

Our Reference: A1187692

29 November 2024



**The Members
Mataura Catchment Liaison
Committee**

Notice of Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting of the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee** will be held on **Friday, 29 November 2024** at the **Croydon Lodge, Gore from 1.00 pm - 3.00pm**. Light refreshments will be available.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Terms of Reference (attached) Page 2
4. Confirmation of Minutes of the 5 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 12
8. Catchment report (attached) Page 13
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 21
 - ii. Climate resilience projects update Page 37
 - iii. Asset Inspections/defects update
 - Bylaw review process
 - Gravel Update

Hugh Gardyne
Chairman

Terms of Reference

Mataura 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 when required.

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 Matura 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:

Matura Catchment Liaison Committee quorum - 3

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 Matura Catchment Liaison Committee
Annual General Meeting, held at RSA,
12 Bowler Avenue, Gore on
Friday 5 April 2024, at 1.00 pm.**



Present:	Mr H Gardyne Mr S Bradfield Ms S Crooks Mr C Dillon Mr J English Mr J Gardyne Mr S MacDonell Mr B McLeod Mr S Nicol Mr N Phillips Mr I Smith Mr B Watt Mr R Wilkins	(Chair)
In Attendance:	Ms T Millar Ms C Andrews Mr G McGregor Cr J McPhail Cr P McDonald Cr A Gibson Cr J Pemberton Cr L Ludlow Mr P Hulse Mrs Hawkins Mr D Connor Mr J Turnbull Mr C Cartwright Mr D Burgess Ms A Raymond Ms J Stewart Mrs E Lawton Ms J Lloyd Mrs M Wass	(Thriving Southland) (MPI) (Aparima Catchment Liaison Chairman) (Environment Southland) (Environment Southland) (Environment Southland) (Environment Southland) (Environment Southland) (General Manager, Integrated Catchment Manager) (Chief Financial Officer) (Team Leader, Catchment) (Works Supervisor) (Works Supervisor) (Team Leader Biosecurity – Animals) (Senior Land Sustainability Officer) (Land Sustainability Officer) (Catchment Operations LTP & Stakeholder lead) (Team Leader Corporate Reporting) (Personal Assistant – Minutes)

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

Mr H Gardyne welcomed the attendees to the meeting and spoke to his Chairman's Report, a copy of which has been **attached**. He highlighted the Maitara Catchment Report, the ES capacity building project, the ES Long-term Plan and Infrastructure Strategy and the Slow the Flow and Upper Maitara Pilot Project.

Resolved:

Moved Mr H Gardyne, seconded Mr B Watt that the Maitara Catchment Liaison Committee receive the Chairman report.

Carried

2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

Resolved by consensus:

That apologies be received on behalf of Mr R Beal, Mr S Dyer, Mr B Dillon, Mr L Frisby, Mrs P Wilkins and Mr S Wilkins.

Carried

3 Terms of Reference

It was noted that an amended set of Terms of Reference were with the Liaison Chairs for review and would be shared with the committees further in the year.

4 Confirmation of Minutes of meeting of 21 February 2023

Mr Sean Nicol and Mr Ian Smith were to be added as apologies.

Resolved:

Moved Mr B Watt, seconded Mr H Gardyne, that the minutes of the Maitara Catchment Liaison Committee Annual General Meeting held on 21 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried

5 Matters Arising

It was noted that any matters arising from the previous minutes would be addressed via the reports to the meeting.

Clarification was made that Iwi had been invited to the 2023 Matura Catchment Liaison Committee Meeting.

6 Appointment of Committee and membership

Mr Connor assumed the Chair. Mr Conner called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Matura Catchment Liaison Committee.

Resolved:

Moved Mr J Gardyne, seconded Mr S Nicol that Mr H Gardyne be elected to the position of Chairman of the Matura Catchment Liaison Committee.

Carried

Mr H Gardyne assumed the Chair and called for nominations for Vice Chair. No nominations were received.

Mr H Gardyne called for nominations for the Matura Catchment Liaison Committee.

Resolved:

Moved Mr S McDonald, seconded Mr J Gardyne that the Matura Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of all those members present at the meeting today, together with any apologies.

Carried

Resolved:

Moved Mr S McDonald, seconded Mr J Gardyne that an executive subcommittee of the Matura Catchment Liaison Committee comprise of Mr Hugh Gardyne, Mr John Gardyne, Mr Bevin Watt, Mr Sean Nicol, Mr Chris Dillon and one other member that would be appointed following the meeting.

Carried

Ms Sarah Crooks was subsequently appointed as the final member of the executive subcommittee

7 Catchment Report

Mr Connor spoke to his presentation which gave an overview of the work happening on the Mataura river. A copy of the presentation slides would be available on file. He highlighted the following work that had been done over the previous season:

- Rock placement over 23 erosion sites;
- heavy willow work programmes;
- annual fairway spraying targeting Mataura/Waikaia fairways;
- stop bank inspections and repairs;
- service requests, bylaw application and gravel evaluations.

He explained the stop bank condition scores and noted how the scores helped to prioritize bank maintenance for flood protection. A request was made to have annual stop bank defect progress statistics reported to future meetings to show if the baseline is moving.

An update was given on the Climate resilience projects (with 4 out of 5 being completed) and gravel, which included data from a section of the river that had been monitoring the overall trend (0.01 increase of gravel) between 2012 and 2023. He noted that the data did not indicate significant build up over that period, however data from that section of river wouldn't reflect the state of the whole area.

Mr G McGregor spoke to the meeting about the gravel extraction work that was being done on the Aparima and noted the discussions taking place at the Gravel working group. Stage 1 would use LiDAR to find out how much gravel and where and then a strategy would be designed to replace and extract gravel to maintain the habitats. Stage 2 would focus on gravel movement and would dictate longer term solutions.

Discussion took place and the following points were noted:

- LINZ administered land - if DOC could be onsite more often it could smooth their relationships with land owners;
- LiDAR data, post flood, could be updated by doing drone surveys. Bathymetric data would be expensive but the current data would provide a baseline for affected parties wanting to renew timeframes for the data they need;
- Ecosystem – impediments on when work is done as there are nesting times that you can't work during.

7 Financial Report – 2023/24 and proposed 2024/2025

Mrs Hawkins spoke to the financial report and noted that the overhead and staff costs would not be charged out to individual catchments anymore and would come directly from the regional budget. The flood warning expenditure would also move to the regional budget. It was proposed that the general rate in the River Works budget be removed from all catchment liaison committee budgets and instead be spread out evenly across the entire region as a flood infrastructure rate. The Long-term plan consultation outlined further information and included a proposal to moving to capital value rating.

