

Our Reference: A 1187676

3 December 2024



**The Members
Waiiau Catchment Liaison
Committee**

Notice of Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting of the Waiiau Catchment Liaison Committee** will be held on **Tuesday 3 December 2024** at the **Waiiau Town & Country Club, Tuatapere at 1.00 - 3.00 pm**. Light refreshments will be available.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Terms of Reference (attached) Page 2
4. Confirmation of Minutes of the 15 April 2024 meeting (attached) Page 5
5. Matters arising
6. Chairperson's report
7. Appointment of Committee and Membership — see list of members (attached) Page 9
8. Catchment report (attached) Page 10
9. Financial report – 2023/24, update on 2024/25, and proposed 2025/26 (attached)
10. General Business:
 - Future work programme
 - i. Update on the rating review Page 14
 - ii. Climate resilience projects update Page 30
 - iii. Asset Inspections/defects update
 - Bylaw review process
 - Gravel Update

Paul Marshall and Peter Baker
Co-Chairs

Terms of Reference

Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee

Reporting to

The Community

The Regional Services Committee, Southland Regional Council (or "the Council")

Objective

To be a connection between the catchment community, its rating district and the Council to effectively manage the catchment's natural resources and assist the Council to maintain better communications.

Catchment Liaison Committees role:

1. be an advisory group that provides a leadership role in integrated catchment management, developing and supporting projects with agreed principles and structures through which competing interests in natural resources can be discussed.

Areas of opportunity are in: water quality and quantity, soil health, river management, land drainage, land management that affects water and flood planning;

2. report to the Council on project initiatives and budgets for projects and maintenance works, including advice on the financial overview of budgets and reserves;
3. make recommendations on behalf of the community to maintain and improve the state and management of the catchment and its environment, with any decisions resting with the Regional Council in terms of its statutory obligations;
4. provide advice to the Council on behalf of the rating district for the annual work programme for these projects, including long-term work programmes, maintenance works, river and flood planning and special projects;
5. provide advice to the Council on the development of any plan or strategy in their catchment;
6. reflect the opinion of the whole catchment, complaints or other matters relating to individual ratepayers must be redirected to the Council.

Standard operating Procedures (16/09/2020)

Membership

Public membership is limited to ratepayers including lessees (or their representative) who own land within the catchment. Membership of industry, non-government-organisations and government organisations that do not own land in the catchment is limited to scope of work.

A Sub-committee or Technical Advisory Group may be appointed at the AGM to deal with specific matters and feedback on financial expenditure

The larger membership and the Sub-committee/Technical Advisory Group have the ability to co-opt and are generally open to any ratepayer.

Representation from interest groups and industry groups where appropriate.

Environment Southland will appoint its own representative with the agreement from the committee.

Appointment process

Nominations are to be sought at the Annual General Meeting.

Key considerations will be ensuring Committee interest and geographic balance to enable productive dialogue to occur.

Each committee member reflects the interests of a wider group within the community and preferably have the skills, experience and knowledge to relay information between the Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee and different sectors within the community.

Governance

Chairperson

The group will select a Chair and/or Co-Chairs from amongst its members. The Chair will ensure a fair and equitable group process and be responsible for fostering an atmosphere of respect, open mindedness and group learning.

Quorum

A quorum shall include the Chair or Deputy Chair and a total of at least three normal committee members. The size of each quorum can change at an Annual General Meeting. At 1 November 2020 the following applied:

Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee quorum - 5

Meeting Frequency

Meet with the relevant Environment Southland staff and/or Councillors when necessary with one Annual General Meeting and workshops and additional meetings as required.

The Chair and/or Co-Chairs will represent their committee at combined liaison meetings and workshops.

Collaborative Decision-making

A credible commitment to the collaborative decision making process by the individuals and organisations involved is required. Decisions will be based on majority voting but consensus should be sought where possible, with the Chair/Co Chairs holding a casting vote.

Principles of Participation

All members of the committee agree to participate in the following ways:

- contributions are made without prejudice – i.e. nothing said within the group may be used in subsequent planning or legal processes except for any recommendations or agreements reached by the group;
- members to show respect for others views and avoid promoting discord within the group;
- any public statements by the group are to be agreed by the group and made through an agreed spokesperson;

- members of the group are expected to support decisions and recommendations reached by consensus by the group in subsequent public discussions;
- the Chair is responsible for fostering the principles of participation and is expected to be respected as a leader in their role.

**Minutes of the Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee Annual
General Meeting, held at the Waiau Town & Country Club,
41 King Street, Tuatapere, on
Monday 15 April 2024, at 1.30 pm.**



Present:	Mr P Marshall	(Waiau) <i>Co-Chair</i>
	Mr P Baker	(Waiau) <i>Co-Chair</i>
	Mr Q Erskine	(Waiau)
	Mr A Feierabend	(Waiau)
	Mr B Howden	(Waiau)
	Mr A Lord	(Waiau)
	Mr J Minty	(Waiau)
	Mr N Parris	(Waiau)
	Mr T Slee	(Waiau)
	Mr K Sutherland	(Waiau)
In Attendance:	Mr H Cuthbert	(Meridian Energy Ltd)
	Chairman N Horrell	(Environment Southland)
	Cr P McDonald	(Environment Southland)
	Cr P Evans	(Environment Southland)
	Cr L Ludlow	(Environment Southland)
	Mr P Pollard	(Team Leader, Catchment)
	Mr M Harvey	(Works Supervisor)
	Ms E Lawton	(Team Leader, Catchment Integration)
	Mrs N Bulling	(Land Sustainability Officer)
	Ms J Crane	(Team Leader Catchment Integration)
	Mrs J Hazley	(Team Leader Biosecurity – Plants)
	Mrs T Hawkins	(Chief Financial Officer)
	Mrs T Adendorff	(Team Leader Finance Operations)
	Ms M Geldenhuys	(Personal Assistant – Minutes)

1 Welcome and Chairman's Report (*Haere mai*)

Mr P Marshall welcomed all attendees to the meeting and spoke to the Co-Chair's Report, highlighting some key points of concern:

- Term of Reference
- Flood damage and erosion to the riverbank
- Gravel extraction
- Funding from Meridian toward erosion to the riverbank
- Rates reform process as part of the LTP

Motion by Mr N Pearce, second by Ms A Barrett to direct the co-chairs to reactivate the mediation around the funding for erosion damages to the riverbank.

