

RIVERCARE GROUP TE WAI O PAREIRA TE RŌPŪ MANAAKIWA O TE WAI O PAREIRA

STRATEGIC PLAN 2022 - HOAHOA RAUTAKI 2022

INTRODUCTION/ HE WHAKATAKI

Te Wai o Pareira

Te Wai o Pareira/Henderson Creek borders and defines Te Atatū Peninsula. The awa has influenced both the natural and human history of Te Atatū Peninsula.

Te Wai o Pareira is a natural treasure. It is a tidal river which includes a range of habitats supporting diverse and abundant life, including mature mangroves and saltmarsh at the mouth of the creek and sedges and eelgrass further inland.

Our human community swims, sails, waterskis, rows, kayaks and fishes in the awa. The awa's wellbeing is linked to the health of our community. For some, cultural identity and sustenance is linked to / drawn from the awa.

The awa discharges into the Waitematā and therefore makes a contribution to the health of the harbour and wider Hauraki Gulf.

The problem/ Te Raruraru

Te Wai o Pareira is the receiving body of water for 100 square kilometres of land stretching from Titirangi to Swanson to the tip of Te Atatū Peninsula.

For the past 170 years the awa has suffered from the challenges of land clearance, industrial and agricultural pollution, sediment and road runoff, refuse dumping, and leachate contamination in its catchment.

A large number of overflow points from the sewage network (servicing Te Atatū Peninsula and approximately 140 square kilometres of sewage catchment) discharge to the awa. During rain events, the awa suffers from high levels of enterococci and e.coli contamination.

Despite its importance to the community, there is a lack of community awareness about the health of the awa, which poses a risk to the people who use it.

At the agency level, there are remaining knowledge gaps in terms of the nature and extent of pollution and an absence of active management of the problems. Monitoring of sewage discharges into the awa is very limited.

Te Wai o Pareira Rivercare Group / Te Rōpū Manaakiwa o Te Wai o Pareira

The Te Wai o Pareira Rivercare Group was conceived in early 2019 from a growing sense of concern about the well-being of the awa.

A poorly managed and significant untreated sewage discharge into the Huruuru Creek in October 2018 was the impetus for action.

Te Wai o Pareira Rivercare Group held its first public meeting in February 2019 and has steadily grown since then.

Our focus is on the marine area (as identified in Map 26 of the Auckland Regional Coastal Plan). Nevertheless, we recognise the interconnectedness of the catchment and advocate for management solutions which treat Te Wai o Pareira and its catchment as a single entity.

OUR VISION / TĀ MĀTOU MATAWHĀNUI

Our vision is to restore the wellbeing/mauri of the awa to a healthy and safe state that supports diverse and abundant life.

OUR MISSION / TĀ MĀTOU WHĀINGA

Te Wai o Pareira Rivercare Group is an independent voice championing the protection and enhancement of Te Wai o Pareira. We undertake restoration projects, fill gaps in knowledge about the health of the awa and the causes of pollution, raise community awareness and advocate for proper management of the awa, including improvements to infrastructure.

OUR VALUES / Ō MĀTOU UARATANGA

- To have the well-being of the awa as central to all our activities.
- To embody, and respect, Tikanga Māori in all our activities.
- To embrace and honour our commitment, partnership and obligations to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- To maintain respect, integrity, compassion and transparency in all our endeavours.
- To make decisions collectively and to be inclusive.
- To meaningfully engage with our community.
- To advocate passionately for the awa whilst always being respectful of others.
- To always seek to collaborate and, where possible, achieve consensus on decisions.

OUR PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES 2021-2022 / **Ā MĀTOU WHAKAAROTAU ME NGĀ ARONGA 2021-** **2022**

1. TO RAISE COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF THE POOR HEALTH OF THE AWA / **KIA WHAKAARAARA I TE AROĀ O TE HAPORI KI TE MANAUHEA O TE AWA**

Objectives / Ngā Aronga:

- To increase the profile of the awa in Te Atatū Peninsula and further afield, to foster a sense of pride and ownership.
- To encourage the community of Te Atatū Peninsula and surrounding areas to better care for the awa.
- To raise community awareness of the water quality of the awa and the need for measures to improve it;
- To create a groundswell of support for change.

Actions / Ngā Mahinga:

- Continue to develop an engaging and informative social media presence aimed at enhancing community pride in the awa and awareness of the threats to its health.
- Host or participate in public meetings and events aimed at celebrating the awa or raising awareness.
- Continue to collaborate with other community organisations and networks with aligned values.
- Engage with the business community in the vicinity of the estuarine environment, and in particular businesses whose premises adjoin the awa, to promote the need to protect it.
- Encourage community reporting of pollution events and make available information about how to report pollution.
- Use other methods of communication where appropriate including for example, billboards, leaflets and school visits and creative engagement opportunities.