A discussion took place and the following was noted:

- Are these the councils' decisions to put things in the regional 'pot'? – if these items are taken out of catchment budget they have no control of how much is spent in the

- necessary areas (structural maintenance) - the province can't support it all.
- Interest on the Mataura disaster reserves – no interest paid on the leaseholder reserve fund.
- Budget would need approved and completed by the third week of May for the auditors.

It was noted that the committee would decide on the budget after the presentation on the long-term plan and infrastructure budget.

Resolved:

Moved Mr H Gardyne, second Mr S McDonald, that the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee receive the financial report and approve the proposed 2024/25 budget in principle, pending the results of the LTP consultation.

Carried
Mr I Smith abstained

9 General

Long-term Plan 2024-34

Cr McDonald gave an overview of the high-level points for the infrastructure strategy and LTP matters:

- He noted that any feedback to the long-term plan was encouraged, whether it was for or against - If there were alternative suggestions then please also include those.
- Moving to capital value rating system (as part of the rating review) which bases rates on capital value instead of land value, ensuring an even spread of rates over the whole region, instead of having smaller pockets of the region with larger rate increases than others;
- 30 year strategy – general focus on flood protection scheme review and levels of service and prioritising urban flood protection;
- Meteorological phenomena where there will be heavier rainfall and higher flow rates that will last longer - climate change would add another layer;
- Increasing the stop bank serviceability to 'level 3' on the defect rating scale;
- Proposing to have a capital works programme.

Mrs Hawkins explained the proposal for an infrastructure strategy rate. (Her presentation would be available on file) The presentation highlighted:

- Three consultations under the long-term plan – rates changes, budges changes and fees & charges.
- Review of catchment rates had been undertaken beforehand and feedback from the catchment liaison chairs had been used to form the proposal. (noted that not all chairs were in agreement)
- 140 catchment rates becoming one rate, based on capital value – will have a different impact depending on the ratio of land value to capital value. Taking away classifications and moving biosecurity and land sustainability rates into a general rate.

- If Regional Council didn't change the way they rate now, then future increases would fall on a small group of people.
- Doesn't affect drainage rates, as there would need to be a review on the drainage rate in the future.
- She noted that members in attendance would receive an estimate of their properties rates increase following the meeting.

A lengthy discussion took place on the concerns around the proposal and the following was noted:

- Mataura modelling will be the first done – estimated 6 months before I can be shared with the community – there have been previous issues around transparency and accuracy of modelling. New modelling will be peer reviewed to help with this.
- adequacy of the stop banks and data – stop banks are designed to manage an event (overtopping), the peaks will last longer and need to pre-empt this - stop banks can only be built so high so other solutions will be needed.
- focus is to look after what they have and make sure it works well into the future – not everything can be engineered so need to look at other methods - being proactive to look at different areas where they can slow the water down.
- wrong focus, need to incentivise people to slow the water down, need to understand the other perspectives especially those rural but also urban.

Resolved:

Moved Mr H Gardyne, seconded Mr S Nicol that the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee agree in principle to the LTP 2024-34 rating proposal.

Carried
Mr I Smith Against

It was noted that LTP submissions could be made individually or as a group. It was agreed that members were happy to make their own submissions, however Mr Gardyne advised members to contact him if there were any concerns.

Mataura Catchment Group Grants

Ms Raymond spoke about the ongoing Mataura Catchment Group grant programme. Staff have drafted rules and regulations and would like the catchment groups to get involved in selecting recipients. There is \$25,000 allocated in the budget per year for this, however as there are so many projects coming through, staff feel a larger fund would be beneficial.

Resolved:

Moved Mr H Gardyne, seconded Mr S Nicol that the executive subcommittee of the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee would meet with the Environment Southland and Thriving Southland coordinators to discuss the Mataura Catchment Group grants further.

Carried

Biosecurity

Mr Burgess spoke to the committee about Wallibys and the threat to Southland. He advised everyone to report any sighting to Environment Southland as soon as possible as it was likely they could start coming down through the Mataura catchment.

Murihiku Slow the Flow and Upper Mataura Pilot Project

Thriving Southland noted that there were Slow the flow conversations happening in the catchment group areas.

Role of Liaison committees and role with ES

The committee discussed the need to be afforded 'community board' status and staff advised they would investigate the ability to obtain this.

Resolved:

Moved Mr H Gardyne, seconded Mr S Nicol, that the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee requests the Council investigate obtaining a community board status to the major catchment liaison committees.

Carried

It was noted that the new Catchment Liaison Committee Terms of Reference (ToR) were being designed around widening the groups responsibilities to a more community focused role. There had been a wide range of views on the ToR which is why they hadn't been adopted.

Agreement from the committee was needed on the Southland District Council 'Gravel management above bridges' consent variation being shifted out to 150m.

Resolved:

Moved Mr C Dillon, seconded Mr H Gardyne that the Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee agree that limits be extended from 10m to 150m.

Carried

9 Termination

Mr Gardyne thanked all who had made presentations and extended further thanks to staff members.

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 5:16pm.

Mataura Catchment Liaison Committee List of Members as at July 2024

Name
Hugh Gardyne Chair Mataura Liaison Committee
Carmen Andrews
S Bradfield
Andrew Chittock
Paul Clement
Mark Copland
Sarah Crooks
Brian Dillon
Chris Dillon
Dylan Ditchfield
Stephen Dyer
James English
Leslie Frisby
John Gardyne
Mark Hamill
Lyndal Ludlow (Councillor)
Stewart MacDonell
Scott McKenzie
Bruce McLeod
Jeremy McPhail (Councillor)
Paul McPhail
Richard McPhail
Daryl Meikle
Kerryn Miller
Robert Miller
Tessa Miller
Alan Muir
Sean Nicol
Neville Phillips
Murray Shallard
Ian Smith
David Stevens
Ronald Stewart
Rory Stewart
Matthew Tayler
Lindsay Tayles
Bevin Watt
Brendan Wilkins
Pamela Wilkins
Joseph Wilkins
Hugh Wilkins
Aaron Wilson

Mataura Catchment Rating District 2023/24

(Compiled by David Connor, Team Leader – Catchment & Clint Cartwright & Jimmy Turnbull - Catchment Works Supervisors)

Floods in September 2023 and further freshes throughout the Mataura Catchment, contributed to a significant amount of work removing flood debris from and responding to a number of erosion requests. In addition, a significant amount of heavy willow work was undertaken throughout a number of rivers in the catchment. The climate resilience projects undertaken to improve flood resilience near Gore, Mataura and Wyndham have now been completed. The one remaining bank along the Mimihau which protects Wyndham, is programmed to be raised and completed in the 2024-25 year. Funding for this work is proposed to be taken from the Mataura lease reserves as there is no more climate resilience funding currently available for the catchment. As a result of flooding during the 2023-24 year, a significant amount of toe erosion has occurred along the Waiumumu stopbank to the north west of Mataura Township, this work is yet to be addressed.

