

## Meeting Notes: Kaitiāia WWTP consent renewal

Friday 4th November 2022 – Te Ahu / MS Teams – 1030 – 1:30

### Attendees:

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#### Attendance:

Mandy Wilson, Melissa Parlane, Simone Tongatule, Martell Leticia - FNDC  
Louise Mischewski - Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa  
Roz Popata, Hone Popata – Ngai Tohianga / Oturu Marae  
Tui Bedgood – Te Uri o Hina / Te Uri o Hina marae  
Troy Brockbank, Simon Greening (via MS teams) - PDP

#### Apologies:

Waikarere Gregory – Ngāti te Ao / Te Rarawa marae

#### Pre-hui

The premise of the hui was to discuss the following items put forward by Troy Brockbank in meeting invite to all attendees:

- Whakawhanaungatanga – Introductions between project team and kaitiaki
- Update on project
- Present and discuss draft consent conditions sent in memo A03576818M001
- Other matters – as raised by kaitiaki in hui

### Notes:

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Hui commenced at 10:30am with Karakia and Mihi from Hone Popata, followed by whakawhanaungatanga and introductions from those in attendance.

#### Update on project

Martell provided an overview of the project and introduced the project team going forward. It was expressed that the proposed consent term is 15 years. There is also ongoing work by FNDC to investigate discharge to land options, and treatment plant upgrades (which will happen if funding becomes available).

Tangata whenua enquired as to the floating wetlands installed at the WWTP. The FNDC team expressed that the floating wetlands are not as effective as they were when first established so are definitely being disestablished. There is a programme of upgrades which the WWTP consent application addresses.

#### Draft Consent Conditions

Troy presented the draft conditions sent in memo A03576818M001 prior to hui. Each condition was stepped through and attendees provided feedback. Below are some of the key items discussed;

## **Kaitiaki Forum**

Kaitiaki Forum was agreed as an appropriate initial name for the forum as detailed in the consent. It was noted that this name could be revisited in future.

It has noted that the Kaitiaki forum has not been setup to replace mana motuhake and relationship between the respected hapū and iwi with FNDC, but rather to create a mechanism to meet as a forum to discuss and action implementation of the WWTP consent, and the activities authorised by the consent. An advice note of the purpose of the KF is provided in the draft conditions in the memo.

<b>Condition No.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendees expressed desire to extend the membership of the proposed Kaitiaki Forum (KF) to include all iwi and hapū with a kaitiaki interest in the Awanui river catchment – from Rangaunu to Maungataniwha – provided a holistic ‘ki uta, ki tai’ forum.</li> <li>It was suggested to reach out to Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Takoto, Ngāti Kahu, Te Paatu to discuss the prospect of including them, via invitation, to the KF.</li> </ul>
<i>Advice Note (a)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specific reference had been made to Awanui and Tāngonge as per the parties that prepared CIA’s</li> <li>Tangata whenua requested that the purpose of KF recognised the importance of Awanui River, Tāngonge wetland, and their associated catchments as a taonga.</li> <li>A discussion was had on whether to mention and add Rangaunu harbour in this advice note. The outcome was not to include, as it was best for focus to be concentrated on Awanui and Tangonge. It was noted that improvements and enhancements made upstream of Rangaunu will benefit Rangaunu in the long term.</li> </ul>
<i>Advice Note (b)</i>	Realistic commitments over the term of consent. A comment from attendees was that a forum is good but that they have to be realistic about the ability of hapū to commit to the forum over 15 year timeframe. Hapū are already stretched and that there is a concern that a forum could fail because the commitment wanes after a while.
2(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tangata asked the question “How much authority is available to tangata whenua to have their input/views used or incorporated into plans?”</li> <li>Consent holder has obligations per Part 2 RMA. It was agreed it makes no sense not to have regard to and adopt recommendations where in scope of the purpose of the KF (i.e., kaitiaki responsibilities and values of tangata whenua).</li> <li>Having the purpose of the KF in the consent means that if a recommendation is not given due consideration and implementation by the Consent Holder, then there is a case for challenge by the KF or tangata whenua (Iwi, hapū, marae, individuals) to NRC that the KF conditions of the consent have not been complied with including use of funding under the EEF to do so (Condition 10(f)).</li> </ul>
2(k)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Recording complaints and received responses” is in relation to the consent conditions and activities authorised under the consent. This will be clarified in revision of draft conditions.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was agreed to add 'observations' i.e. not just complaints to this clause. This will assist the purpose of the KF and to ensure the health and mauri of te taiao, in particular wai, is prioritised and focused in the KF. This will also aid bringing discussion to the KF on wider improvements to te taiao and wai (i.e., removing rubbish from nga awa impacts mauri but who and how the issue is addressed requires more than just individual interventions). There will be people on the forum who can pass on information and contacts for addressing issues outside of the discharge activity, a 'helping hand'.</li> <li>• The process and pathway for recording complaints &amp; observations, actioning and responses needs to clear. It was proposed this could be done in the KF ToR.</li> </ul>
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### **Cultural health and Well Being Monitoring Plan (CHWMP)**

Cultural health and Well Being Monitoring Plan (CHWMP) was agreed as an appropriate initial name as detailed in the consent. This name was a combination of terms and activities mentioned in the CIA's. It was noted that this name could be revisited in future.

The CHWMP is to provide for cultural indicators. It is envisaged that the individual iwi/hapū entities will have similar indicators, and work together on a collaborative approach. However, there is a potential that there could be conflicts and disagreements and a process is needed to be outlined in preparation of these potential occurrences. It was agreed that the process for managing conflicts and disagreements are outlined in the ToR and importantly should not impact compliance by the consent holder on other consent condition obligations.

