

Maungawhio Lagoon

Summary of Values

For Proposed Plan Change 7: Hawke's Bay Regional
Resource Management Plan

(Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change)

Maungawhio Lagoon - Summary of Values

For Proposed Plan Change 7: Hawke's Bay Regional Resource Management Plan (Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change)

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Contents

Purpose of Report	4
Plan Change 7 Overview	4
Phase One & Phase Two: High Level Review & Summary of Values	5
Phase Three: Refine List & Secondary Assessments	5
Phase Four: Engagement & Local Expert Panel Process	5
Phase Five: Final Evaluation	6

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Tables C1 and R2 - Maungawhio Lagoon
Appendix 2	Expert Panel Findings - Maungawhio Lagoon
Appendix 3	Final Evaluation - Maungawhio Lagoon

Purpose of Report

1. This report is a compilation of information previously documented on the values associated with the Maungawhio Lagoon during preparation of Proposed Plan Change 7 prior to its notification on 31 August 2019. It is one of a series of similar reports compiled for each of the respective proposed outstanding water bodies (OWB) identified in Plan Change 7.
2. The approach used by Hawke's Bay Regional Council to identify OWB in Hawke's Bay followed a process that began with a high level review documenting the values associated with 130 water bodies across the region. A short explanation is provided at the beginning of each section which discusses the relevant phase and whether the Maungawhio Lagoon was considered during that part of the process.
3. Not all OWB identified in Proposed Plan Change 7 were considered during each phase of the process. For clarity, an index table (Table 1) has been included in this report which sets out the relevant phases, report names, values and page numbers for the Maungawhio Lagoon.
4. No new research or further information was commissioned for the purposes of compiling this report.
5. For further information on the Outstanding Water Body Identification Methodology and each of these phases, see the Plan Change 7 Section 32 Evaluation Report¹.
6. **Table 1: Maungawhio Lagoon index**

Phase	Included (yes/no)	Report name /date	Page numbers in associated report
High Level Review (Phase 1 & Phase 2)	Yes	Summary of Cultural Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay (March 2018)	59
		Summary of the Recreation, Landscape and Ecology Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay (March 2018)	31
Secondary Assessments (Phase 3)	No	N/A	N/A
Local Expert Panel (Phase 4)	Yes	Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay - Report of the Expert Panel (April 2019)	63 - 64, 67
Final Evaluation (Phase 5)	Yes	Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change - selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay (May 2019)	20, 23, 32, 37, 40, 44, 59, 62, 93, 109

Plan Change 7 Overview

7. Hawke's Bay Regional Council has prepared an amendment to the Hawke's Bay Regional Resource Management Plan (RRMP) to include a list of the region's outstanding water bodies, together with a framework which prescribes a high level of protection for these water bodies in future plan making. That change to the RRMP is referred to as 'Proposed Plan Change 7' or the 'Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change.'
8. The water bodies identified in the Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change have been proposed as the 'best of the best' within the region, featuring an exceptional cultural, spiritual, recreation, natural character, landscape, geology, or ecology value which is remarkable in Hawke's Bay.
9. Since commencing this OWB plan change project in early 2017, a significant amount of work has been undertaken to build a clearer picture of water bodies within the region and their potential for being classed as outstanding.
10. The Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change amends the RPS to reflect NPSFM provisions which require the protection of the significant values of outstanding water bodies. This special protection does not lessen the importance of, or value associated with other water bodies, which are managed through other parts of the Regional Resource Management Plan or Council work programme.
11. Further information about the background and purpose of proposed Plan Change 7 is online at www.hbrc.govt.nz (search #owb).

¹ <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Outstanding-Water-Bodies/1.-Other-supporting-information/Section-32-Evaluation-Report.pdf>