Works Activity - Please refer to balance sheet

1. **River Works**

River Works activities during 2023-24 comprised of erosion control work, channel debris removal, and willow tie in.

Rock rip rap

A total of 26 sites required the use of 9000 tonnes of quarried rock during the 2023/24 financial year. The area rocked equated to a total of 866m. The table below highlights the river and rock sites.

River	Sites
Mataura	19
Otamita	2
Eyre	3
Waikaia	2

Willow removal

It was noted that significant amounts of vegetation debris (mainly crack willow) have been removed from the Mataura river channel between Wyndham and Fairlight and on the Waikaia River/Mataura confluence to Piano Flat. This involved the initial inspection, identifying and removal of dislodged/instream, rotten, aged, and/or leaning willows and some willow tie-ins. It is considered important that dislodged, leaning or old trees are removed from the fairway. This usually involves burning or in some cases chipping, to ensure they don't end up downstream on valuable infrastructure during flood events. It was noted that a number of the properties had to be visited more than once in the 2023-24 year due to several different events. The table below highlights the number of properties visited during the 2023-24 year.

River	Sites
Mataura	9
Waikaia	10
Waikaka	7
Otamita	4
Mimihau	3

2. Channel Maintenance (Land Drainage)

A total of 18 land drainage systems were inspected during the 2023-24 year. From the inspections a total of 108 km was subsequently travelled by the machine with some parts requiring mechanical intervention. A total of 43 km was travelled with selected areas sprayed for weed build-up. The Parawa Creek was sprayed twice due to excessive weed build-ups throughout the season. Across all drainage schemes fallen trees and obstructions blocking the channel were also removed as necessary.

Drainage system	Machine cleaned (m)	Sprayed (m)
Arthurton		8,315
Bolgers	2,192	
Charlton		3,819
Cronins		267
Mataura Island	13,954	
Clear/lves	5,984	4,242
Parawa	2,104	1,918
Pyramid block		19,426
Rippon		1,345
Titiroa	14,917	
Titiroa Cutoff	14,721	
Titiwi	3,659	
Waikaka tribs	16,408	
Upper Waimea	15,842	
Old Waimumu		4,123
Waimumu	18,420	
Totals	108,201	43,455

3. Riverbed Vegetation Control spraying

A total of 327 ha of aerial spraying was undertaken in the flood fairways of Mataura Catchment. This included an additional 22 ha as part of the (LINZ) contribution along with 5km of ground application.

The riverbed vegetation control programme continues to target grass, gorse, broom, willow in Mataura and Waikaia flood fairways, the lower Waimea, Waikaka, Waimahaka and Titiroa Streams. This is important to maintain a channel free of weed, allow gravel movement within the flood fairways, reduce sediment build-up and help prevent erosion.

The contribution to the riverbed vegetation programme from Land Information New Zealand was \$15,000. The area targeted was where the Upper Mataura continue to be targeted. This is shown in the "Local Contribution" part of the annual summary.

4. Tree Planting

The tree planting programme has continued, with the purchase and planting of 800 shrub willow (Glenmark *Salix purpurea*) rooted cuttings and wands. These willows were used for edge protection.

5. **Urban Floodways**

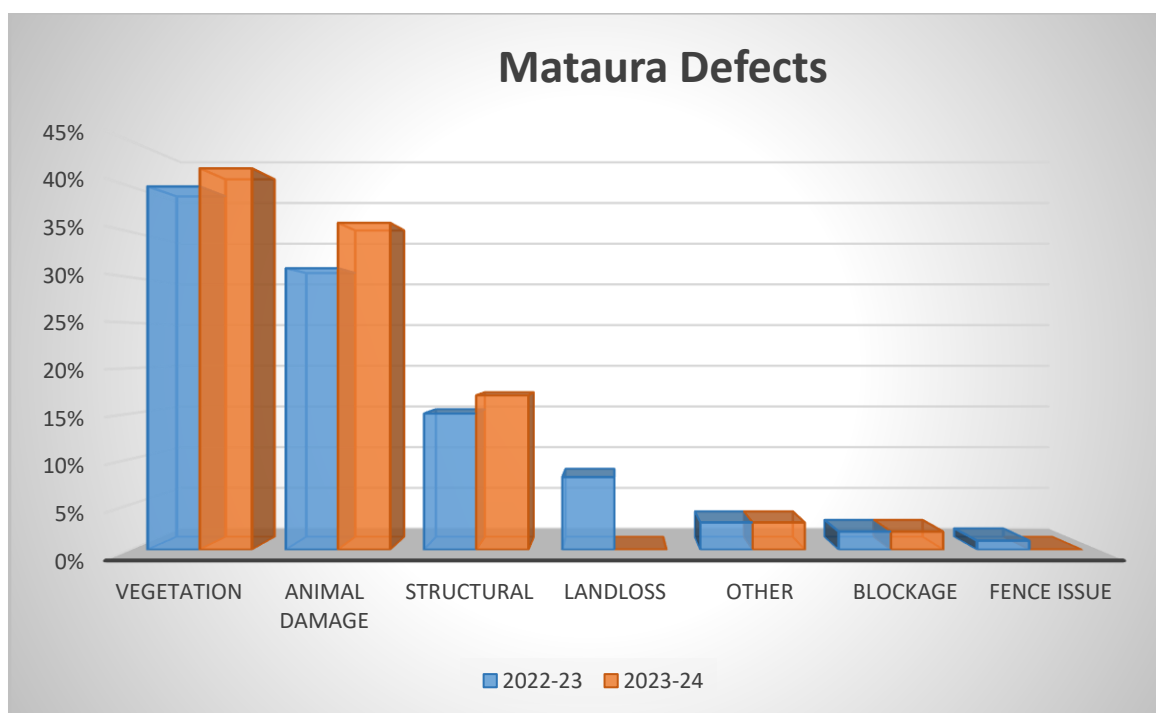
The urban floodways work programme provides for the maintenance of the floodways, stop banks, culverts and flap gates at Gore, Mataura and Wyndham. Rabbit shooting and mowing were undertaken several times at Gore, Mataura and Wyndham, as required.

6. **Phase II**

The Phase II works programme involves the maintenance of the stop banks, culverts and flap gates at Lower Mataura, Cattle Flat, Waikaia, Athol, Garston and Eyre Creek. A total of 4,420 tonnes of rock (ex Pyramid Quarry Hillside Metals Cotters Quarry and K2 Kontracting Quarry) on six sites was placed along 481 metres of stop banks to provide protection.

