

Taruarau River

Summary of Values

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

(Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change)

Taruarau River- Summary of Values

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

HBRC Publication Number: 5508

Author:

Belinda Harper, Senior Planner

Reviewed by:

Gavin Ide, Principal Advisor Strategic Planning

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 - Taruarau River |
| Appendix 2 | Secondary Assessment - Taruarau River |
| Appendix 3 | Expert Panel Findings - Taruarau River |
| Appendix 4 | Final Evaluation - Taruarau River |

Purpose of Report

1. This report is a compilation of information previously documented on the values associated with the Taruarau River 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 Taruarau River 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 Taruarau River.
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: Taruarau River 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) | N/A |
| | | Summary of the Recreation, Landscape and Ecology Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay (March 2018) | 10 |
| Secondary Assessments (Phase 3) | Yes | Secondary assessment - Taruarau River | All of report |
| Local Expert Panel (Phase 4) | Yes | Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay - Report of the Expert Panel (April 2019) | 36 - 41 |
| Final Evaluation (Phase 5) | Yes | Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change - selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay (May 2019) | 45, 46, 50, 53, 59, 66, 72, 75, 95, 102 |

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 Table R2 for the Taruarau River. No information regarding the Taruarau River was found during the high level review for inclusion in Table C1.

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 secondary assessment for Taruarau River is set out in Appendix 2.

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 Ngaruroro River, including the Taruarau River, to have outstanding ecology, landscape, natural character, amenity and recreation, and cultural and spiritual values. Their findings are set out in Appendix 3.

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 4 sets out the relevant extracts from the final evaluation for the Taruarau River.

Appendix 1: Table R2 - Taruarau River

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



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

HBRC Report No. SD18-02
Plan Number 4979

Strategic Development Group

ISSN 2324-4186 (PRINT)
ISSN 2324-4194 (ONLINE)



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

HBRC Report No. SD18-02
Plan Number 4979

14 March 2018

Prepared By:
Belinda Harper, Senior Planner

Strategic Development Group

ISSN 2324-4186 (PRINT)
ISSN 2324-4194 (ONLINE)

© Copyright: Hawke's Bay Regional Council

| 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> | | | |
| Taruarau River Hawke's Bay Ngaruroro TANK | | | 64NZR | No | Recreation (trout fishing) Ecology (aquatic biodiversity values) Natural character |
| | | | RRS | Taruarau River Scenic value = impressive Recreational value = low 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 | Group two: (Ngaruroro & Taruarau Rivers) Wild, scenic, high recreational use (canoeing, rafting, tramping, hunting, jetboating). Important trout fisheries in upper reaches. Headwaters are in tussock grasslands in the Kaimanawa Range. NOTE: A highly valued river on excluded from group one because of its proximity to the Mohaka River. | |
| | | | HTF | <u>Taruarau River (whole length)</u> List A (all season) headwater trout river Rainbow and brown trout (rainbow dominate) | |
| | | | WONI | Potential water body of national importance for aquatic biodiversity values (biodiversity dimension of natural heritage). Type: 2 (contains sections or sites of national importance for biodiversity) | |
| | | | RAMSAR | No | |
| | | | W&WH | N/A | |
| | | | RiVAS | Regionally significant for salmonid angling (in Taruarau River) Nationally significant for natural character | |
| Other | Geo preservation inventory Taruarau gorge. Map: One of the two best gorges in Hawkes Bay. A steep sided convoluted river meanders about 400 m deep through greywacke mountains. Classification: Regionally significant | | | | |



Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change

Candidate List of Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay – Secondary Assessments for:

Heretaunga Aquifer, Karamu Stream, Lake Whakakī, Lake Whatumā, Lake Waikaremoana, Lake Tūtira (including Aropaoanui River + Papakiri Stream), Lake Waikareiti, Lower Ngaruroro River (below Whanawhana), Mangahauanga Stream, Makirikiri River, Porangahau River, Ruakituri River, Ruataniwha Aquifer, Taruarau River, Te Whanganui a Orotū (Ahuriri Estuary), Tukituki River, Tutaekuri River, Upper Mohaka River, Upper Ngaruroro River (above Whanawhana), Waipawa River, Waipunga River, Wairoa River.

