be received.

Secretariat note:

In response to an offer from Member Craw to connect the Kōrero Tuku Iho team up with the NRC Freshwater Team who were also working on the Poutō lakes, the project team confirmed they were working closely with the NRC team.

Member Blackwell noted that Penny Smart & Chris Biddle had excellent knowledge of the lakes and recommended that the Kōrero Tuku Iho team might also want to connect with them, as well as drawing on previous scientific work undertaken with NRC support.

Member Carmichael asked about the makeup of the Reference Rōpū membership and suggested it could be beneficial to have a range of local knowledge and connection with local communities. The presenters confirmed there is a range of local representatives, in line with the Terms of Reference. It was noted that non-Māori landowners in the community will also be able to offer local narratives through this project.

The Deputy Chair asked how KMR governors can best speak to the connection between the Kōrero Tuku Iho project and KMR's sediment focus. The Pou Tātaki noted that at present KMR was driven by scientific risk assessments, enabled spatially via Mātai Onekura, KMR's digital platform. There was an opportunity through the project to strengthen the local and cultural narratives and use these to better inform KMR investment opportunities in future. The Pou Tātaki offered to send around brief background on the the Kōrero Tuku Iho project for governors to use as needed [Complete].

The Pou Tātaki also reminded the members that each of the three whakatauirā would gather local narratives and perspectives in support of KMR's primary objective to reduce sediment entering the Kaipara Moana, while informing a 'blueprint' for local restoration that can be widely used across the catchment by Kaipara Uri, iwi/hapū, marae, whānau and communities.

Member Curtis-Connelly acknowledged the work the Kōrero Tuku Iho team are undertaking, acknowledging there are still papakāinga right on the Kaipara harbour with families that previously used the sea as a traditional food basket.

Member Tana provided video examples of culturally-based stories from Parirau Marae [These were provided to the Joint Committee Members in the meeting, forwarded to the project team, and played over the lunch-break for information].

Carried

Moved (Curtis-Connelly/Craw)

2. That the recommended membership of the Kōrero Tuku Iho Reference Rōpū be approved.
3. That the revised Terms of Reference for the Reference Rōpū be approved.

Carried

Secretariat note:

Member Carmichael noted that the Reference Rōpū membership was mainly comprised of representatives with Uri connections to the Kaipara Moana, and asked was there an intent for the remaining three members to come from other groups. The Chair responded that in line with the Terms of Reference the membership was not intended to be representative in that way, but rather to reflect skillsets, expertise and experience in the kaupapa carried out through the Kōrero Tuku Iho project.

The Chair also noted there was also a need to accommodate those who live outside the Kaipara Moana catchment but who also have links to the Moana, as well as the local people and communities. He further noted that there had never been, however, any intent to ensure representation of special interest groups in the project, and that everyone was free to respond to the current Call for Expressions of Interest.

The Deputy Chair acknowledged the contribution of the former Joint Committee Member Virginia Warriner, and noted the value of her ongoing contribution to KMR through the Kōrero Tuku Iho project.

Pou Tātaki Report (Item 6.3)

Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki and Duncan Kervell, KMR Land Management Specialist, gave a presentation which provided an overview of KMR activity in 2024, signalled the strategic direction of the year ahead, and presented information on recent, fine-scale GIS analysis to support improved impact reporting. The presentation informed discussion related to the Pou Tātaki report, and ranging more broadly.

Moved (Carmichael/Curtis-Connelly)

1. That the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 24 February 2025 be received.

Carried

Secretariat note:

On improved impact monitoring, Duncan Kervell confirmed in response to a question that it was anticipated that every six months KMR would update the datasets. The data presented reflected 2.5 years of KMR activities (a lag from presented 3 year KPI results due to the manual nature of the analysis required).

Member Craw asked if there were any baseline monitoring data available on KMR's environmental outcomes (e.g. sediment levels in Kaipara Moana). The Pou Tātaki noted that sediment was known as a long-term contaminant -in other words, because of high degrees of natural variation, it would take some years before there was a statistical ability to demonstrate changes in sediment levels in Kaipara Moana. That said, there is unequivocal research findings that demonstrate that the actions supported by KMR delivery contribute to significant, cumulative and enduring environmental benefits (including freshwater and marine water quality, valued species abundance and population health, and ecosystem extent and condition, among others).

The Pou Tātaki noted that she would resume ongoing conversations with both Councils about environmental monitoring for sediment in Kaipara Moana. She reminded Members that the Crown had also commissioned a report to identify how to optimise both sets of regional monitoring to support statistically-meaningful monitoring of Kaipara Moana.

Member Tana asked to better understand the way KMR collects and presents monitoring data (pointing to some good local examples led by iwi/hapū), to which the Pou Tātaki agreed this was an important aspect of the forthcoming induction.

Member Carmichael asked that other opportunities for other research to feed back into understanding of the Kaipara Moana be considered.

The Members gave acknowledgement of the presentation and report, and thanked the Pou Tātaki for the quality and thoughtfulness of the strategic overview presented.

Karakia Mutunga

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 1.20pm.

TITLE: Joint Committee Action Tracker

**Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer**

Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Rāpopototanga Matua | Executive summary

Following each Hui, the Joint Committee Action Tracker is reviewed and updated. The Action Tracker records actions still to be resolved from previous Joint Committee meetings and serves as a transparent record of progress against committed actions.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

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

Ngā Tāpiri | Attachments

Attachment 1: Joint Committee Action Tracker – April 2025

KMR Joint Committee: Action Tracker

Item	Action	Who	Due	Status	Comments
6 May 2024					
Kōrero Tuku Iho (Item 6.2)	That KMR report back on progress in implementation of the Kōrero Tuku Iho project, including engagement, representation on the Reference Rōpū, and progress in the initial case study. A proposal for a second case study will be submitted by 30 June 2025.	Environs Te Uri o Hau on behalf of KMR	April 2025 July 2025	Open	This item is on the April agenda and further updates are scheduled.
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	Reconnecting Northland on behalf of KMR	TBD	Open	Timing of this report-back depends on progress in the draft Deed of Settlement for Wai 303 ¹ . In the meantime, a pilot is being progressed in the Mangakāhia sub-catchment.
15 November 2021					
KMR 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 [Tātaki Wai]	Auckland Council	TBD	Open	Timing for this report-back depends on finalisation of the KMR FWMT tool (Tātaki Wai). In the meantime, a draft Agreement has been prepared.

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

¹ This refers to the Ngāti Whātua Treaty Claim which has a component relating to the Kaipara Moana Body

TITLE: Joint Committee Forward Workplan

Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer Lily Grace Lambert, PA to Pou Tātaki and Governance Support

Rāpopototanga Matua | 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 2025. 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 report 'Joint Committee Forward Workplan' be received.

Ngā Tāpiri | Attachments

Attachment 1: Joint Committee Indicative Forward Workplan 2025

KMR Joint Committee: Indicative Forward Workplan 2025

Meeting	Hui (Standing Items)	Briefing / Workshop	Field Trip / Other
24 February Hui	6 Month Report Kōrero Tuku Iho		
24 March		Induction for new Member (19 March)	Partnership Forum/Field Trip (Optional)
7 April Hui (Online)	Draft Annual Work Plan Kōrero Tuku Iho DOC Community Agreement		Meetings with Senior Officials/Ministers TBC
28 July Hui	Annual Work Plan Kōrero Tuku Iho Interests	Haukāinga session	
15 September			Field Trip (Optional)
20 October Hui (Online)	Draft Annual Report	Risk	
17 November Hui	Audit Report Annual Report Meeting Dates 2026	Induction for new Member(s) (TBC)	Field Trip (Optional)
24 November			Stakeholder Event (TBC)

TITLE: Draft Annual Work Plan (2025)

Kaituhi Pūrongo | Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki; Emma Doré, Amo-Rautaki Pākihi | Business
Report Writer Manager

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This paper:

- Summarises key elements of the Kaipara Moana Remediation programme's draft Annual Work Plan (2025-2026) (Attachment 1).
- Seeks approval to submit the draft Annual Work Plan for the 2025-2026 financial year to the Ministry for the Environment for review and comment, as per the requirements of the KMR programme Deed of Funding, subject to any feedback from the Joint Committee.
- Seeks approval for a delegation for the Joint Committee Chair and Deputy Chair to approve a final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE and finalise the Work Plan as needed following MfE review and completion of Year 5 audit.

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

The Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Deed of Funding with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) requires the KMR Joint Committee (Joint Committee) to prepare a draft Annual Work Plan for each Financial Year of the programme and submit this draft to MfE for review and comment.

This report summarises key elements of the draft Annual Work Plan (the Work Plan) for the 2025-2026 financial year (FY2025-2026) (Attachment 1). The proposed KMR budget for financial year is \$17.195 million in total programme budget value (i.e. including cash and in-kind contribution value). KMR will invoice MfE for the first six months of their estimated contribution at the start of FY2025-2026.

As with last year, the draft Work Plan sets ranges for delivery during the year. The upper bound of each range reflects KMR's aspirations for delivery, with the lower bound reflecting realistic key performance indicators that KMR is expected to meet under the *Jobs for Nature* reporting system.

Direction is sought from the Joint Committee on the draft Work Plan. This will allow refinements to the Work Plan prior to provision of the draft Work Plan to MfE. We are proposing a delegation for the Joint Committee Chair and Deputy Chair to approve the final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE by 30 April 2025.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

1. Receive the report 'Draft Annual Work Plan 2025-2026' by Justine Daw and Emma Doré, dated 7 April 2025 (Attachment 1).
2. Note the draft Annual Work Plan budget for the 2025-2026 financial year totals \$17.195 million (total programme value excluding GST).
3. Note the draft Work Plan budget and KPIs will continue to change as modelling is refined and it becomes clearer what Year 5 budget needs to carry over into Year 6.
4. Note modelling uptake of remediation activity is inherently challenging, as KMR is a voluntary programme, and uptake can be highly variable depending on weather, human capacity, and the economy.

5. Note that as we did last year and reflective of the ongoing uncertainties in KMR's operating environment, we have estimated a suite of delivery ranges in 2025-2026, the lower bound of which represents the formal Key Performance Indicators for the programme, which KMR is expected to meet.
6. Approve for submission the draft Work Plan (Attachment 1) to the Ministry for the Environment for review and comment, as per the requirements of the KMR Programme Deed of Funding, subject to any feedback from the Joint Committee.
7. Note that the Ministry can request any reasonable modifications to the draft Work Plan within 20 working days from submission.
8. Agree to delegate to the Joint Committee Chair and Deputy Chair approval of a final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE and finalisation of the Work Plan as needed following MfE review.
9. Note the Joint Committee will receive for information the finalised Work Plan in October due to the timing of the external audit.

Horopaki | Background

The Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Deed of Funding with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) requires the KMR Joint Committee (Joint Committee) to prepare a draft Annual Work Plan (the Work Plan) for each Financial Year of the programme and submit this draft to MfE for review and comment.

This report summarises key elements of the draft Work Plan for FY2025-2026. Technically, this Work Plan covers Year 6 of KMR programme activity, with Year 1 a partial year (4 months) following finalisation of the Deed of Funding, and Year 2 primarily focused on programme design and establishment ahead of hiring of Kaipara Maurikura staff (late 2021, early 2022).

The draft Work Plan (Attachment 1) reflects an ongoing focus on continued, sustainable scale up of the KMR programme, in line with the KMR Vision and four Investment Objectives embedded in the KMR Memorandum of Understanding.