Carried

2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

Agreed by consensus:

That apologies be recorded on behalf of Mr Colin Devan, Mr Eric Erskine, Mr Simon Hopcroft, Ms Nessa Legg, Mr Grant Bell, Mr Mike O'Brien and Mr Richard Slee.

Carried

3 Terms of Reference

Mrs E Lawton spoke to the Terms of Reference (ToR), confirming after discussions with the council that the current role of the Catchment Liaison Committee will continue unchanged into the foreseeable future. Depending on the outcome of the LTP, there could be some minor changes made to the TOR.

Council and Chairs are aware that there is no specific reference to the relationship between the Waiau Liaison Committee and the funding received from Meridian (1996 agreement). Together options have been identified to remedy this.

Any proposed changes to the TOR would be done in collaboration with the Catchment Liaison Committee Chairs. The Chairs would bring these proposed changes back to their committees. If there was enough agreement, the final sign-off would have to go through Council.

4 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of 27 February 2023

Resolved:

Moved Mr K Sutherland, seconded Mr B Howden, that the minutes of the Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General Meeting held on 27 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried

5 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes of the meeting.

6 Appointment of Committee and membership

Cr McDonald assumed the Chair and called for nominations for the position of Chair and Co-Chairs of the Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee.

Resolved:

Moved Mr A Lord, seconded Mr K Sutherland that Mr P Baker and Mr P Marshal be elected to the position of Co-Chair of the Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee.

Carried

Resolves:

Moved Mr K Sutherland, seconded Mr P Baker that the current member of the Steering Committee remains the same.

Carried

Agreed by consensus:

Membership of the Committee was then called for; and agreed that those present, those who had lodged apologies for the meeting, and those on the list for Committee Members, should constitute the members of the Committee.

Carried

7 Financial Report – 2023/24 and proposed 2024/25

Mr Pollard spoke to the draft budget for 2024/25FY outlining the shortfall in the budget around the fencing maintenance and fairway spraying. To fully fund this, it needs to increase by \$110,000.

Mr P Baker proposed that the Steering Group Committee address the numbers. Mr P Pollard to provide a fully funded cost option to discuss at their next meeting and make a decision on that.

Resolved:

Moved Mr N Parris, second Mr K Sutherland that the proposed 2024/25 FY budget are referred to the Steering Group Committee for approval.

Carried

8 Catchment Report

Mr Pollard spoke to his catchment presentation and the draft budget for 2024/25FY, bring the following to the committees' attention:

- Willows growing on the riverbank, getting bigger and bigger. In the past have been sprayed successful by helicopter, but when they die, and breakdown get picked up by floodwater and get caught in fences causing damage. The removing is costly; therefore, spraying is not an option. Suggested to remove them with diggers before they end up in the river.
- Vegetation fence spraying programme was established 3years ago, highlighting an overspend in the budget, being a costly programme.

Tuatapere flood banks: The ownership reverted back to Wallace County Council and since then have merged with SDC. There are no real records available on what the arrangement was, therefor SDC don't accept that it is their asset. After discussion between SDC and Environment Southland, Environment Southland took on the responsibility to complete the work, shared funding with SDC.

8 General

Mr P Baker asked that two matters be addressed as discussed by the Steering Group Committee, on extra funds required for fencing budget.

Resolved:

Motion moved Mr A Lord, second B Howden that the Waiau Liaison Committee

- direct Environment Southland to release such unbudgeted monies, is necessary from the Special Pojects Fund to replace berm fencing washed away by flooding, where stock have potential access to the river;**

- ii. *that the annual transfer from the Disaster Reserve of around \$66,800 be redirected to the works budget.*

9 Termination

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 2:50pm.

**Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee
as at 7 July 2024**

Name
Peter Baker and Paul Marshall, Co-Chairs, Waiau Catchment Liaison Committee
Nicole Baker
Shane Baker
Alanna Barrett
Linsey Bennett
Jonathan Breach
Derek Chamberlain
Bevan Collie
Charlie Copeland
Hamish Cuthbert
Quintin Erskine
Paul Evans (Councillor)
Andrew Feierabend
Peter Fowle
Richard Greet
Alan Harris
Stephen & Larina Harris
James Hennessy
Garry Hopcroft
Peter & Joy Horrell
Anne Horrell
Bruce Howden
Christopher Howden
Jamie King
Rohan Knowler
Nesse Legg
Ray Lindsay
Andrew Lord
Christopher McIntosh
John Minty
Nathan Parris
Nigel Pearce
Rachel Pearce
Alannah Linsey
R&T Slee
Kevin Sutherland
Margaret Thomas
Deen Whaanga
Jim & Shirley Whyte
Thomas O'Brien

Waiau Catchment Rating District 2023/24 (Compiled by Paul Pollard, Team Leader Catchment)

The Waiau Catchment Rating District works for the 2023/24 year consisted of maintaining the berm fence, fairway vegetation control, stopbank inspection and maintenance of the six tributary drainage districts.

Works Activity

1. **Berm Fence upgrades and corridor berm spraying**
5,659 metres replaced.

Berm fence upgrading and/or replacement was carried out on two properties during 2023/24.

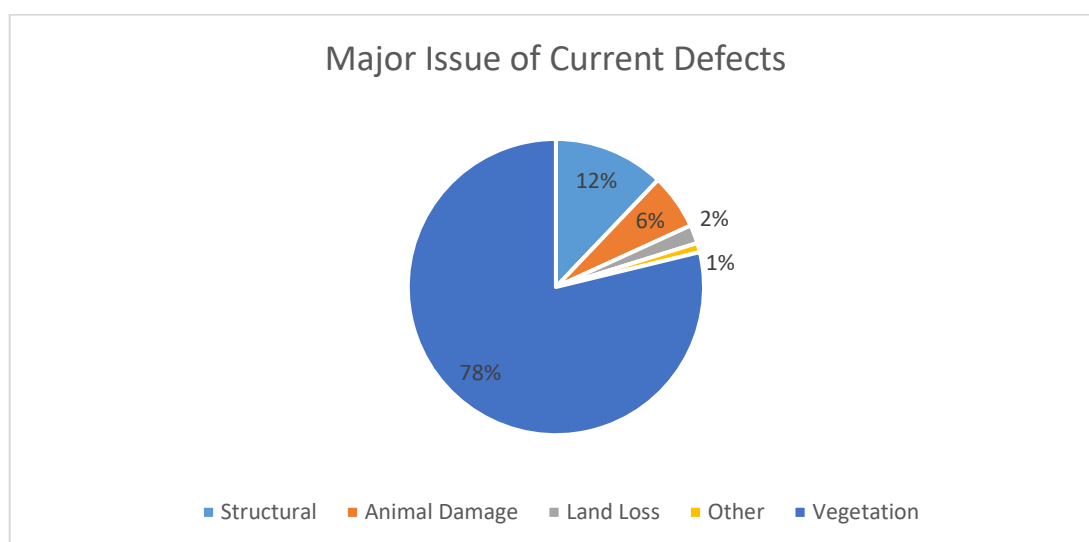
Berm fence corridor vegetation control continued and extended to cover all areas between the fence and the river fairway, where practicable, using ground and aerial spraying.