June 2018
HBRC Report Number: RM19-252
Publication Number: 5417

Strategic Development Group

ISSN 2324-4186 (PRINT)
ISSN 2324-4194 (ONLINE)



Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change

Candidate List of Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay – Secondary Assessments for:

Heretaunga Aquifer, Karamu River, Lake Whakakā , Lake Whatumā, Lake Waikaremoana, Lake Tūtira (including Aropaoanui River + Papakiri Stream), Lake Waikareiti, Lower Ngaruroro River (below Whanawhana), Mangahauanga Stream, Makirikiri River, Porangahau River, Ruakituri River, Ruataniwha Aquifer, Taruarau River , Te Whanganui a Orotū (Ahuriri Estuary), Tukituki River, Tutaekuri River, Upper Mohaka River, Upper Ngaruroro River (above Whanawhana), Waipawa River, Waipunga River, Wairoa River.

June 2018
HBRC Report Number: RM19-252
Publication Number: 5417

Prepared by:

Belinda Harper, Senior Planner

Kurt Ridling, Senior Planner (Untracked Limited)

Reviewed by:

Gavin Ide: Manager Policy and Planning

Ceri Edmonds: Senior Planner

Taruarau River



Key Values

Cultural

Recreation (trout fishing)

Ecology (aquatic biodiversity values)

Natural character

Table 1: List of documents reviewed

| Year | Name | Author |
|------|--|--|
| 1981 | New Zealand Recreational River Survey | G & J Egarr |
| 1984 | The Relative Value of Hawke's Bay Rivers to New Zealand Anglers | Fisheries Research Division - N.Z. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries |
| 1986 | A List of Rivers and Lakes Deserving Inclusion in A Schedule of Protected Waters | Grindell & Guest |
| 1994 | Headwater Trout Fisheries in New Zealand | NIWA |
| 2004 | Potential Water Bodies of National Importance | Ministry for the Environment |
| 2010 | Taruarau / Napier-Taihape Rd to Whanawhana, IV | Whitewater NZ forum |
| 2012 | River Values Assessment System (RiVAS) | Lindis Consulting |
| 2015 | An Application to the Minister for the Environment for a Water Conservation Order on the Ngaruroro River and Clive River | Catalyst Group |
| 2015 | Copy Supporting an Application for Water Conservation Order on the Ngaruroro River from Whitewater New Zealand | Whitewater New Zealand |
| 2016 | Inventory of Values in the TANK Catchments of Hawke's Bay | Cawthron Institute |
| 2016 | New Zealand Geo-preservation Inventory | Geological Society of New Zealand |
| 2017 | The 2017-2018 Trout Fishing Season | Fish and Game New Zealand |
| 2018 | Cultural Values Table | Hawke's Bay Regional Council |

Discussion

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to assist the RPC members to determine whether any of the values of the Taruarau River are outstanding for the purposes of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM).
2. This report presents the summarised findings of the values attributed to the Taruarau River in those documents referred to in Table 1, above.

Overview

3. The Taruarau River rises in the Kaimanawa Ranges flowing south across rolling tussock country for around 70 km before it joins the Ngaruroro River. The river is highly valued for kayaking and salmonid angling.
4. The Taruarau River is very scenic and begins by meandering through extensive tussock grasslands, before traveling through scrub lined valleys with striking rocky overhangs. The river drops into an enclosed gorge before flowing into the Ngaruroro River around 20 km upstream of Whanawhana.
5. The area has a high degree of natural character, with the exception of some extensive pastoral farming which occurs on around 10% of the catchment area.

Location

6. The Taruarau River is located approximately 100 km northwest of Napier on the east coast of the North Island. The Taruarau River is part of the Ngaruroro catchment and is a major tributary of the Ngaruroro River.
7. The location and extent of the Taruarau River is shown in Figures 1 and 2, below.

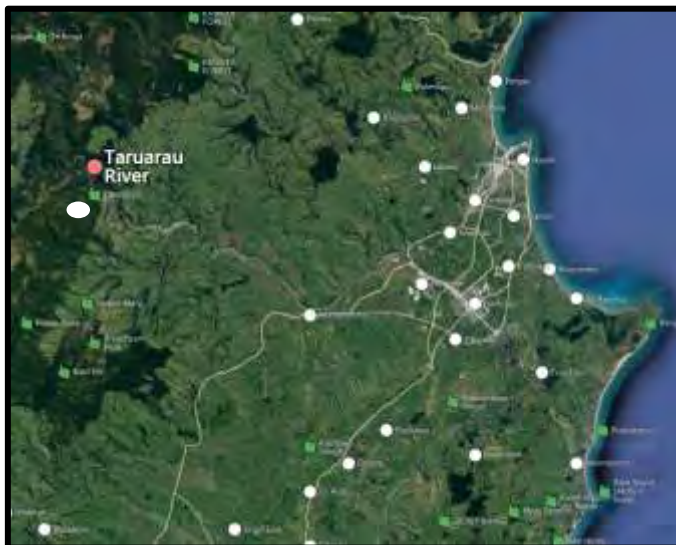


Figure 1: Location of Taruarau River



Figure 2: Extent of Taruarau River (Number 2)

