

# He Mahere Taiao mō ngā wai o Te Arawa

## Te Arawa Lakes Environmental Plan

An Iwi Planning Document to give effect to  
Te Tūāpapa o ngā wai o Te Arawa / Te Arawa Cultural Values Framework

2019 - 2030

*[Note to reader: This Plan will be appended to Te Tūāpapa o ngā wai o Te Arawa.  
For this reason, all of the 'usual context' (e.g. who we are) is not required.]*



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Plan Writers: Conroy and Donald Consultants Ltd

Plan recognised and endorsed by:

Te Arawa Lakes Trust on [date]

As such, this Plan has statutory weight under sections 5-8, 35A, 61, 66, 74 and 108 of the Resource Management Act.

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# 1. Introduction

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***He Mahere Taiao mō ngā wai o Te Arawa is an Environmental Plan ('Plan') developed by Te Arawa Lakes Trust ('Lakes Trust'). It is an Iwi Planning Document with statutory weight under the Resource Management Act ('RMA').***

## 1.1 Reason for a Plan

Our cultural values framework - Te Tūāpapa o nga wai o Te Arawa ('Te Tūāpapa') - was released in 2015 to articulate our values in relation to our lakes. While it provides a solid foundation, it is clear that we need to articulate our values and views in a format and language familiar (e.g. policy) to those who make decisions and/or fund projects for our lakes.

This Plan will:

outline specific issues, objectives and policies for our lakes and lake catchments. This is only where generalities apply, and consistency is required (e.g. lakes structures, pest fish, water quality).

apply rohe-wide but will not delve into lake specific matters. That is the role of individual iwi and hapū management plans as well as engagement with our hungatiaki (kaitiaki) for each lake.

We want to have greater impact and influence in the management and restoration of our Te Arawa Lakes, as tangata whenua, lakebed owner and hunga tiaki. We want to influence more effectively Council and central government plans, projects, strategies, decisions as well as relationships. Having a Plan in place enables us to be proactive and able to be more actively involved in resource management matters relating to our lakes.

This Plan does not replace:

- Any obligation to consult individually with Te Arawa Iwi, hapū or post-settlement governance entities (e.g. CNI Iwi Holdings Limited)
- Any planning document prepared by Te Arawa hapu or iwi e.g. Iwi or Hapū Management Plan.

## 1.2 Where does this plan apply?

Like Te Tūāpapa, this Plan will apply to:

- the 14 lakes subject to the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006, including the land within their catchments.
- the rivers, streams, puna (springs) and groundwater in the Te Arawa rohe as proclaimed under the Waitangi Treaty claim Wai 1875.

## 1.3 Who will use this plan?

This Plan has been written for multiple audiences.

### Local & Central Government

Many of the policies will be aimed at use in Council planning and resource consent processes and decisions. This Plan will also influence the Te Arawa Lakes Programme and other operational teams (e.g. utilities, land management).

While there are no specific obligations by central government agencies to take this Plan into account, it will be used to build and/or enhance our relationship moving forward.

We expect others to use this plan to:

#### UNDERSTAND:

- our values, frustrations and aspirations for our Lakes.
- our views on particular activities or land uses.
- that our views are not limited to cultural matters. We are both hungatiaki and land managers and have responsibilities to also provide for the social and economic wellbeing of our people.

#### INFORM AND GUIDE:

- engagement processes so that discussions are focused and productive.
- decisions associated with consent and concession applications.
- policy and plan development.
- Council operations, programme development and funding.
- development within our rohe.

## Te Arawa

This Plan is also for us. It will support the work that we (Lakes Trust / Te Arawa Iwi and hapū) do and help us to be more influential within our own areas of interest.

We will use this plan to:

**GIVE EFFECT** to Te Tūāpapa o nga wai o Te Arawa

**ARTICULATE** our issues of significance and long-term aspirations for our Lakes.

**GUIDE AND INFLUENCE:**

- council strategies, plans, programmes and decisions.
- influence consent processes for lake structures.
- guide our responses to consent applications, leasees applicants and plan changes.
- guide and/or support submissions to local and central government proposals and processes.

**SUPPORT:**

- a more collective and coordinated approach for the betterment of our Lakes.
- on-the-ground initiatives to improve the health and wellbeing of our Lakes.
- funding applications for projects that align with, or are specified within, this Plan.
- our Mahire Whakahaere (Fisheries Plans)

## 1.4 Status of this Plan

This Plan is recognised by the Te Arawa Lakes Trust Board and therefore has statutory weight under sections 5-8, 35A, 61, 66, 74 and 108 of the Resource Management Act (RMA). This means that Regional and District Councils:

- must take into account this Plan when preparing, reviewing, or changing a Regional Policy Statement, District Plan or Regional Plan.
- must have regard to this Plan when considering a resource consent application.

Policy IW 4B of the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement also seeks to “ensure that iwi and hapū resource management plans are taken into account in resource management decision making processes”. It is our view that this policy applies to plan change and resource consent processes.

## 2. Expectations for Engagement

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This section outlines our expectations for engagement by resource consent applicants, developers and Council staff.

TALT operates as a conduit, working closely with Te Arawa hapū and iwi members to obtain advice and assess the cultural effects across consents and activities on the lakes. Engagement in this process provides an opportunity for all parties to gain understanding, seek clarification of views and perspectives. It is an opportunity to establish, build and maintain relationships around our Lakes.

**In this context, effective engagement involves working in partnership.** The type and level of engagement will vary depending on the project, however, we expect that all engagement with TALT will align with:

- ❖ Principles of Engagement (section 2.2)
- ❖ Spectrum of Māori Engagement (section 2.3)

### 2.1 Contact Details

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Rotorua 3040

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Phone: (07) 346 1761  
[www.tearawa.iwi.nz](http://www.tearawa.iwi.nz)  
<https://www.facebook.com/TeArawaLakesTrust>

### 2.2 Principles of Engagement

The principles of engagement with the Lakes Trust, are as follows:

- **Engage early:** This is so that engagement occurs with the right people and that there is sufficient time to respond / participate.
- **Provide sufficient and clear information:** This helps us make an informed and timely decision.
- **Review this Plan before engaging:** This informs engagement and ensures that we are not repeating ourselves.
- **Keep us informed about your projects and plan changes:** Not just when feedback is needed.
- **Provide a 'feedback loop':** So that we know what has happened to our feedback.

TALT is willing to work with consultees to ensure the best outcome for our lakes, and our people. It is important for other parties to understand the role of Te Arawa as hunga tiaki and therefore, the engagement principles ensure that ongoing relationships can be encouraged and maintained.

**It is important to note that our silence is not be taken as approval or lack of interest or concern.**

## 2.3 Spectrum of Māori Engagement

When Councils, developers and others engage with us, the type and level of engagement will vary depending on the project (or stage of project).

The spectrum of Māori engagement<sup>1</sup> provides guidance on the commitment associated with each level of engagement.

It is best practice to look at engagement as a process running parallel with – not as a stage within – a project. This approach recognises that having us as part of the journey is essential, not just feedback or approval is needed.

Spectrum		Commitment by those engaging with the Lakes Trust	Example of methods of engaging with us
Level of influence	<b>Whakamohio</b> Inform	We will provide information (and keep you informed) about what is happening.	Factsheets, websites
	<b>Whakauiuia</b> Consult	We will listen to you (and review your feedback) but make our own decision.	Workshops, surveys, marae hui
	<b>Whakaura</b> Involve	We will involve you in the decision-making process but will ultimately decide.	Working group, advisory committee
	<b>Mahi Ngatahi</b> Collaborate	We will discuss and decide together.	Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group
	<b>Whakamanahia</b> Empower	You will decide and choose to discuss with us.	Transfer of powers (s33 RMA)

<sup>1</sup> Developed by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) and adapted within the Bay of Plenty Regional Council for their Māori Engagement Toolkit.

<https://www.boprc.govt.nz/media/717746/engagement-toolkit.pdf>

## 2.4 Council planning processes

This protocol applies when Councils are reviewing and/or preparing statutory and non-statutory plans.

### When engagement is expected

Engagement is required with the lakes Trust when Council is reviewing or preparing:

- A Resource Management Act planning document e.g. Regional Policy Statement, Regional / District / City Plan.
- A 10-year / long term plan or annual plan under the Local Government Act.
- Statutory strategies e.g. land transport; pest management.
- Non-statutory strategies, plans or policies (e.g. growth; signage; culture and heritage; hazards, catchment management).
- City or District Bylaws.

The Principles of Engagement, outlined in Section 2.2 of this Plan, apply to this protocol.

### Taking into account this Plan

Sections 61, 66 and 74 of the RMA require Council to take into account this Plan when preparing or changing regional policy statements and regional and district plans.

Policy IW 4B of the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement also seeks to “ensure that iwi and hapū resource management plans are taken into account in resource management decision making processes”.