Direction is sought from the Joint Committee on the draft Work Plan. The draft will be further refined in response to feedback from the Joint Committee before submission to MfE.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

The draft Work Plan reflects the KMR work programme structure. The Work Plan is drafted in the same template as used in earlier years. MfE has previously directed KMR to use this template.

In summary, the 2025-2026 Work Plan will support:

1. The continued scale up of KMR's core work in developing Sediment Reduction Plans and associated remediation projects;
2. Key enablers of remediation, specifically a programme of targeted engagement and partnerships, and the continued development and support of our cohort of Field Advisors to provide quality advice;
3. The ongoing implementation of the Kōrero Tuku Iho project, which will see greater integration of te ao Māori perspectives in KMR programme delivery; and
4. Continued support for the governance and operational costs associated with the Joint Committee and the Kaipara Maurikura.

Programme Budget in FY2024-2025

In FY2025-2026, the KMR programme budget remains structured around our six major work programme areas, each comprising a number of ongoing projects. All projects have been assessed as necessary to making progress towards the four investment objectives of the KMR programme, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding and Deed of Funding. Project budgets in the draft Work Plan represent the estimated quantum required to achieve the identified outcomes, including *Jobs for Nature* KPIs.

In line with responsible financial management and requirements of the Public Finance Act, the KMR budget provides for all known or expected expenses to be incurred in FY2025-2026. This includes the value of all contracted (committed) works. Some of the budget will be committed in Year 6 and carried over into Year 7.

Budget that is carried over reflects the value of remediation grants and the matching landowner contributions that are not completed by the end of the financial year. This is expected because remediation projects span financial years (the end of financial year falls in the middle of the planting season). While we contract most winter planting before 30 June, the timing of winter planting projects can occur throughout the winter season, depending on factors such as weather, and landowner and workforce capacity, and Field Advisors only sign off planting as complete at a species-appropriate period after planting.

The initial estimate of the remediation project value to be carried over from the current Year 5 (2024-2025) budget is \$5.350 million (this includes Crown, landowner and third-party contributions). This is in support of an estimated 200 remediation projects that are underway with landowners for which activity will not be completed by 30 June 2025.

The proposed budgets in the draft 2025-2026 Work Plan are not final:

- Modelling of assumptions for sediment remediation activity may be further refined to take into account feedback received from governors and MfE, as well as a more accurate understanding of what can be achieved in Year 5 based on progress in the current financial year.
- Finalisation of the budget for FY2025-2026 is only possible after the current financial year has concluded, when we will have a view of actual investments made before 30 June 2025 and what amount of funding is required to carry over (accrue) for projects that run between financial years (as many remediation projects do).

Funding sources for the budget

The Annual Work Plan costs will be met through a combination of Crown grant funding, cash and in-kind contributions by councils, and landowner and third party contributions.

A key requirement in the Deed of Funding is for Crown contributions over the life of the programme to be matched (i.e. at least one-to-one) by 'other' contributions, which include council, landowner, and other third-party contributions (e.g. from industry, philanthropic interests and community). Supported by MfE, KMR has taken the approach of achieving this matching requirement in each financial year to provide a consistency of approach and ensure the Crown retains confidence that funding obligations are being met across the life of the programme. In line with current practice, the draft Work Plan sets out a proposed apportionment of funding sources for each project area.

The estimated split in the proposed budget is shown in Table 1 below and over page.

Table 1: Estimated funding split by sources FY2025-2026

Source	\$ million	%
Auckland Council and Northland Regional Council	\$3.236	18.82

Industry/NGO/other	\$0.065	0.38
Landowners	\$5.296	30.80
Maximum Crown contribution	\$8.598	50.00
Total (All funding sources)	\$17.195	100

As set out in the Memorandum of Understanding, Auckland Council and Northland Regional Council are committed to make financial contributions to KMR (through cash and/or in-kind contributions e.g. staff time and expertise, or use of facilities) to KMR. These Council contributions are variable between years based on KMRs operations and are not required to be evenly spread across the . In early years, Council contributions were lower reflective of KMRs lesser need in earlier This has been reconfirmed in their Long Term Plans. Northland Regional Council contributes steadily throughout the year through payment of KMR staff salaries and charges under a Service Level Agreement for office space and support. KMR invoices councils for any additional contribution needed to achieve the programme's 'matching requirement'.

Once the Ministry has approved the draft Work Plan (to be submitted with any updates following this Hui), KMR intends to invoice the Ministry for a sum equivalent to 50% of the Crown's contribution (\$4.299m) for FY2025-2026 so that payment can be made by early in the financial year. We intend to invoice for the remaining Crown contribution after the Annual Report has been provided to the Crown at the end of October, as funding to be carried over to FY2025-2026 - and therefore the second Crown contribution for the financial year – can only be confirmed once external audit of FY2024-2025 accounts is complete.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The draft Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) remain an estimate of what the programme could achieve in FY2025-2026 and have been developed in consultation with the Ministry. As we did last year, this year we have set a target range for delivery, which complements our *Jobs for Nature* KPIs. This approach reflects that it is not possible to precisely model uptake in a voluntary programme, and that KMR continues to face high levels of uncertainty in the operating environment (e.g. recessionary pressures, potential drought pressures, increased uncertainty in respect of freshwater policy direction and timeframes which are slowing uptake). Such an approach gives us a realistic range to aim for – the lower end being a moderate estimate of potential uptake and the basis for our *Jobs for Nature* KPIs, while the upper end reflects more aspirational uptake. This approach provides stretch for KMR to aim for, while ensuring we meet our formal *Jobs for Nature* KPIs (noting that KPIs remain challenging to set in a voluntary programme, particularly for areas such as hill country sediment remediation activities for which there are limited data points).

Ranges have been set taking into account:

- Programme delivery to date and what we expect to achieve by 30 June 2025 (mid-way through the winter planting season but with some headwinds in terms of uncertain carbon market policy settings, uncertain impacts in terms of the Fonterra Cooperative Difference incentives framework and potential drought in the catchment)
- Differing levels of certainty about uptake of different remediation activities. For example, larger-scale hill country activities are only offered for the second time this winter, and there is high uncertainty about the degree to which landowners will adopt hill country activities and/or substitute riparian activities with hill country activities without the certainty of access to carbon credits – see the Government's announcement of capping access to NZETS credits of 14 December 2024);
- The Grant Thornton model that informed the programme rephasing and sets out estimated annual deliverables across each year of a 10-year programme; and

- Landowner feedback and programme experience that ongoing inflationary pressures and recessionary headwinds, new and growing drought concerns, as well as new uncertainty around freshwater and carbon (NZETS) policy settings are influencing decision-making.

In time, it will be possible for Tātaki Wai outputs to inform KMR KPIs. However, the tool is not yet ready for this purpose.

KMR monitors a range of indicators, in addition to the *Jobs for Nature* KPIs, using them to understand performance and see further back in our pipeline to understand emerging trends. We have introduced a metric relating to remediation projects to complement the metric for Sediment Reduction Plans (SRP). This is because we have an increasing number of landowners who already have an SRP and are doing their second, third, or later remediation projects with KMR. Ultimately, it is the level of project activity that drives programme delivery, from work for Field Advisors and our accredited suppliers, through to levels of resourcing required by the Kaipara Maurikura for grant administration and oversight, monitoring and assurance, engagement and communications activity, all of which are required to support timely, efficient and effective sediment remediation outcomes.

In FY2025-2026, KMR is also intending to complement the *Jobs for Nature* KPIs with some additional metrics. Our Taiao KPIs under *Jobs for Nature* capture the length of fencing contracted or completed, and the number of plants and area of planting contracted or completed. We have now retrospectively analysed (for the first 2.5 years of KMR's operations, i.e. to 30 June 2024) the area of wetland protected and length of waterway protected in the programme to date, enabling us to report on this at a programme level. We will gain a better understanding of our progress in these areas in FY2025-2026, and we can consider developing performance ranges / targets for future years.

Table 2: Key Performance Indicators (2025-2026)

Focus Area	Metric (Delivered in reporting period)	Six-month target range	Total (12 month) Year 6 target range	Jobs for Nature Year 6 KPIs	Total Year 5 target	% change from Year 5 target (lower end)	Comment
Participation	Number of new Project plans or new Farm Environment Plans completed (total):	100-220	200-440		210	-5% to 210%	As the number of landowners we work with increases, we expect it will become more difficult to bring in new landowners to the KMR Sediment Reduction Planning (SRP) process. We are already working with many of the 'fast adopters', and many landowners face continued barriers to entry (such as the requirement to cover 50% of the value of projects themselves). We expect that 'return landowners' who are undertaking a second or later project with KMR will deliver a growing proportion of contracted works.
	<i>Number of new Plans</i>	• 50-70	• 100-140	100	120	-20%	
	<i>Number of new Projects by returning Landowners and Groups</i>	• 50-150	• 100-300		80	20%	
	Area covered by new Farm Environment Plans (ha)	6,750-15,000	13,500-30,000	13,500	13,500	-20%	
Nature and Resilience	Length of new fencing constructed (km)	150-275	300-550	300	250	17%	We expect to confirm at least 200km of fencing as complete and contracting of a further 100km+. Many landowners have already fenced in earlier projects.
	Total trees/plants planted	475,000-125,0000	950,000-2,500,000		N/A		This is the sum of trees planted or committed for planting across all areas of activity.
	<i>Number of trees/plants planted in riparian, lake, or wetlands areas</i>	• 300,000-400,000	• 600,000-800,000	600,000	600,000	0%	On the basis of commitments in current KMR contracts, we expect to confirm completion of around 300,000 plants in riparian and wetland areas in 2025-2026, and to contract for establishment of another 300,000+.
	<i>Number of trees/plants planted in highly erodible hill country</i>	• 175,000-850,000	• 350,000-1,700,000		N/A		On the basis of commitments in current KMR contracts, we expect to confirm completion of around 200,000 plants in highly erodible hill country in 2025-2026, and to contract for establishment of another 150,000+.

ITEM: 6.1

Focus Area	Metric (Delivered in reporting period)	Six-month target range	Total (12 month) Year 6 target range	Jobs for Nature Year 6 KPIs	Total Year 5 target	% change from Year 5 target (lower end)	Comment
Nature and Resilience	Area protected through planting or native regeneration (ha)	185-680	370-1360		320	14%	This is the sum of the two below metrics.
	Area protected by riparian, lake, or wetlands planting (ha)	• 60-80	• 120-160	120	120	0%	On the basis of commitments in current KMR contracts, we expect to confirm completion of around 60 ha of planting in riparian and wetland areas in 2025-2026, and to contract for establishment of another 60+ ha.
	Area protected by afforestation, space planting or biodiversity planting in highly erodible hill country (ha)	• 125-600	• 250-1200	250	200	20%	We expect to confirm the completion of an estimated 150ha of soil conservation planting in winter 2025, and contracting of at least 100ha more.
Skills and Jobs	Number of people-hours worked	30,000-40,000	60,000-80,000	60,000	60,000	0%	We confirm people hours worked once work is confirmed as completed. New (additional) works will be contracted but not yet completed by 30 June 2026.
		19-26	39-51 FTE	39 FTE	39	0%	
	Number of people undertaking training	20	40	40	40	0%	This reflects training of new KMR Field Advisors and formal professional development of Field Advisors.

* These figures are compared to Year 5 KPIs, not actual delivery against Year 5 KPIs. Year 5 actuals (as at March 2025) were used to inform realistic Year 6 KPIs.