Cultural values *

8. The Taruarau River is located within the traditional boundary of two Treaty Settlement Entities - Heretaunga Tamatea and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.
9. The river is associated with the early origins of Kahungunu and iwi associations with the Ruahine Range. From the deed of settlement documents:

At the place where the Ikawetea River flows into the Tāruarau River there is a large rock where it is said that Kahungunu sat and watched for upokororo. This place thereafter was named Te Upokororo-o-Kahungunu. Some accounts record that it was at Te Upokororo o Kahungunu that Tamatea's mōkai named Pohokura escaped. Other accounts suggest Tamatea released Pohokura at this place. Pohokura has continued to inhabit the range and is a kaitiaki for Tamatea's descendants - particularly for those hapū that inhabited the lower forest and foothills.

* The HBRC and authors of this report are aware there are numerous areas, including waterbodies, where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims within the Hawke's Bay region. The information presented in this report is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over particular waterbodies for one or more iwi groups, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group(s) over that waterbody. The information is solely for the purpose of recording important cultural and spiritual values identified by iwi groups in the region as sourced from existing published documents.

10. Attachment 1 contains a more detailed description of the cultural values associated with the Taruarau River.

Recreation values

11. The main recreational activities which take place on the Taruarau River are angling and kayaking. The river can be rafted however reviewed literature does not discuss how often rafting takes place. The river is wild and scenic which adds to the recreational value of the river.
12. The recreational activities which take place on the Taruarau River are discussed in more detail below.

Angling

13. The Taruarau River is a high quality wilderness trout fishery which is highly used by anglers living in Hawke's Bay. It is a mixed fishery which is dominated by rainbow trout. The average weight of trout is around 1.5 kg, with some larger trophy trout present in the river.
14. In 1984, a report by the Fisheries Research Division identified the Taruarau River as a wilderness fishery of local importance. The report describes the Taruarau River as one of the most remote and inaccessible rivers in the district, with large fish, and a low catch rate, which is thought to be of exceptional value by the anglers who fish there.
15. In 1994, the Taruarau River was identified by NIWA as a Category A headwater trout fishery which contains trophy trout and fishes well all season. There are a total of eighteen Category A headwater fisheries in the North Island, eighty one in New Zealand.
16. In 2012, the Taruarau River, was identified as regionally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for salmonid angling.
17. In 2013, results from the National Angling Survey show the Taruarau River as being within the top 3% of New Zealand rivers most enjoyed by anglers. The enjoyment score is considered to be a reasonable proxy for the importance of a fishery on a national scale in the survey.

Boating

18. The Taruarau River is a technical whitewater run which can be used by experienced kayakers and rafters. The river contains a steep and difficult gorge which is only able to be kayaked during high flows.
19. The whitewater is challenging, with the Taruarau River starting off small and then gaining momentum and volume as it proceeds through several narrow winding canyons with drops, twists, chutes and waterfalls. The river contains predominately Class 4 rapids.
20. The River is accessed from the Napier-Taihape Road, offering a long one day trip or a two day trip with a stopover in Shutes Hut.
21. In 1981, the New Zealand Recreational River Survey assigned the recreational and scenic values of the Taruarau River a 'low'¹ and 'impressive'² rating, respectively. At the time the Taruarau River was seldom used for boating due to the number of high grade technical rapids.

Ecology values

22. The Taruarau River flows through a variety of natural landscapes, from areas of rolling tussock country which are very barren and dry to rugged and isolated areas surrounded by scrubland. Given the lack of development pressures in the surrounding area the river is expected to be in a near natural state with high ecological values.
23. In 2004, the Taruarau River was identified as a Potential Water Body of National Importance for aquatic biodiversity values by the Ministry for the Environment.

¹ Recreational values graded on a five point scale: insignificant, low, intermediate, high, exceptional

² Scenic values graded on a six point scale: dull, uninspiring, moderate, picturesque, impressive, exceptional.

Fisheries

24. The Taruarau River provides a highly valued habitat for introduced fish species supporting good populations of both rainbow and brown trout which are self-sustaining. The river is a key source of the rainbow trout population in the Ngaruroro River.
25. The Taruarau River did not specifically feature in the RiVAS assessment undertaken in Hawke's Bay for native fish.