**We consider 'taking into account' to mean that this Plan has been read; has been acknowledged and has made a tangible difference within the planning process, including Council's decision-making process.**

## 2.5 Resource consent processes

This protocol applies to resource consent processes, namely:

- when a consent applicant is preparing a resource consent application for an activity within our rohe.
- when a consent applicant and/or Council officer is intending to engage with us regarding a resource consent application.
- when a Council officer or hearing panel is making a decision on a resource consent application for an activity within our rohe.

## When engagement is required

Engagement is required with TALT when a proposal when the application relates to an activity within, adjacent to, or impacting directly on one or more of the Te Arawa Lakes.

The Principles of Engagement, outlined in 2.2 of this Plan, apply to this protocol.

Depending on the type and scale of the activity, a meeting and/or site visit may be arranged to discuss the proposal face-to-face.

A written response may also be prepared, which may vary from a basic email to a cultural impact assessment.

Like any expert providing technical advice (e.g. engineer, ecologist), and engagement fee may be incurred. This will be discussed at the time of enquiry.

## Information requirements

Information required includes, at a minimum:

- A summary of the proposal, including location, methodology and timing of works.
- Measures proposed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects.

## Statutory Acknowledgements

All of our lakes are subject to Statutory Acknowledgements under the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006 ('Act'). As stated in Sections 62 and 66 of the Act, consent authorities must:

- provide us a summary or notice for each consent application for an activity is "within, adjacent to, or impacting directly on a statutory area".
- consent authorities must have regard to a Statutory Acknowledgement Area when deciding if the Lakes Trust has "Affected Party Status" under Section 95E of the RMA.

## Resource consent decision making

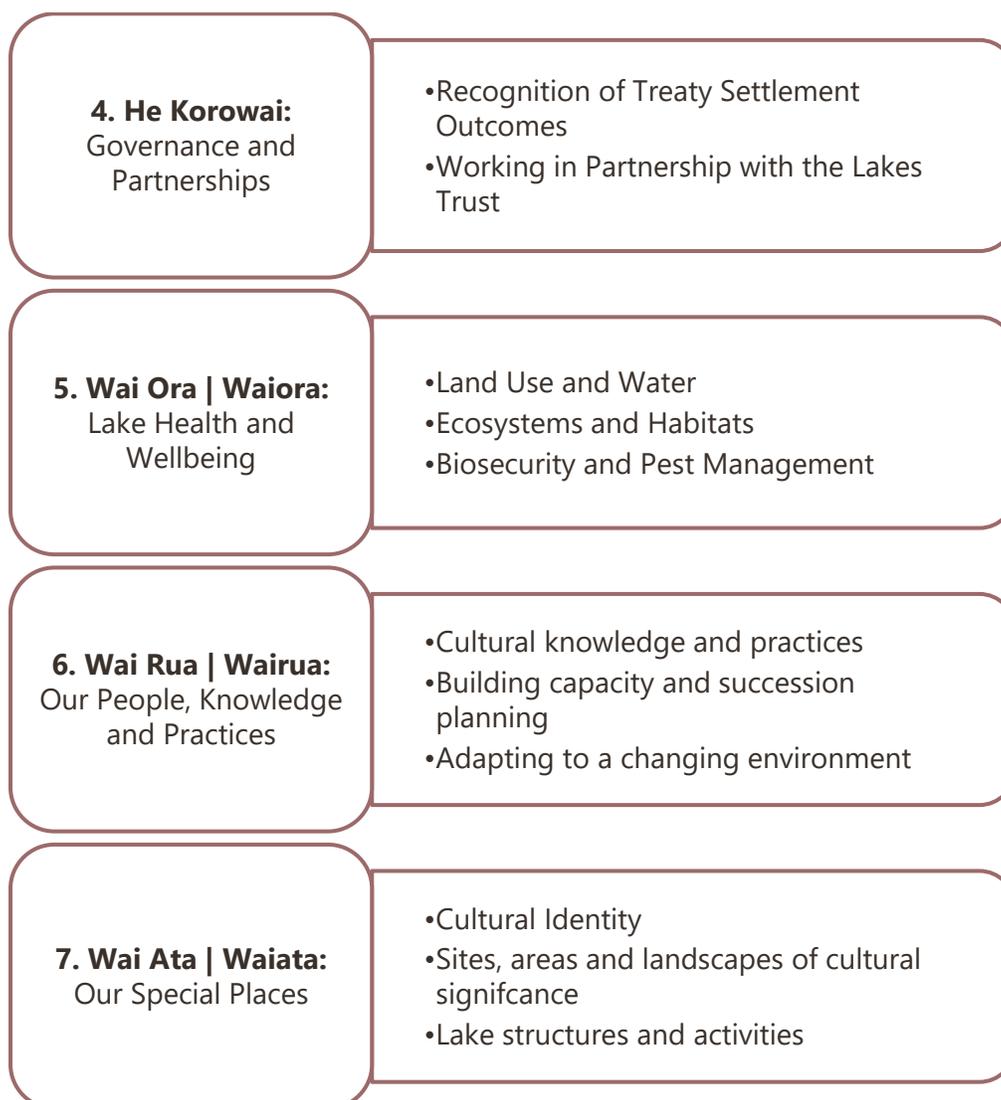
Policy IW 4B of the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement seeks to "ensure that iwi and hapū resource management plans are taken into account in resource management decision making processes". This policy clearly applies to resource consent processes.

**We consider 'taking into account' to mean that our Plan has been reviewed; acknowledged within recommendation reports and has made a tangible difference within the consent process, including Council's decision and/or condition(s) of consent.**

## 3. Policy Overview

### 3.1 Policy Framework

As illustrated below, our policy topic chapters are clustered within four interconnected chapters which align with Te Whakapapa o Te Wai.



## 3.2 Terminology

This Plan which uses the following plan terminology:

<b>ISSUE</b>	An existing or potential problem (or opportunity) that requires intervention.
<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	Where we would like to be; what the future looks like for us; what we would like to achieve.
<b>POLICY</b>	A broad course of action to accomplish the Objective(s). In many cases, we will include our statements of position on specific matters which describe things we want (or don't want) to see happen in order to achieve our objectives.

Policies are primarily aimed at Regional and District Councils as well as TALT and Central Government agencies.

Implementation of these objectives and policies may already fit into business as usual for those agencies involved within resource management. Other projects are aspirational, requiring time, resourcing and collaboration to be achieved.

We want this Plan to have a tangible impact. For this reason, we have included specified projects of significance for TALT to lead over the next 10 years. These are listed at the end of each section and collated in Section 8 of this Plan.

## 3.3 Organisational acronyms used in this Plan

The following organisations are identified within the policy tables, using the following acronyms

<b>BOPRC</b>	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
<b>"Councils"</b>	Refers primarily to BOPRC and RLC. It is important to note that three of our lakes are located within the Waikato Region.
<b>DOC</b>	Department of Conservation
<b>MFE</b>	Ministry for the Environment
<b>MPI</b>	Ministry for Primary Industries
<b>RLC</b>	Rotorua Lakes Council
<b>WRC</b>	Waikato Regional Council

## 4. He Korowai: Governance and Partnerships

**The theme of this section is “matters which affect or enhance our mana and influence”.** It articulates our overarching frustrations – at a governance level – as a post-settlement Iwi and lakebed owner. These frustrations are present, irrespective of the kaupapa e.g. water quality, lake structures, cultural heritage. The following topics are included within this section:

Recognition of Treaty Settlement Outcomes

Working in Partnership with the Lakes Trust

### 4.1 Recognition of Treaty Settlement Outcomes

Our Treaty Settlement took effect on 25 September 2006. There are a number of components to our settlement, including cultural and commercial redress. 13 years on, some aspects of our settlement have not been delivered as intended or agreed. Our lakes are subject to Statutory Acknowledgements, but we don't know for certain if the obligations associated with these statutory areas are being met. We are uncertain how consent officers are making the judgement call about the kinds of activities that trigger a notice under Section 66 of the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006. Although we own the lakebed, we – at times – feel like a 'stakeholder' or interested party to consent processes. Sometimes consultation does not happen at all or our views are ignored.

#### Issues

- ❖ We have statutory tools that are in place but are ignored or not given due recognition.
- ❖ We have protocol agreements with central government agencies, but they are not actively implemented or monitored.

#### Objective

- Objective 4.1 Recognition of Treaty Settlement outcomes. This means that:
- The legislative requirements associated with statutory acknowledgements are adhered to.
  - Protocol agreements are honoured, resulting in constructive and enduring working relationships.