** This is the expected number of people to complete Field Advisor training and development with KMR.

Ngā whāinga mō āmuri | Next steps

The Deed of Funding requires a draft KMR work plan to be submitted by 30 April.

Following feedback from the Joint Committee and to allow for staff to make any necessary changes to the draft Work Plan, a delegation is sought from the Joint Committee for the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Joint Committee to approve a final draft Work Plan for provision to MfE.

The final Work Plan will take into account any feedback received from the Ministry, as well as any refinements to the budget and Key Performance Indicators. It is important to note that the Work Plan can only be finalised once external audit is completed and final carry over (accrual value) is confirmed.

KMR management will provide a final Work Plan to the Joint Committee for information in October.

Considerations

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

Provision of an Annual Work Plan to the Ministry for the Environment is a requirement under the KMR Deed of Funding. Each year, KMR's Work Plan sets out the projects, deliverables and Key Performance Indicators to be achieved, and the associated budget and funding sources for these.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea | Financial implications

Approval of the draft Annual Work Plan enables its submission to the Ministry for the Environment for review. Once approved and finalised, it becomes KMR's operating budget for FY2025-2026. The Crown and Council commitments under the MOU serve as the basis for the operating budget.

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 tūraru me ngā mauru | Risks and mitigation

The Annual Work Plan supports transparency and accountability in respect of KMR's work programme. The Work Plan also identifies and refreshes programme risks and mitigations. These will be carefully monitored and managed across the FY2025-2026 Work Plan projects, in line with current project management approaches and leadership team review and assurance.

Ongoing risk identification and management will be particularly required for projects where further strategy and delivery specification is required (for example, Kōrero Tuku Iho).

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

While KMR's kaupapa is to reduce sedimentation of the Kaipara Moana in a manner that is aligned with the programme's investment objectives, successful programme delivery will have climate change co-benefits. KMR co-funded remediation activity will enhance the resilience of our landscape and communities, and establishing forest cover and restoration of wetlands supports the transition to a lower-carbon future.

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.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: Draft Kaipara Moana Remediation 2025-2026 Annual Work Plan

Kaipara Moana Remediation

Annual Work Plan

2025-2026

Undertaken by

the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee

1 Contact details			
KMR main contact (name and organisation)	Justine Daw	Ministry's main contact	Celia Solomon Te Kani
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Postal address	c/o Northland Regional Council Private Bag 9021 Whangārei Mail Centre Whangārei 0148	Postal address	PO Box 10362 Wellington 6143
Physical address	c/o The Orchard Level One, 35 Walton Street Whangarei 0110	Physical address	8 Willis Street Wellington

2 Programme overview
<p>Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR)</p> <p>Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) seeks to protect and restore the mauri of the Kaipara Moana, with an aim to halve sediment losses into the harbour over the long term.</p> <p>As at 30 June 2025, KMR has completed three and a half years of full operational activity. This Plan and its associated Key Performance Indicators therefore draw on operational and financial data over this period. Activity during the first 18 months of operations was focussed on waterway-focused activities (viz. fencing off and planting land near waterways (rivers, streams, wetlands, and the coast itself)). From December 2022, KMR began to support some native planting in erodible hill country and from September 2023, part way through Year 4, KMR began to promote a wider set of project investments to reduce sediment across the landscape through implementation of a Soil Conservation Strategy, one of KMR's two Foundational Strategies.</p> <p>KMR has modelled uptake by landowners in 2025-26 (Year 6), but we have limited operational data for new activities and therefore modelled uptake – and associated KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) and budget - is uncertain. Likewise, as KMR's second Foundational Strategy (Kōrero Tuku Iho, the project which enables the cultural dimension of KMR to be implemented) is in development, the figures in this Work Plan reflect estimates rather than well-tested numbers.</p> <p>The Work Programme set out in this Plan is moderately aspirational, reflecting both KMR's intent to deliver ongoing scale-up of the programme, while recognising that there is now higher uncertainty in the programme about landowner uptake due to extended policy uncertainty facing landowners in the operating environment, drought settings, and ongoing cost of living pressures.</p> <p>As with the previous financial year, we have included the provision of indicative ranges for delivery in 2025-2026, reflective of the continued uncertainty in the operating environment (due to weather, uncertain policy directions, economic headwinds and constraints on landowner capacity) as well as the relative newness of hill-country sediment remediation activities, for which it is more difficult to set delivery targets. The upper bound of each</p>

range reflects KMR's aspirations for delivery, with the lower bound reflecting more realistic (moderate) key performance indicators that KMR is expected to meet under the *Jobs for Nature* reporting system.

As KMR remains a voluntary programme - and given limited regulatory drivers - the proposed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) remain an estimate of what the programme *could* achieve during Year 6 given best estimates and data available to date in the programme.

Ranges have been set taking into account:

- Programme delivery to date and what we expect to achieve by 30 June 2025 (mid-way through our second planting season with extended investment settings in the hill country);
- Differing levels of certainty about uptake of different remediation activities. For example, larger-scale hill country activities have only been offered for two planting seasons, and there is continued uncertainty about the degree to which landowners will adopt hill country activities and/or substitute riparian activities with hill country activities);
- The Grant Thornton model that informed the programme rephasing and sets out estimated annual deliverables across each year of a 10-year programme.
- Landowner/group feedback and programme experience that ongoing inflationary pressures, poor returns in the drystock sector, drought conditions, as well as ongoing uncertainty around freshwater and NZETS policy settings are influencing (reducing) programme uptake and the size of KMR projects.

Programme duration	10 years (2020/21 – 2030/31)
Total cost	\$200,000,000
Total Crown contribution	\$100,000,000 (subject to conditions)

3 Environmental compliance

Please complete this section for any statutory permissions or consents that you require in this financial year.

<p>Do you require any statutory or non-statutory permissions to complete activities set out in this Annual Work Plan?</p> <p><i>For example, resource consents, planning consents, or landowner permissions?</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>If yes, which permission(s) are required? Have you applied for these? If so, when is a decision expected? (If date of decision is unknown, please provide a comment.)</i></p>
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4 Project key tasks/activities for 2025/26 (Year 6)

Work programme	YEAR 6 Projects	Key outputs	YEAR 6 Estimated budget (\$ million)		
			Crown contribution	Other (Council, Landowner, Partner) Contribution	TOTAL Budget
Programme delivery - sediment reduction			7.223	6.401	13.624
Programme delivery – sediment reduction	<p>Remediation grants and partnerships</p> <p>Grants funding to landowners and groups across the Kaipara Moana catchment. Funding is delivered direct to landowners through KMR’s Landowner Grants Scheme and to groups (for example, community groups, catchment groups, marae) through the Whenua Whānui Fund (WWF).</p> <p>This funding provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation of Sediment Reduction Plans and KMR projects. These 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 Whenua Whānui Fund projects, with the landowner or group covering the balance through cash or in-kind contributions, or via other third-party contributions.• A contribution to engagement, education, project management and administration	<p>Uptake of Sediment Reduction Plans/projects and the quantum of individual landowner/group spend per property depend directly on several external factors (such as economics, weather and central and regional government policy settings), as well as the success of KMR’s engagement strategy, landowner/group willingness and capacity to engage, and the rate at which Plans/projects are completed by KMR and our delivery partners in the 2025-26 financial year.</p> <p>Outputs identified below are modelled estimates and will be subject to change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Between 100-140 new Sediment Reduction Plans or Tiaki FEP/grant agreements.• Further projects contracted with 100-300 landowners/groups who are already working with KMR.	6.951	6.129	13.080

	<p>costs, if relevant under Whenua Whānui Fund projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for 'Navigator projects' led by landowners/groups who are sharing their projects and experience in leading sediment remediation projects. <p>It also supports delivery through sediment remediation partnerships with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kaipara Uri, a key delivery partner, supporting engagement to drive uptake and projects among harder-to-reach mana whenua groups. Fonterra, who develops Tiaki Farm Environment Plans (FEPs) and associated projects on KMR's behalf Other delivery partners including The Forest Bridge Trust supporting engagement and delivery of SRPs/projects. Three Catchment Reference Groups in the Mangakāhia, the Wairua and the Hōteio river systems, which are intended to enable mana whenua not represented by Kaipara Uri entities to assess and fund remediation projects (\$0.100m).¹ <p>The budget also includes the value of contracted sediment remediation grants and the matching landowner/group contributions carried over from Year 5 (\$5.350m).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between 13,500-30,000 hectares of new land area covered by new Sediment Reduction Plans or Tiaki FEP/grant agreements. Between 300-550 km of new fencing built or under contract to be built. Between 120-160 ha of planting in riparian, coastal, wetland or lake margins completed or under contract to be completed Between 370-1360 ha of afforestation or space planting outside of riparian and wetland areas completed or under contract. Between 350,000-1,700,000 plants planted in highly erodible hill country outside of riparian and wetland areas completed or under contract. <p>Remediation works outputs (i.e. kms of fencing) are tracked from when a Sediment Reduction Plan is agreed with a landowner, until projects included in the plan are signed off as completed.</p> <p>Remediation projects often span financial years. Final payment and landowner</p>			
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¹ KMR continues to commit to an investment of \$1.16m p.a for three Catchment Reference Groups. However, as the timing for these is not yet clear, we have provided in Year 5 for establishment costs and the (pilot) costs for the Mangakāhia River process. Should additional funding be required, we will seek a formal change to the Annual Work Plan and associated budget.

	<p>Some of this budget will roll over into Year 7, reflecting newly contracted remediation grants and matching landowner contributions that are not completed until the following financial year.</p>	<p>contribution will occur when remediation works are signed off as completed.</p> <p>Workforce development and FTE outputs are modelled based on assumptions about remediation works outputs.</p>			
Programme delivery – sediment reduction	<p>Capability and Workforce Development</p> <p>A range of activity to support KMR to build technical advisory capability, and implement 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 tree species for unique challenges on land or to support sediment reduction activities. • Continuation of a strategic partnership with Te Ārai Native Nursery, professional development, training and mentoring support via a community of practice for KMR Field Advisors, including in partnership with the New Zealand Association of Resource Management (NZARM). • Other initiatives as required to support workforce development, training and mentoring as required to develop Freshwater Farm Planners into the future. 	<p>Continuation of the programme of work with accredited nurseries in the catchment and ongoing partnership with Te Ārai Native Nursery.</p> <p>Continuation and expansion of a programme of professional development and a community of practice for KMR Field Advisors.</p> <p>Workforce initiatives with a focus on developing workforce capability and capacity to implement sediment remediation projects and future Freshwater Farm Plans.</p>	0.272	0.272	0.544

Engagement and Partnership			0.159	0.051	0.210
Engagement and Partnership	<p>Communications and Engagement</p> <p>KMR's communications and engagement is directed at reaching landowners and groups across the catchment to drive uptake of KMR grants, in line with programme KPIs and expectations of wide participation, as well as a targeted number of activities to keep founding partners, delivery partners and stakeholders informed.</p> <p>Activity will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forums with senior industry, NGOs, community, iwi/hapū and practitioners across the Kaipara Moana Catchment to share information on remediation opportunities, funding, resources and relevant insights from KMR delivery. • Engagement in the community, including on marae, at events, field days and open days, as well as at sector and community forums. • Publicising the work the KMR is doing to landowners and groups not yet working with KMR, and potential commercial/philanthropic partners, including through regular media outreach, video content and campaigns. 	<p>An annual forum for landowners, groups and KMR partners to share information and best practice and provide updates about KMR.</p> <p>Regular on-farm, community-based and on-marae engagement, either in person or held through online mediums.</p> <p>Regular e-newsletters, website/news updates, social media posts, and print/media coverage.</p> <p>Publication of updated information materials and brochures, either in print format or via digital channels.</p>	0.149	0.036	0.185