Phase One & Phase Two: High Level Review & Summary of Values

12. In June 2017, the Council embarked on a high level review documenting the cultural, spiritual, recreation, landscape, geological, natural character and ecology values associated with 130 water bodies across the region.
13. Phase 1 involved a thorough review of over ninety documents being completed. Those documents included Deeds of Treaty Settlements, statutory acknowledgements for Treaty settlements, customary uses reports, Waitangi Tribunal reports, and other documents produced in a national and regional context between 1979 and 2018.
14. This work built a clear picture of values associated with a wide range of water bodies across the region and their potential for being classified as outstanding, prior to short listing. This work culminated in a literature review with the following two tables summarising key values associated with 130 of the region's water bodies:
 - Table C1: Cultural Values Table – Summary of Cultural Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay.
 - Table R2: Recreation, landscape, Ecology Values Table – Summary of the Recreation, Landscape and Ecology Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay
15. Table C1 included all water bodies identified by name in reviewed documents, with a high level summary of the associated 'cultural and spiritual values'. This work was sent out to all Treaty settlement entities in Hawke's Bay in December 2017 for input prior to completion.
16. Table R2 included all water bodies identified by name in reviewed documents, with a high level summary of the associated recreation, landscape, geology and ecology values, and ratings assigned in this document.
17. Appendix 1 sets out the relevant extracts from Tables C1 and R2 for the Maungawhio Lagoon.

Phase Three: Refine List & Secondary Assessments

18. In 2018, the high level review findings for 130 water bodies, and their associated values, were reported to the Council's Regional Planning Committee (RPC). The RPC selected a list of 22 candidate OWB to proceed forward a more detailed secondary assessment to see if any contained values that were clearly superior to other water bodies in Hawke's Bay.
19. The Maungawhio Lagoon was not selected as a candidate OWB as such, a secondary assessment was not carried out for this water body.

Phase Four: Engagement & Local Expert Panel Process

20. Phase 4 involved wider input from the public, iwi authorities, key stakeholders and territorial local authorities. Feedback from this process featured requests for an additional 20 water bodies to be identified as OWB.
21. In December 2018, Council staff contracted a local expert panel to evaluate, categorise and identify outstanding characteristics, for all value sets, from the list of 22 candidate OWB and the additional 20 water bodies put forward during engagement.
22. The local expert panel was appointed via nominations by key stakeholders, iwi authorities and city and district councils, and comprised six members² with good knowledge of the Hawke's Bay region.
23. The recommendations made by the panel were based on existing information, their local knowledge, and a set of assessment criteria they developed at their first meeting. The assessment criteria used by the panel to identify outstanding features is set out at the beginning of each subsection for each value set.
24. The expert panel found the Maungawhio Lagoon, including lower Kopuawhara River, Pukenui Dune Wetlands to have outstanding ecology and landscape values. With respect to cultural values, the expert panel recommended iwi be engaged to provide a cultural assessment to better understand the cultural and spiritual values associated with this water body. Their findings are set out in Appendix 2.

² Morry Black (Mauri Protection Agency), Matt Brady (DOC), John Cheyne (Te Taiao Environment), Andrew Curtis (Water Strategies Limited), Bernie Kelly (kayaking rep), Tom Winlove (Fish & Game Hawke's Bay)

Phase Five: Final Evaluation

25. Phase Five saw a final evaluation carried out to assist the Council's Regional Planning Committee to select a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay, for inclusion in Proposed Plan Change 7.
26. This work summarised the key values of 42 water bodies nominated during Phases 3 and 4, and informed by
 - The secondary assessments
 - local expert panel findings
 - the values summary reports, and
 - stakeholder engagement.
27. The summary was presented by value-type, based on the work to date and in a format consistent with the direction given by Council.
28. Appendix 3 sets out the relevant extracts from the final evaluation for the Maungawhio Lagoon.

Appendix 1: Tables C1 and R2 - Maungawhio Lagoon

Note: Appendix 1 contains extracts only - for further information please refer to the full reports.



Summary of cultural values associated with water bodies in Hawke's Bay

HBRC Report No. SD18-01
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Summary of cultural values associated with water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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14 March 2018

Prepared By:
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Referencing

When referencing in another report any of the values contained in this document, the author of that report must include the following text as a footnote to the referenced material:

“There are numerous water bodies in the Hawke’s Bay region where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims. By referring to these values it is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over a particular water body for one or more iwi group, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group(s) over that water body. This information is being referred to solely for the purpose of identifying the important cultural and spiritual values identified by iwi groups in the region”.