## Policies

Policy 4.1.1	For all resource consent applications occurring within, adjacent to, or impacting directly on our statutory areas, we: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) require summaries of the applications as provided for by Section 66 of the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006.</li> <li>b) consider ourselves an affected party under Section 95E of the RMA.</li> </ul>
Policy 4.1.2	Regional and District Council consent teams to meet with TALT on an annual basis to ensure that there is a clear awareness and understanding about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the location and significance of our statutory acknowledgement areas.</li> <li>b) when summaries are required under Section 66 of the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006. This includes clarifying what is meant by activities “within, adjacent to, or impacting directly on statutory areas”.</li> </ul>
Policy 4.1.3	BOPRC and RLC to work with TALT to review and update the Memorandum of Understanding for the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group.
Policy 4.1.4	MfE to meet TALT six monthly to discuss and review the implementation of the Environment Protocol.
Policy 4.1.5	DOC to meet TALT six monthly to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) discuss and review the implementation of the DOC Protocol.</li> <li>b) ways in which Te Arawa can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) exercise kaitiakitanga over natural resources and other taonga managed by the Department of Conservation.</li> <li>ii) actively participate in conservation management and activities.</li> <li>iii) identify priorities for undertaking specific projects.</li> <li>iv) discuss planned engagement with regards to wildlife refuges; species management; freshwater fisheries; RMA; pest and weed control; and visitor and public information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> as provided for in Sections 5-12 of the DOC Protocol.
Policy 4.1.6	MPI to meet TALT annually to discuss and review the implementation of the Fisheries Protocol. This is provided for in Section 4.2 of the Protocol.

Policy 4.1.7	<p>MCH to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) meet TALT annually to discuss and review the implementation of the Antiquities Protocol.</li> <li>b) include a copy of the Antiquities protocol on the Ministry's "Taonga Tūturu protocols" webpage.</li> </ul>
Policy 4.1.8	<p>TALT to ensure that dedicated resourcing is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) monitor ways in which our Treaty Settlement outcomes are recognised.</li> <li>b) monitor the extent to which legislative requirements relating to our statutory acknowledgements are met.</li> <li>c) review protocol implementation and maintain constructive working relationships.</li> </ul> <p>This includes regular meetings regularly with Council and central government staff, as outlined in the above policies.</p>

## 4.2 Working in Partnership with the Lakes Trust

In our view, working in partnership means working together in good faith. It is based on respect (aroha), reciprocity (tau utuutu) and responsibility (kawenga). It is about realising and valuing our contribution and intergenerational knowledge as tangata whenua and hunga tiaki.

We feel – at times – that a lot of planning and/or decisions about our lakes are made with minimal input from us, particularly since we have limited capacity to be across everything at a national, regional and district level. Lake-specific projects are largely led by the Regional and District Councils and funded by the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme. 50% of this programme comes from the Ministry for the Environment (\$72.1 million/year). This fund, let alone the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme or Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group would not exist without our Treaty Settlement. Yet we are spending so much time preparing proposals to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme to obtain project-related funding just to be able to make a tangible difference for our lakes and our people. This is neither an effective nor efficient use of our time. Working in partnership requires fairness so that all parties are able to contribute.

A more culturally attuned, governance-level relationship that reflects a more genuine Treaty partnership requires a one to one relationship between our governance representatives and local and central government leadership. This approach would support us in achieving our aspirations while contributing to the strategic goals and focus areas of Councils and central government agencies in a more focused and efficient manner.

## Issues

- ❖ We do not always have a culturally attuned, governance-level relationship that reflects a more genuine Treaty partnership.
- ❖ Constant, and often ad hoc, consultation processes by local and central government agencies and teams mean that we are unable to be actively or effectively involved in these processes.

## Objectives

- Objective 4.2 Progress towards a genuine Treaty partnership with local and central government. This means:
- our values, interests and intergenerational knowledge are reflected in central and local government plans, programmes, processes and decisions.
  - working in a more focused and efficient manner.
  - a working relationship that is genuine, collaborative and enduring.

## Policies

Policy 4.2.1	TALT to work with Regional and District Councils and Central Government to pursue opportunities for collaborative service delivery in relation to matters that directly affect our lakes.
Policy 4.2.2	Regional and District Councils and Central Government agencies to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) adhere to the engagement principles and protocols in Section 2 of this Plan.</li> <li>b) understand and realise the amount of consultation occurring with us at the same time.</li> <li>c) coordinate internally within teams to prevent hui fatigue, particularly of our elders.</li> <li>d) provide support and assistance to help us to build capacity and capability to be more actively involved.</li> <li>e) articulate practical steps to achieving Objective 2 of this Plan. This is to include annual meetings to discuss and review mutually agreed work programmes.</li> <li>f) ensure that funding is set aside to ensure our involvement and contribution in work programmes and projects. This recognises our role as mana whenua, kaitiaki and technical experts.</li> </ol>
Policy 4.2.3	TALT to pursue a Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe agreement with Regional and District Councils.

## 5. Wai Ora | Waioira: Lake health and wellbeing

WAI – Water

ORA – To be alive, well, healthy

WAIORA – state of health and wellbeing

**The theme of this section is “matters which affect or enhance the health and wellbeing of our lakes”.**

Within Te Tūāpapa, **Wai Ora | Waioira** relates to the:

“cultural health and wellbeing of our lakes and everything they support”.

To us, our lakes are a tāonga – to be treasured – a place for healing, cleansing and inspiration; a place to swim and gather kai; a place that is ātaahua and revered; a place with plentiful opportunities.

Wai Ora | Waioira also relates to the health and wellbeing of our people, as articulated in the following whakataukī:

*Toitū te wai, Toitū a Papatuanuku, Toitū te Tangata*

*If the water is healthy, Mother Earth will be healthy, and the people will be healthy*

This acknowledges the enduring and inextricable connection between the health of our lakes, and everything they support, including (but not limited to) our kai and our people.

The following topics are included within this section:

Water and Land

Ecosystems and  
Habitats

Biosecurity and Pest  
Management

## 5.1 Water and Land

Our traditional, historical, cultural and spiritual relationship with our lakes and contributing rivers, streams and wetlands, is evident through:

- the location of marae and historic settlements, often adjacent to Lakes, Streams and/or springs;
- proximity of settlements to wetlands for cultural resources e.g. raupō, kokowai (red ochre);
- the number of traditional fishing grounds within the lakes;
- pakiwaitara (stories) and waiata (songs) featuring our lakes, rivers and streams.

This section articulate our aspirations and statements of position regarding land use and water quality as well as water quantity and use. These topics are bundled as they affect, both directly and indirectly, lake health and wellbeing. For example, intensive land use and discharges impact lake water quality. Too much water taken from rivers, streams and groundwater aquifers may exacerbate lake water quality issues. Therefore, it is essential that our lake catchments are viewed and managed as whole systems, including the land surrounding the lakes and the rivers, streams and groundwater that feedback into the lacks. It is also about encouraging and instilling a greater sense of collective responsibility for the care of our lakes. We all have a part to play.

### Issues

- ❖ **Inadequate recognition of Te Arawa values; intergenerational knowledge and our role as tangata whenua / lake bed owner / hungatiaki.** Freshwater and land management has not always been sustainable or compatible with our values.
- ❖ **Land use and development has degraded the mauri of our lakes.** Poor water quality affects instream life, mahinga kai resources, and our ability to drink from, and swim in, our waters.
- ❖ **There has been inefficient allocation and use of freshwater.** Water, which feeds our lakes, is taken for granted, particularly by large water abstractors. Examples includes wastage, water banking and in some cases, over abstraction. This locks out other users (particularly for papakāinga or underutilised Māori Land) and, affects instream life and mahinga kai resources.

### Objectives

- Objective 5.1A Te mā o te wai e rite ana kia kite i ngā tapuwae ā te kōura.  
The quality of the water is such that you can see the foot steps of the koura.

- Objective 5.1B An integrated and holistic approach is taken such that there is no further degradation in water quality within our lakes and contributing rivers, streams and groundwater aquifers.
- Objective 5.1C Land and freshwater planning and management:
- affords greater priority to the natural limits of the land, rivers, streams and groundwater aquifers that feed into our lakes.
  - recognises our values, interests as well as our intergenerational knowledge and experience.
  - values our role as a Treaty partner and lakebed owner.
- Objective 5.1D Collective responsibility for the efficient and responsible use of land and freshwater across all sectors of our rohe.