Marketing	<p>Programme marketing</p> <p>This workstream will promote and publicise the work the KMR is doing, with a focus on informing landowners, groups and potential partners of the opportunities available through KMR, and profiling people taking action with KMR support, in order to better reach target groups.</p>	<p>Advertising and paid promotional content.</p> <p>Creation of marketing collateral (e.g. signage, event banners, branded plant guards) to promote the programme.</p>	0.010	0.015	0.025
Thriving Maurikura			0.583	1.688	2.271
Thriving Maurikura	<p>Kaipara Maurikura</p> <p>The Kaipara Maurikura is the operational vehicle for KMR. It is established as a business unit within the Northland Regional Council, until such time as the Kaipara Moana Body is established under statute.</p> <p>The Kaipara Maurikura currently employs 10.8 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff who fulfil the leadership, engagement, communications, project management, technical leadership, strategic, governance and administrative roles required to deliver KMR's work programme.</p> <p>This budget area includes all costs for office space, IT and telecommunications, vehicles, health and safety, human resources, professional development, and financial, audit and other administrative support costs, delivered via a Service Level Agreement with Northland Regional Council.</p> <p>This budget area also includes a contingency budget (only if needed) for the Pou Tātaki for consultants, legal advice and sundries of \$140,000.</p>	<p>Delivery of programme-level KPIs.</p> <p>Timely delivery of required reporting outputs to the Ministry for the Environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly reporting on Jobs for Nature indicators • Six monthly report • Annual report • Annual independent financial audit 	0.583	1.688	2.271

Governance, Planning and Reporting			0.050	0.010	0.060
Governance, Planning and Reporting	<p>Governance</p> <p>The Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee costs including Kaipara Uri member fees, venue hire, catering, koha, travel and other associated costs.</p> <p>Note – Kaipara Maurikura staff provide administrative support for the Joint Committee (budgeted for separately under Thriving Maurikura above).</p>	Effective KMR governance through the Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee. This centres on 4 formal meetings each year (some online) but may support additional meetings as required to meet quorum (given the timing and impact of the Local Government Act elections in 2025).	0.050	0.010	0.060
Digital Tools			0.188	0.172	0.360
Digital Tools	<p>System development and maintenance</p> <p>Continued maintenance and a small budget for minor improvements of KMR's digital farm planning platform Mātai Onekura.</p> <p>Carry over of remaining budget for Tātaki Wai, KMR's water quality accounting framework.</p>	Delivery of maintenance and minor improvements to KMRs digital tools.	0.188	0.172	0.360
Strategy and Opportunities			0.395	0.275	0.670
Strategy and Opportunities	<p>Kōrero Tuku Iho (Mātauranga Māori) project</p> <p>Kōrero Tuku Iho is the cultural dimension of KMR and one of its two foundations. The project will provide an avenue for Kaipara Uri and mana whenua not represented by Kaipara Uri entities to express priorities for sediment reduction.</p> <p>Kōrero Tuku Iho will use place-based case studies to capture articulation of te ao Māori values and aspirations of relevance to KMR,</p>	Ongoing oversight of the project, including development of a blueprint for how KMR can integrate considerations of cultural priorities (e.g. culturally important areas, culturally significant native species, traditional methods for reducing sediment) across the Kaipara Moana catchment (i.e. beyond the areas covered by the case studies – see below).	0.300	0.250	0.550

	develop a cultural framework for wider use across the catchment, and use kaitiakitanga in action to work towards restoring the health, wellbeing, and mauri at specific, culturally-important locations.	Development of three case studies in total, with the first case study continuing in 2024-2025, and the second established in 2025-2026.			
Strategy and Opportunities	New Partnerships and Opportunities Ongoing development of opportunities with third parties that will deliver near-term benefit to KMR landowners. These opportunities will focus on reducing the cost to the landowner of KMR remediation activity, thereby increasing fund accessibility. Opportunities will also reduce the pressure on the KMR budget, allowing KMR to reach more landowners/groups, and supporting progress towards KMR's investment objectives.	Establishment of one new partnership to bring in third party funding to reduce sediment reduction costs for landowners/groups and KMR.	0.025	0.025	0.050
Strategy and Opportunities	Investment strategy, monitoring and evaluation Refresh of KMR's investment strategy to reflect programme experience, any insights from scientific outputs and/or models, and the Kōrero Tuku Iho framework, and set the foundations for developing a targeted investment approach to deliver on KMR's four investment objectives. Continue and expand programme monitoring and evaluation, including improvements in tracking the impact towards KMR investment objectives.	Continue scoping a multi-year investment strategy. Scope the development of further monitoring against investment outcomes.	0.070	0.000	0.070

5 Funding overview

Please provide details of all organisations that are contributing cash to the project (this excludes in-kind costs such as donations of time, equipment etc for this financial year). Please identify whether these contributions are confirmed or pending. If pending please provide an estimation on when you expect these funds to be confirmed.

Funding parties	Contribution (\$ million)	Funding confirmed or pending
Auckland Council/ Northland Regional Council	\$3.236	Confirmed.
Industry/NGO/Other	\$0.065	Not yet confirmed. Additional contributions could be developed under new partnerships.
Landowners/Groups	\$5.296	Pending as outcome of remediation work completed through Sediment Reduction Plans and related grants funding.
Maximum Crown contribution for this year	\$8.598	This includes funding carried over from the 2024-25 financial year.
Total cost (value) of programme activity for this financial year	\$17.195	This includes the value of co-funding and other funding carried over from the 2024-25 financial year.

Note: Landowner/group contributions will only be recorded once works are confirmed as completed. As there is lag between contracting and completion of remediation activity, and planting occurs through the winter months which span financial years, works will often be completed (and a landowner's/group's contribution recorded) in the following financial year.

6 6 Contribution to Annual Indicators (KPIs)

The Kaipara Moana Remediation funding is part of the Jobs for Nature Programme. This programme has specific targets and indicators for that will be used to track the impact of the programme. You will report on progress towards your targets over the life of your project. Delete the Metrics and/or Focus Areas that are not relevant to your project

Note – These indicators will be refined as FY2025-26 progresses and as KMR grants funding is taken up by landowners and groups. There is significant uncertainty on the speed and level to which grants funding will be taken up. Assumptions will be reviewed as better data based on direct engagement with landowners is available.

Focus Area	Metric (Delivered in reporting period)	Six-month target range	Total (12 month) Year 6 target range	J4N KPI
Engagement and Participation	Number of new Project plans or new Farm Environment Plans completed (total): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new Plans Number of new Projects by returning Landowners and Groups 	100-220 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50-70 50-150 	200-440 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100-140 100-300 	100
	Area covered by new Farm Environment Plans (ha)	8,125-15,000	16,250-30,000	16,250
Nature and Resilience	Length of new fencing constructed (km)	150-275	300-550	300
	Total trees/plants planted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of trees/plants planted in riparian, lake, or wetlands areas Number of trees/plants planted in highly erodible hill country 	475,000-125,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300,000-400,000 175,000-850,000 	950,000-2,500,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 600,000-800,000 350,000-1,700,000 	600,000
	Area protected through planting or native regeneration (ha) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area protected by riparian, lake, or wetlands planting (ha) Area protected by afforestation, space planting or biodiversity planting in highly erodible hill country (ha) 	185-680 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60-80 125-600 	370-1360 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 120-160 250-1200 	120 250
Skills and Jobs	Number of people-hours worked	30,000-40,000 (19-26 FTE)	60,000-80,000 (39-51 FTE)	60,000 (39 FTE)
	Number of people undertaking training	20	40	40

*Bold values indicate required J4N indicators

DRAFT

7 Risk management

Provide a brief description of the major risks to the project achieving the tasks and activities in this financial year. Include consideration of potential barriers that may pose a risk to the success of the project. Where possible give an indication of the likelihood and significance of the risk and any mitigation strategies to be included in the project.

Potential risk	Level of risk	Impact on project	Consequence on project	Strategy to mitigate
Identify the potential risk to your project (for example, project 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, risks to the industry or sector to which the organisation belongs).	Low, medium or high.	Describe the impact the risk would have on the project (for example, misunderstandings, duplication of work, incomplete work).	Minor, moderate or severe.	Describe the process you will use to minimise and manage the risk (for example, project manager monitors functional roles to ensure enough time is allocated to complete each task/activity and the project as a whole).
Strategic risks - Changing operating environment				
1. Political or investor support for KMR wanes	Low	KMR is a long-term programme and waning support may reduce landowner certainty about support for activity and compromise ability to achieve programme goals.	Severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing senior-level engagement, including Ministerial engagement and with government officials • Induction for new JC members planned • Attendance at the Blue-Greens Forum • Possible Ministerial field trip to KMR project site • Ongoing regular engagement with MfE, as primary funder and Councils as co-funders • Ongoing senior-level participation and presentation at relevant external events • Communications refresh and external engagements showcasing KMR progress and achievements • Ongoing programme reporting, validation and assurance activity to maintain confidence • Marketing of recent successes (e.g. EarthShot Awards)

2. Policy changes and/or uncertainty reduce uptake of KMR services	High	Reduced uptake would compromise programme objectives. As KMR can support landowners to meet coming regulatory requirements, this would also slow achievement of regulatory objectives.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with policy and planning processes Ongoing KMR Landowner Grants and Whenua Whānui Fund engagement and delivery Ongoing development and delivery of programme partnerships / third party contribution to incentivise uptake Ongoing delivery of Sediment Reduction Plans until Freshwater Farm plans roll out Watching brief on KMRs role in a Freshwater Farm Plan operating context
3. Economic downturn and/or adverse events (e.g. weather events, labour force constraints) reduces uptake of KMR grants and slows works	Medium (↓)	Reduced landowner uptake would compromise delivery of programme objectives.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deepening of programme partnerships / third party contribution to incentivise uptake Tailored marketing with third party networks to promote opportunities Regular pricing reviews to ensure appropriate market rates Mātai Onekura planning tool allows more proactive monitoring and support for Field Advisors Ongoing project management approaches to both reduce project delays and allow flexibility for changing landowner circumstances
Reputational risks - KMR delivery does not meet expectations				
4. KMR is slow to make available investments, and/or the quality of delivery of services is poor	Low (↓)	Programme reputation and stakeholder confidence in KMR's ability to deliver is undermined, which further limits KMR's influence and effectiveness. Low quality of services impacts on longer-term objectives.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrated delivery by KMR Ongoing marketing and communications of our achievements to date Strengthened Field Advisor training, development and mentoring Ongoing KMR work programme development and prioritisation Proactive, regular oversight of project and plan development and delivery, using digital tool functionality Ongoing quality assurance, review and audit processes Programme planning based on updated modelling and actual uptake for improved forecasting and programme assurance