2. **Riverbed Vegetation Control**
370 hectares (aerial) and 89 hrs (ground).

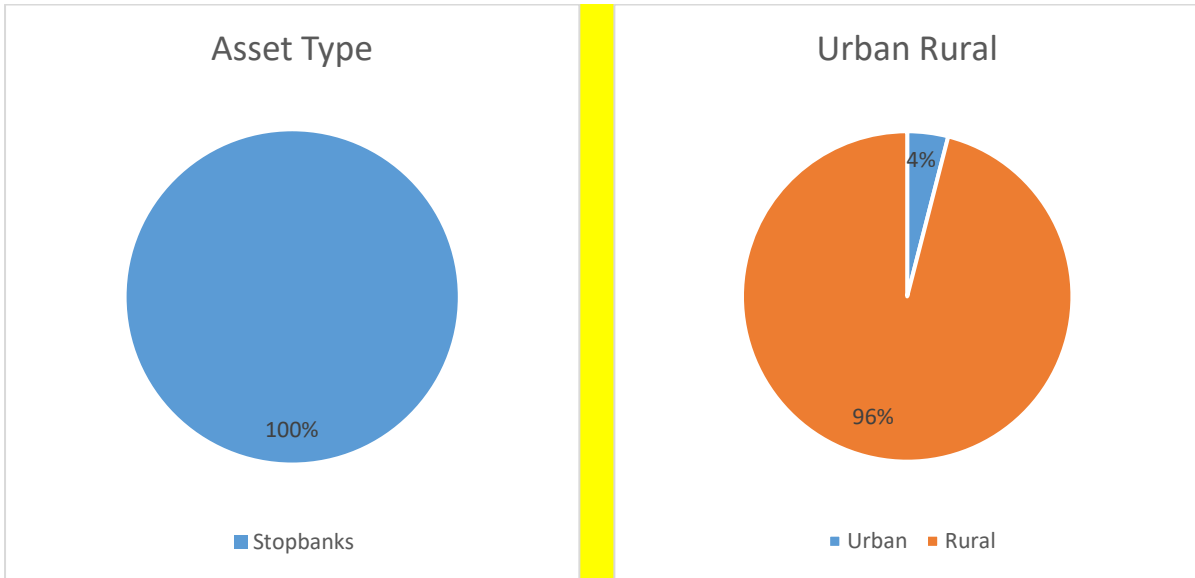
The annual programme to control unwanted vegetation within the bed of the Waiau River is detailed in a report under “Riverbed Vegetation Control Programme 2023/24”.

3. **Drainage Maintenance**
The Waiau catchment drainage maintenance commitment involves six separate drainage districts. Works were undertaken in five of the six catchments.

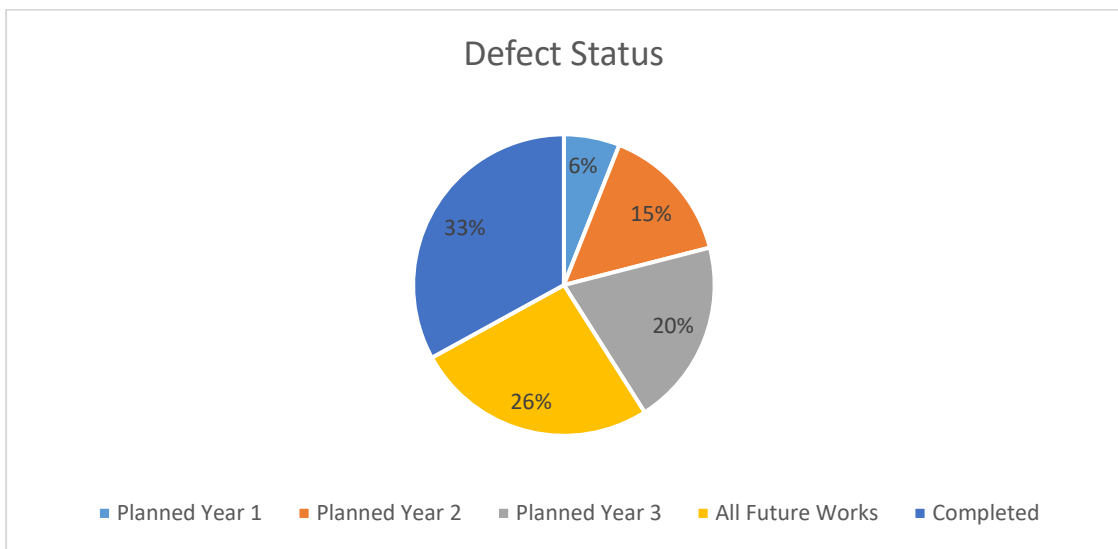
4. **Stopbank Inspections**
Inspections of the stopbanks have been completed for the 2022-23 financial year. The graphs below provide as overview of the defect information.



The above graph shows the percentage breakdown of defect type. Vegetation on the stopbanks is the largest of the major defects at 78%.



The above graphs provide a breakdown of location of asset in the context of urban vs rural alongside the type of assets in the catchment.



The above graph highlights the planned work in terms of priority rating and work programming scheduling.

- Waiau Riparian Project Fencing**
1,310 metres of fencing was carried out during the year.

Expenditure was shared over four properties.

- Waiau Special Projects**
The only expenditure was the transfer of \$26,750 to the Waiau Science Project.

The Waiau district ended the 2023/24 year with a debit works account of \$24,868.