## Policies

Integrated Management	
Policy 5.1.1	Regional and District Councils to value and manage our lake catchments as a network of interconnected ecosystems. This includes recognising the localised and cumulative effects of land use and development on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the health of our lakes; contributing rivers, streams and aquifers; and associated habitats and ecosystems.</li> <li>b) downstream effects on the Kaituna River and Maketu Estuary (in relation to Lake Rotorua and Lake Rotoiti)</li> <li>c) our cultural practices, heritage and identity.</li> </ol>
Policy 5.1.2	BOPRC to work with TALT to determine how, in practice: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) Te Mana o Te Wai; and,</li> <li>e) Te Arawa values, interests; and intergenerational knowledge is to be recognised within land and/or freshwater planning, management and decisions.</li> </ol>
Policy 5.1.3	Regional and District Councils to work with TALT regarding plans, bylaws, strategies and/or projects relating to, or affecting, lake water quality. This: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Includes stormwater and wastewater discharges.</li> <li>b) ensures early and meaningful involvement with Water Management Area processes.</li> <li>c) ensures that District Councils are preparing and implementing effective Water Management Plans, developed as a resource consent requirement for municipal water supply takes.</li> </ol>

Land-specific	
Policy 5.1.4	TALT supports and advocates for a natural capital approach to nutrient management, based on the productive capacity of the land rather than using methods that favour those who have already developed.
Policy 5.1.5	TALT opposes nutrient discharge allocations based on grandparenting of historical nutrient discharges to land.
Freshwater-specific	
Policy 5.1.6	Regional Councils to involve TALT, through a co-design process, in the setting of freshwater objectives and limits in the Rotorua Lakes Water Management Area. This includes identifying and utilising a range of methods to involve hapū and iwi to identify and articulate freshwater objectives and values to inform the limit.
Policy 5.1.7	Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group to review and update the "Vision and Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua district".
Policy 5.1.8	For consented water takes and contaminant discharges within our rohe, require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Metering and compliance monitoring.</li> <li>b) Enforcement action for non-compliance.</li> <li>c) Annual reporting to the Rotorua Te Arawa Strategy Group in relation to the above.</li> </ul>
Policy 5.1.9	Rotorua Lakes Council to require low impact design features for new subdivisions (e.g. rainwater and greywater capture for external use). This is to reduce pressure on Council's municipal water supply, particularly during the summer months.
Policy 5.1.10	Rotorua Lakes Council to provide an annual report and presentation to the Rotorua Te Arawa Strategy Group in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) water conservation and efficiency measures implemented during the previous year. This is to show, the extent to which, RLC is encouraging the efficient and responsible use of municipal water.</li> <li>b) stormwater and wastewater treatment and management. This is to show, the extent to which, RLC is actively managing stormwater and wastewater and planning for a growing population and climate change.</li> </ul>

Policy 5.1.11	<p>TALT to encourage and advocate for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) innovative solutions to remedy the long-term effects of discharges on the historical, cultural and spiritual values of freshwater.</li> <li>b) water metering in urban areas.</li> <li>c) low impact design features for new subdivisions (e.g. rainwater and greywater storage and reuse).</li> <li>d) the use of wetlands to provide additional treatment prior to the discharge of contaminants, including stormwater, to land or water.</li> </ul>
Policy 5.1.12	<p>TALT to work with Te Arawa hapū and Iwi to prepare for the Regional Council's implementation programme for the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management via Water Management Areas. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) articulating and documenting our cultural values and interests associated with lakes and contributing rivers, streams and aquifers.</li> <li>b) articulating how, in a practical sense, Te Mana o Te Wai could be recognised within freshwater planning, management and decisions.</li> <li>c) identifying research requirements regarding how we incorporate (i.e. quantify) our cultural values and interests into the setting of water quantity and quality objectives and limits.</li> <li>d) identifying and communicating with the Regional Council what information and support we might need to be involved effectively.</li> <li>e) identifying how Council environmental monitoring plans could incorporate Mātauranga Māori.</li> <li>f) Identifying learnings from other Water Management Area processes.</li> </ul>
<b>Research and monitoring</b>	
Policy 5.1.13	<p>TALT to share outcomes of research and monitoring with Te Arawa hapū and Iwi in plain English and user friendly format (e.g. dashboard).</p>
Policy 5.1.14	<p>BOPRC to involve TALT in State of the Environment monitoring and/or reporting in relation to the lakes and contributing rivers, streams and groundwater aquifers.</p>

Policy 5.1.15	Rotorua Te Arawa Strategy Group to continue funding koura monitoring on all Te Arawa Lakes.
Policy 5.1.16	TALT to lead or contract continued research and use of biological / non-chemical methods to improve lake health and wellbeing. This includes a pilot study of kākahi (freshwater mussels) in a small, shallow lake to reduce the abundance of phytoplankton and associated risk of algal blooms.
Policy 5.1.17	TALT to work with Te Arawa hapū and iwi in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) How we use traditional resource management philosophies – centred on respect (aroha), reciprocity (tau utuutu) and responsibility (kawenga) – in contemporary lake management.</li> <li>b) Identification of cultural indicators and tools to measure the health and wellbeing of our lakes and contributing rivers, streams and aquifers.</li> <li>c) Developing and implementing a cultural monitoring programme.</li> <li>d) The application of traditional practices such as karakia and rāhui to restore balance.</li> </ul>

## TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 1</b>	<b>Te Arawa cultural health monitoring programme</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.14, 5.1.17 and 5.2.3 (habitats and ecosystems).
<b>PROJECT 2</b>	<b>Rotorua Catchments Water Management Area Project</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.2, 5.1.6, 5.1.12 (water and land) and 5.2.6 (habitats and ecosystems).
<b>PROJECT 3</b>	<b>Kākahi Project</b> To give effect to Policy 5.1.16 (water and land).
<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).

## 5.2 Ecosystems and Habitats

This section articulate our aspirations and statements of position regarding ecosystems and habitats in, and around, our lakes. To define this further:

- Habitats relates to where our taonga flora (plant) and fauna (animal) species thrive. In the context of this plan, this includes lake, riparian and wetland habitats.
- Ecosystems relates to the interconnected system of biological organisms and the physical environments.

Traditional resource plant materials of relevance to our lakes include harakeke, paopao / kuta, toetoe and raupō. Both raupō and kuta once grew prolifically around all of our lakes in the district. Our taonga fish species include kōura, koaro, kakahi (fresh water mussel), tuna (eel), inanga. Some lakes were more renowned than others for their abundance of kōura, inanga, kakahi, Morihana (carp), toitoi (bully), or tuna. Traditional species of fish and shellfish are still gathered at certain times of the year from most lakes.

We need to protect and enhance the ecosystems in, and around, our lakes as they are an integral part to the health of our lakes and to our cultural wellbeing.

### Issues

#### ❖ **Disturbance, loss and fragmentation of ecosystems and habitats from land use and development**

This has a cascading and disruptive effect on natural habitats, particularly on riparian, wetland and aquatic habitats. This includes:

- loss of significant sites to Te Arawa, such as mahinga kai, cultural resources and access to carry out customary activities.
- loss of ecological corridors; the connecting pathways between land-based (forest) and riparian/wetland/aquatic habitats.
- loss of biodiversity and indigenous flora and fauna increasingly becoming threatened due to loss of habitat

#### ❖ **A changing climate may exacerbate threats to ecosystems, habitats and survivability of our native flora and fauna species.**

### Objectives

- Objective 5.2A Restore and enhance the health and diversity of ecosystems and habitats in and around our lakes. This includes:
- enhancing and creating wetlands and lake riparian habitats.
  - protecting and enhancing ecological corridors within and across our lake catchments.
  - enhancing mahinga kai / kai roto stocks.

- Objective 5.2B Take a targeted approach to improving the habitats in and around our lakes. This includes prioritising efforts in areas that are culturally significant to Te Arawa hapu and Iwi and/or have high ecological value.
- Objective 5.2C No further degradation or loss of wetlands and significant lake riparian habitats around the lakes and their catchments.
- Objective 5.2D Revitalise and utilise Te Arawa cultural knowledge and practices in relation to our taonga fauna and flora

## Policies

Policy 5.2.1	Regional and District Councils to value and manage our lake catchments as a network of interconnected ecosystems. This includes recognising the localised and cumulative effects of land use and development on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the health of our lakes; contributing rivers, streams and aquifers; and associated habitats and ecosystems.</li> <li>b) downstream effects on the Kaituna River and Maketu Estuary (in relation to Lake Rotorua and Lake Rotoiti)</li> <li>c) our cultural practices, heritage and identity.</li> </ul>
Policy 5.2.2	TALT to advocate for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) greater recognition and use of intergenerational knowledge – our mātauranga - in ecosystem and habitat enhancement within our rohe.</li> <li>b) wetland, lake riparian and in-lake habitat creation and/or restoration around our lakes. Wetland and lake riparian habitat creation targeted particularly on marginal land for pastoral use (e.g. land with wetness limitations) and areas of significant value to Te Arawa Iwi, hapu and whanau.</li> <li>c) predator free 2050 initiatives within our rohe, in particular large areas of contiguous native bush adjacent to Lakes Okataina, Tarawera and Rotomahana.</li> </ul>
Policy 5.2.3	BOPRC to work with TALT to develop a habitat and ecosystems monitoring programme for high value ecosystems and habitats within the lakes catchments. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) areas of high cultural value and significance to Te Arawa.</li> <li>b) identifying and mapping threatened, unique and high ecological value wetland, lake riparian and in-lake environments.</li> <li>c) use of cultural indicators and tools.</li> </ul>