Wildlife

26. No information could be found about the wildlife present in the Taruarau River, and the river did not feature in the RiVAS assessment undertaken in Hawke's Bay for native birdlife.

Macroinvertebrates

27. In 2013 and 2014, Hawke's Bay Regional Council monitored the freshwater ecology of the Taruarau River to provide further information for the TANK plan change (see Table 3). The macroinvertebrate measures in Table 2 are an indicator of stream health where generally, the higher the Macroinvertebrate Community Index, taxa richness and percent EPT, the better the health of the stream.
28. The monitoring results show that the ecological health of the Taruarau River at this location is excellent, with no pollution occurring.

Table 2: Macroinvertebrate sampling results – Taruarau River (2013, 2014)

| Monitoring site | Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI) | Classification | Taxonomic richness | Percent EPT ³ richness |
|-----------------|---|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Taruarau River | MCI > 121/125 | Excellent | 25/29 | 55.2% |

Note: Regional Councils use a classification from Stark & Maxted (2007) for MCI sampling, assigning a rating of either excellent, good, fair or poor for ecological health and/or habitat condition.

Landscape / scenic values

29. The Taruarau River flows through a variety of natural landscapes, from areas of rolling tussock country which are very barren and dry to rugged and isolated areas surrounded by scrubland and pine forests. The river flows through some impressive gorges which rocky overhangs.
30. In 1981, the New Zealand Recreational River Survey assigned the scenic value of the Taruarau River an "impressive"⁴ rating.
31. Photographs of the Taruarau River are contained in Attachment 2.

Geological features

32. The Taruarau River is a steep sided convoluted river which meanders at a depth of around 400 m through greywacke mountains.
33. The National Geo-preservation Inventory, which identifies and ranks geological features according to their relative significance, identifies the Taruarau River as containing one of the two best gorges in Hawke's Bay, listing this feature as regionally significant.

³ EPT stands for Ephemeroptera (mayfly), Plecoptera (stonefly) and Trichoptera (caddisfly), and are macroinvertebrates which are sensitive to water pollution.

⁴ Scenic values graded on a six point scale: dull, uninspiring, moderate, picturesque, impressive, exceptional.

Naturalness/intactness of waterbody

34. The area has a high degree of natural character, with the exception of some extensive pastoral farming which occurs on around 10% of the catchment area.
35. In 2012, the Taruarau River was identified as nationally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character. Specifically, the reports states the Taruarau River had a high degree of natural character, owing to its very low level of modification.

Water Quality

36. Hawke's Bay Regional Council regularly monitored the Taruarau River during 2013 and 2014 to provide further information for the TANK plan change (see Table 3). Due to limited access, the monitoring site was not able to be placed at the bottom of the catchment, as such the following results only capture part of the influences in the catchment.
37. Monitoring results show the Taruarau River has excellent water quality at this location.

Table 3: Water quality – Taruarau River (2013, 2014)

| Monitoring site | Water clarity | Nitrogen | Phosphorus | Microbiological Indicator (<i>E. coli</i>) |
|-----------------|--|---|---|--|
| Kuripapango | Turbidity = 1.5 NTU; Black disk = 3.9 metres. | Total Nitrogen = 0.051 g/m ³ ; Total Oxidised Nitrogen = 0.017 g/m ³ (Annual median) and 0.0275 g/m ³ (95 th percentile); Ammoniacal Nitrogen = 0.005 g/m ³ (Annual median) | Dissolved Phosphorus = 0.002 g/m ³ , Total Phosphorus = 0.002 g/m ³ . | NOF Band A E. coli = 13 cfu/100ml |

Values Summary

| Overarching Value | Sub-value | Description | Outstanding Yes/no | Comments |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|----------|
| Cultural | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |
| Recreational | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |
| Ecological | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |
| Landscape | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |
| Natural Character | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |

Attachment 1

Taruarau River – Cultural Values Report



Key Values

Spiritual values

Wāhi Tapu, wāhi taonga, wai tapu

Table 1: List of documents reviewed

| Year | Name | Author |
|------|--|----------------------------------|
| 2004 | Wai 201: The Mohaka ki Ahuriri report | The Waitangi Tribunal |
| 2012 | Submission from Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga on Proposed Plan Change 5 to the RPS | Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga |
| 2015 | WCO application on the Ngaruroro River and Clive River | Catalyst Group |
| 2015 | Environment Court Decision: NKII vs HBRC | Environment Court |
| 2015 | Mana Ake - Nga Hapu o Heretaunga – An Expression of Kaitiakitanga | Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga |
| 2016 | Heretaunga Tamatea Deed of Settlement documents | Heretaunga Tamatea and the Crown |
| 2016 | Ahuriri Hapū Deed of Settlement documents | Ahuriri Hapū and the Crown |
| 2016 | Inventory of Values in the TANK Catchments of Hawke's Bay | Cawthron Institute |
| 2016 | Ngaruroro Values and Attributes Report | |
| 2018 | Cultural Values Table | Hawke's Bay Regional Council |

1. Introduction *

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to assist the RPC members to determine whether any of the cultural values associated with the Taruarau River are outstanding for the purposes of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM).