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watching brief on changing best practice and actual costs of interventions
Reputational risks - KMR brought into disrepute				
5. KMR staff or contractors improperly use KMR funding or other resources	Low	KMR integrity and brand are compromised.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deepening KMR induction and onboarding of contractors Digital processes and internal review provide greater transparency and assurance of project and grant activity Privacy and security settings enabled through digital tools NRC financial controls/audits including fraud controls Proactive monitoring of OAG-defined and other potential conflicts of interest, both direct and indirect Programme reporting and review by MfE to maintain confidence KMR accreditation and ongoing quality assurance and review processes KMR contract management and grant auditing processes
Relational risks – KMR partnerships are not honoured				
6. KMR fails to demonstrate the intent of the founding MOU	Low	Misalignment with intent erodes trust, confidence and relationship amongst KMR, partners and communities.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Committee papers provide comment on alignment to MOU investment objectives ‘No surprises’ communications of key matters to Joint Committee members via the Chair Regular engagement with senior partner representatives Partnership Forums and in-community hui and meetings Engagement with environmental arms of Kaipara Uri and other iwi/hapū groups in the catchment Regular engagement with MfE / Ministers and local government as investors and key stakeholders Progress on Kōrero Tuku Iho Project Pilot Catchment reference group process beginning
7. KMR fails to engage with groups in the catchment who are not represented by Kaipara Uri.	Low (↓)	Perception that KMR is taking a narrow tribal view rather than a catchment perspective. This could impact negatively on	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mana Whenua Relations Advisor continues to engage Ongoing engagement with non Kaipara Uri iwi/hapū groups in the catchment Joint Committee Haukāinga sessions

		relationships and settlement processes.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whenua Whānui Fund available to marae, Māori trusts, ahūwhenua landholders and iwi/hapū within the Kaipara Moana Catchment • Kōrero Tuku Iho project progressing • Other groups represented on Kōrero Tuku Iho reference group • Navigator projects include Mana Whenua groups • Field Advisor training and accreditation available to all • Partnership Forum and Community Hui open to all • Support for establishment of Catchment Reference Groups or equivalent to coordinate local remediation projects
Wellbeing, safety and health risks				
8. H&S risks to staff, partners, contractors, sub-contractors and communities are not adequately managed	Low	Potential impact on the health and safety of staff, partners, contractors, sub-contractors and communities if risks are not appropriately identified and managed.	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office shift completed • Ongoing KMR Health and Safety assurance, vetting and support for Field Advisors and contractors • Maurikura Health and Safety buddy system • NRC Health & Safety Policies and Processes, including for contractors and sub-contractors • NRC new system roll out • KMR preferred supplier and nursery accreditation processes • Progressing SiteWise accreditation and audit programme • Ongoing Field Advisor mentoring and training

8 Conflicts of interest

Describe any known conflicts of interest (actual or potential) that may arise during this financial year and steps you will take to manage them.

Perceived or actual conflicts of interest are managed through adherence to NRC's Management of Interests Policy and by a clear separation of governance and operational decision-making. KMR Maurikura ensures contractual arrangements are made on a commercially defensible basis, and in alignment to agreed KMR criteria.

KMR management manages any actual or perceived conflicts of interest through the use of transparent registers of interests and public records of governor and KMR staff grant interests, in alignment with OAG rulings relating to KMR. In addition, KMR uses independent evaluators/experts to inform all accreditation processes and peer review processes that lead to investment decisions (e.g. Sediment Reduction Plan approvals).

All financial decisions indicate how the expenditure aligns with the Investment Objectives of KMR, as set out in the KMR Memorandum of Understanding, including Manaaki Tangata (Human Capital) and Tātai Hononga (Social Capital) investment objectives.

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 Annual Work Plan, or supplied by us in support of our Annual Work Plan is complete, true and correct.
- I declare that I have the authority to sign this Annual Work Plan 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.

Date

TITLE: DOC Community Agreement

Kaituhi Pūrongo | Report Writer Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki, KMR and Alex Rogers, Regional Director of Operations, Tāmaki Makarau/Auckland, DOC

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This paper outlines the scope of a proposed DOC Community Agreement with KMR and seeks Joint Committee endorsement for the Kaipara Maurikura to proceed to operationalising it.

Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

The proposed DOC Community Agreement with KMR is an ‘umbrella’ agreement that would allow landowners and groups to protect and restore riparian strips administered by DOC, supported by KMR grant funding and technical expertise (e.g. development of appropriate planting plans).

A pilot Agreement is proposed in Auckland to test logistical arrangements, with the intent to extend the Agreement across the full Kaipara Moana Catchment in future, subject to due process.

In Auckland, the proposed Agreement covers 242 land parcels (>53,000 hectares) adjacent to 45km of rivers/streams. If the Agreement were varied in future to include the full Kaipara Moana catchment, it would cover a total of 651 land parcels (>103,000 hectares, >67km of rivers/streams).

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

1. *Note* the opportunity to reduce sediment risk by supporting KMR projects on DOC-administered riparian strips in the catchment (*Attachment 1*).
2. *Note* that the Community Agreement would be piloted in the Auckland region, with a mutual intent to extend it across the full Kaipara Moana Catchment in time, subject to due process.
3. *Endorse* the Kaipara Maurikura proceeding to operationalise the proposed KMR/DOC Community Agreement (*Attachment 2*).

Horopaki | Background

DOC Community Agreements allow community groups and individuals to carry out agreed works on land administered by DOC. Subject to specific process, which includes consultation with iwi/hapū with interests in the land in question, Community Agreements typically support environmental activities such as predator control on DOC-administered land. Usually, these activities are undertaken by neighbouring landowners (i.e. those whose land borders the DOC-administered land).

The proposed DOC Community Agreement with KMR (*Attachment 1*) is an ‘umbrella’ agreement that would allow landowners and groups to protect and restore riparian strips administered by DOC, supported by KMR grant funding and technical expertise (e.g. development of appropriate planting plans).

The person or group taking action on DOC-administered land would have to meet a number of specific requirements (e.g. no use of heavy machinery, no use of herbicides without prior approval), and would remain responsible for all health and safety considerations. KMR would have an oversight role to ensure groups and individual landowners understand the DOC requirements and support them to meet them, and KMR Field Advisors, peer reviewers and approvers would also ensure all KMR Plans and projects meet DOC requirements.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

Across the Kaipara Moana catchment, around 50% of sediment loss comes directly from waterway margins. This is particularly the case in the Auckland part of the catchment, where the proportion sits at ~70%. It therefore makes good sense to collaborate with DOC to boost riparian protection and planting as intended under the DOC/KMR Community Agreement.

The primary intent of the proposed Community Agreement is to allow KMR to **more effectively support timely, voluntary (native) planting projects on riparian strips / small margins of land administered by DOC**. In the usual way, as for any project, KMR would develop an appropriate planting plan, record and map the project in our digital system, and we would contribute funding to the project (typically at 50% of estimated project costs, with the project leader (KMR grantee) meeting remaining costs e.g. via an in-kind contribution such as planting labour). As the land manager, DOC would still vet the project's Health & Safety plan, and there are various other specific conditions/requirements set down by DOC that all projects would have to meet (e.g. no use of heavy machinery).

There are many advantages of the proposed 'umbrella' KMR/DOC Agreement but they can be summed up as **unlocking time-efficient, successful and administratively-easy planting** and maintenance of DOC-administered riparian margins. Some of the specific advantages are set out below:

- The project has the potential to unlock large-scale planting on riparian margins, helping accelerate KMR's delivery in line with the Annual Work Plan and associated KPIs.
- DOC has confidence that KMR will ensure appropriate eco-sourcing of plants (local sourcing of plants)
- DOC has confidence that KMR's Planting Specialist and nurseries will plant appropriate species, at appropriate spacing, and use healthy, disease-free plants and trees.
- DOC has confidence that KMR's Field Advisors and Kaitiaki Field Advisors will ensure effective and timely project delivery
- DOC has confidence that KMR will record project progress in our digital system, thereby providing a streamlined way to monitor and report on project progress (and impacts after the project has been completed).
- DOC does not have to consult each time a project is proposed on the riparian margins – there is a general pre-agreement, subject to certain conditions.
- KMR can use its existing communications channels to communicate the opportunity in a cost- and time-effective manner.
- Agency to agency review of project delivery is significantly easier and more efficient than DOC to individuals or groups across up to 651 land parcels.

As required under DOC processes, DOC has completed consultation on the proposed umbrella Agreement with iwi/hapū in the Auckland portion of the Kaipara Moana catchment, and there is no impediment to proceed with the Agreement. Successful consultation has concluded with the following groups:

- Ngāti Whātua
- Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara
- Ngāti Manuhiri
- Te Kawerau a Maki
- Te Ākitai Waiohua
- Ngāti Maru
- Ngāti Te Ata.

We note that the initial pilot of the Community Agreement is proposed for the Auckland region only, with an intent for it to be extended across the full Kaipara Moana Catchment in time, subject to due process. In Auckland, the Agreement covers 242 land parcels, covering >53,000 hectares, and protecting 45km of rivers/streams (*Attachment 1*). If the Agreement were varied in future to include the full Kaipara Moana catchment, it would cover a total of 651 land parcels covering >103,000 hectares and protecting >67km of rivers/streams.

While we have been in discussions with DOC, at least two Auckland-based landowners/groups have expressed interest in taking action as provided for under the Agreement. We will work with them to test the agreed logistical arrangements to implement the Agreement, and refine these as needed.

Ngā whāinga mō āmuri | Next steps

If the Joint Committee endorses the concept of a DOC/KMR Community Agreement, Kaipara Maurikura will:

- Seek final review of the Agreement and sign it, assuming no barriers to signature
- Develop specific standard operating procedures (SOPs) to ensure that both parties are clear on the logistical arrangements required to implement the Agreement.
- Provide training and mentoring to Field Advisors so they can effectively implement the Agreement and are clear on what is being asked of them and the landowner/group.
- Communicate the Agreement and how it will work to KMR landowners and groups.

We will keep the Joint Committee informed of implementation via regular reporting, and progress on the intention to extend the Agreement into the Northland portion of the catchment.

Considerations

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

Many of the most interested landowners and groups in this Agreement are Māori landowners, both ahuwhenua trust landowners and land managers, and groups eligible for Whenua Whānui Fund project support. This is because of kaitiakitanga interests in ensuring the mauri of waterways near kāinga and supporting activities such as mahinga kai. The Kaipara Maurikura considers the proposed Agreement will support various wider social investment outcomes as set in the KMR MOU.

2. Ngā ritenga take pūtea | Financial implications

There are no new financial implications from this paper – KMR can already support projects and plans on public lands. The Agreement simply makes it easier for adjacent landowners and groups to take action on these lands, as intended through KMR's design.

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

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.

DOC and KMR have a good working relationship, and we have mutual interests in seeing the opportunities presented by the Agreement being fully realised. We intend to work closely with the Auckland lead for the Agreement to ensure clear agreements on logistical arrangements, and also meet monthly at Manager level to review progress and discuss any areas where there is a lack of clarity, specific issue to resolve and/or concern. Both Regional Directors and the Pou Tātaki will also regularly review how implementation is progressing.