Policy 5.2.4	<p>BOPRC to work with TALT as well as Te Arawa hapū and Iwi to develop a schedule of priority ecosystem restoration and protection areas around and along our lakes, rivers and wetlands. Priority projects could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) opportunities for wetland creation on land bordering lake margins. This includes areas where marginal land has a wetness limitation to productive use as well as land with high ecological, cultural benefits and willing landowners.</li> <li>b) wetland areas around the lakes which are highly valued to hapū e.g. cultural value, historic use, rongoa and mahinga kai values.</li> <li>c) areas which are contiguous or adjacent to high value ecosystems.</li> <li>d) threatened environments, in particular those that have little protection or have examples of high ecological or cultural value that are not found elsewhere in the Te Arawa Lakes catchments.</li> </ul>
Policy 5.2.5	<p>Advocate within Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group to ensure that funding is set aside within work programme to enable restoration projects to fulfil Objectives 5.2A-5.2C.</p>
Policy 5.2.6	<p>BOPRC to ensure that freshwater limit setting within Water Management Areas provides for wetland health, particularly those on the margins of our lakes and waterways.</p>
Policy 5.2.7	<p>TALT and BOPRC to work together to improve Iwi and hapū and community awareness about ways to restore and enhance ecosystems and habitats within and around the lakes. This includes showcasing the efforts of landowners and community groups working in the lakes catchments.</p>

## TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 1</b>	<p><b>Te Arawa cultural health monitoring programme</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.14, 5.1.17 and 5.2.3 (habitats and ecosystems).</p>
<b>PROJECT 2</b>	<p><b>Rotorua Catchments Water Management Area Project</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.2, 5.1.6, 5.1.12 (water and land) and 5.2.6 (habitats and ecosystems).</p>

<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).
<b>PROJECT 5</b>	<b>Habitat and ecosystems monitoring programme</b> To give effect to Policy 5.2.3.
<b>PROJECT 6</b>	<b>Priority schedule for ecosystem projects</b> To give effect to Policy 5.2.4.

### 5.3 Biosecurity and Pest Management

This section articulate our aspirations and statements of position regarding biosecurity and pest management in, and around, our lakes. Biosecurity relates to being prepared for biological threats (e.g. pests, disease) which can displace and/or affect taonga species and associated ecosystems. In the context of our lakes, this includes:

- Pest animals found in water such as catfish, koi carp.
- Pest plants found in water such as lagarosiphon (oxygen weed), hornwort and egeria.
- Pest plants found along our lakes such as pampas grass, woolly nightshade and gorse.
- Pest animals found on land, such as possums and wallabies<sup>2</sup>.

It is important that we are involved in the planning and response to biosecurity threats that impact our lakes.

#### Issues

- ❖ Impact of biosecurity threats, including pest plants and animals, on our taonga fauna and flora found in and around our lakes.
- ❖ Risk of spread of pest plants and fish between lakes through boats, trailer and associated gear.
- ❖ Risk of new pest plants, fish and algae (e.g. didymo) in our lakes.

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<sup>2</sup> Studies in the Lake Okataina catchment have shown that pest animals contribute to increased erosion and transfer of sediments and nutrients to the lake

## Objectives

- Objective 5.3 Reduce the risks and impacts of biological threats (e.g. disease and pests) on our lakes, native flora and native fauna, through:
- Surveillance monitoring.
  - Increased public awareness, particularly water users.
  - Continued management of existing threats.
  - Rapid response to new threats.

## Policies

Policy 5.3.1	Aquatic Pest Co-ordination Group <sup>3</sup> (which includes TALT) to continue working together to increase public awareness and manage biosecurity threats and to coordinate monitoring and reporting in and along our lakes. This could also include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Collaborating with other agencies (e.g. NIWA) and networks (e.g. Te Tira Whakamātaki Māori Biosecurity Network).</li> <li>b) Collaborating with Māori Land Trusts and Incorporations in relation to biosecurity threats on land adjacent to our lakes.</li> <li>c) Utilising Mātauranga-based monitoring tools.</li> <li>d) Incorporating citizen science (e.g. monitoring by tangata whenua, schools or members of the public).</li> </ol>
Policy 5.3.2	Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group to support the continuation of a biosecurity community action coordinator.
Policy 5.3.3	TALT and Te Arawa to be part of any decisions regarding pest management programmes and plans, particularly where management outcomes e.g. exclusion, eradication, control etc.). If the outcome is protecting 'values in place', these values must consider Te Arawa values.

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<sup>3</sup> Formed in 2004, a group comprising Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Department of Conservation, Eastern Fish and Game, Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Land Information New Zealand and Rotorua Lakes Council

## 6. Wai Rua | Wairua: Our people, knowledge and practices

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WAI – Water  
 RUA – Two, both  
 WAIRUA – spirit, essence, feeling

**The theme of this section is “matters which enhance our connection to our lakes”.**

Within Te Tūāpapa, **Wai Rua | Wairua** relates to the:

“connections between Te Arawa whānau, hapū, Iwi and our lakes”.

It relates to the spiritual attributes of water and our spiritual connection to that water and to each other. It is an intrinsic quality that is ever present. The literal translation ‘wai rua’ relates to the dimension of waters - he wai e rere ki waho, me te wai e rere ki roto – the water flowing in our lakes, the water flowing in our bodies. Our lakes connect our people to their place, as articulated in the following whakataukī:

*Ko nga roto ko au, ko au nga roto  
 I am the lakes and the lakes are me*

This acknowledges our physical, spiritual and cultural connection to our lakes. Consequently, this section covers those matters that enhance our connection to our lakes to, in turn, be effective hunga tiaki.

The following topics are included within this section:

Cultural knowledge  
and practices

Building capacity  
and succession  
planning

Adapting to a  
changing  
environment

## 6.1 Cultural knowledge and practices

Our whenua (land), moana (lakes) and awa (rivers/streams) connect our people to our past and to each other. We have a long history of living beside, and with, our lakes. This relationship with our environment shapes our customary practices and associated knowledge. For this reason, the mātauranga held by Iwi/hapū/whanau will vary from lake to lake, as well as their customary practices and traditions.

This section seeks to ensure that due recognition is given to the customary practices and mātauranga held by Iwi/hapū. While we are seeking greater recognition of our intergenerational knowledge within this Plan, it is essential that we also carefully protect our mātauranga and cultural practices from exploitation or inappropriate use. This includes, but is not limited to, scientific research and development and commercialisation of taonga plant species that are special to Te Arawa.

### Issues

- ❖ Inadequate recognition of our values, interests and intergenerational knowledge.
- ❖ Impacts of land use and development on customary activities and resource use.
- ❖ Disconnection of whānau from our customary areas and practices.
- ❖ Risk of exploitation or inappropriate use of our cultural knowledge and practices.

### Objectives

- Objective 6.1A Recognition of our culture and traditions associated with our ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga.
- Objective 6.1B Protection of our cultural knowledge and practices from exploitation or inappropriate use.
- Objective 6.1C Enable Te Arawa hapū and iwi to undertake cultural practices; reinstate traditional activities; and, strengthen and celebrate whakapapa connections in relation to our lakes.

### Policies

Policy 6.1.1	<p>TALT to support:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) initiatives by whanau, hapū and iwi to protect, pass on and revitalise customary knowledge and practices, within their respective areas of interest.</li> <li>b) revitalisation of tikanga, such as karakia and rāhui.</li> <li>c) and acknowledge that each Iwi and hapū:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) hold their own mātauranga and practices in relation to their respective areas of interest.</li> <li>ii) will choose when and how they share their own mātauranga and practices.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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Policy 6.1.2	<p>TALT to advocate for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) greater use of cultural knowledge and practices within the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme.</li> <li>b) the use of mātauranga-based tools to measure and monitor the cultural health of our taiao.</li> <li>c) harvesting of cultural materials (e.g. harakeke) on Council and Conservation lands.</li> <li>d) implementation and reporting of BOPRC's He Korowai Mātauranga (Mātauranga Māori Framework).</li> <li>e) protocols with others (e.g. Councils, research agencies) to recognise and protect our mātauranga. This includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) protocols for storing, accessing and using our mātauranga.</li> <li>ii) continued connection with the relevant Iwi and/or hapū who contributed their mātauranga.</li> <li>iii) appropriate acknowledgement within outputs, such as reports.</li> <li>iv) peer reviewing draft Council reports, where our mātauranga is referenced, to ensure that it is accurately reflected.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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## TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<p><b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).</p>
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## 6.2 Building capacity and succession planning

Our people are our greatest taonga. We want more whānau, hapū and Iwi actively involved within resource management - whether it is within an office (i.e. preparing submissions) or out in the field (i.e. wetland restoration). This enables Te Arawa to have a louder voice and larger presence to influence positive outcomes for our lakes, our taiao and our people.

