



IN THIS ISSUE

- [400-plus submissions received on 10 year plan](#)
- [Tui Mine remediation project wins national award](#)
- [Follow up field day for farmers in Waipā River catchment](#)
- [Farmers flock to field day at Kaniwhaniwha](#)
- [One week left to have your say](#)
- [Registrations open for erosion and sediment control workshops](#)
- [Share our news or subscribe](#)
- [We will remember...](#)

COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 2015

[Regional Transport Committee](#)

Tuesday 7 April 2015 - 9.30am

[Hamilton Public Transport Joint Committee](#)

Tuesday 7 April 2015 - 1pm

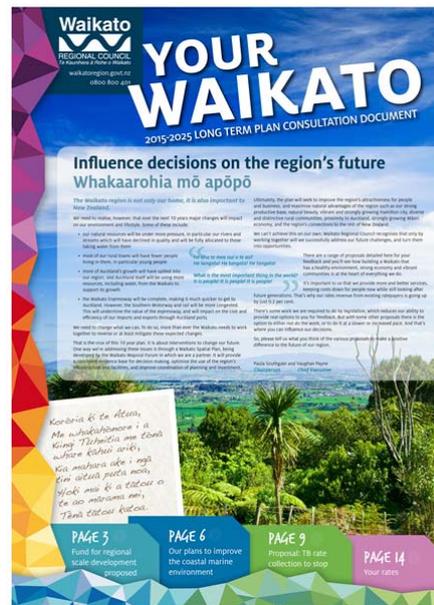
400-plus submissions received on 10 year plan

A big thank you to all those people who took the time over the past month to make a submission on our 10 year plan.

The consultation period closed on Tuesday last week, with the council receiving 432 submissions in total.

Our staff have been busy collating the submissions ahead of the hearings being held from Monday 4 May. Councillors will then meet at the end of May to deliberate and make final decisions on the 2015-2025 Long Term Plan.

For those people interested in what others had to say about our plan, [submissions are available to read on our website](#).



[Aka Aka Otatau Drainage Subcommittee](#)

Waiuku

Friday 10 April 2015 -
9am

[Waikato Spatial Plan Joint Committee](#)

Hamilton

Monday 13 April 2015 -
9am

[Hearing Appointment Subcommittee](#) (if required)

Tuesday 14 April 2015 -
9.30am

[Strategy & Policy Committee](#)

Tuesday 14 April 2015 -
10.30am

[Waikato Tainui Co-Governance Committee](#)

Wednesday 15 April 2015 -
10.30am

[Chief Executive](#)

[Employment and Remuneration Committee](#)

Thursday 16 April 2015 -
8.30am

[Integrated Catchment Management Committee](#)

Thursday 16 April 2015 -
10am

[Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee](#)

Turangi

Friday 17 April 2015 -
12.30pm

[Waipa Catchment Committee](#)

Te Awamutu

Wednesday 22 April 2015 -
10am

[Lake Taupo Protection Project Joint Committee](#)

Taupo

Thursday 23 April 2015 -
11am

[Council](#)

Thursday 30 April 2015 -
10.30am

May 2015

[Lake Taupo Catchment Committee](#)

Taupo

Friday 1 May 2015 -
10am

[2015-2025 Long Term Plan Hearings](#)

Tui Mine remediation project wins national award



Waikato Regional Council's leadership of a multi-million dollar project to remediate the contaminated Tui Mine on Mount Te Aroha has won a prestigious national award.

The award winners were announced at an inaugural gala dinner of the New Zealand Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM) in Wellington last Thursday.

It's the first time in the 25 year history of the SOLGM Local Government Excellence Awards that environmental leadership and sustainability has been recognised.

This year's winner was Waikato Regional Council's Tui Mine remediation project, which was commended by the judges as a meticulously planned and executed approach to a multi-year, multimillion dollar project involving multiple delivery agents, multiple stakeholders, and multiple risk factors.

The collaborative and phased approach to the remediation provided lessons for others facing legacy issues of this nature, the judges said.

Ghassan Basheer, Waikato Regional Council's principal technical advisor, was responsible for ensuring the objectives and stakeholder expectations for the project were met. He received the award with the council's integrated catchment management director Clare Crickett.