Summary of the Waiau Rating District for Year End 30 June 2024

All sums exclude GST

River Works					
1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024		2022/23	2023/24		2024/25
					2025/26
		Actual	Actual	Budget	Draft
					Budget
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	Rates - Separate	704	717	705	688
	Local Contributions Received	378,030	420,780	356,436	413,600
	Insurance Recoveries	1,425	-	-	-
	Investment Income Allocated	165	(860)	655	(218)
	Other External Income	-	3,975	-	-
Revenue total		380,324	424,612	357,796	414,070
Expenditure	Fairway Spraying	186,797	138,799	152,000	198,786
	River Works	2,674	38,183	-	-
	Channel Maintenance	5,522	48,055	-	31,020
	Fence Maintenance	93,929	102,505	86,000	88,924
	Cost of Works Miscellaneous	29,714	29,696	47,700	54,254
	Floodwarning	13,500	13,495	13,495	13,954
	Support Costs	53,906	71,491	60,031	63,332
Expenditure total		386,042	442,225	359,226	450,270
Transfer to / (from) Reserves		17,922		(1,430)	-
Surplus / (Deficit) Transferred to / (from) Carry-Forwards		(23,640)	(17,612)	-	(36,200)

River Works Reserves	
Carry-Forwards	
Opening Balance at 1 July 2023	(\$7,255)
Plus balance to add to carry forward as above	(\$17,612)
Carry-Forward Balance at 30 June 2024	(\$24,868)

Land Drainage						
1 July 2022 - 30 June 2024		2022/23	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26
		Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget	Draft
		\$	\$	\$	\$	Budget
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	Rates - Separate	67,704	72,272	71,020	82,506	85,368
	Local Contributions Received	85,776	86,633	71,633	83,145	86,028
	Investment Income Allocated	47,489	72,016	53,836	38,856	38,856
Revenue total		200,969	230,921	196,489	204,507	210,252
Expenditure	Channel Maintenance	221,032	132,666	215,956	237,774	245,133
	Cost of Works Miscellaneous	26,306	3,300	-	-	-
	Contribution to Science Estuaries	25,000	26,750	26,750	-	-
	Support Costs	26,412	17,153	29,794	31,433	32,684
Expenditure total		298,750	179,869	272,500	269,207	277,817
Transfer to / (from) Disaster Reserve		(66,800)	(49,261)	(49,261)	(64,700)	(67,565)
Transfer (from) Carry-Forwards to fund Science Estuaries		(25,000)	(26,750)	(26,750)	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) Transferred to / (from) Carry-Forwards		(5,981)	127,063	-	-	-

Land Drainage Reserves	
Carry-Forwards	
Opening Balance at 1 July 2023	\$1,295,226
Plus balance to add to carry forward as above	\$127,063
Less use of accumulated surplus	\$26,750
Carry-Forward Balance at 30 June 2024	\$1,395,540
Waiau Special Projects (Included in Land Drainage amounts)	
Balance Waiau Special Projects at 30 June 2023	\$930,263
Plus contributions 2023/24	\$40,050
Plus interest received	\$51,784
Less transfer to Disaster Reserves	\$17,539
Balance at 30 June 2024	\$1,004,558

Disaster Reserve	
Balance Disaster Reserves at 30 June 2023	\$1,471,868
Plus interest received	\$81,067
Less transfer to reserve to Waiau Special Projects	\$49,261
Disaster Reserve at 30 June 2024	\$1,503,674



**For now &
our future**

Funding of Community Resilience Review

Why did we undertake a council wide rates review?

To enable us to more effectively respond to a changing climate

Our compelling case for change

The current catchment rating system did not ;
support co-ordinated investment in regional resilience
allow region wide management of the river network
align with new methods and tools needed

The system of rating was a tool developed in the past to fund past work methods and infrastructure.

The benefits calculated and rated for have changed.

The recent approach is to focus more on overall community outcomes and well beings.

Parts of Flood control and resilience management and rating that we addressed

1. Funding of Riverworks (River Management)

Commitment to the CLC's and the Capacity Building project – 2018
Review the equity/benefits/cost of the classification system

2. Funding of Flood Infrastructure – Kanoa projects

No rating policy in place for new flood infrastructure

3. Funding of increased spend on deferred maintenance – defects program

No rating policy for funding floodbank maintenance

4. Funding of increased investment in staff capability and capacity for planning, managing flood resilience and flood forecasting, modelling, with a region wide approach

5. Funding of ICM, non-structural solutions – Slow the flow, soft engineering solutions

6. Funding of – Biosecurity and Land sustainability, appropriateness of using land value in 2023

We followed the required processes

Investigate and consider per Section 101(3) Funding Needs Analysis Process
Engagement and Consultation
Decision Making Process post hearings
Revenue and Financing Policy
Rates Setting Process

Our approach was guided by our financial principles which suggest our rates are affordable, equitable and certain

Plus, our method of rating needs to be

Transparent
Flexible
Fit for Purpose
Future focused



Funding Safe and Resilient Communities

We concluded with a “Funding Needs Analysis” that includes Flood protection and control as part of council’s significant activity, “Safe and Resilient Communities”.

Our work on Natural Hazards, Climate Change and Emergency Management all sit in this same group.

All but River management and Land Drainage, are funded 100% by General rate

Safe and Resilient Communities

Flood Protection & Control	
This activity delivers a range of services designed to protect people, property and livelihoods. These services are:	
Catchment Planning.	100% General rate
River Management.	50% general rate / 50% targeted rate moving to 100% capital value rate
Flood Infrastructure Investment. (capital)	100% region wide targeted rate on capital value
Land Drainage.	10% general rate / 90% targeted rate
• Natural Hazards and Climate Change (includes planning, advice and response)	100% General rate
Emergency Management and Response	100% General rate

What do the Flood protection rates include now?