### Issues

- ❖ We have a limited pool of full time employed hunga tiaki. Hui fatigue and succession planning are significant issues for these hunga tiaki.
- ❖ We have a significant number of hunga tiaki who are capable and have the appropriate skills and knowledge but the opportunities for their involvement is limited to voluntary work.

## Objectives

- Objective 6.2A Increased capacity and capability of TALT and Te Arawa hunga tiaki to:
- ensure our values and interests are recognised and provided for by others, particularly Councils.
  - influence positive outcomes for Te Arawa, our lakes and taiao.
  - enable more whānau members to be more actively involved in restoring the health and wellbeing of our lakes and our taiao.
- Objective 6.2B Inspire and develop our next generation of hunga tiaki within resource and environmental management.
- Objective 6.2C TALT has an effective and enduring Resource Management Unit.
- Objective 6.2D Te Arawa beneficiaries make up 50% of the team working on the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes programme, at any time.

## Policies

Policy 6.2.1	<p>Regional and District Councils to support and enable the building of Te Arawa capacity and capability. This may include, but not be limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) technical support, funding and opportunities for work experience and employment.</li> <li>b) a greater level of open sharing of information by RLC and BOPRC, especially through open data services (databases, GIS) and maintenance of webpages and information sources.</li> <li>c) ensuring that technical information is made available in plain English and in user-friendly formats.</li> </ol>
Policy 6.2.2	<p>TALT to encourage and support Te Arawa whanau – of all ages - to train and work within the resource and environmental management field. This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) identifying career pathways and opportunities for scholarships, internships, secondments, mentoring and work experience.</li> <li>b) pursuing opportunities to create and/or maintain mutually beneficial working relationships to in turn, establish and support programmes that enhance the skills and knowledge of Te Arawa uri such as:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Local authorities and central government departments.</li> <li>ii) Research entities such as Scion, GNS Science, NIWA, Manaaki Whenua.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii) Tertiary education providers such as Toi Oho Mai, Waikato University, or Te Whare Wānanga o Aotearoa.</li> <li>iv) Māori land trusts and incorporations.</li> <li>c) encouraging and supporting Te Arawa uri to pursue roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) within BOPRC, RLC and TALT.</li> <li>ii) in the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme.</li> <li>iii) within research agencies (e.g. Scion, NIWA).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Policy 6.2.3	<p>TALT to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) there is regular communication with Te Arawa hapū and Iwi about opportunities for training, internships, secondments, mentoring and work experience.</li> <li>b) dedicated resourcing is available to support the communication, education and coordination aspects of the policies within this Plan.</li> </ul>
Policy 6.2.4	<p>TALT to work with Te Arawa Iwi and hapū to utilise a range of ways for hands-on training, from an environmental and cultural point of view. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Understanding what being a hunga kaitiaki means, in practice.</li> <li>b) Understanding the role of mātauranga and tikanga in relation to our taiao, including cultural practices and traditions.</li> <li>c) The role of TALT in resource management processes, decisions and projects.</li> <li>d) The importance of this Plan in guiding and influencing positive change for Te Arawa.</li> <li>e) Restoration of wetland, riparian and lake edge areas e.g. what to plant, how, when and where.</li> <li>f) Animal and plant pest control and monitoring, including obtaining relevant certification.</li> <li>g) Learning how to measure and monitor the health of our taiao, using mātauranga and/or scientific tools.</li> </ul>

## TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 1</b>	<p><b>Te Arawa cultural health monitoring programme</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policies 5.1.14, 5.1.17 and 5.2.3 (habitats and ecosystems).</p>
<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<p><b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).</p>

## 6.3 Adapting to a changing environment

We live in an area that is prone to natural hazards, including earthquakes, geothermal activity, extreme rainfall, flooding and landslides. Climate change can exacerbate the risks associated with natural hazards. For example:

- warming air temperatures may lead to more extreme weather events and more frequent flooding. We have marae, puna (springs), urupā and wāhi tapu located next to lakes, rivers and streams.
- warming waters in our lakes, river, stream and wetlands will impact our taonga plant and fish species. Some species (including pests) may thrive while others may diminish. This in turn affects our cultural resources, practices and way of life.

Te Urunga o Kea (Te Arawa Climate Change Working Group) was established following feedback from, and concerns by, Te Arawa hapū and iwi about the potential impacts of a changing environment as a result of climate change.

### Issues

- ❖ We are vulnerable to natural hazards and the effects of climate change.
- ❖ Our people are not yet well informed about the risks associated with natural hazards and climate change within our takiwā. In particular, we do not fully understand the extent to which climate change will affect our lakes and all they sustain.

### Objectives

- Objective 6.3A We are prepared for, and resilient to, natural hazards and the effects of climate change.
- Objective 6.3B TALT is involved in natural hazards and climate change policy, research and planning.

### Policies

Policy 6.3.1	Councils and central government agencies to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involve Te Arawa in developing and implementing natural hazard and climate change policy.</li> <li>Recognise and value our intergenerational knowledge and experience living with natural hazards.</li> </ol>
Policy 6.3.2	Council and central government strategies, plans and policies must consider the impacts of climate change and the risks associated with natural hazards on our cultural and social wellbeing, in particular: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites and areas of cultural significance, including our marae and urupā.</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Indigenous species and ecosystems, particularly our mahinga kai and cultural resources (e.g. for weaving).</li> <li>c) Roothing infrastructure and access to our marae, papakāinga and urupā.</li> </ul>
Policy 6.3.3	<p>TALT to continue supporting Te Urunga Kea in their role which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) development and implementation of a Te Arawa Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.</li> <li>b) advocacy, on behalf of Te Arawa, at a local, regional and national level.</li> <li>c) building Te Arawa hapū and Iwi awareness about climate change.</li> <li>d) supporting Te Arawa hapū and Iwi to improve their resilience to a changing climate and environment.</li> </ul>
Policy 6.3.4	<p>TALT to lead or commission research to understand the extent to which climate change may impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The health and wellbeing of our lakes and contributing rivers, streams and aquifers.</li> <li>b) Indigenous species and ecosystems, particularly our mahinga kai and cultural resources (e.g. for weaving).</li> </ul>

### TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<p><b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).</p>
<b>PROJECT 7</b>	<p><b>Climate change research</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policy 6.3.7.</p>

## 7. Wai Ata | Waiata: Our special places

WAI – Water

ATA – Form, shape

WAIRUA – Song, chant, lament

**The theme of this section is “matters which affect or enhance our special places and our connection to those places”.**

Within Te Tūāpapa, **Wai Ata | Waiata** relates to the:

“rhythm of wai as embodied and transmitted through waiata”.

We are inherently connected to, and defined by, our environment. This is evident by the way in which we introduce our maunga (mountain) and awa (river) before introducing ourselves.

Every Te Arawa hapū and iwi have associations with particular waterbodies that are reflected in their whakapapa (ancestral lineage), waiata (song), and whaikorero tuku iho (stories of the past). An example of this is a waiata, composed for the Tūhourangi kapa haka group for the 2014 Te Arawa Regional Kapa Haka festival. An excerpt, from verse two, is provided below:

Takahia atu rā ki runga o <b>Moerangi</b>	Tread now the path up to <b>Mount Moerangi</b>
E titiro whakamuri ki <b>Pukeroa!</b>	There look back to <b>Pukeroa</b>
Ko te paekura tērā o <b>Wāhiao, o</b>	The lost home of <b>Ngāti Wāhiao and Ngāti Tāoī</b>
<b>Tāoī</b> hoki!	I go backwards to my homelands
Ka hoki kōmuri ki tōku papatupu	So I can sip the waters of <b>Rotokākāhi</b>
Kia unu wai mai i <b>Rotokākāhi</b>	And ascend once more <b>Te Wairoa</b>
Kia tatū atu ki runga o <b>Te Wairoa;</b>	Where the chiefs, <b>Rangipūawhe</b> , ko <b>Āporo</b> were
Ko te <b>Rangipūawhe</b> , ko <b>Āporo</b>	As was the meeting house of our ancestress
Ko te kuia <b>Hinemihī</b> -te piringa ē...	<b>Hinemihī</b> that sheltered us

- Composed by R. Pene

We use waiata to transmit and share our stories about our special places and ancestors. They form part of our identity and are of absolute relevance to contemporary resource and environmental management. As such, the following topics are included in this section:

Cultural heritage  
and identity

Lake structures and  
activities

## 7.1 Cultural heritage and identity

*The lakes are part of us. Every nook and cranny we have a name for, they are named after prominent ancestors and those names are still used today as though they are still living*

- Tā/Sir Toby Curtis

This section relates to sites, areas and landscapes of significance to Te Arawa, located in and around our lakes. It also relates to those actions that enhance our collective identity as Te Arawa.