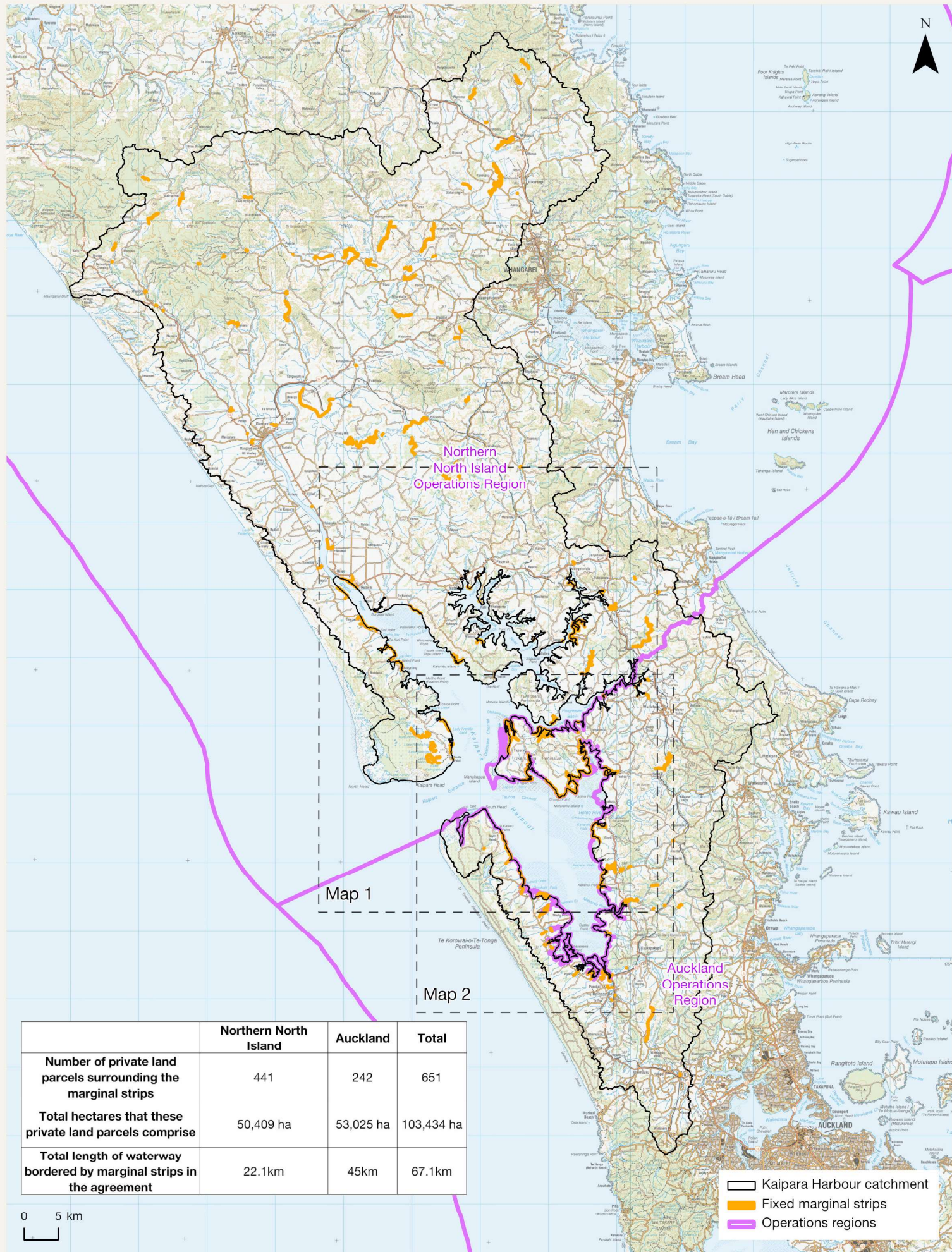
5. Ngā urutau huringa-ā-rangi | Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

While KMR's kaupapa is to reduce sedimentation of the Kaipara Moana in a manner that is aligned with agreed investment objectives, successful delivery will deliver significant climate change co-benefits. The proposed Agreement has the potential to deliver significant riparian planting activity and so therefore support climate change mitigation goals, not just regionally but also national goals set by the Government under New Zealand's second international climate target under the Paris Agreement.

Pirihongi | Attachments

Attachment 1: Spatial view of DOC-administered riparian margins of relevance of the KMR/DOC Community Agreement

Attachment 2: DRAFT Department of Conservation and Kaipara Moana Remediation Community Agreement





Community Agreement pursuant to section 53(2)(i) Conservation Act 1987

AGREEMENT NAME: Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme

This Agreement is made this ***DATE***, 2024

PARTIES:

1. Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme ('the Organisation')
 2. DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CONSERVATION ('DOC')
-

PREAMBLE

- A. The Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai ('the Department') is responsible for managing and promoting conservation of the natural and historic heritage of New Zealand on behalf of, and for the benefit of, present and future New Zealanders. It also has a responsibility under section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 to interpret and administer the conservation legislation to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi to the extent that it applies to this conservation activity.
- B. To perform its functions, the Department wants to work with others, recognising that New Zealanders want to connect with, and contribute their expertise to restore and protect their unique natural environment, historic and cultural heritage.
- C. In 2020, the Ministry for the Environment, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Te Uri o Hau, Northland Regional Council and Auckland Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding to jointly establish Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR), a decade-long programme to protect and restore the mauri of the Kaipara Moana. KMR builds on the earlier work of many landowners, community groups and initiatives, including the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG). KMR's long-term aspiration is to reduce sediment *flows into the Kaipara Moana* by half.

KMR is a \$200m programme, with \$100m invested by the Crown, matched by \$10m each from Northland Regional Council and Auckland Council. A further \$80m of project activity must come from landowners, industry, community, or philanthropic organisations. This is because widespread action is needed to restore the Kaipara Moana, and because a matching contribution – often in the form of labour or materials – is required to unlock the Crown funding.
- D. The parties are entering this Agreement in a spirit of collaboration to make a difference for conservation. Under section 53(2)(i) of the Conservation Act 1987, DOC has the power to enter into agreements with individuals/groups/organisations.

THE PARTIES AGREE to work together as follows.

Schedule 1

SPECIFICS OF AGREEMENT


Section A: What does Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme aim to achieve?

While KMR's focus is on reducing sediment, the projects we invest in – to restore wetlands, fence off rivers and streams, plant trees and regenerate forest on erosion-prone land – also bring wider benefits. These include helping valued species to thrive, reducing climate change risks and increasing resilience to storms and other extreme weather.

KMR offers two grants – Landowner Grants and Whenua Whānui Fund grants. Both support sediment reduction projects on the ground and are contracted directly with those taking action.

The focus of this Community Agreement will be planting on PCL – categorized marginal strips to reduce sediment entering the Kaipara moana.

Section B: Where is Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme undertaking the Activity?

KMR is a voluntary programme which engages with landowners after an Expression of Interest (EOI) is submitted. As EOI's are formed into Sediment Reduction Plans, it will become evident when there are areas of marginal strips that should be added to the KMR/DOC Community Agreement. These new projects will be added to the live annual workplan (DOC-7537607) and discussed at regular meetings between KMR and .

Full map outlining Kauri Coast and Auckland Region catchment and potential marginal strips found in Appendix 1.

1.

Section C: How long is this Agreement for?

This Agreement starts on: ***Date*** 2024 and ends on: ***Date*** 2029

Right of renewal (subject to fully complying with this Agreement): YES

Final End Date: ***Date*** 2034

Section D: Are there any Special Conditions about how/where Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme does these activities?

Special Conditions for this Agreement are in Schedule 3 (including any specific health and safety matters).

Section E: The Activity

E.1 The Activity of Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme is:

Supporting private landowners to conduct sediment remediation projects through native tree planting (site preparation, planting and plant maintenance) on public conservation land marginal strips.

Plant list, nurseries: **DOC-7570552**

Live Work Plan: **DOC-7537607**

E.2 DOC's contribution to the Activity is:

Technical advice when resources allow.

Section F

Consultation with whānau, hapū and iwi about the Activity:

Above Kaipara Uri are signatories to MOU with Kaipara Moana Remediation. Regular meetings/workshops between KMR & Kapuara Uri are to be set up to occur bi-monthly where possible.

F.1 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme is mindful that whānau, hapū and iwi have a role as kaitiaki of natural and cultural resources on public conservation land and waters.

F.2(a) DOC will consult with whānau, hapū and iwi and/or the relevant post Treaty settlement governance entity where applicable or required by statutory obligation.

F.2(b) DOC will provide advice and support to Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme to consult with whānau, hapū and iwi as appropriate and where resourcing allows.

F.3 DOC will advise Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme if any specific provision under a Treaty of Waitangi Partnership or Accord applies or if there are Treaty settlement obligations under a Deed of Settlement or Deed of Recognition with implications for the Activity.

Section G: What procedures, guides and standards apply to the Activity?

G.1 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must follow DOC's Standard Operating Procedures, guidelines, or standards listed below:

G.2 (a) DOC will provide to, and discuss with, Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme the relevant sections of DOC's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), guidelines and standards that apply to the conduct of the Activity.

G.2(b) DOC will inform Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme of any new and updated SOP, guideline and standard during the term of this Agreement, and advise Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme if it will need to continue to follow the earlier version or change to the new version.

G.3 (a) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must take all reasonable care to avoid any impact on cultural heritage in their area of operation which includes (but is not limited to) historic sites and protected New Zealand objects.

(b) In the event that any cultural site and/or object/artefact is found on, in or under the land including kōiwi tāngata (human remains), toanga (artefacts/middens) or taiepa kōhatu (stone walls), work must cease immediately until further notice. The local DOC office must be informed immediately, and all items left undisturbed.

See 'Accidental discovery SOP in Special Conditions in Schedule 3.

Section H: Health and Safety

H.1 DOC will specify in the Special Conditions in Schedule 3 any:

(i) Place(s) within the site that is not covered by this agreement.

(ii) equipment or tools that must not be used except with DOC's prior written agreement.

Section I: What happens if Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme causes damage?

I.1 Where Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme, or agents of, can be covered by DOC's General Liability Policy for third-party personal injury and property damage Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme agrees to accept that cover and abide by the conditions outlined in this Agreement.

Section J: Staying in touch with each other.

J.1 DOC and Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme will meet quarterly from the start of this agreement, to review progress with achieving the aims outlined in section A, or work plan if appropriate.

J.2(a) DOC and Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme have appointed the following persons to communicate on their behalf on all matters relating to this Agreement:

For the Group/Organisation:

Name: Justine Daw
Position: Pou Tātaki
Phone contact: 021515980
Postal Address: Private Bag 9021, Te Mai, Whangarei 0143.
Email: justined@kmr.org.nz

Name: Lisette Rawson
Position: Amo-Rauora Koawa/Catchment Remediation Manager
Phone contact: 027 303 2735
Postal Address: Private Bag 9021, Te Mai, Whangarei 0143.
Email: lisetter@kmr.org.nz

For DOC:

Auckland region

Name: Sol Cranna-Smith
Position: Ranger, Community
Phone contact: 027 327 5301
Postal Address: 135 Albert Street, Level 19, Auckland CBD Email: scrannasmith@doc.govt.nz

Kauri Coast Region

Name: Shelley Paniora
Position: Senior Ranger, Community
Phone contact: 027 306 7584
Postal Address: 150 Colville Road, Dargaville 0310, New Zealand
Email: spaniora@doc.govt.nz

J.2(b) If the appointed representative for either party changes, the affected party will notify the other party of the change as soon as practicable.

J.3(a) During the term of the Agreement, Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme will keep a record of the number of volunteer hours worked (including travel) involved in undertaking the Activity and will share the data collected with DOC. This data will be provided by KMR to DOC every 3 months or on demand if requested.

J.3(b) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme will also provide the following information requested by DOC:

- *Live work plan*
- *Health and safety plan*
- *Volunteer hours*
- *For each location on Public Conservation Land:*
 - i. *Location details*
 - ii. *Maps of work site*
 - iii. *List of plant species used on site.*
 - iv. *Contact details for landowner / group / contractor conducting works*
 - v. *Site Specific Safety Plan*

J.3(c) DOC will use the information supplied under this provision by Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme in a report to Government on voluntary contributions to conservation.

GROUP/ORGANISATION

SIGNED for and on behalf of

Kaipara Moana Remediation.