Flood Protection & Control

Catchment planning
rate

River management
rate

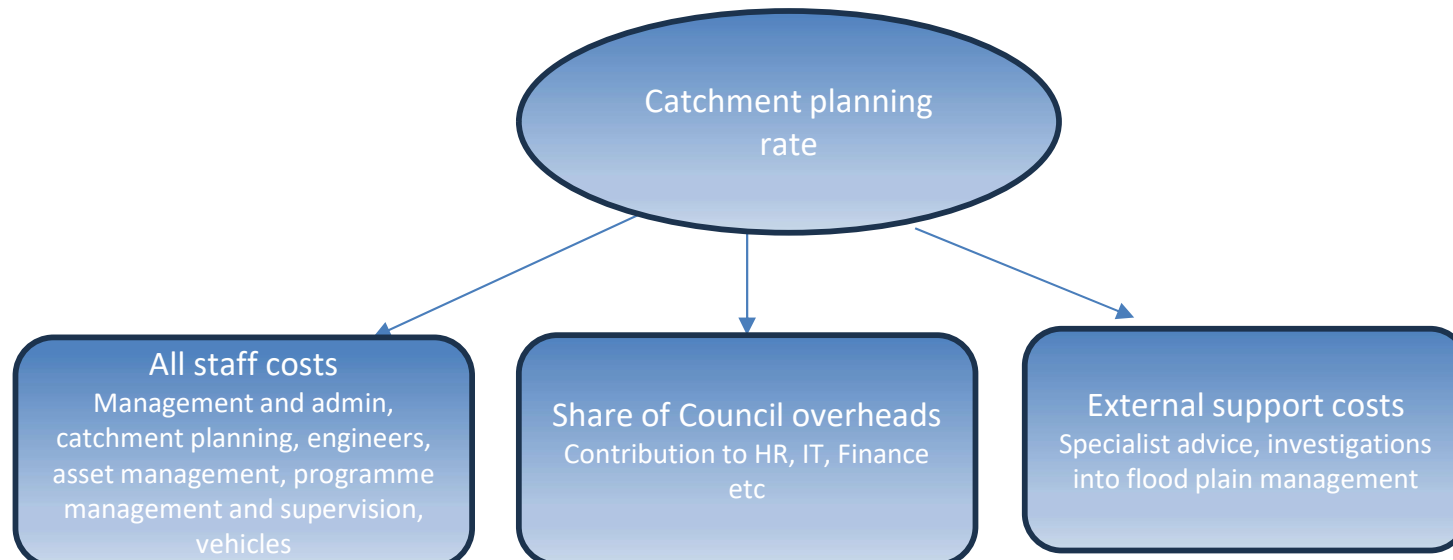
Flood Infrastructure
rate

Land drainage rate

Catchment Planning rate

Implements approaches to the use of land and water resources. It addresses community needs arising from whole of catchment resource use (e.g. gravel), plans and polices and community resilience needs arising from adverse weather.

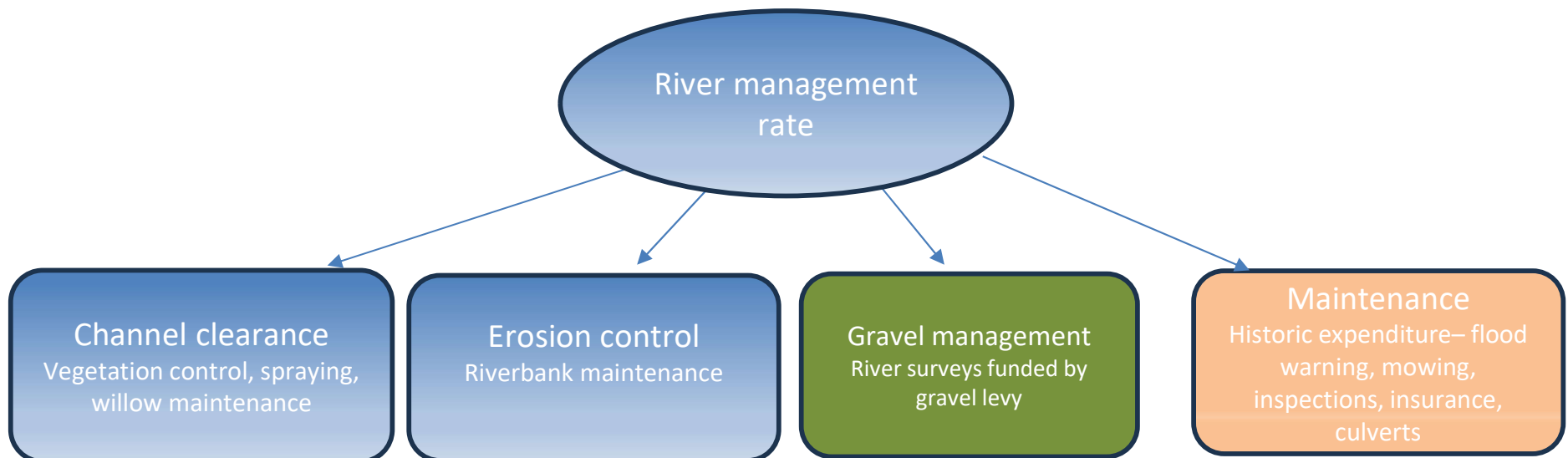
For example, managing the catchment works programmes, planning future mitigation, nature based solutions, asset management, and supporting Catchment Committees.



River Management rate

Operations services designed to maintain rivers to protect people, property and livelihoods.

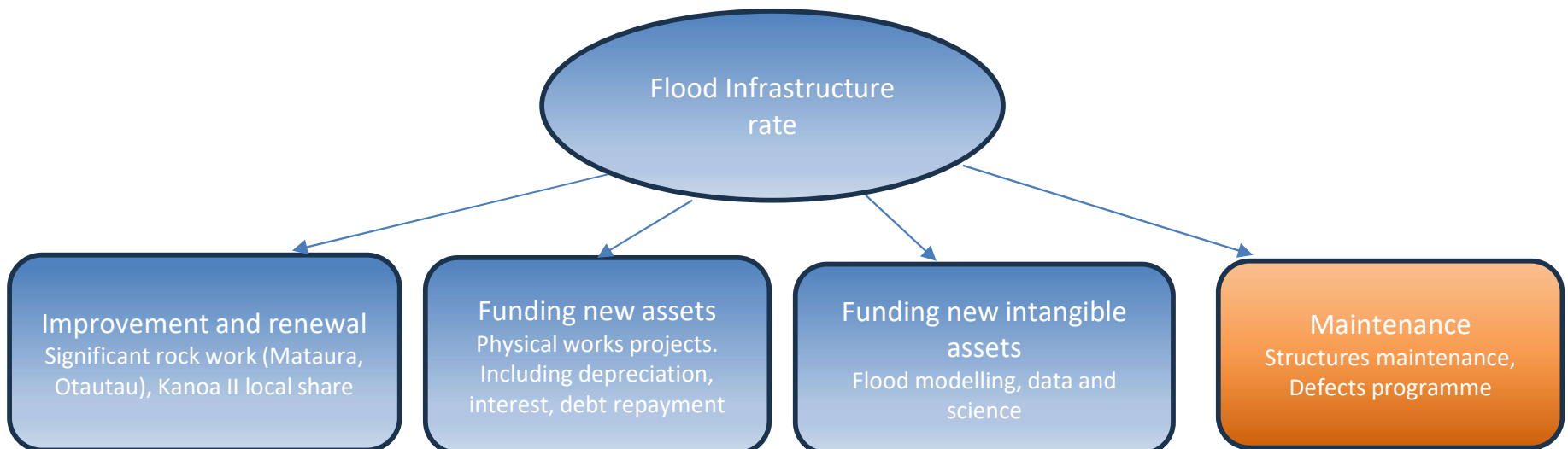
The services include routine maintenance to ensure adequate fairway width, enhancement work to improve access and monitoring stability and alignment of rivers, through river cross section surveys, gravel surveys etc.