Cultural heritage encompasses both tangible (e.g. physical) and intangible values. It includes, but is not limited to, pa sites; marae; kainga (dwelling places); burial grounds; canoe landings; taonga (artefacts); as well as places where food, materials and rongoā is gathered. It is unsurprising that many recorded archaeological sites are clustered around and near our lakes, rivers and wetlands. Some natural features around the lake shores, such as kohatu (rocks), repo (swamps), ana (caves), puna (springs), motu (islands) are also regarded as waahi tapu by hapū for many different reasons. Over centuries, and due to fluctuating lake levels, many of these sites are now above or below a lake surface or margin.

The protection of our cultural heritage is closely aligned to our spiritual and cultural wellbeing. These areas tie us to our land and lakes, creating cultural reference points in, and around, our lakes. This relationship is an integral part of our collective identity and responsibilities as tangata whenua and hungatiaki.

### Issues

- ❖ Impacts of land use and development (including structures) on our sites, areas and landscapes of significance to Te Arawa.
- ❖ Inadequate Council, developer and public awareness or recognition of the significance of our cultural heritage to our Iwi and our cultural identity.
- ❖ There is an overreliance on accidental discovery protocols as the main form of mitigation for land disturbance activities around our lakes.
- ❖ Disconnection of whānau from our traditional sites, places and landscapes. This has an impact on the connection of whanau to our whenua, our customary practices and to each other.

## Objectives

- Objective 7.1A Protect and honour our sites, areas and landscapes of cultural significance.
- Objective 7.1B Recognise and celebrate our cultural heritage and identity.

## Policies

Policy 7.1.1	Councils to ensure that maps, signage and communication materials reflect the correct place names added or amended following our Treaty Settlement. This includes using the most up-to-date dataset from the New Zealand Geographic Board.
Policy 7.1.2	<p>TALT to support Te Arawa hapū and Iwi to mapping of traditional sites, areas and landscapes, as follows:</p> <p>a) Information to be collected, mapped and collated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) original place names, wahi tapu, pā sites, urupā, waipuna, travel routes and mahinga kai areas.</li> <li>ii) historical and contemporary information, including Treaty Settlement Documents; Don Stafford maps; and, korero from kaumatua and kuia captured on video / audio.</li> </ul> <p>b) Discussion to occur with whānau, hapū and Iwi to decide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) How information is to be stored and protected.</li> <li>ii) What information will not be made publicly available.</li> <li>iii) What information can be used by hapū and Iwi for research, monitoring and planning purposes (including assessing consent applications).</li> </ul>
Policy 7.1.3	<p>Councils, DOC and HPT to work with TALT and Te Arawa hapū and Iwi to take a more strategic and coordinated approach to protecting and managing cultural heritage in and around this lakes. This includes:</p> <p>a) ways to restore traditional place names.</p> <p>b) determining how sites could be managed and/or protected, which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iv) formal protection by District plan scheduling or waahi tapu registration.</li> <li>v) not disclosing the location of the site.</li> <li>vi) restricting public access to specific sites using signage and barriers/fencing.</li> <li>vii) enabling or facilitating access by way of land owner agreements and/or adding signage and walkways.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) finding ways to build public and developer awareness and understanding about our cultural heritage.</li> <li>d) capturing and expressing creatively and appropriately Te Arawa hapū and iwi narratives.</li> <li>e) staff training about the cultural, spiritual and historical significance of our cultural heritage sites, areas and landscapes.</li> <li>f) use of pou and information boards to celebrate and share cultural and historical information about these sites.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.1.4	Council consent officers to ensure that archaeological reports are not the sole source of technical information in relation to the value of a particular site or area. If a site does not have archaeological value, it cannot be assumed that there is no cultural value. Only engagement with TALT and Te Arawa hapū and Iwi can determine the cultural value of a site or area.
Policy 7.1.5	TALT to coordinate and/or support events organised by whānau, hapū and Iwi to celebrate our association with our lakes. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Walking / boat tours with whānau showing sites and areas of significance.</li> <li>b) Competitions between Iwi, hapū and/or marae.</li> <li>c) Re-opening of Ara Tawhito (Ancient Trails).</li> <li>d) Signage / Interpretation Panels near sites and areas of significance.</li> <li>e) Commemorations e.g. Matariki, Waitangi Day etc.</li> </ul>

## TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).
<b>PROJECT 8</b>	<b>Cultural mapping project</b> To give effect to Policy 7.1.2.

## 7.2 Lake structures and activities

Lake structures are an important feature of the Rotorua Te Arawa lakes. Many of these provide access from land to the water to enable recreational activities and access to the lakes as well as shelter for watercraft and erosion protection.

### Type of Lake Structures

The five main types of structures found on our lakes are:

#### Public utilities and infrastructure

- These are temporary or permanent structures installed by local authorities, harbourmaster or network utility providers to provide a public service and benefit. These include, but are not limited to, navigation buoys and signage, stormwater outlets, control gates, pylons as well as flood and erosion protection structures. Section 37 of the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement Act 2006 includes further definitions.

#### Scientific structures

- Often of a short-term or temporary nature, these structures are for the purpose of collecting data or information as well as facilitating lake water quality improvement. These include monitoring buoys, water quality monitoring equipment, diversion walls, aeration fans, and floating wetlands.

#### Private infrastructure

- These are temporary or permanent structures installed by private landowners, primarily to provide erosion control and/or enhanced access to recreation structures (e.g. jetties). These include shoreline walls, reclamations and retaining walls.

#### Access and recreation structures

- Often of a permanent nature, these structures provide access to the lakes for private, public or commercial users of the lake. These structures include, but are not limited to, moorings, jetties, pontoons, platforms, boat ramps, slipways, maimai and boat sheds.

#### Customary structures

- These are temporary or permanent structures installed by tangata whenua for cultural use. These structures include koura farming racks and mahinga kai markers.

Existing lake structures (i.e. jetties and boat sheds) have been in place for some years, many of which were built at a time when there was little or no prior consultation with local iwi/hapū.

## Our role and responsibility

The Lakes Trust has responsibility, as owner of the lake beds, to safeguard places of cultural and spiritual significance on behalf of Iwi and hapū. This responsibility includes revitalising and enhancing the state of wellbeing (mauri) of the lakes.

Section 33 of our Settlement Act<sup>4</sup> enables existing lake structures to remain on a Te Arawa lakebed without our consent<sup>5</sup>, as landowner. Nevertheless, our lakes are subject to statutory acknowledgement. These are a formal acknowledgement of our cultural, historical, spiritual and traditional association with our lakes. Section 62 of our Settlement Act requires consent authorities to have regard to our statutory acknowledgements when processing consent applications for lake structures. **For this reason, we expect consultation on all lakes structures to ensure the best outcome is achieved for our lakes and our people.**

It is important for all parties to understand the role of Te Arawa as kaitiaki and the engagement principles and values we subscribe to, to ensure the on-going relationship can be maintained and encouraged. This is outlined in Section X of this Plan.

## Issues

- ❖ Inadequate recognition of our values, history, interests and intergenerational knowledge associated with Te Arawa Lakes.
- ❖ Physical, cultural and cumulative impacts of lake structures, particularly in culturally sensitive areas.
- ❖ Physical impact of new lakes structures and maintenance around existing lake structures on traditional plant resources e.g. raupō, toetoe, paopao/kuta.
- ❖ Restricted or loss of access to our lakes for cultural practices e.g. rama kōura (kōura gathering). This in turn impacts:
  - Our physical connection to the lake.
  - Our ability to pass on these practices to our children which leads to loss of intergenerational knowledge.

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<sup>4</sup> Section 33 of our Settlement Act only applies to the use, occupation, access, repair, maintenance, removal or demolition of an existing structure. It does not apply to the alteration, extension, replacement or reconstruction of an existing structure.

<sup>5</sup> 'Land owner consent' is not the same as written approval under the Resource Management Act.

The severity of impact depends on the type, location and visual prominence of the structure; number of existing structures in the area as well as its proximity to areas of cultural significance (e.g. marae, waahi tapu, mahinga kai areas). For example:

1. **Impacts in high density areas:** Some Te Arawa lakes have areas with a large number of existing structures. New structures in these areas exacerbate the problem. For example, cultural practices such as rama kōura (kōura gathering) is now rarely practised around Gisborne Point because of the closeness of the many jetties that kōura gatherers have to go over, under, or around.
2. **Structures in highly sensitive or inappropriate areas:** Some existing boat sheds are located in culturally sensitive and inappropriate sites. For example, Kariri Point on Lake Tarawera is regarded as waahi tapu by the Tuhourangi people. This area was set aside as 'an inalienable cemetery reserve in 1895'. Boatshed owners trespass over waahi tapu land whenever they access the boatsheds. The cultural impact of structures in this area is high and incompatible with cultural values.
3. **Hazardous nature of some structures:** Some lake structures create underwater hazards. For example, where rail lines run into the lake from an onshore boatshed. Some are still used and others are not, but they remain underwater on the lake bed. Rama kōura (kōura gathering) is practised at night and the rail lines are a hazard for gatherers.