"This project required innovative new approaches to project management and technically complex engineering solutions, and it's an honour to have this work by a number of people and organisations recognised," Mr Basheer said.

Monday 4 May to Friday 8
May 2015 (if required) -
10am

[Aka Aka Otatau Drainage
Subcommittee](#)

Waiuku

Friday 8 May 2015 - 9am

[Waikato Regional Council
Hearing Committee](#)

Resource consent
application by Waikato
Regional Council

Te Kauwhata

Monday 11 May 2015 -
10am

[Central Waikato
Catchment Committee](#)

Tuesday 12 May 2015 –
10am

[Chief Executive
Employment and
Remuneration Committee](#)

Tuesday 12 May 2015 –
3pm

[Hearings Appointment
Subcommittee](#) (if
required)

Wednesday 13 May 2015
– 9.30am

[Finance Committee](#)

Wednesday 13 May 2015
– 10.30am

[Waikato Plan Joint
Committee](#)

Te Awamutu

Monday 18 May 2015 –
9.30am

[Upper Waikato
Catchment Committee](#)

Tokoroa

Tuesday 19 May 2015 –
9am

[Waikato Regional Council
and Waitomo District
Council Joint Hearing
Committee](#)

Resource consent
applications by Mokau
Sands Limited

Te Kuiti

Wednesday 20 May 2015
– 10am.

[Lower Waikato
Catchment Committee](#)

Tuakau

Thursday 21 May 2015 –
10am

[2015-2025 Long Term](#)

He said this project has delivered, and will continue to deliver, tangible and ongoing benefits to New Zealanders. Physically, the threat to human health and safety has been removed, the site is secure and the release of contaminants has already been dramatically reduced.

Over time it is expected the environment will heal, local streams will once again sustain fish life, and local communities and tourists will be able to fully engage with recreational opportunities on the mountain.

Follow up field day for farmers in Waipā River catchment



Another Waikato Regional Council field day focused on farm planning and environmental sustainability is being held in the wider Waipā River catchment near Otorohanga on 12 May.

The field day in the Moakurarua Stream catchment will be held at Andre and Doreen De Haan's sheep and beef farm at 297 Bromley Road, Honikiwi, from 10am to 2pm.

The De Haans' involvement in the field day comes after they attended a council drop in day last year and expressed interest in being involved in a farm plan process. A council staff member subsequently visited and they came up with some agreed actions.

The field day will showcase what they have done since and plan to do. Topics to be covered will include enhancing wetlands and pole planting for stabilising slopes.

[Plan Deliberations](#)

Monday 25 May to Friday
29 May 2015 (if required)
– 10am

[Contracts Subcommittee meeting](#)

Tuesday 26 May 2015 –
9am

[Council meeting](#)

Thursday 28 May 2015 –
10.30am

To find out more or to register to attend, please [email John Vosper](#) or call him on 0800 800 401.

Farmers flock to field day at Kaniwhaniwha



Around 35 farmers and other landowners in the Waipā River catchment this week attended a field day to hear ideas for managing their properties in an environmentally sustainable way.

Information on sources of funding to support environmental initiatives were also available at the event, organised by Waikato Regional Council and supported by DairyNZ.

The Kaniwhaniwha Stream catchment field day was at the property of Denis and Felicity Ahlers, who have worked with industry body DairyNZ to develop an environment-focused sustainable milk plan and also identified work that can qualify for council and Waikato River Authority funding.

Topics covered at the field day included farm planning, planting beside waterways, aquatic life, council river management and land stabilisation.

Council catchment management officer Paul Smith described how sediment loss can be reduced by taking the capability of land into account when farming, by creating or enhancing wetlands, and by building sediment traps and cut offs on races and around culverts. Many of these options for cutting sediment loss can also reduce the discharge of phosphate and E.coli bacterium to waterways.

“The council is able to help landowners develop farm plans that not only improve environmental outcomes but also increase farm profitability,” said Mr Smith.

Works supervisor Lyndon Stokes illustrated how recent work on the Kaniwhaniwha Stream had balanced clearing unwanted material from rivers with making sure that stream banks are protected so that erosion is avoided.