Flood Infrastructure Investment rate

Activity delivers new and improved “assets” to mitigate consequences of adverse weather events.

Flood infrastructure investment delivers new construction, the improvement and renewal of existing assets and the maintenance of flood protection assets



We ended up with the following decisions (page 126 LTP Revenue & Financing Policy)

1. Funding of Riverworks (River Management)

Agreed on capital value basis, increased gen rate % share, Waiau remains same
delayed completion until further consultation in 2024.25



2. Funding of Flood Infrastructure – Kanoa projects

Agreed new region wide rate on capital value – Flood Infrastructure
Investment rate – partly funded by Leasehold land surpluses



3. Funding of increased spend on deferred maintenance – defects program

Included in new Flood Infrastructure rate – partly funded by reserves in
first 4 years



4 Funding of increased investment in staff capability and capacity for planning, managing flood resilience and flood forecasting, modelling, with a region wide approach

All staff and overheads included in Catchment Planning activity, 100% general rate



5. Funding of ICM, non-structural or soft engineering solutions

Included in Catchment Planning activity, 100% general rate



6. Funding of – Biosecurity and Land sustainability

Agreed to transition to capital value over 2 years



What were the important outcomes we achieved ?

Valuable discussions across the community on the importance of flood resilience

Significant increase in funding for flood resilience through the LTP

- increased investment in staff capacity and capability

- \$500k per annum funding for deferred flood bank maintenance, increasing over time

- \$1.2m per annum (3 years)for flood modelling to inform Floodplain Management design

- \$8m of capital investment in Years 2 & 3

New rating policies to support the above were developed and agreed.

- The new rating policies “share the cost of integrated flood plain management” more evenly across the region.

Council responded to the cost of living crisis and requests from submitters, by using reserves to reduce the proposed rate increase and implementing a transitional rate change policy over 2 years.

The final rates impact by rates category

Land use	Increase rate % proposed in CD	Final rate % increase
Residential	27%	17%
Rural	12%	6%
Commercial	65%	32%
	23%	13%

Councils' decision during deliberations, to use reserves to reduce rates, resulted in a rate increase of 13% vs the proposed 23%.

The introduction of a transition proposal for the rate policy changes, reduced the impact on ratepayers with higher capital values, those not paying catchment rates and those paying very little for land sustainability and biosecurity.

The final rates impact by rating districts

Rating districts	Increase rate % proposed in CD	Final rate % increase
1745 - Aparima Rating District	13%	7%
1750 - Invercargill Rating District	27%	15%
1755 - Makarewa Rating District	16%	8%
1765 - Mataura Rating District	13%	7%
1770 - Oreti Rating District	12%	9%
1775 - Te Anau Rating District	24%	18%
1800 - Waiau Rating District	31%	16%
No River Rate	51%	25%
Grand Total	23%	13%

The rural rating districts, already paying substantial rates for catchment, land sustainability and biosecurity rates, saw lower overall increases.

Ratepayers outside current catchments, “No River Rate”, had a rate increase of 25% overall, compared to the proposed rate increase of 51% for the same group.

The final rates impact by capital value across the region

All ratepayers Environment Southland					
Property value	% of properties	Average total rates 2024.25	Average increase \$	Average per week \$ incr	Average increase %
<\$450,000	55%	\$ 290	\$ 14	\$ 0.27	5%
\$450,000 - \$649,000	20%	\$ 425	\$ 59	\$ 1.13	16%
\$650,000 - \$849,000	9%	\$ 540	\$ 87	\$ 1.68	19%
\$850,000 - \$1,049,999	4%	\$ 655	\$ 123	\$ 2.36	23%
\$1,050,000 - \$1,249,999	2%	\$ 773	\$ 148	\$ 2.85	24%
> \$1,250,000	10%	\$ 3,114	\$ 377	\$ 7.26	14%
	100%	\$ 647	\$ 73	\$ 1.41	13%

- 84% of all properties had a rate increase of < \$1.68 per week
- The median property, \$450,000 had a rate increase of \$0.63 cents per week
- Individual rate changes varied dependent on location and land value /capital value

Council decisions impacting catchment rates, surpluses and reserves

1. The movement of staff and overhead costs from River Management and Land Drainage activities to Catchment Planning, removed \$1.3m of annual costs from targeted rates.