By

.....
Justine Daw

Date:
Address:
Phone number/email:

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CONSERVATION

SIGNED by Rebecca Rush pursuant to an
Instrument of Delegation dated 9 September
2015 from the Department of Conservation:

.....

Date:
Address: 30 Hudson Road, Warkworth
Phone number: 0275403732
Email: rrush@doc.govt.nz

Note: A copy of the Instrument of Delegation may be inspected at DOC's office at 18-32 Manners Street, Wellington

Schedule 2

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1 What activity has been authorised?

- 1.1 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme is authorised to carry out the Activity (described in **Section E of Schedule 1**) in accordance with this Agreement, subject to any consents that may be required to undertake the Activity.
- 1.2 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme will:
- (a) exercise reasonable skill, care and diligence in carrying out the Activity.
 - (b) take responsibility for the actions and omissions of its workers (including volunteers and contractors) and others who carry out the Activity under its direction and control.
 - (c) not commence the Activity until the Agreement has been signed by both parties and the safety plan has been reviewed and accepted by DOC in accordance with clause 6.6 of this schedule.

2 Renewals

- 2.2 If **Section C of Schedule 1** provides for a right of renewal and if Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme has, in the opinion of DOC, complied with all the terms and conditions of this Agreement. DOC will offer Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme a renewal of this Agreement on the same terms or on any amended terms agreed between the parties (but excluding the right of renewal) for a further period agreed between the parties. DOC will provide three (3) months' written notice to Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme of the offer.
- 2.3 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme may accept the offer of renewal in writing to DOC before the Agreement ends. In that case, the Agreement will be renewed and will then end on or before the Final End Date set out in **Section C of Schedule 1**.

3 What if things change?

- 3.1 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must not transfer this Agreement to another party or allow another party to carry out the Activity without the prior written consent of DOC. DOC may choose to decline consent under this clause or grant consent subject to conditions.
- 3.2 Any change to the Activity or to the boundary of the Site will be subject to a prior Variation of Agreement at DOC's reasonable discretion.

4 What about protecting the environment?

- 4.1 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must take every care to avoid damaging indigenous flora and fauna or the habitat of indigenous fauna when carrying out the Activity.

- 4.2 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must take every care not to transfer unwanted organisms such as weed seeds, pathogens or pests, such as Argentine ants and plague skinks (as listed under the Biosecurity Act 1993), when carrying out the Activity.
- 4.3 Except where permitted by this Agreement, the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must ensure they do not:
- (a) cut down vegetation; or
 - (b) damage any natural feature or historic resource on the land; or
 - (c) light any fire on the Site;
- without DOC's prior written approval.

5 What about obligations and breaches of the Agreement?

- 5.1 In conducting the Activity the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must comply with all statutes, regulations, by-laws or other enactments, or any Conservation Management Strategy or Plan affecting or relating to the Site and facilities or affecting or relating to the Activity as well as the procedures, guidelines and standards set out in **Section G of Schedule 1** and all other reasonable notices and directions of DOC. DOC may in his/her discretion appoint a person to monitor and review compliance of these requirements.
- 5.2 A breach by the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme of any provision referred to in clause 5.1 of this Schedule is deemed to be a breach of this Agreement.
- 5.3 If the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme breaches clause 5.1 of this Schedule, in any way that is not insignificant in DOC's view, DOC will give notice to Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme of the breach and provide a reasonable opportunity for Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme to remedy it.
- 5.4 If there is no proof of the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme working to remedy the breach DOC may choose to fix the breach after giving notice to Kaipara Moana Remediation.
- 5.5 DOC will advise Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme of what DOC's reasonable cost to fix the breach is and the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must pay that sum to DOC unless Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme can show to DOC's satisfaction that there are special circumstances as to why DOC should either waive or reduce that sum.

6 How will the Group/Organisation address Health and Safety?

- 6.1 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must carry out the Activity in a safe and reliable manner to provide and maintain, as far as is reasonably practicable, a safe working environment for its members and other persons (including any employees, volunteers, and contractors) while carrying out the Activity.
- 6.2 DOC and Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme are committed to working together to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, that safety hazards and risks related to the Activity are identified, assessed, and managed.
- 6.3 Each party must notify the other of any adverse natural event, hazard or activity on the Site or the surrounding area of which it becomes aware during the term of this Agreement which may affect the landowner's activities or public safety on the Site.

- 6.4 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must appoint a spokesperson or persons with whom DOC will communicate on all health and safety matters relating to the Activity.
- 6.5 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must:
- (a) ensure that its members (including any employees, volunteers, and contractors), agents, and invitees are competent and physically able to carry out the work and receive appropriate training before carrying out the Activity.
 - (b) ensure that all contracts between the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme and other parties (including any employees, volunteers, and contractors), contains, at a minimum, the same requirements as clauses 5.1 and 6.6 of this Schedule.
 - (c) unless otherwise agreed, take on-site responsibility for the safety of members and the public while carrying out the Activity.
- 6.6 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must:
- (a) prepare, and provide to DOC, a safety plan which meets the Department's requirements relating to the Activity.
 - (b) not start the Activity until DOC has reviewed and accepted the safety plan.
 - (c) schedule an annual review of their safety plan, and if they make any amendments ensure these are reviewed and accepted by DOC. This review is in addition to any review that DOC requires under clause 6.8 of this Schedule.
 - (d) Provide this safety plan to all members (including any employees, volunteers, and contractors), and require signed acceptance of the plan prior to any works commencing.
- 6.7 DOC will:
- (a) check and provide advice to help the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme complete or improve their safety plan;
 - (b) support the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme to be able to identify and manage risks associated with the Activity where the Activity is on public conservation land.
- 6.8 If, either in the opinion of DOC, or if Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme notifies DOC of a safety incident or risk on the Site, circumstances warrant a review of the safety plan, Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must review the safety plan and, DOC must, where appropriate, review and decide whether to accept it.
- 6.9 The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must record and report to DOC any significant event, such as a death or an injury which requires immediate hospitalisation, any near misses with the potential for a fatality or serious injury, within 24 hours of its occurrence and within 3 days for a less serious incident.
- 6.10 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must submit a specific safety plan for sites or activities outside of those outlined in this document, and not conduct these activities until acceptance by DOC in writing.
- 7 What if the Group/Organisation causes damage?**
- 7.1 DOC's General Liability Insurance Policy covers Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme for third-party personal injury and property damage associated with all or part of the Activity it carries out on the Site if:

(a) The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme has a safety plan in place for the Activity accepted

by DOC in accordance with clause 6.6 of this Schedule and Kaipara Moana Remediation, its contractors, clients and invitees, comply with DOC's Standard Operating Procedures and guidelines and standards listed in **Section G of Schedule 1** and the safety plan accepted by DOC when carrying out the Activity.

OR

(b) Kaipara Moana Remediation, its grant recipients, contractors, clients and invitees follow their own operating procedures and safety plan accepted by DOC.

7.2 Where the project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme has their own insurance cover:

- (a) The project leaders and groups taking action under the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme will indemnify DOC against all claims, action, losses and expenses of any nature by any person arising from their conduct of the Activity.
- (b) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme has no responsibility or liability for costs, loss or damage arising from any act or omission or lack of performance by DOC or any contractor or supplier or employee or agent of DOC.
- (c) The two parties must review the insurance cover as part of the annual monitoring and reporting provided for in **Section I of Schedule 1**, and if necessary, DOC may require Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme to alter the amount and/or type of insurance or to take out additional insurance.

8 When can the Agreement be suspended?

8.1 DOC may suspend this Agreement in whole or in part where:

- (a) in DOC's opinion, there is a temporary risk to public safety or to any natural or historic resource, however arising; or
- (b) there has been a serious breach of the terms of this Agreement.

8.2 DOC may lift any suspension under clause 8.1 of this Schedule, in any of the following circumstances, when DOC decides (a) any risk to public safety or natural and historic resources caused by:

- (a) a natural event or activity has been remedied or mitigated;
- (b) any activity of Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme has been eliminated, remedied or mitigated by Kaipara Moana Remediation;
- (c) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme has rectified, remedied or mitigated any serious breach of this Agreement to DOC's satisfaction.

9 When can the Agreement be ended?

9.1 Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme may surrender this Agreement, either in whole or in part, with 14 days' written notice to DOC subject to any conditions DOC considers reasonable and appropriate.

9.2 DOC may end this Agreement either in whole or in part by 14 days' written notice to Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme or such sooner period as appears necessary and reasonable to DOC where:

- (a) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme breaches any term of this Agreement that, in DOC's opinion, is capable of being rectified; and DOC has notified Kaipara Moana Remediation

Programme of the breach; and Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme does not rectify the breach within 14 days of receiving notification, or such other time as specified by DOC; or

- (b) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme breaches any terms of this Agreement and in the opinion of DOC the breach is not capable of being rectified; or
- (c) Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme ceases to conduct the Activity, or conducts it in a manner unacceptable to DOC; or
- (d) where Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme is convicted of an offence under legislation affecting or relating to the Site or Activity.

9.3 DOC may end this Agreement immediately without notice where:

- (a) any of the events leading to a suspension of the Agreement under clause 8 of this Schedule cannot be remedied to DOC's satisfaction; or
- (b) there is, in DOC's opinion, a permanent risk to public safety or to the natural and historic resources of the Site.

9.4 Notwithstanding any ending of this Agreement, any party who breaches the Agreement remains liable for the breach.

10 **What if the parties have a dispute?**

10.1 The parties will try to settle any dispute arising from this Agreement by full and frank discussion and negotiation or, if necessary, any other informal means for resolving it without harming any other rights they may have.

11 **What is the relationship of the parties?**

11.1 The parties agree to work together and, subject to the terms of this Agreement, to co-operate with each other in the carrying out of the Activity on the Site.

11.2 Nothing expressed or implied in this Agreement is to be construed as:

- (a) Constituting the parties as partners (in terms of the Partnership Act 1908), joint venture or agency.
- (b) Giving Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme any right of exclusive occupation or use of the Site.
- (c) Granting any ownership or interest in the Site to Kaipara Moana Remediation.
- (d) Affecting the rights of DOC and the public to have access across the Site.

12 **Power, Rights and Authorities**

All powers, rights and authorities of DOC under this Agreement and any notice required to be given by DOC may be exercised and given by DOC or any officer, employee or agent of DOC.

13. **The Law**

13.1 This Agreement is governed by, and to be interpreted in accordance with, the laws of New Zealand.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The Kaipara Moana Remediation must:

General

- Not erect any structure(s) on PCL
- Provide a Live Work Plan for each calendar year that is updated as and when new sites are added to the Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme.
 - Work plan to include:
 - Name and location plan & location map.
 - Weed control activity.
 - Planting list.

N.B. Any additional work beyond the work plan must have prior approval from DOC

Health and Safety

- Kaipara Moana Remediation ensure any agents (including any employees, volunteers, and contractors), have access to KMR's accepted health & safety plan, and require signed acceptance of the plan by its agents, prior to any works commencing.
- Kaipara Moana Remediation ensure any agents (including any employees, volunteers, and contractors), create a Site Specific Safety Plan (SSSP) for each area of PCL where works are to be undertaken, utilising the template provided by DOC, and to submit that SSSP to DOC for acceptance prior to any works commencing.
- Kaipara Moana Remediation will ensure any SSSP are stored appropriately and collate any SSSP revisions / renewals on behalf of their agents. KMR will submit any updated SSSP to DOC on behalf of their agents for review / acceptance at least 30 days prior to expiry.