Waterbody / Region / Catchment	Treaty settlement entity	Commentary		Key values
		<p>Key DOS = Deed of settlements, SA = statutory acknowledgements, TSL = Treaty settlement legislation, CUR = customary usage reports, WTR = Waitangi tribunal reports, OTHER = any other relevant documents</p> <p>No = waterbody not referred in document N/A = No such document exists.</p> <p>NOTE: The 'Key Values' column sets out a pool of eight key values which broadly reflect the most significant cultural values associated with water bodies. The relevant key values for each water body is listed in this column.</p> <p>See commentary column for further explanation about the identified key value for each waterbody.</p>		<p>Note: key values as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga - Wai Tapu - Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata - Mahinga kai, Pa tuna - Pa, kāinga - Tauranga waka - Rohe Boundary - Battle site
Maungawhio Lagoon Hawke's Bay Mahia	Te Rohe o Te Wairoa	DOS SA TSL CUS WTR OTHER	<p>The Maungawhio Lagoon is the outlet for the Kopuawhara River, which flows from Wharerata Ranges and out to the sea at Mahia. It was here that the Takitimu waka arrived at Mahia and became stuck. Ruawhoro, the tohunga of Takitimu left the waka, but assisted it to continue its journey with the saying 'Mahia nga mahi mai i Tawhit'.</p> <p>Ruawhoro, the guardian of the gods of the earth and ocean, had a pā at Wahatoa which overlooked the sea entrance to Maungawhio Lagoon.</p> <p>The name Maungawhio means 'the whistling, howling hills' and refers to the strong winds which pass over the lagoon. The shallowness and configuration of the lagoon made it a site of a variety of birdlife and invaluable mahinga kai.</p> <p>Yes – same as DOS</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata</p> <p>Mahinga kai, Pa tuna</p> <p>Pa, kāinga</p>
Maungawhio Lagoon Hawke's Bay Mahia	Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated	DOS SA TSL CUS WTR OTHER	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Initial comments on HBRC's Draft Change 5, NKII (2012) Maungawhio Lagoon is a location of significance. It is outstanding in the regional and national sense, with high conservation and cultural values.</p>	<p>Mahinga kai, Pa tuna</p>
Kopuawhara River	Te Rohe o Te Wairoa	DOS SA TSL	<p>The Kopuawhara River flows from Wharerata Ranges into the Maungawhio lagoon and out to sea at Mahia.</p> <p>Yes – same as DOS</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Mahinga kai, Pa tuna</p>
Hawke's Bay Mahia		CUS WTR OTHER		

Summary of recreation, landscape and ecology values associated with water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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Summary of recreation, landscape and ecology values associated with water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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12