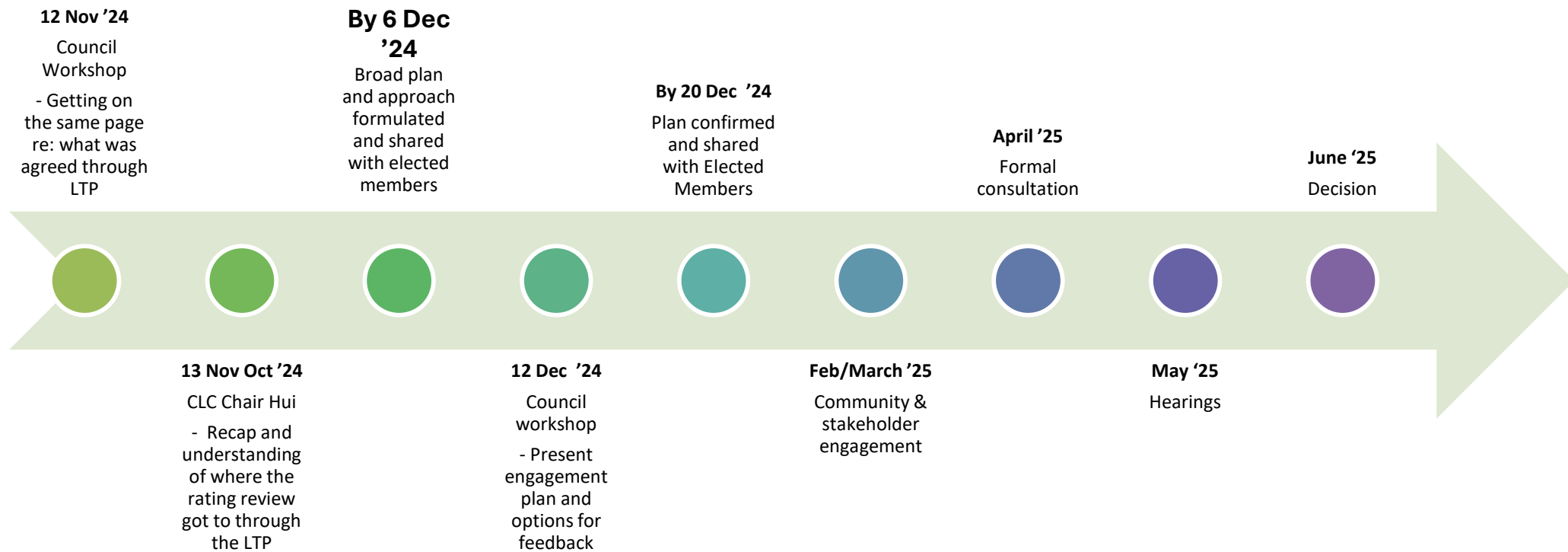
2. Council resolved to use \$450,000 per annum of leasehold surpluses to partly fund the new Flood Infrastructure activity.

3. Council resolved to clarify that river and drainage reserves generated within a catchment would remain in that catchment.

4. After consultation with Catchment Liaison committees, council resolved to use Lease hold reserves as shown, within the first 4 years of the LTP.

Table 1: Reserve use in Years 1 to 4 of the Long-term Plan					
Reserve type	Proposed use in \$000k (variance from Consultation Document)				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Lease Area Reserves					
Ferry Road	300	275	200	75	850
Ōreti		100	100	75	275
Mataura	220	300	250	100	870
Waihōpai			100	50	150
Otepunī			100	100	200
Accumulated Surpluses					
Biosecurity	200	200	200	100	700
Land sustainability	200	200	200	100	700
Asset Reserve	6	237	186	374	803
TOTAL	926	1,312	1,336	1,074	4,548

Phase 2 Rating Review – Proposed timeline





**For now &
our future**

Climate Resilience Projects Update

Climate Resilience Projects

- Te Anau - \$500k for improving the integrity of the flood banks and the hydraulic efficiency of the flood fairway (project has 2yr timeline)
- Aparima - \$500k for improving the integrity of the Otautau flood banks and improving the hydraulic efficiency of the flood fairway (project has 1yr timeline)
- Oreti - \$5 million for improving the integrity of the true left flood banks and improving the hydraulic efficiency (project has 3 years' timeline)

Projects

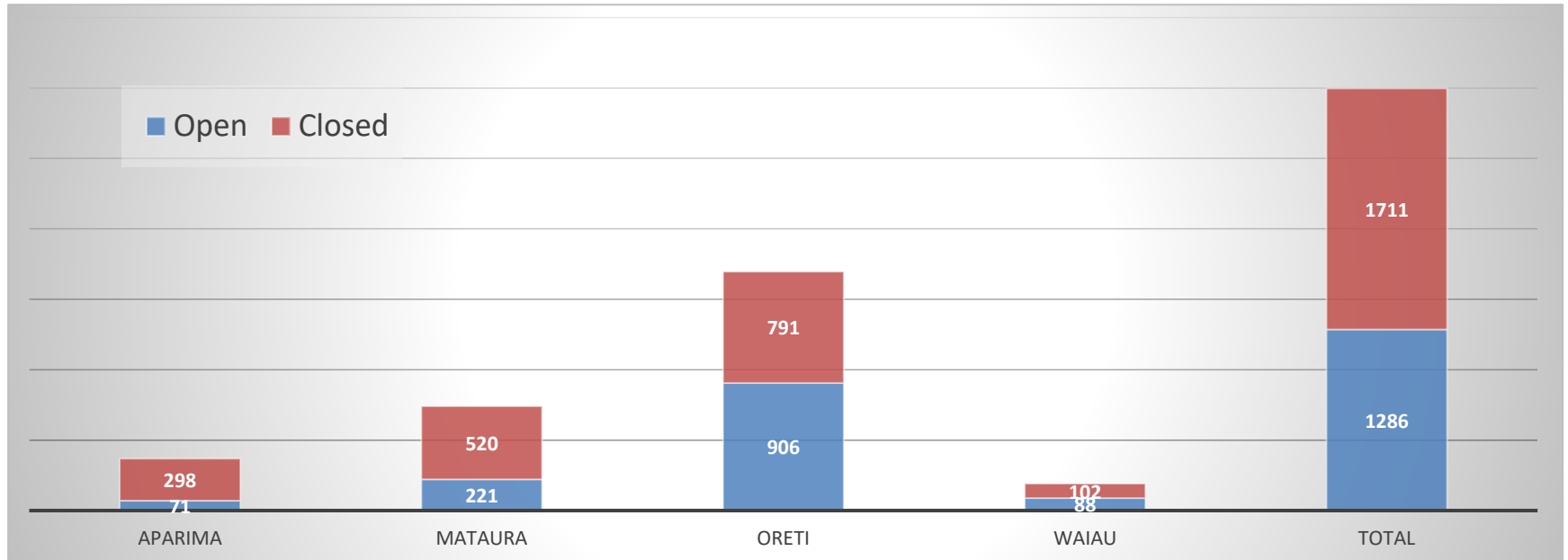
- Mataura Catchment flood bank repair budget \$220k - Mimiha flood bank at Wyndham.
- Waimumu flood bank west of Mataura township has toe erosion. Looking at options of moving flood bank back and rock lining the toe.
- Oreti Catchment flood bank repair \$330k budget allocated to fix defects.
- Waituna flood bank stabilisation work \$45k budget land-owner to match.
- Invercargill garden/trees/stump removal off banks \$70k.