This report presents the summarised findings of the cultural values attributed to the Taruarau River in those documents referred to in Table 1, above.

The report summarises the cultural values associated with the Taruarau River into a series of categories. It is recognised that isolating the values into categories can be problematic from a Māori worldview and many of

* The HBRC and authors of this report are aware there are numerous areas, including waterbodies, where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims within the Hawke's Bay region. The information presented in this report is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over particular waterbodies for one or more iwi groups, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group(s) over that waterbody. The information is solely for the purpose of recording important cultural and spiritual values identified by iwi groups in the region as sourced from existing published documents.

the values are part of a narrative that doesn't fit neatly into categories. However, the intention is not to take a reductionist or isolated approach to cultural values but to try and gain an appreciation of their significance and the level of detail available to progress a plan change. In preparing the reports, it became obvious that all waterways are part of a wider cultural landscape that weaves people and the environment into a rich history of cultural and spiritual association.

Ultimately, the Regional Planning Committee will need to decide what the appropriate threshold is for outstanding cultural values. Any objectives, policies or rules that are proposed to support outstanding waterbodies will be subject to scrutiny and potential challenges by those who may be affected by a plan change.

Importance

The Taruarau River is located within the traditional boundary of two Treaty Settlement Entities, being Heretaunga Tamatea and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

The river is associated with the early origins of Kahungunu and associations with the Ruahine Range. From the deed of settlement documents:

The connection of Heretaunga Tamatea hapū to the Ruahine Range dates back to a journey made by Tamatea-pōkai-whenua, the father of Kahungunu, from Tūranga into Mōkai Pātea. Several accounts record that Kahungunu accompanied his father for part of the journey. Tamatea-pōkaiwhenua travelled down the east coast to Ahuriri before striking inland and travelling up the Ngaruroro River before entering the Ruahine Range. Tamatea named several places along the route of his journey. At one point he saw a tawai tree on the summit of a peak which was thereafter named Rākautāonga. Continuing on, the party travelled up the Tāruarau River. The Ikawetea River was also named by Tamatea. This was the place where seagulls appeared after Tamatea and Kahungunu undid the string which tied the basket of fish they were eating. At the place where the Ikawetea River flows into the Tāruarau River there is a large rock where it is said that Kahungunu sat and watched for upokororo. This place thereafter was named Te Upokororo-o-Kahungunu. Some accounts record that it was at Te Upokororo o Kahungunu that Tamatea's mōkai named Pohokura escaped. Other accounts suggest Tamatea released Pohokura at this place. Pohokura has continued to inhabit the range and is a kaitiaki for Tamatea's descendants - particularly for those hapū that inhabited the lower forest and foothills.

The Deed of Settlement also identifies that a stone known as Te Tokatamahoutu marked the junction of the Tāruarau and Ikawetea Streams.

Tank Group

The TANK Group has been working since 2012 on land and water management issues for the Tutaekurī, Ahuriri, Ngaruroro (Includes the Taruarau) and Karamū catchments. Its purpose is to recommend limits and measures for a workable plan change. TANK's collaborative membership includes more than 30 groups, representing Tāngata Whenua, primary sector, councils and environmentalists.

The TANK group has been progressing a cultural values framework, identifying values and attributes to characterise water quality.

2. Archaeology

There are no registered archaeological sites in close proximity to the Taruarau River.

3. Statutory Acknowledgement Area of Interest



Figure 1: Heretaunga Tamatea Area of Interest

4. Resource Management Plans

The following tables list any relevant resource management plans developed by iwi/hapū, the regional council or territorial authorities. The tables include any specific provisions that apply to the Taruarau River. They do not include all of the general policies or rules that may apply. Water quality and water quantity provisions have been included as it is recognised that these aspects can significantly impact on cultural values.