7. **Stop bank Inspections**

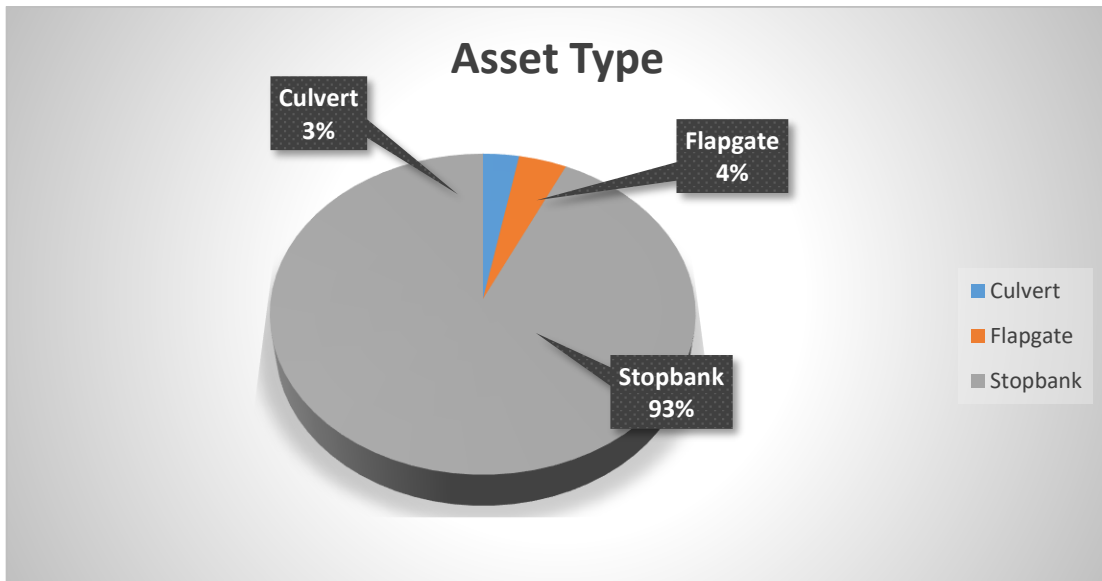
Catchment Operations continue to send correspondence to landowners (prior to inspections) advising of up-coming stop bank inspections and a fact sheet highlighting landowner responsibilities, particularly around stock grazing, vegetation management. The monitoring frequency for rural is (annually) and urban banks (quarterly). Inspections of infrastructure such large culverts and are being inspected prior to flood events. Since the Asset Management system has been in place (2019), a total of 523 defects have been closed, with 231 remaining open at the writing of this report.



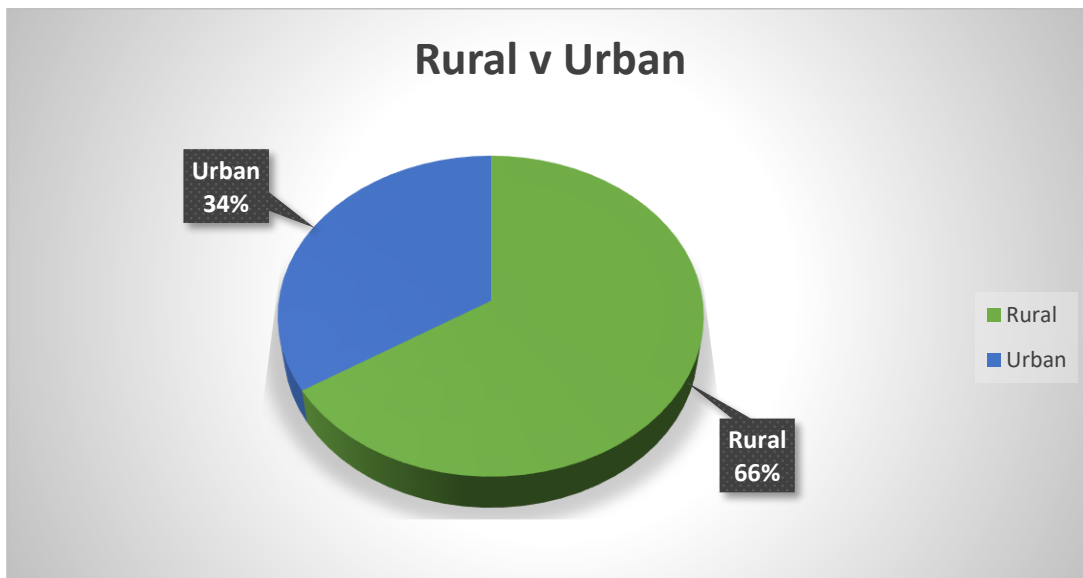
The graph above shows the overall percentage breakdown of defect type across the stopbanks of the Mataura catchment, vegetation on the stop banks continues to be the largest contributor to total defects (40%), followed by animal damage at 31%. We expect these two categories (unless historic) to be complied with by the landowner under the rules in the Southland Flood Control and Drainage Management Bylaw 2020. This continues to create a significant amount of follow-up and in some cases, this may lead to future enforcement action.

Landowners are informed of any defects by correspondence in the first instance, which highlights the defect site, obligations under the bylaw and methodology that is required to ensure any repair work is undertaken to a standard acceptable to Council, e.g. stumps removed or ground out, and/or correct material of granular nature, keyed in and compacted correctly. Our preference is to have any repairs undertaken under the guidance of a work supervisor. We also spend time talking with landowners about their future grazing plans e.g. careful management of the banks to ensure grass cover isn't

removed, the use of spray for plant plants, use of hotwires along the toe of the bank to prevent unrestricted stock access to the bank.

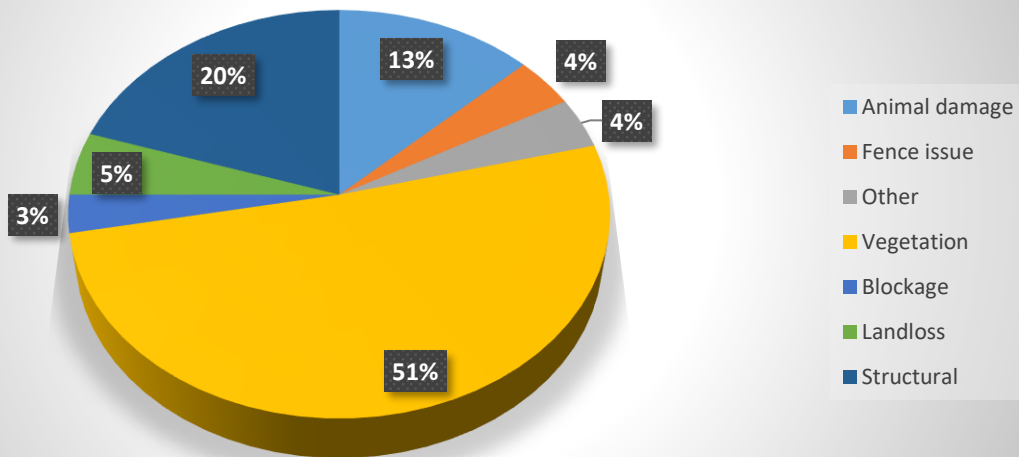


The above graph illustrates the type of asset and the percentage of defects, there is virtually no change from the previous year.