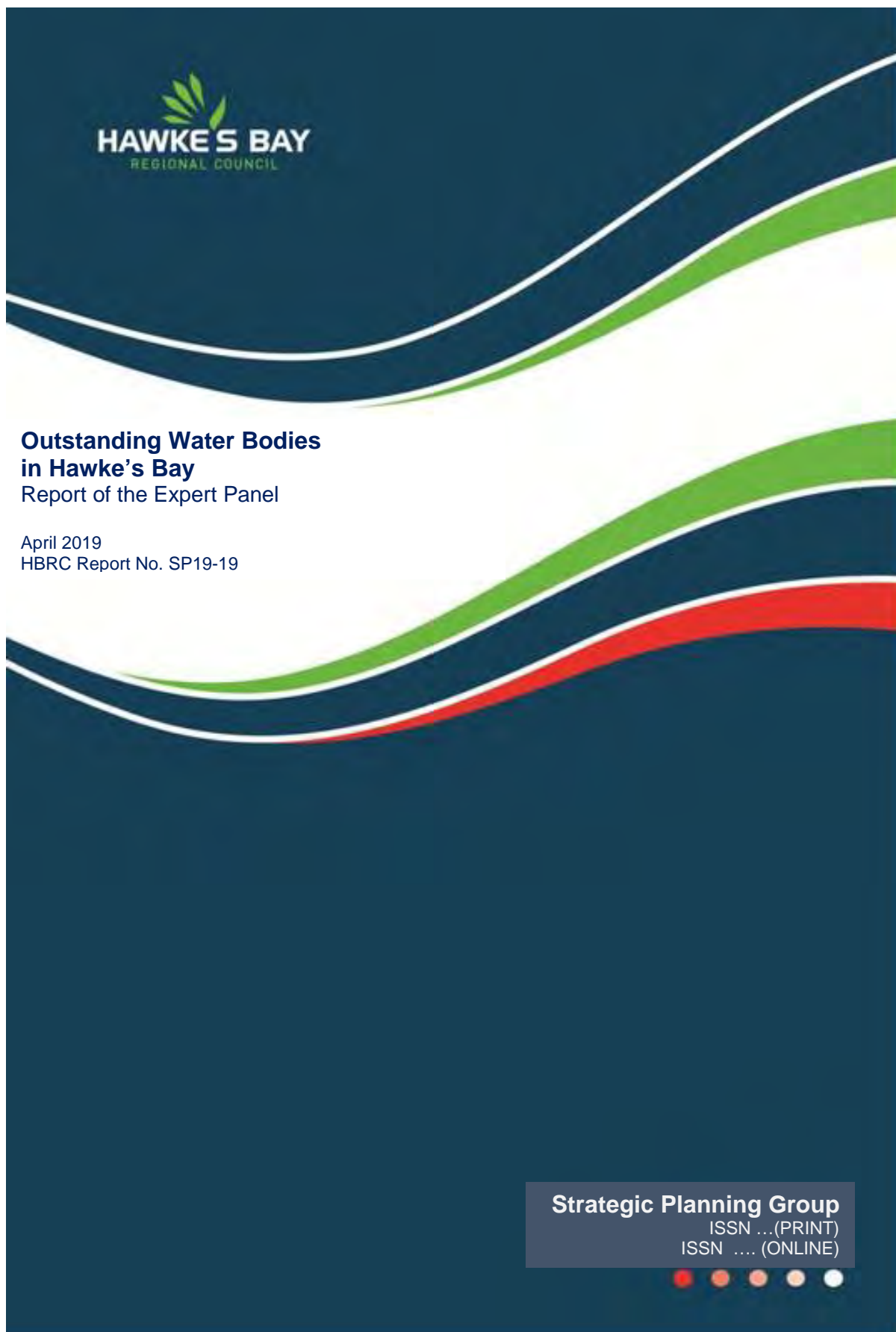
Waterbody / Region / Catchment	Treaty settlement entity group(s) with linkages back to waterbody	Commentary		Key values
<p>Key 64NZR = 64 New Zealand Rivers – A Scenic Evaluation RRS = New Zealand Recreational River Survey MAF & F = Submission on the Draft Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers of National Importance by MAFF W&SR = National Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers RiVAS = River Values Assessment System LOR & L = A List of Rivers and Lakes Deserving Inclusion in a Schedule of Protected Waters HTF = Headwater Trout Fisheries in New Zealand WONI = Potential Waterbodies of National Importance RAMSAR = Wetlands in NZ which meet the Ramsar criteria W&WH = Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat of Hawke's Bay Rivers</p>				
Maungawhio Lagoon Hawke's Bay Mahia	Te Rohe o Te Wairoa Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated	64NZR RRS MAF&F W&SR LOR&L HTF WONI RAMSAR W&WH RIVAS OTHER OTHER	N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A No No No N/A N/A Areas of Significant Conservation Values: HB Coastal Marine Area (Draft), 2006 (areas are identified in RCEP as 'SCA') Maungawhio Lagoon is a Wildlife Management Reserve, which has significant ecological, fauna, and flora values. The site is located on the eastern side of the Mahia tombola, which is the best example of such a landform in New Zealand, and is recommended for protection in the Geopreservation Index. <u>Nationally significant wildlife habitat</u> The Maungawhio Lagoon is rated of national importance in the 'wetlands of ecological and representative importance' Index due to the quality of its estuarine habitat. It also has a High 'sites of special wildlife interest rating due to the presence of numerous waterfowl, wader and migratory species. Threatened species include Australasian bittern, banded rail, New Zealand dotterel and Caspian tern. <u>Dune system</u> The sand dunes along Pukenui Beach feature many species of indigenous flora and fauna – some of which are not found anywhere else in New Zealand. <u>Regionally significant fishery habitat</u> The site supports regionally important shellfish and whitebait fisheries. Geo preservation inventory Maungawhio Lagoon. Excellent, little modified example of a tidal lagoon at the mouth of significant stream and constructed by Holocene sand dunes and sand barrier. Classification: Regionally significant	Ecology (wildlife, dune flora)

Kopuawhara Stream Hawke's Bay Mahia	Te Rohe o Te Wairoa	64NZR	No	Recreation (angling) Natural character
		RRS	Scenic value = moderate Recreational value = insignificant Scenic values graded on a six point scale: dull, uninspiring, moderate, picturesque, impressive, exceptional. Recreational values graded on a five point scale: insignificant, low, intermediate, high, exceptional.	
		MAF&F	No	
		W&SR	No	
		LOR&L	No	
		HTF	No	
		WONI	No	
		RAMSAR	No	
		W&WH	N/A	
		RIVAS	Locally significant for salmonid angling and natural character.	