Iwi and Hapu Resource Management Plans

Kahungunu ki Uta, Kahungunu ki Tai: Marine & Freshwater Fisheries Strategic Plan

Mana Ake - An Expression of Kaitiakitanga, Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga

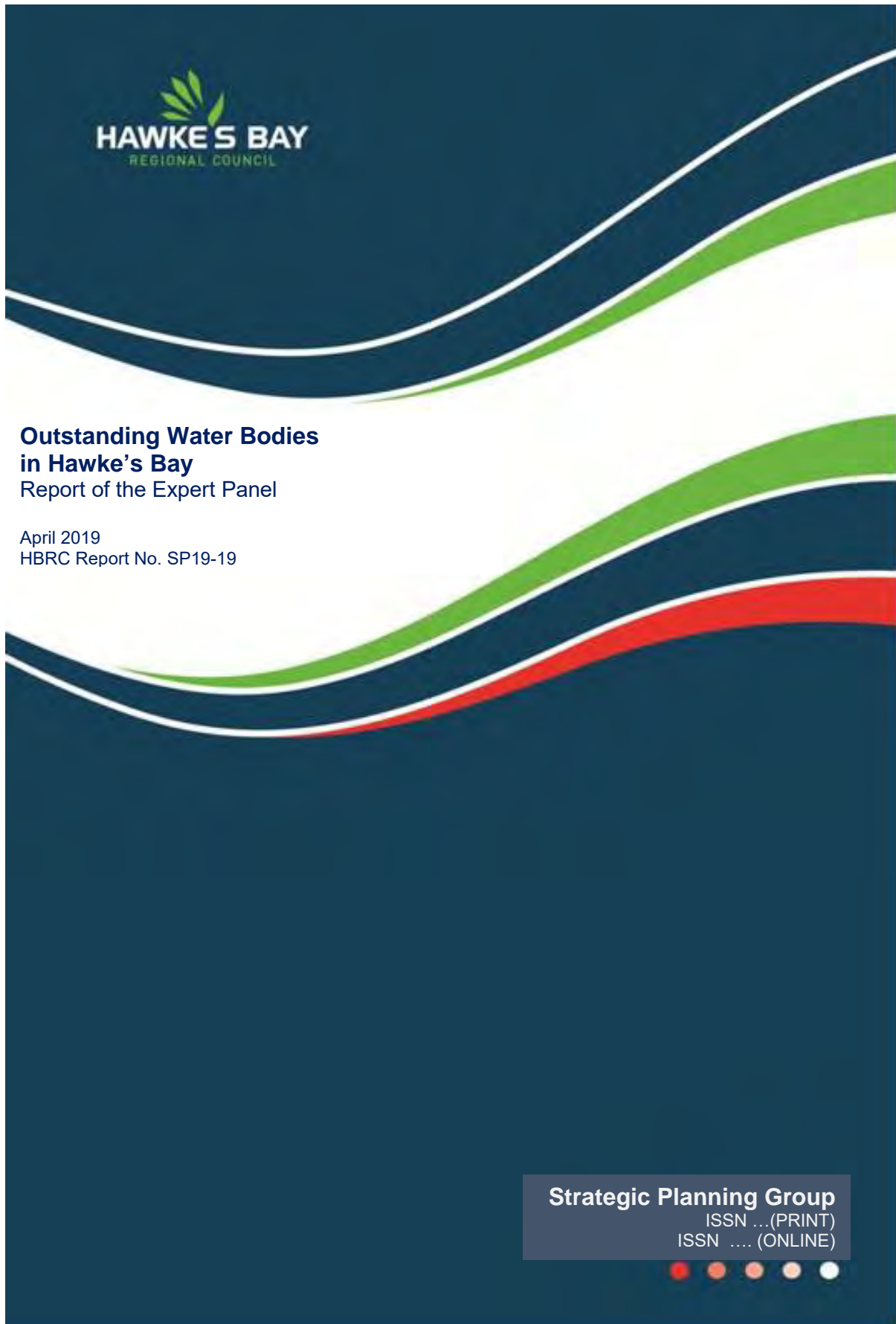
Attachment 2: Photographs - Taruarau River



Appendix 3: Expert Panel Findings - Taruarau River

Note: Appendix 3 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





159 Dalton Street - Napier 4110
Private Bag 6005 Napier 4142
Telephone (06) 835 9200
Fax (06) 835 3601
Regional Freephone (06) 0800 108 838

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

April 2019
HBRC Report No. SP19-19



Prepared by:

Morry Black, Mauri Protection Agency
Matthew Brady, Department of Conservation
John Cheyne, Wetland Works
Andrew Curtis, Water Strategies Ltd
Bernie Kelly, Hawke's Bay Canoe Club
Tom Winlove, Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council

For Strategic Planning Group
Hawke's Bay Regional Council

ISSN ... (PRINT)
ISSN (ONLINE)