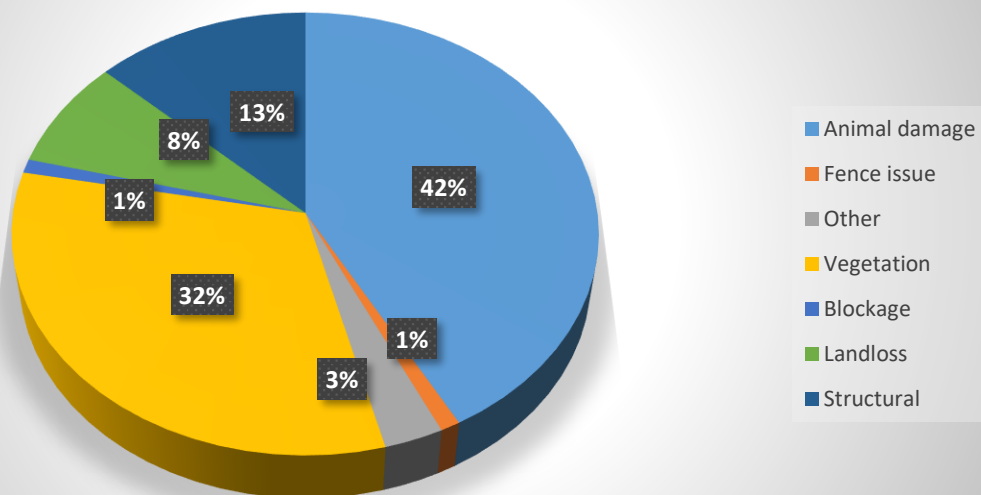
The above graph highlights the urban vs rural percentages of defects. The rural areas have some 87 km of stop banks, compared to the urban areas of 19km. The 2022-23 breakdown was Urban was (36%) and Rural was 64%

Urban defects



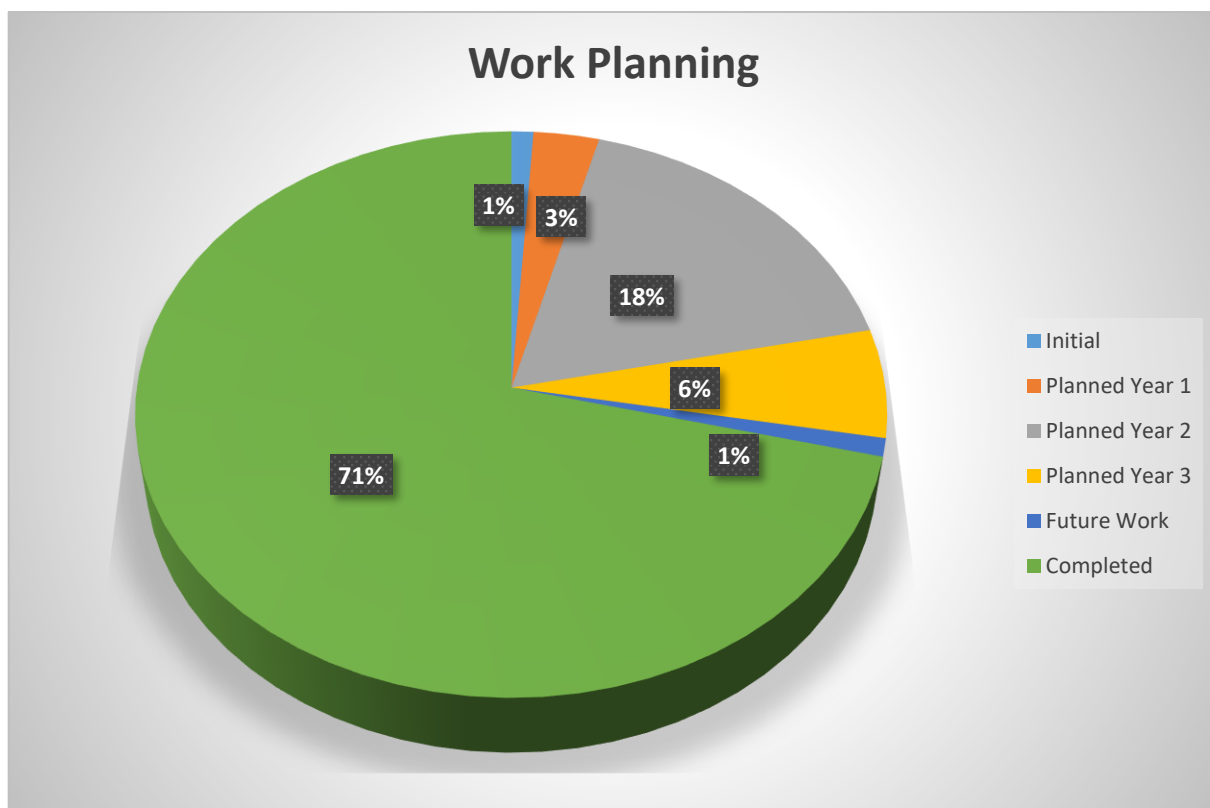
The graph above highlights the breakdown of the open urban defects of which 48 remain open. A total of 209 have been closed. The largest contributor is vegetation on 51% (24 defects) followed by structural defects on 20% (10 defects) while animal damage accounts for 13% (six defects). While some stock grazing occurs, some damage is from rabbits, and the majority of the urban banks are mowed.

Rural Defects



The graph above provides the breakdown of open defects on rural banks throughout the catchment. There are currently 183 open defects on rural banks (displayed above) with 314 having been previously closed. Animal damage contributes to 42% (73 defects) while vegetation is the next biggest contributor on 32% (58 defects).

Note: the defect breakdowns do not include consideration of overall condition/serviceability e.g. not meeting as-built design standards for shape, crest, batters, fence segments on top of stop bank etc.



The graph above highlights the percentage of planned work in terms of priority rating and work programme scheduling. The aim is to continue to complete the high priority defects first. Note priorities and work plans often change due to future flood events and requests for service, available budgets, contractor availability, weather conditions etc. The graph also highlights the percentage of completed work on stopbank defects since 2019-20.

8. **Willow Maintenance**

Willows adjacent to 27 properties were removed as part of flood plain management to help maintain the flood fairway.

9. **Climate Resilience Work**

Waimumu

- practical completion was issued in June 2023. But remedial works during the 12-month defect period were undertaken during Dec-Jan 2024;
- closure report submitted to Kanoa early 2024;
- final Completion certificate issued in June 2024 as-built plans provided.