Appendix 2: Expert Panel Findings - Maungawhio Lagoon

Note: Appendix 2 contains extracts only - for further information please refer to the full report of the expert panel.

Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay: Report of the Expert Panel





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Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay Report of the Expert Panel

April 2019
HBRC Report No. SP19-19



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Bernie Kelly, Hawke's Bay Canoe Club
Tom Winlove, Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council

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Outcome 2: OWB Assessment Criteria

The Panel considered the criteria for what makes the selected values regionally ‘Outstanding’. The Gisborne District Council OWB criteria provided a useful framework but needed both simplification and some additional criteria.

Both quantitative and qualitative (descriptive) measures were selected and are set out below in Table 4. ‘Outstanding’ values could also be variable, for example, customary values can be dependent on the season or time of year.

TABLE 4: CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING ‘OUTSTANDING’ VALUES

‘OUTSTANDING’ VALUE	CRITERIA	INDICATOR
Ecology	Threatened Species	4 or more threatened species
	% of Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >2% of a national population of a native species • >15% of a regional population of a native species
	Ecological Distinctiveness	Presence of a unique or distinctive characteristic/ habitat or species at the regional level
	Ecological Function	Presence of a critical or outstanding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeding site • Ecosystem component • Assemblage • Kohanga ika/ nursery • Fish passage/ fish spawning
Landscape	A water body that contains a unique hydrological, geological or culturally significant feature A water body that is widely recognised at the regional level for its scenic values	
Natural Character	A water body that is highly natural with little or no human modification, including to the flow, bed and riparian margins, water quality, flora and fauna, within a largely indigenous landscape	
Amenity/ Recreation	A recreational experience that is exceptional in or on the water An exceptional location for angling or customary food gathering A unique historical or heritage site	
Cultural & Spiritual	Preliminary and high level comments only are provided using the following framework: For understanding and assessing the outstanding values, attributes and uses of water bodies from a cultural and spiritual perspective, the following concepts have been applied:	

	<p><i>Wairuatanga</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mauri Mana Tapu Taonga tuku iho <p><i>Rangatiratanga</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mana whenua – mana moana Kaitiakitanga Mahinga kai (as a place, action or practice) <p><i>Whakapapa</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> O te whenua O te wai O te tangata Ki uta ki tai <p><i>Matauranga Maori</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tikanga Maori knowledge systems Traditional uses and values Origins of cultural knowledge <p><i>Cultural Natural Character</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiritual condition Mana o te wai Connectivity between ground and surface water Cleansing properties as water passes through the whenua Spring / aquifer sources – water recharge systems <p>SPECIAL NOTE:</p> <p>Tangata whenua will provide locally relevant assessments through separate input to the process (Refer to Appendix 4: Maori cultural and spiritual values, and see Diagram 1).</p>
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Maungawhio Lagoon

Including Lower Kopuwhara Stream and Pukenui dune wetlands



Lower Kopuwhara Stream



MAUNGAWHIO LAGOON: DESCRIPTION OF OUTSTANDING VALUES

SUMMARY

TYPE	NAME	OUTSTANDING VALUE				
		ECOLOGY	LANDSCAPE	NATURAL CHARACTER	AMENITY & RECREATION	CULTURAL & SPIRITUAL
Wetland	MAUNGAWHIO LAGOON					

ECOLOGY

Description	Notes	Reference
<p><i>Threatened species:</i></p> <p>9 bird species – White heron, bittern, shore plover, black billed gull, reef heron, banded dotterel, Caspian tern, lesser Knot, black fronted tern</p>		Birds NZ counts, DOC Wairoa records
<p><i>Ecological distinctiveness:</i></p> <p>National importance in the 'wetlands of ecological and representative importance' index</p> <p>Unique flora, some of which are not found anywhere else in NZ, on surrounding dunes</p>		HBRC 2018
<p><i>Ecological function:</i></p> <p>Regional importance for native fish</p>		Native fish RiVAS 2012

LANDSCAPE

Description	Notes	Reference
One of the largest sand tombola in New Zealand (nationally important)		NZ Geopres. Inventory
Maungawhio Lagoon – excellent example of a tidal lagoon (regionally important)		NZ Geopres. Inventory

Appendix 3: Final Evaluation - Maungawhio Lagoon

Note: Appendix 3 contains extracts only - for further information please refer to the full report.



Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change Selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change

Selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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Publication Number: 5400



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Ecology values

Wildlife

The Maungawhio Lagoon is a gazetted Wildlife Management Reserve which supports around 25 different species of waterbirds, including a high number of threatened species being the Australasian bittern, shore plover, black billed gull, reef heron, banded dotterel, Caspian tern, lesser knot.

The white heron has previously been identified at Maungawhio Lagoon however due to insufficient information staff are not recommending white heron be taken into account.

The Maungawhio Lagoon is listed as a Significant Conversation Area in the Regional Coastal Environment Plan, where it is identified as containing a nationally significant wildlife habitat.

The local expert panel found the Maungawhio Lagoon to have outstanding wildlife values, specifically noting the high numbers of threatened species present. The local expert panel's report is attached in Appendix 6.

Native fish

The Maungawhio Lagoon is listed as a Significant Conservation Area in the Hawke's Bay Regional Coastal Environment Plan. The site supports regionally important shellfish and whitebait fisheries.

The local expert panel found the Maungawhio Lagoon to have outstanding ecological function, specifically noting the Lower Kopuwharo Stream as being regionally significant for native fish. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Native plants

The Maungawhio Lagoon is listed as a Significant Conservation Area in the Hawke's Bay Regional Coastal Environment Plan, which states the area has significant ecological, fauna and flora values.

For clarification, the significant flora values appear to be related to the Pukenui Beach sand dune system (not the Maungawhio lagoon itself) which contains some indigenous flora not found anywhere else in New Zealand.

The local expert panel found the Maungawhio Lagoon to have outstanding ecological function, specifically noting the unique flora on the dune system. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Natural character

Maungawhio Lagoon is a salt water lagoon that joins to Oraka Beach on the Mahia peninsula. It has significant ecological values.

The Mahia peninsula tombolo¹ is identified on the Geopreservation Inventory as Class B (nationally important, along with 32 other features in Hawke's Bay). For clarification, the Maungawhio Lagoon is not a key part of the landscape when viewing the tombolo.

The Maungawhio Lagoon is identified on the Geopreservation Inventory, as being Class C (regionally important) along with 89 other features in Hawke's Bay. The inventory cites the lagoon as being "*an excellent example of a tidal lagoon*".

The local expert panel found the Maungawhio Lagoon to have outstanding landscape values, specifically noting the lagoon is an excellent example of a tidal lagoon, and located near the tombolo.

¹ Mahia peninsula was once an island and the tombolo or sandbar connection built up to link it to the mainland at Opoutama. The tombolo is 4 km long and 3 km wide and one of the largest sand tombolos in New Zealand.

Cultural and Spiritual values

Maungawhio Lagoon is a salt water lagoon that joins Oraka Beach, by the Mahia Peninsula, and is a site of significance to Te Rohe o Te Wairoa and Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc.

The name 'Maungawhio' means 'the whistling, howling hills' and refers to the strong winds which pass over the lagoon. It was here that the Takitimu waka arrived at Mahia and became stuck. Ruawharo, the tohunga of Takitimu, left the waka here, assisting it to continue with its journey saying 'Mahia nga mahi mai I Tawhiti'.

It is considered to have high conservation and cultural values, and supports a variety of birdlife and mahinga kai.

Information reviewed indicates the water body contains the following key values:

- Pa, kāinga
- Mahinga kai, Pa tuna
- Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata.

The local expert panel found that the water body was outstanding, but not for cultural and spiritual reasons. A cultural assessment is needed.

Iwi authorities at the Wairoa sub-regional hui recommended that all waterbodies, including all tributaries, in the Kōpuāwhara catchment have outstanding cultural and spiritual values. The Te Rohe o Te Wairoa Deed of Settlement notes that the river is of particular significance for the reasons listed above.