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> |
|--|---|

Ngaruroro River

Including Taruarau River & Waitangi Estuary



Upper Ngaruroro River





Lower Ngaruroro River



NGARURORO RIVER: DESCRIPTION OF OUTSTANDING VALUES

SUMMARY

| TYPE | NAME | OUTSTANDING VALUE | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | ECOLOGY | LANDSCAPE | NATURAL CHARACTER | AMENITY & RECREATION | CULTURAL & SPIRITUAL |
| River, Estuary | NGARURORO RIVER | | | | | |

ECOLOGY

| Description | Notes | Reference |
|---|-------|---|
| <p><i>Threatened Species:</i></p> <p>8 bird species - Blue duck, grey duck, black-billed gull, banded dotterel, white heron, black fronted tern, bittern, Caspian tern</p> <p>1 fish species - lamprey</p> | | <p>Bird list in Appendix 2</p> <p>Fish list in Appendix 3</p> <p>HBRC 2018</p> <p>Bird NZ Hawke’s Bay bird census</p> |
| <p><i>% of Population</i></p> <p>Whio (blue duck) –</p> <p>25% of regional population</p> <p>1.1 – 5.6% of national population</p> <p>Banded dotterel –</p> <p>37% of regional population</p> <p>6-10% of national population</p> | | <p>Bird list in Appendix 2</p> |
| <p><i>Ecological Function:</i></p> <p>Provides a range of diverse habitats for fish and bird species from the mountainous upper river, braided lower section, to the Waitangi Estuary</p> <p>The lower Ngaruroro is the second largest braided river in the North Island, a historically rare ecosystem in New Zealand, and rare internationally</p> <p>Regionally significant for native birds</p> | | <p>McLellan, WCO application 2019</p> <p>HBRC TANK Estuary reports</p> <p>HBRC 2018</p> |

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

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Regionally significant for native fish | | Native birds RiVAS 2012 Native fish RiVAS 2012 |
|--|--|---|

LANDSCAPE

| Description | Notes | Reference |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ngaruroro gorge is one of the two best gorges in the region (regionally important) | Ngaruroro Gorge | NZ Geopres. Inventory |
| Taruarau gorge is one of the two best gorges in the region (regionally important) | Taruarau Gorge | NZ Geopres. Inventory |
| Best example of a braided river channel in the region (regionally important) | Whanawhana to Fernhill bridge | NZ Geopres. Inventory |
| Landscape features including karst formations | | Rangitikei District Plan ONFL report |

NATURAL CHARACTER

| Description | Notes | Reference |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Widely recognised as being in a near natural state. There are very few development influences in surrounding area, with the exception of forestry, which when harvested may impact on the river's water quality | Ngaruroro upstream of Kuripapango | HBRC 2018 |
| Nationally significant and in near pristine condition | Ngaruroro upstream of Kuripapango | Natural character RiVAS 2012 |
| Highly impressive scenic values as in near natural state | Taruarau River | HBRC 2018 |

AMENITY & RECREATION

| Description | Notes | Reference |
|--|---|---|
| <i>Trout Fishery:</i> Outstanding back country/wilderness trout fishery A nationally important wilderness river fishery, ... outstanding characteristics ... scenic beauty, solitude, large area of fishable water and large | Above Whanawhana including Taruarau River | HBRC 2018 Fish & Game Salmonid Angling RiVAS 2012 |

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

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| trout Ranked 3rd for Salmonid Angling in Hawkes Bay | | WCO application |
| Whitebaiting Flounder Mullet | Waitangi Estuary | Local knowledge |
| <i>Kayaking:</i> Multi-day back country kayaking available to a high number of medium level kayakers Ranked 3 rd in Hawke's Bay for whitewater kayaking, technically challenging | Above Whanawhana | WCO application Whitewater Kayaking RIVAS 2012 HBRC 2018 |
| <i>Jet Boating:</i> Nationally highly valued braided section with a high level of use, not just locally, but from people who reside throughout both the North and South Islands. | Lower Ngaruroro below Taruarau confluence | Eccles 2018 HBRC 2018 |