Gore

- stop bank construction works commenced May 2023;
- remedial works were completed by Jan 2024. This included changing the crowned crest to a single grade 5% slope for maintenance and serviceability purposes;
- high risk trees removed from the Mataura River stop banks through the town – April 24
- closure report submitted to Kanoa May 24.

Wyndham

- practical completion achieved for the final separable portions of works by April 24;
- closure report submitted to Kanoa June 24;
- minor residual tasks to be completed this coming construction season.

The budget for 2023/24 for Maitaura was set at \$1,807,492.

Expenditure

The district completed the 2023/24 year, with a works account balance of \$554,604, a decrease of \$51,995.

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

All sums exclude GST

River Works		2022/23	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26
1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024		Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget	Draft Budget
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	Rates - General	495,709	513,103	383,773	579,637	-
	Rates - Separate	990,663	1,069,914	1,065,895	579,637	1,195,448
	Local Contributions Received	78,270	69,813	25,000	25,850	26,650
	Investment Income Allocated	10,140	15,274	9,596	9,594	9,594
	Insurance Recoveries	35,134	-	-	-	-
Revenue total		1,609,915	1,668,104	1,484,264	1,194,718	1,231,692
Expenditure	Cost of Works Insurance	26,087	37,243	30,000	32,054	33,046
	Fairway Spraying	154,613	140,783	165,474	165,440	170,560
	River Works	766,539	876,686	838,085	866,492	893,308
	Channel Maintenance	3,334	3,105	-	-	-
	Urban Floodways	18,369	20,451	32,368	20,680	21,320
	Structure Maintenance	234,541	49,226	32,718	33,830	34,877
	Stopbank Inspections	4,524	7,234	17,120	17,702	18,250
	Cost of Works Miscellaneous	2,057	851	-	-	-
	Depreciation Expense	-	-	8,850	-	-
	Floodwarning	56,592	56,596	56,596	58,520	60,331
	Support Costs	482,651	544,871	303,053	-	-
Expenditure total		1,749,306	1,737,045	1,484,264	1,194,718	1,231,692
Transfer from Leasehold Reserves		219,300				
Surplus / (Deficit) Transferred to / (from) Carry-Forwards		79,909	(68,942)	-	-	-

River Works Reserves	
Carry-Forwards	
Opening Balance at 1 July 2023	\$319,816
Less balance to carry forward as above	(\$68,942)
Carry-Forward Balance at 30 June 2024	\$250,874

Land Drainage						
1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024		2022/23	2023/24		2024/25	2025/26
		Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget	Draft
		\$	\$	\$	\$	Budget
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue	Rates - General	33,359	30,874	32,323	21,983	22,690
	Rates - Separate	252,251	279,005	277,957	197,843	204,206
	Investment Income Allocated	11,059	15,805	12,948	8,604	8,604
Revenue total		296,669	325,683	323,228	228,430	235,500
Expenditure	Channel Maintenance	266,269	227,888	188,935	208,057	214,496
	Structure Maintenance	11,492	19,171	18,500	20,373	21,003
	Cost of Works Miscellaneous	3,317	1,333	-	-	-
	Support Costs	52,508	60,345	115,793	-	-
Expenditure total		333,587	308,737	323,228	228,430	235,499
Surplus / (Deficit) Transferred to / (from) Carry-Forwards		(36,918)	16,946	-	-	1

Land Drainage Reserves	
Carry-Forwards	
Opening Balance at 1 July 2023	\$286,784
Plus balance to carry forward as above	\$16,946
Carry-Forward Balance at 30 June 2024	\$303,730

Lease Area Reserves	
Mataura Lease Area Balance as at 30 June 2024	\$3,206,039
Disaster Reserve	
Balance Disaster Reserves at 30 June 2023	\$1,395,122
Plus interest received	\$76,732
Disaster Reserve at 30 June 2024	\$1,471,854



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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

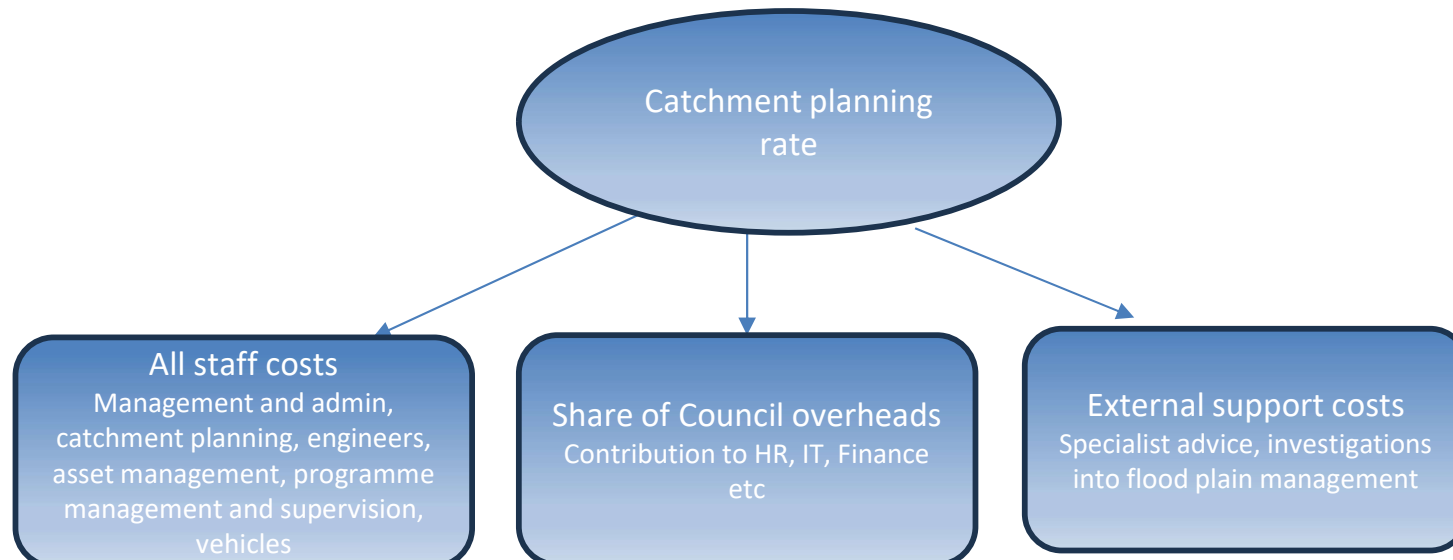
Flood Infrastructure
rate

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.