## Objectives

Objective 7.3A	Avoid lake structures in culturally sensitive areas.
Objective 7.3B	Manage proliferation of structures on Te Arawa Lakes, particularly within high density areas.
Objective 7.3C	Enhance access to Te Arawa Lakes for recreation and cultural practices.
Objective 7.3D	Promote and provide for structures that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable shared use.</li> <li>• Mitigate cultural, spiritual and/or cumulative impacts.</li> <li>• Are located and designed appropriately.</li> <li>• Are safe to use and not hazardous for cultural practices.</li> <li>• Provide multiple benefits e.g. ecological, recreational, cultural.</li> </ul>
Objective 7.3E	Ensure that TALT is able to be financially sustainable and able to recover the cost of staff time and expertise to process resource consent applications and, where needed, prepare cultural impact assessments.

## Policies

Policy 7.2.1	<p>For all consent applications for lakes structures and new commercial activities on the lakes, TALT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) requires consultation as:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) owner of lake beds.</li> <li>ii) a result of the statutory acknowledgement over the lakes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) considers itself an affected party under Section 95E of the Resource Management Act.</li> <li>c) expects that the views of the Lakes Trust and relevant iwi/hapū are incorporated into an application (including decision) or structure design.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.2	<p>Ensure that lake structures are not located in, or within 400m of culturally or historically significant areas including waahi tapu, marae, mahinga kai or mahinga raranga areas.</p>
Policy 7.2.3	<p>Manage cumulative impacts of lake structures by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Ensuring a minimum distance of 100m between recreational structures.</li> <li>b) Encouraging the shared use of structures.</li> <li>c) Providing for lake structures only in suitable locations, when critical specific activities and alternatives have been explored.</li> <li>d) Not approving new structures, particularly within high density areas, unless critical for specific activities and/or alternatives have been explored.</li> <li>e) Non-renewal of leases when structures become surplus due to sharing agreements.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.4	<p>Lake structures to provide multiple benefits as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Commercial and local authority access structures are to be accessible for public use.</li> <li>b) Structures to provide positive ecological contributions to the lake environment. This could include suitable habitat below the waterline for mahinga kai species such as kōura.</li> <li>c) The ability to access the lake water is not restricted or impeded by lake structures.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.5	<p>The duration of resource consents for lake structures should not exceed 10 years. However, the Lakes Trust is open to a longer consent term where Objective 7.3D is met.</p>

Policy 7.2.6	Within the Lakes A zone, boat lifters are to be considered a non-compliant structure.
Policy 7.2.7	<p>To enable enhance habitat and access for mahinga kai and/or recreational use, TALT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) will work with the Rotorua Lakes Council, Iwi and hapū (including rangatahi) to identify appropriate access points from Council reserves and structures.</li> <li>b) will work with Rotorua Lakes Council to discuss ways in which existing public infrastructure will be maintained and developed.</li> <li>c) encourages weed management around structures and along other shoreline areas to support better access for mahinga kai purposes.</li> <li>d) promotes the use of rock walls as construction material (either for the structure itself or to protect the structure) for new or replacement retaining walls, to provide good habitat for kōura.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.8	<p>Where traditional plant resources are to be removed to make way for a new structure or to maintain around an existing structure, the structure owner is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) ensure that the amount of vegetation removed is no more than absolute necessary for clearance or maintenance.</li> <li>b) replant an equivalent area nearby with that plant species to mitigate the cultural impact resulting from any loss of this resource.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.9	<p>Require removal of structures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) are no longer in use</li> <li>b) cause a hazard to Lake Users</li> <li>c) are made from materials that are causing a detrimental effect on lake water quality.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.10	<p>Hazardous impacts of boat sheds to be managed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Where a boat shed uses rail lines, these should be replaced e.g. ramp with wheeled trolley or trailer.</li> <li>b) Unused rail lines should be removed by boat shed owners.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.11	<p>Work with the RLC and BOPRC with regards to the installation of Pou and appropriate signage on Te Arawa lakes to acknowledge the hapū, iwi and cultural significance of an area. These can act as markers for sites of significance and near places of interest in the vicinity.</p>

	<p>This:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) is of critical importance in areas that are highly modified and hapū and iwi have limited or no access to Te Arawa lakes or traditional areas.</li> <li>b) will be undertaken with hapū and iwi associated with each lake.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.12	<p>To help address the cultural impacts of lake structures at Kariri Point, TALT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Work with lake structure owners, Iwi and Rotorua Lakes Council to find ways to avoid cultural impacts associated with accessing structures.</li> <li>b. Work with Iwi and land trustees of Rotomahana Parekarangi 6G2B with regards to formal registration of Kariri Point as a waahi tapu with Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2004.</li> </ul>
Policy 7.2.13	TALT to make available, and review annually, a fees schedule for the costs associated with resource consent processes.
Policy 7.2.14	TALT to undertake a bi-annual inspection of our lakes to identify if there are any new unconsented structures; structures still not removed or inappropriate disturbance of habitat. Findings will be reported to BOPRC for action.
Policy 7.2.15	BOPRC to take compliance action on unconsented or non-compliant lake structures.

### TALT Projects

<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<p><b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).</p>
<b>PROJECT 9</b>	<p><b>Cultural recognition and access enhancement project</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policies 7.2.7 and 7.2.11.</p>
<b>PROJECT 10</b>	<p><b>Biannual lake structure inspection</b></p> <p>To give effect to Policy 7.2.14.</p>

## Information Requirements for applications

As a minimum, any application for a lake structure on any lake should detail:

- Type and purpose of structure.
- Use and frequency of structure for public or private use.
- Structure design including colours and finishes, dimensions, materials proposed.
- For an existing structure, evidence that it was in place at time of our Treaty Settlement.
- Location shown on plan and distances to all other existing lakes structures or developments identified. Use of survey or aerial plan is encouraged.
- How the structure compliments existing structures within vicinity.
- Ecological changes to lake bed and associated vegetation outlined including excavation works or disturbance.
- Discussion of alternatives to lake structure locations, sharing and/or design considered.
- Identification number, if removal of any structure being undertaken.
- Consultation with neighbours or other parties outlined.
- Mitigation measures identified and shown on plan.

Further information about resource consent processes can be found in Section 2 of this Plan.

## 8. Bringing this Plan to Life

### 8.1 Plan ownership and resourcing

The TALT Environmental Unit will be responsible for 'owning' this Plan. As noted in several policies, dedicated resourcing is needed to:

- lead the implementation of TALT-specific policies and projects (including securing funding and project delivery).
- enable active involvement in local and central government processes, work programmes and projects.
- ensure that local and central government agency staff (at all levels) understand how to implement the relevant policies within this Plan. This includes holding workshops with Council staff to help them understand how the implications of the Plan on their work.
- monitor and review the effectiveness of partnerships with Council and Central Government agencies. This includes regular meetings to discuss the effectiveness of the implementation of relationship or protocol agreements.
- Monitor and report on the implementation of this Plan.

### 8.2 Summary of projects

<b>PROJECT 1</b>	<b>Te Arawa cultural health monitoring programme</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.14, 5.1.17 and 5.2.3 (habitats and ecosystems).
<b>PROJECT 2</b>	<b>Rotorua Catchments Water Management Area Project</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.2, 5.1.6, 5.1.12 (water and land) and 5.2.6 (habitats and ecosystems).
<b>PROJECT 3</b>	<b>Kākahi Project</b> To give effect to Policy 5.1.16 (water and land).
<b>PROJECT 4</b>	<b>Hungatiaki Communications and Development Coordinator</b> To give effect to Policies 5.1.12, 5.1.13, 5.1.17 (water and land), 5.2.3, 5.2.6, 5.2.7 (habitats and ecosystems), 6.1.1 (cultural knowledge and practices), 6.2.1-6.2.4 (building capacity and succession planning), 6.3.3 (natural hazards and climate change), 7.1.3, 7.1.5 (cultural heritage and identity) and 7.2.13 (structures).

<b>PROJECT 5</b>	<b>Habitat and ecosystems monitoring programme</b> To give effect to Policy 5.2.3.
<b>PROJECT 6</b>	<b>Priority schedule for ecosystem projects</b> To give effect to Policy 5.2.4.
<b>PROJECT 7</b>	<b>Climate change research</b> To give effect to Policy 6.3.7.
<b>PROJECT 8</b>	<b>Cultural mapping project</b> To give effect to Policy 7.1.2.
<b>PROJECT 9</b>	<b>Cultural recognition and access enhancement project</b> To give effect to Policies 7.2.7 and 7.2.11.
<b>PROJECT 10</b>	<b>Biannual lake structure inspection</b> To give effect to Policy 7.2.14.

### 8.3 Plan review

This Plan will be reviewed in 2030 to ensure that the Plan content is relevant and is making a tangible difference for our lakes and our people.