<b>Condition No.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
6(f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tangata whenua enquired on what is meant by "actual or potential" effects?</li> <li>• FNDC responded we predict what will happen as a result of the discharge (potential) when preparing the consent application and we monitor and respond to it either historically (i.e., consent compliance) or in the future through consent conditions (actual).</li> </ul>
6(j)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tangata whenua enquired on what is meant by "abnormal"?</li> <li>• An example was given where the evaluation of JNL over a two-week sampling period showed an increase in Nitrogen and JNL were asked to comment to which they replied that an issue with equipment which meant that there was an overflow of a pond back into the system. This was an abnormal event that had happened at JNL which had a downstream effect on the influent received at the WWTP (treatment and discharge quality). Things like this happen at the WWTP as well so instead of finding out about them months or years later, that they are notified to the KF as part of regular reporting under a condition like this.</li> </ul>

### **Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF)**

<b>Condition No.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
10(a)-(f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pest management to be added</li> <li>• Maintenance of initiatives is also fundamental and must be a part of funding considerations (i.e., maintenance of planted areas).</li> </ul>

10(f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does 'Compliance' mean? Isn't that the Consent Holder's responsibility to fund/manage anyway?</li> <li>• This is in regard to compliance with the Consent Conditions that involve tangata whenua – primarily the Kaitiaki Forum and Cultural Health and Wellbeing Monitoring Plan but also other consent conditions that have a bearing on kaitiaki conditions (i.e., monitoring and reporting schedule).</li> </ul>
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A forward workplan would provide a transparent and robust process when considering the need for a 'return on investment'. Prioritisation of activities and doing it right, especially when spending money raised through rates.</li> </ul>
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EEF can't be funded from depreciation, it comes from operations so is passed onto rates annually. The overall funding amounts needs to be pragmatic and is envisaged to be scrutinised by decision makers.</li> <li>• Further "House keeping" of what is done and what is ongoing/forecasted is needed to confirm 'value for money' or assurance of investment outcomes.</li> <li>• FNDC to work with Tangata whenua on proposed fund amounts.</li> </ul>

### **Riparian & Planting Plan (RRP)**

<b>Condition No.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
13	<p>Area of demarcation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendees looked at potential planting sites via FNDC GIS.</li> <li>• Adjacent land is private land, and attendees didn't see any harm in speaking with them regarding planting.</li> <li>• ML noted the benefit that these property owners would attain through planting carried out under EEF - would community be happy with this benefit to certain people?</li> <li>• Have a quantum in mind rather than an exact area/site (landed on about 700m from outfall).</li> <li>• Planting could potentially be done onsite alongside the existing sludge ponds. FNDC need to look at it in more detail and to ensure the plantings have the benefit desired (i.e., plantings may need to be setback from ponds to avoid roots damaging liner etc).</li> <li>• Another option is to look at planting/replanting nearby areas of conservation estate/treaty settlement land within the catchment. This would provide a wider secondary benefit to community and the wai rather than just to some landowners and the wai.</li> <li>• It is intended that the RRP is funded from the EEF.</li> </ul>

### **General Discussion**

- Tangata whenua raised if there were any opportunities to consider re-purposing of sludge from site. MP Really keen to discuss opportunities for re-purposing of sludge. It is at a point in its cycle where it is considered 'deactivated' so is ready for re-purposing.

## Actions

Date Started	Action	Responsible	Due
24/11/2021	Draft some conditions for meetings, riparian planting etc	Jess -> Troy/Simon	Done
4/11/2022	Revise draft conditions based on feedback received during hui. See <b>Appendix A</b> for changes to be made	Troy/Simon	Prior to next hui – 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022 (proposed)
4/11/2022	Discuss invitation to KF with Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Takoto, Ngāti Kahu, Te Paatu	Troy	Ongoing
4/11/2022	FNDC to work with Tangata whenua on proposed fund amounts	Troy/Martell	Ongoing

## Next meeting topics

- Discuss revised consent conditions

Hui closed at 1:30pm with Karakia from Hone Popata.

## Appendix A: Changes to be made to consent conditions

Item	Clause	Recommendations
Kaitiaki Forum	cl 1)	Add “Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Takoto, Te Rūnanga-a-iwi o Ngāti Kahu, Te Paatu”
	cl 1 Advice Note a)	Replace “Awanui River and Tāngonge wetland as a taonga” with “Awanui River, Tāngonge wetland, and their associated catchments as a taonga”
	2 k)	Replace “record complaints and receive responses” with ““record observations and receive responses in relation to the consent conditions and activities authorised under the consent”.
EEF	10)	Replace “The fund may also support initiatives in the following areas (but not limited to)” with “The fund may also support initiatives in the following areas (but not limited to) in accordance with this consent”
	10)	Add “Pest Management” & “Maintenance”
	11)	Add “forward workplan” as a responsibility for the KF
	12)	Monetary value to be determined
RRP	13)	Replace “The Consent Holder shall engage a SQEP to prepare a RPP within the budget provided for in condition 12 that provides for riparian planting within XXX m of the point of discharge to the Awanui (subject to landowner approval).” with “The Consent Holder must engage a SQEP to prepare a RPP within the budget provided for in condition 12 that provides for riparian planting on publicly held land or māori-owned land within 700 m of the point of discharge to the Awanui (subject to landowner approval).”