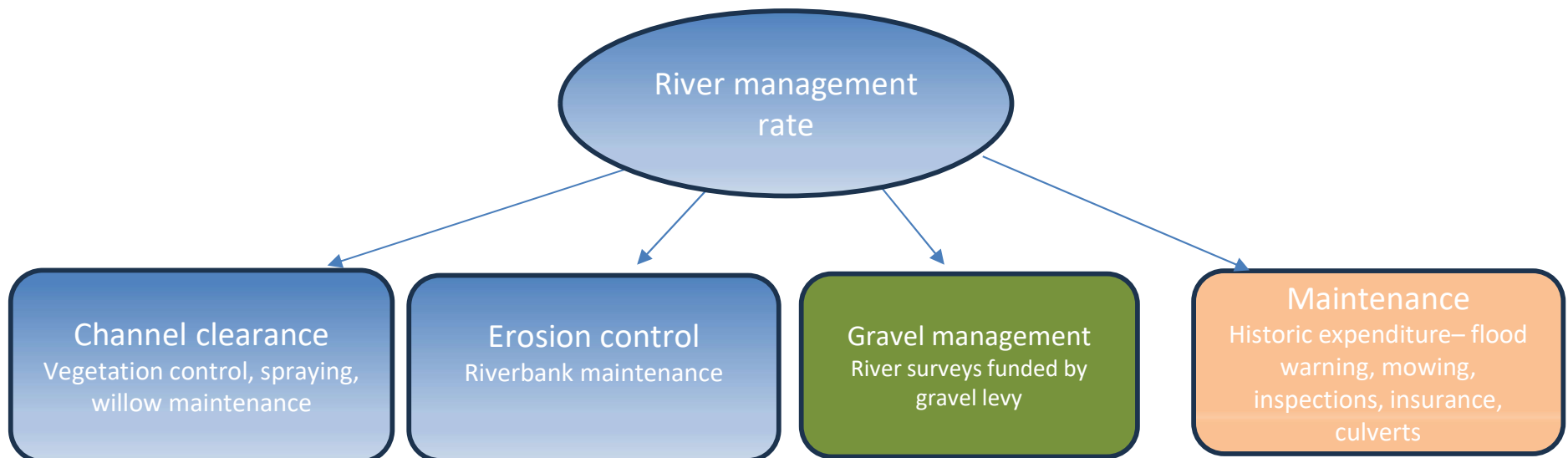
For example, managing the catchment works programmes, planning future mitigation, nature based solutions, asset management, and supporting Catchment Committees.



River Management rate

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

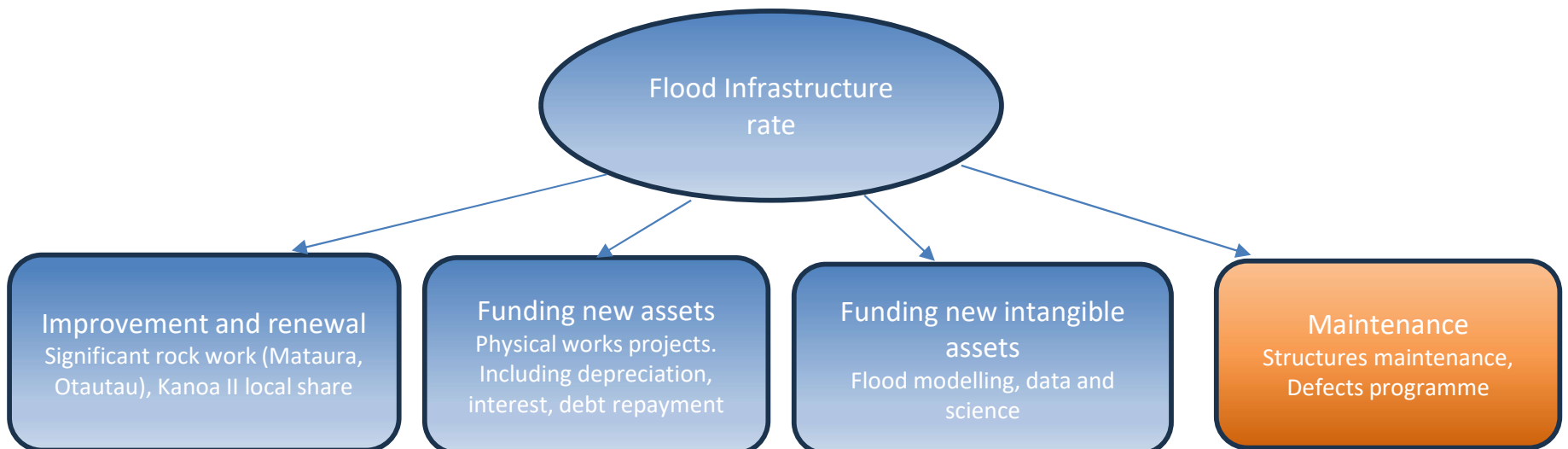
The services include routine maintenance to ensure adequate fairway width, enhancement work to improve access and monitoring stability and alignment of rivers, through river cross section surveys, gravel surveys etc.



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.

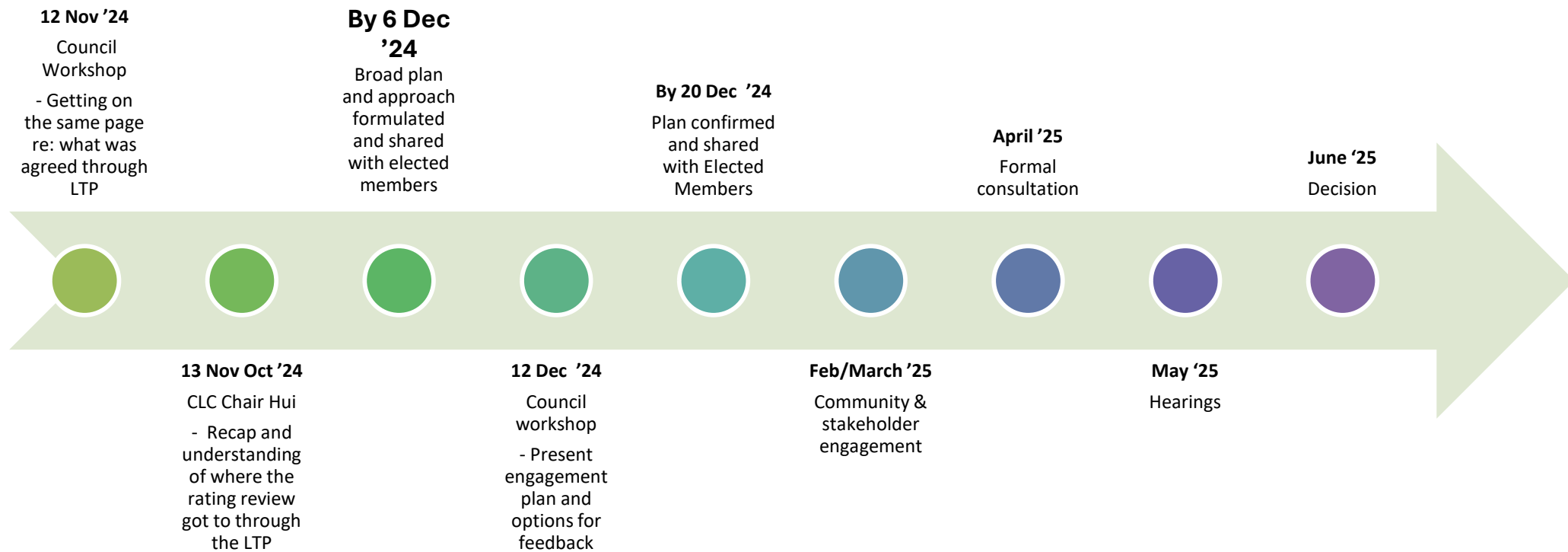
2. Council resolved to use \$450,000 per annum of leasehold surpluses to partly fund the new Flood Infrastructure activity.