CULTURAL & SPIRITUAL

| Description | Notes | Reference |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Highly impressive scenic values as in near natural state | Taruarau River | HBRC 2018 |
| Waters considered to be of outstanding cultural and spiritual significance by tāngata whenua - mahinga kai, nohoanga, urupā, waahi tapu, traditional trails and other taonga are all important aspects | Upper Ngaruroro | HBRC 2018 He Toa Takitini DoS 2015 |
| Significant to Heretaunga Tamatea - Te Awa o Te Atua - important for food gathering. Many sacred sites and settlements beside it. | Lower Ngaruroro River | HBRC 2018 Te Hira Huata – Wai claim |
| <i>Wairuatanga:</i> Mauri, Mana, Tapu, Taonga tuku iho (God-given treasure/gift) <i>Nohoanga:</i> Traditional sites for accessing resources and cultural practices | Ngaruroro River | He Toa Takitini DoS 2015 |
| <i>Wairuatanga:</i> Mauri, Mana, Tapu, Taonga tuku iho <i>Whakapapa:</i> | Taruarau River | He Toa Takitini DoS 2015 |

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

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|
| o te whenua, o te wai, o te tangata | | |
| <p><i>Rangatiratanga:</i> Mana Whenua - Mana Moana, Kaitiakitanga, <i>Mahinga kai:</i> (place/action/practice) <i>Whakapapa:</i> o te whenua, o te wai, o te tangata, ki uta ki tai <i>Ki Uta ki Tai:</i> Fish passage</p> | Waitangi Estuary | He Toa Takitini DoS 2015 |

Appendix 4: Final Evaluation - Taruarau River

Note: Appendix 4 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

HBRC Report Number: SD19-18
Publication Number: 5400

Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change

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

HBRC Report Number: SD19-18
Publication Number: 5400



Prepared by:

Belinda Harper, Senior Planner

Dale Meredith, Senior Planner

Reviewed by:

Ceri Edmonds: Policy and Planning

Dale Meredith: Senior Planner

Tom Skerman: Group Manager Strategic Planning

Ecology values

| River | MCI (MCI score is the 5 year median value (2009-2013)) |
|----------------|--|
| Taruarau River | 120.7 |

Natural character

The Taruarau River is in a near natural state with high ecological values, which flows through a variety of natural landscapes, from areas of rolling tussock country which are very barren and dry to rugged and isolated areas surrounded by scrubland. Pastoral farming occurs on around 10% of the catchment area.

The water quality in the Taruarau River is in an excellent state with an MCI score of 121.

In 2012, the Taruarau River was identified as nationally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character, along with 14 other reaches of river in Hawke's Bay. Specifically, the report states the Taruarau River had a high degree of natural character, owing to its very low level of modification.

The local expert panel found the Taruarau River to have outstanding natural character values, noting its highly impressive scenic values in a near natural state. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Landscape / geological features

The Taruarau River flows through a variety of natural landscapes, from areas of rolling tussock country, scrubland and pine forests to impressive gorges with rocky overhangs.

In 1981, the New Zealand Recreational River Survey assigned the scenic value of the Taruarau River an "impressive"³ rating. In 2012, the Taruarau River was identified as nationally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character, along with 14 other reaches of river in Hawke's Bay.

The Taruarau gorge 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 Taruarau gorge as being "one of the best two gorges in Hawke's Bay".

The local expert panel found the Taruarau River to have outstanding landscape values, making special note of the Taruarau gorge. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Recreation

The main activities which take place on the Taruarau River are angling and kayaking. The river is very scenic with an impressive gorge.

The Taruarau River is known as a challenging whitewater run which is only suitable for experienced kayakers and rafters. In 1981, the Taruarau River was assigned a 'low'⁴ rating for boating values, and in 2012, the Taruarau River was identified as moderately significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for whitewater kayaking.

The Taruarau River is highly valued for trout fishing. The river fishes well all season and is highly used by anglers who live in Hawke's Bay. The average weight of trout is around 1.5 kg, and some larger trophy trout are present. In 1994, The Taruarau River was identified by NIWA as a Category A headwater trout fishery.

In 2013, the National Angling Survey found the Taruarau River to be within the top 3% of New Zealand Rivers most enjoyed by anglers. Studies prior to this found the Taruarau River to be of either local or regional significance for angling.

The local expert panel found the Taruarau River to have outstanding recreation values, specifically noting its outstanding wilderness trout fishery. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

³ Scenic values graded on a six point scale: dull, uninspiring, moderate, picturesque, impressive, exceptional.

⁴ Recreational values graded on a five point scale: insignificant, low, intermediate, high, exceptional

Cultural and Spiritual values

The Taruarau River is a major tributary of the Ngaruroro River.

The local expert panel found that the Taruarau River contained known outstanding cultural values, specifically noting Wairuatanga and Whakapapa, and that it should be managed as an Outstanding Water Body along with the Ngaruroro River.

At the time of writing, iwi authorities had not provided any comment specific to the Taruarau River.