Biosecurity

- Equipment to be clean and weed free.
- Care to be taken not to transfer unwanted organisms.
- Compliance with the guidelines and notices issued by the Kauri Dieback Programme to assist in the prevention of the spread of the pest organism *Phytophthora agathidicida* (PTA) Kauri Dieback Disease if applicable.
- Check, clean and dry equipment between waterways.
- Fish, plants, rocks not to be moved between waterways.

Historic and cultural sites, features or taonga

- Adhere to protocols outlines in the attached accidental discovery of archaeological, kōiwi tangata (human remains) or taonga are discovered.

Advertising

i. Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme must inform, and receive prior approval from, DOC for:

- Any advertising signage
- Promotional material

relating to the agreement.

ii. DOC must inform, and receive prior approval from, Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme for:

- External communications
- Promotional material

relating to the agreement.

iii. Any non-commercial information Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme wish to share relating to their work on the site can be done so without DOC consultation.

Media (including social media)

- Media releases require DOC clearance and feedback prior to release.
- Social media posts that highlight/celebrate work set out in the approved work plan do not require DOC clearance or feedback. However, please note social media relating to certain topics requires DOC clearance and feedback prior to release i.e. identification of threatened and endangered species, feral cat trapping, 1080 etc. Please note this is not a definite list.
- Ensure that contributions of respective parties are acknowledged in any social media posts.
- DOC must be consulted prior to the use of images and logos

Use of power tools and machinery

- No use of power tools and machinery permitted without prior written permission from DOC, including evidence of competency.

Weed control

- No use of herbicides without prior approval
- No use of powered equipment without prior approval

Appendix 1

[Sections of relevant SOPs, guidelines or standards can be attached as an appendix. Refer to them in Section G of Schedule 1.]

[Maps or diagrams can be attached as an appendix. Clearly refer to and explain them here and in Section B of Schedule 1.]

Full Plant List: DOC-7570552

List is unchanged from November 2023

Indicative maps of potential sites: DOC-7632689

Site Specific Safety Plan Template: DOC-7685884

TITLE: Pou Tātaki Report

Kaituhi Pūrongo |
Report Writer Justine Daw, Pou Tātaki

Te Kaupapa | Purpose

This report provides a brief update to the Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) Joint Committee on progress in key elements of KMR delivery.

Rāpopototanga Matua | Executive summary

This month, we table to the Joint Committee a draft 2025-2026 Annual Work Plan and seek approval to submit it to the Ministry for the Environment. We also seek endorsement of a DOC/KMR Community Agreement to be piloted in Auckland, with a view to extending it across the whole of the Kaipara Moana catchment subject to due process.

We will also provide several verbal updates to the Joint Committee as follows:

- The Kōrero Tuku Iho project team will give a further presentation to the Joint Committee to update them on project activities since the last Committee meeting.
- Kaipara Maurikura staff will provide a verbal update on a scheduled workshop and field trip with senior officials from the Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry for Primary Industries. The timing of the workshop/field trip does not allow for a written update.
- The Chair and Pou Tātaki will provide a verbal update on a scheduled meeting with the Minister for the Environment. The timing of the meeting does not allow for a written update.

Other operational updates are provided in this report for noting. I would particularly draw to the Joint Committee's attention the emerging impact of drought on KMR planting this winter.

Whakataunga | Recommendations

That the Joint Committee:

1. *Receive* the report 'Pou Tātaki Report', by Justine Daw dated 7 April 2025.

Tātari me ngā tūtohu | Analysis and Advice

Earthshot Prize 2025

Due diligence continues in respect of KMR's nomination for the 2025 Earthshot Prize. While the late meetings are challenging - the process is now being undertaken on UK time – and the workload is high, the process is proving very beneficial. Firstly, the evidence dossier under development and subsequent discussions deepen KMR's strategic thinking and test direction. In addition, as part of the nominee cohort, KMR is now receiving specific, targeted assistance through the assessment process. We are likely to learn in late August if we have been named as a global finalist.

Jobs for Nature Benefits Case Study

In recognition of our role as a national exemplar, KMR has been profiled by the *Jobs for Nature* Secretariat in a Benefits Case Study supported by an associated Technical Report. The reports – which have now been updated – are due to be publicly released by the end of March. The update reflects a recent release by The Treasury of a new discount rate, which affects the economic modelling underpinning the Case Study.

Together, the reports evaluate the impact of Crown and other investments in KMR, and provide a cost/benefit analysis of the (wide) benefits and value delivered by KMR. Cost-benefit analysis is a

widely accepted methodology for assessing the relative merits of public projects. The final reports demonstrate that for every \$1 invested in KMR, \$3.94 in benefits are expected (a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) of 3.94:1) and that KMR will have 'paid its way' by around August 2025. While KMR is seen as an environmental initiative, the reports also show that the primary value generated from KMR is economic (i.e. via support for local jobs, local purchase of materials, and sustaining snapper fishery export earnings).

Programme Performance

Below are KMR's programme-life-to-date Key Performance Indicators. As at 28 February 2025, 3 years and 2 months into operational delivery, KMR has delivered the following results on the ground:

Participation

- 1,172 landowners/groups have expressed interest in KMR
- 759 plans have been completed with landowners/groups
- 106 further plans are in development
- 91 projects led by hapū, marae, community groups, catchment groups and other collectives

Nature & Resilience

- Over 2.05 million trees/plants in the ground or contracted to plant
- Over 900 km of fencing completed or contracted – the same distance as from Kerikeri to Wellington
- 931 hectares planted or contracted, or regenerating into native forest
- Over 130,000 hectares managed under KMR plans
- Protection of 1,129km of waterways, 30km of coastal margins, 169 hectares of wetlands.

Jobs & Skills

- Over \$21.4 million invested in KMR projects
- 350,000 hours of new work – a year's work for over 225 people
- 47 local businesses and nurseries accredited to supply KMR.

Communications and Media

Since we last reported, we have continued to profile in local and sectoral media numerous stories about KMR farmers, growers, other landowners and groups taking action with KMR support. As a voluntary programme, these stories are critical to driving uptake into the programme, particularly for farmers and other primary sector landowners where trust networks are important.

KMR also attended the Northland Ballance Farm Environment Awards, where a number of KMR landowners won awards. The Northland Regional Winners, Rob & Mandy Pye, are active KMR participants.

Across the catchment, KMR has participated in primary sector events to drive winter planting and farmer recruitment. HortNZ and KMR launched our new kumara sector support partnership at the Northern Wairoa grower event, met with farmers at the Northland Field Days, Helensville A&P Show and the Warkworth A&P show, and presented in Whangārei on KMR's expertise and grants available at a Te Uru Rākau / MPI Growing Native Forests Workshop. Through our Navigator project leaders, KMR supported an open day to demonstrate KMR projects on farm (Waiōtira), marae based hui in a part of the Mangakāhia river system, and co-hosted with delivery partners The Forest Bridge Trust our annual Partnership Forum at Te Aroha Pā marae.

Recent KMR communications have largely focused on inviting farmers, other landowners and groups to get in early for winter 2025 planting, including communicating deadlines for ordering poplars to stabilise moving hillsides. We have also supported the Kōrero Tuku Iho team to publicise the Kōrero Tuku Iho Whakatauirā Fund opening for applications.

National visibility and influence

KMR is now relatively well-known as the largest harbour restoration initiative in New Zealand, operating across two regions and 640,000Ha of catchment. Less well known is that KMR is the fourth largest catchment group in the country. Currently, ~86% of the landowners/groups KMR works with are dairy or drystock farmers.

We recently presented on KMR's position in the national catchment ecosystem to the National Freshwater Conference, where our presentation was very well-received, including by the Federated Farmers President who was also speaking at the event. In particular, KMR's valuable role supporting the small number of emergent catchment and community groups across the Kaipara Moana catchment was discussed (very few existed in the catchment previously). KMR's operating model means that these groups are supported to establish rapidly, offered a clear blueprint for taking action which targets activities to areas on farm or on the whenua which will most make a difference.

Anecdotal evidence shows that KMR's support means that these groups start taking action significantly earlier than they would otherwise have done, don't need to reinvent any wheels (which takes both time and real resource), and undertake works in areas and activities that will achieve the highest ecological and cultural benefits (c.f. beautification planting).

Winter 2025 planting headwinds

While demand for winter planting was strong and growing in 2024 in line with programme modelling, KMR has recently seen significant chilling of landowner/group appetite for signing up to winter planting projects. Two major changes in the operating environment are driving this major shift (drop-off) in demand:

- The Government's announcement on 4 December 2024 of an annual 15,000 Ha cap on conversions of LUC 6 farmland to exotic forestry entering into the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZETS). While this is likely intended to stop wholesale conversion of land to plantation forestry, the lack of clarity about how the cap will work has meant that the majority of landowners/groups working with KMR to plan exotic forest woodlots (on small areas of farm which often include some LUC 6 class land) have now paused their projects. This is because they rely on carbon credit revenue to be able to retire and diversify income from these steep lands and gullies - many of which were cyclone affected - as planting can be expensive even with KMR support. Lack of policy clarity means that farmers are waiting to understand the new settings, rather than risk proceeding and later find they are ineligible for carbon credits. For the avoidance of doubt, KMR caps all forest projects to 25% of the property area.
- The 7 March declaration of drought conditions in Northland, which are also affecting some parts of the Auckland portion of the Kaipara Moana catchment. Farmers are telling us that they are pausing planting projects with KMR for cost reasons (they now need to prioritise buying in water and feed instead of planting) and tree/plant survival rates (they are concerned that insufficient rain / soil moisture will mean their planting project will fail).

Financial performance

The year-to-date financials shown in Table 1 over page show that KMR continues to scale up at pace, as intended, indicated by the value of total Programme Expenditure (Activity).

The Table shows financial payments made to 28 February 2025, rather than project activity completed.

KMR has contracted or committed an additional \$4.6m worth of projects as at 28 February 2025, some of which will be completed but not yet paid out. This reflects the lag between landowners/groups contracting to undertake sediment reduction projects, project completion, KMR arranging project review and sign-off, landowners/groups submitting invoices, and KMR paying invoices.

Table 1: KMR Financials (Year to date, as at 28 February 2025)

KMR Financials

(February 2025)

Funding contributions

	February
MfE	8,006,996
MfE other	-
Other Funding	1,300
Northland Regional Council (NRC)	-
Auckland Council (AC)	551,530
Interest earned on unspent funds	370,773
Subtotal (Funds available)	8,930,598
<i>Less KMR expenditure</i>	
(i.e. Activity incl. Grants)	4,223,072
Funds Remaining	4,707,526

Co-funding

(Matching Contributions)

NRC in kind labour	53,211
NRC in kind Opex costs (incl. salaries)	885,734
AC in kind labour	13,408
AC in kind Opex costs	-
Landowners / Other contributors	2,193,341
Subtotal (Co-funding expenditure)	3,145,694
Total Programme Expenditure	
(Total Activity)	7,368,766

Joint Committee Grant Interests

In line with advice from the Office of the Auditor-General, we provide a transparent overview below of the KMR grant-related interests that are relevant to LAMIA Act (local government legislation that pertains to the financial interests of elected members, and others sitting on local government committees, such as KMR's Joint Committee). We note that the OAG has made a ruling in respect of KMR which recognises that Members of the KMR Joint Committee have been appointed to the Committee on a representative basis i.e. due to their roles in their iwi/hapū.

Table 2: Joint Committee Grant Interests

Who	Grant type	KMR Grant excl. GST)	Status	Nature of Interest
Nil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A