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





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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

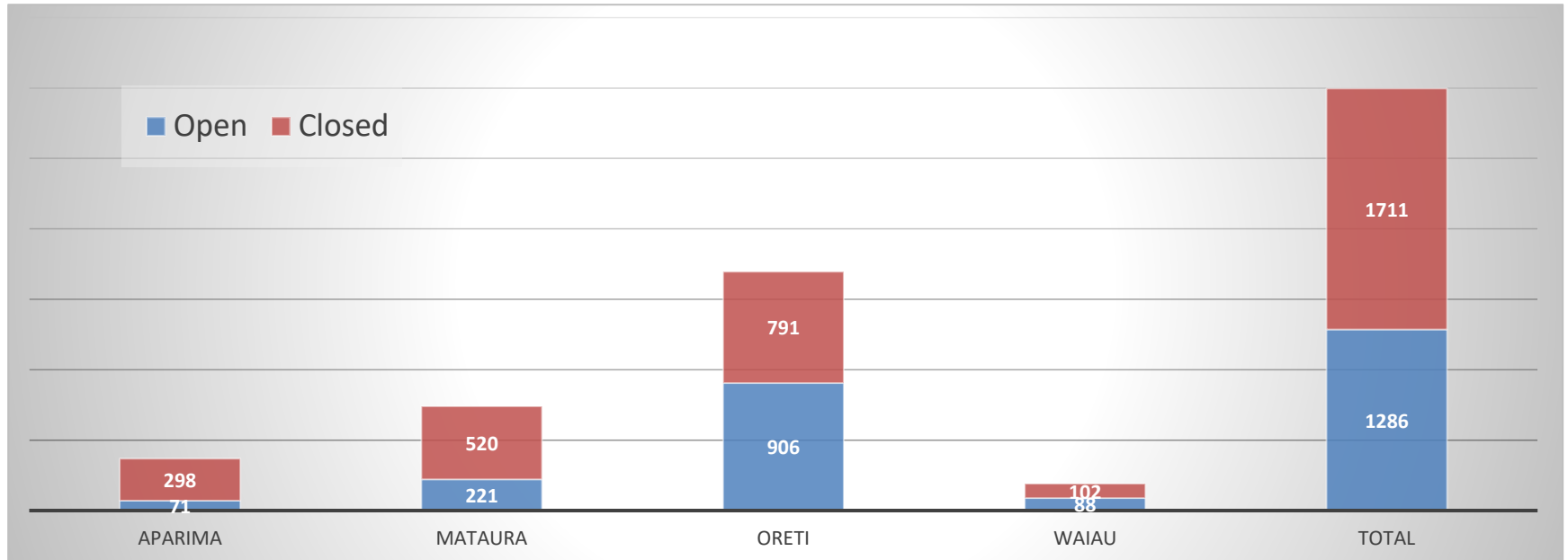
- Mataura Catchment flood bank repair budget \$220k - Mimihaui flood bank at Wyndham.
- Waimumu flood bank west of Mataura township has toe erosion. Looking at options of moving flood bank back and rock lining the toe.
- Oreti Catchment flood bank repair \$330k budget allocated to fix defects.
- Waituna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



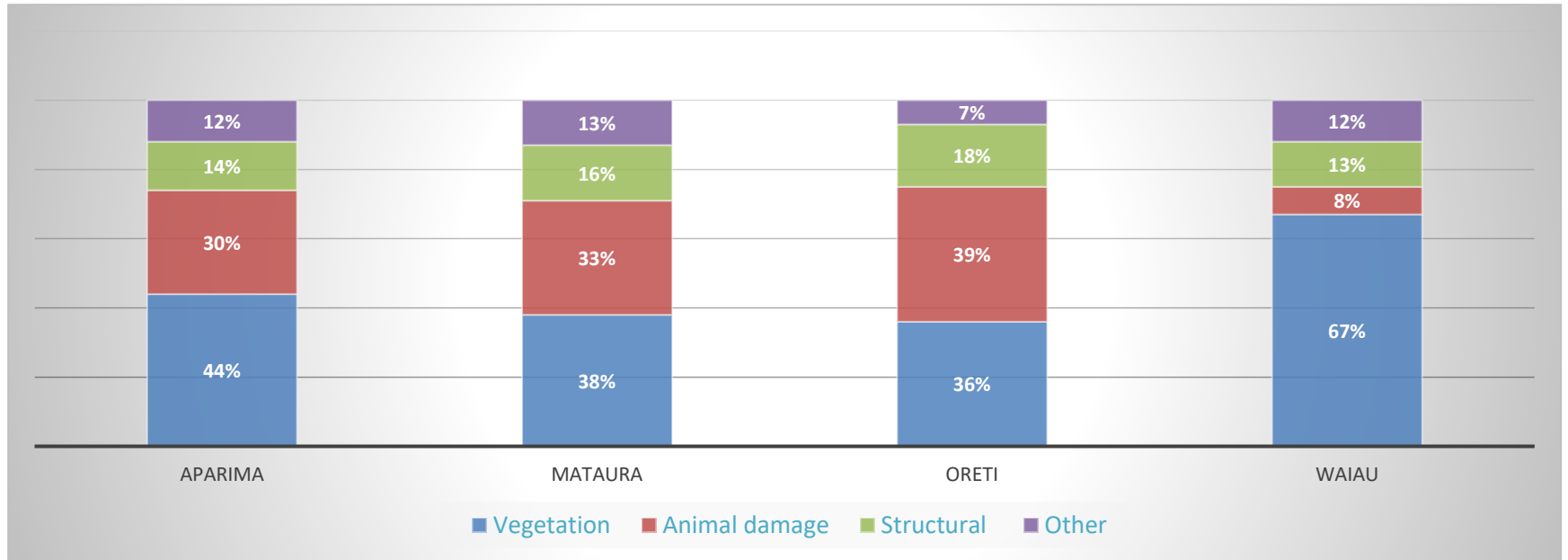
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Asset Inspections/Defects Update

Flood bank defects update



Main defect type





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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 45</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>