Balanced Benefits

The Ruataniwha Water Storage Scheme aims to unlock a number of financial and environmental benefits for our region.

While improving the Tukituki River it will also give farmers a more certain supply of water for irrigation. Several years ago Hawke’s Bay Regional Council made the decision, after consultation, to make its investments work harder for a larger financial return, to be used for worthwhile new projects and opportunities in the region.

**FINANCIAL RETURNS**

- Increasing financial returns as the scheme is developed of between 5 and 10%
- Increased farming production with more activity through Napier Port boosting profits and ultimately dividends to its owner, HBRC
- Opportunity to use financial returns for other projects to benefit the Bay
- Ownership of the scheme transferred to HBRC after 70 years, with any local investors.

**ENVIRONMENTAL RETURNS**

- A steady flow of water in the Tukituki River
- Some of the water used for irrigation will recharge the groundwater
- Four large ‘flushing flows’ every year to wash out algae and slime
- HBRC is currently seeking public input on whether to access more water for environmental flows

**Hawke’s Bay Regional Investment Company Ltd**