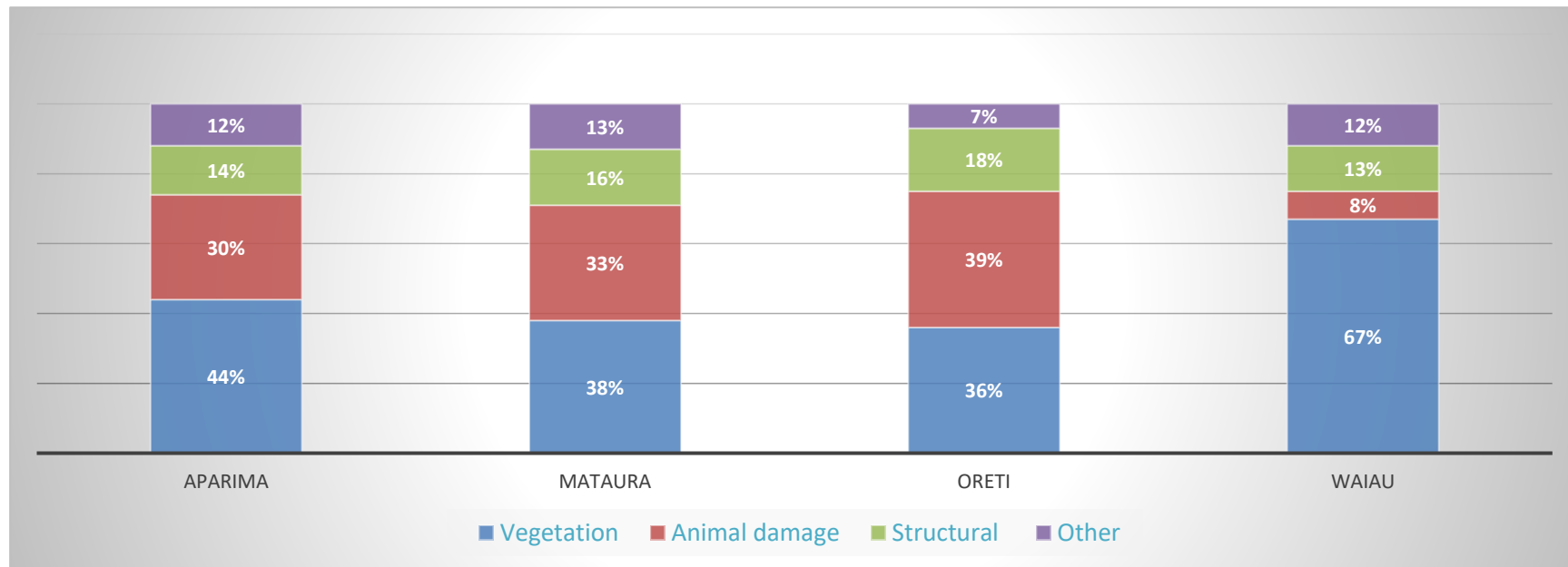
**For now &
our future**

Asset Inspections/Defects Update

Flood bank defects update



Main defect type





**For now &
our future**

Gravel Update

Towards Strategic Gravel Management

- *Towards Strategic Gravel Management* is a technical working report to inform the discussion on Southland's gravel management approach. It 'outlines a series of scientifically led strategic principles and recommendations that should underpin and inform gravel management in Southland's rivers'.
- <https://www.es.govt.nz/environment/hazards-and-protection/gravel-management-in-southland>

Report Recommendation	Environment Southland action to December 2023	Environment Southland (ES) action to November 2024
<p>The need for reliable information on the gravel load of Southland’s rivers to create gravel budgets.</p>	<p>Bathymetric LiDAR has been piloted on the Mataura. Additional funding is needed and has been requested through the 2024-27 Long-Term Plan.</p>	<p>Funding was secured. ‘Southland Rivers Geomorphic Assessments - a framework and Mataura River example’ are due mid-2025, including gravel budgets.</p>
<p>The need for a holistic approach to gravel management.</p>	<p>ES is transitioning work to have an integrated catchment focus. The draft Long-Term Plan suggests the use of Integrated Floodplain Management Plans to understand all possible options for reducing flood risk.</p>	<p>Case studies are being used to engage expertise across different disciplines. The purpose of the case studies are to develop a risk-based approach to flood risk management, which will guide river management options development and analysis.</p>
<p>Further studies on how channels respond to vegetation lock-up in Southland and the viability of using gravel management options intended to ‘unlock’ channels include bar top (beach) skimming.</p>	<p>The report highlights several trials already carried out by ES. Further trials are being planned, including a focus on ecological values.</p>	<p>A consent for a reach on the Lower Oreti is being progressed.</p>
<p>In the long-term, allowing the river room to erode will increase the geomorphic and habitat diversity in the river corridor and improves resilience in the face of increased flood magnitudes.</p>	<p>Floodplain management will create the opportunity to explore options for re-engaging the floodplain.</p>	<p>Re-engaging floodplain is one of the mitigation options being explored through the Murihiku Slow the Flow Project. This mitigation option that could be explored in collaboration with the community.</p>
<p>A collaborative approach to problem-solving.</p>	<p>In early 2024 ES invited the ‘Gravel Working Group’ to recommend steps towards strategic gravel management.</p>	<p>The Gravel Working Group has held four meetings since February. The group includes representatives from ES, Te Ao Mārama, Fish & Game, Department of Conservation, Southland District Council, and Catchment Liaison Committee Chairs.</p>
<p>A phased approach is needed, and communities will need time to appreciate and understand the changes in practice.</p>	<p>Staged approaches are being planned for both freshwater management and the floodplain management plans. Community engagement is fundamental to this approach, and ES is committed to working with the community to identify and implement solutions. <small>Page 38</small></p>	<p>A Gravel Management Strategy will be drafted in 2025 providing short, medium and long-term options for gravel management. The strategy’s first phase will refer to ES’s management options related to flood risk. This will be shared with the community for further discussion.</p>