Environmental officer Michael Lake gave a demonstration of electric fishing and displayed specimens of fish and koura living in the Kaniwhaniwha.

“The Kaniwhaniwha catchment supports a particularly high number of native fish species, including several that are considered threatened. Fish habitats can be enhanced by riparian plantings, which provide food and shade. Poorly constructed farm culverts can restrict fish access to kilometres of potential habitat,” Mr Lake said.

The field day follows an announcement late last year that the Waikato River Authority is planning to provide the council with up to \$1.5 million over three years for implementation of projects identified in the recently released [Waipā Catchment Plan](#). The plan is aimed at contributing to the restoration and protection of the Waipā River.

One week left to have your say

There's just under a week left to [complete a survey](#) and influence policy being developed to address the water quality of the Waikato and Waipa rivers.



The [Healthy Rivers: Plan for Change/Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai project](#) is working with stakeholders to develop changes to the Waikato Regional Plan to help restore and protect the health of the Waikato and Waipa rivers.

Once developed, the plan change will help, over time, to reduce the sediment, bacteria, nitrogen and phosphorus entering water bodies (including groundwater) in the Waikato and Waipa River catchments, an area of 1.1 million hectares.

The Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) was established in 2013 to represent stakeholders and the community develop the plan change.

The CSG is deliberating on technical material and on stakeholder and community views gathered from consultation, including the [results from a survey which closes on Thursday 30 April](#). The CSG will receive aggregated responses from the anonymous survey to help inform their decisions.

Ultimately, the CSG will propose solutions to decision makers.



For farmers



We're hiring



Registrations open for erosion and sediment control workshops



Do you work in the earthworks industry or know someone who does? Waikato Regional Council offers training opportunities for the earthworks industry, with registrations now open for workshops being held in August.

Practical erosion and sediment control

A one-day workshop with a practical focus on constructing erosion and sediment controls. This workshop covers best practice erosion and sediment control methods in accordance with the Waikato Regional Council's Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines, Waikato Regional Plan requirements and legal obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). This workshop also includes a visit to a working site to view controls in the field.

Planning erosion and sediment control

A one-day advanced workshop with a practical focus for preparing erosion and sediment control plans and tips to assist with preparing land use resource consent applications. This workshop will cover the Waikato Regional Plan's rules relating to soil disturbance activities, and will include practical exercises in preparing an erosion and sediment control plan and site risk analysis.

To find out more about these workshops, including how to register, [visit the Waikato Regional Council website](#).

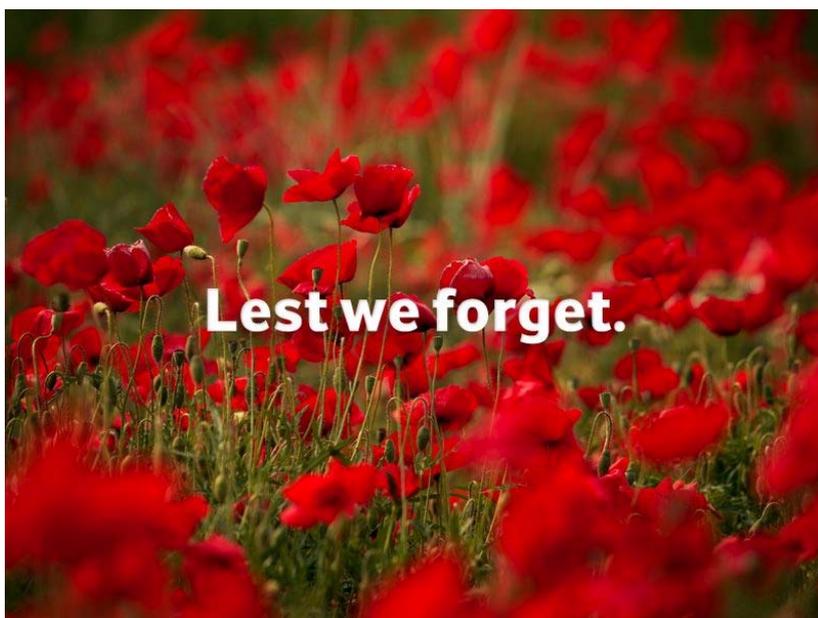
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