Measures of success / Hei ine angitu:

By December 2022 TWOPRG will:

- Have a well-established social media presence and an established system for producing content.
- Have hosted or participated in community events.
- Have developed a plan for an outreach strategy and constructive relationship with relevant business community members (e.g. business associations).
- Continue to provide clearly accessible information to the community about how to report pollution events including for example via the TWOPRG website, social media, or leaflet drops.

2. TO GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE HEALTH OF THE AWA / KI TE WHAKAEMI MŌHIOHIO MŌ TE ORANGA O TE AWA

Objectives / Ngā Aronga:

- To continue to gather information about the history of the awa for the benefit of the community.
- To actively research and gather information about the sources of pollution events.
- To recognise the Mātauranga Māori perspective in respect of the gathering of data in respect of the awa.
- To identify a baseline for the purpose of tracking trends in respect of the health of the awa for the benefit of the community.
- To continue to monitor water quality results.
- To continue to record evidence of pollution events, including sewage discharges and litter and encourage community reporting.
- To create a record of community interest and involvement in the health of the awa, in order to demonstrate community desire for change.

Actions / Ngā Mahinga:

- Continue to advocate for inclusion of the awa in Auckland Council's SafeSwim programme and support its effective implementation.
- To explore opportunities to expand water quality testing to include other sites and pollutants.
- To develop a detailed understanding of the local stormwater and sewage infrastructure and causes of sewage overflows.
- Communicate information about pollution events and the SafeSwim programme to the community and other agencies as required.
- Continue to maintain a simple and accessible database of pollution events that can be made available to the public and regulatory agencies.
- To collate and review existing and historic information about the health of the awa to identify baseline state.
- To assist in the development of culturally responsive monitoring frameworks in line with iwi aspirations.
- Continue to build connections with other groups who hold information about the awa.
- Invite contributions from the community about any aspect of the awa via the TWOPRG website and social media.

Measures of success / Hei ine angitu:

By December 2022 TWOPRG will:

- Have a well-established regular water quality testing programme, consistent with Auckland Council monitoring requirements.

- Have obtained resources to undertake an ongoing programme of water quality testing (in addition to SafeSwim).
- Hold a comprehensive understanding of the local stormwater and wastewater networks and the causes of pollution that can be used to inform advocacy work.
- Have a more detailed pollution event database that is updated regularly.
- Have undertaken, or be considering undertaking other data collection exercises.
- Share information and monitoring findings with key stakeholders.

3. TO ADVOCATE FOR AND ACT TO ACHIEVE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HEALTH OF THE AWA / HEI MĀNGAI, HEI KŌKIRI HOKI KIA WHAKAPAI AKE I TE HAUORA O TE AWA

Objectives / Ngā Aronga:

- To develop a powerful community voice informed by relationships with iwi and other stakeholders.
- To advocate for action by all relevant agencies to improve the health of the awa and to influence decision making about the awa.
- To engage with local and national politicians to raise the profile of the awa and the need for action to improve its health.
- To undertake projects to directly improve the health of the awa.

Actions / Ngā Mahinga:

- To build relationships with Auckland Council (Healthy Waters) and Watercare and to encourage improved communication between agencies about the management of the awa.
- To advocate for swift and effective responses to pollution events.
- To hold the regulatory agencies to account and to advocate for improvements to wastewater infrastructure.
- To build relationships with local politicians in order to seek to influence decision making about issues affecting the awa.
- To participate in central government consultation processes relevant to issues affecting the awa.
- To continue to identify and implement community projects to improve the health of the awa and its riparian margins.

Measures of success / Hei ine angitu:

By December 2022 TWOPRG will:

- Have achieved formal establishment of a working group of stakeholders including Healthy Waters, Watercare and local and national politicians, iwi and community organisations.
- Have obtained a commitment from Watercare to address works required to remediate wastewater overflow issues.

- Have obtained a detailed plan of action from the relevant agencies to address the poor health of the awa within a specified timeframe that is acceptable to the community.

4. TO MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GROUP STRUCTURE / KIA PUPURI I TĒTAHI ANGA RŌPŪ WHAI PAINGA, TOITŪ HOKI

Objectives / Ngā Aronga:

- Maintain an effective and sustainable governance structure.
- Expand our operational structure and capacity.
- Obtain the funding necessary to achieve Te Wai o Pareira Rivercare Group's objectives.
- Maintain strong relationships with other like-minded groups.

Actions / Ngā Mahinga:

The actions we will undertake to achieve these objectives are:

- Identify knowledge and skill gaps in the governance team and seek suitable candidates from the community to build the capacity of the organisation.
- Establish an operational structure and identify roles and responsibilities.
- Secure funding and appoint staff to undertake operational roles.
- Continue to hold regular, minuted governance meetings.
- Review and finalise a Strategic Plan 2023.
- Review the Health and Safety Plan.
- Create and identify pathways for volunteer participation and engagement.
- Continue to engage with iwi in line with the Iwi Engagement Policy.
- Identify a programme of activities for the period 2021-2022.
- Identify funding sources and lodge applications for funding to support Te Wai o Pareira Rivercare Group activities.

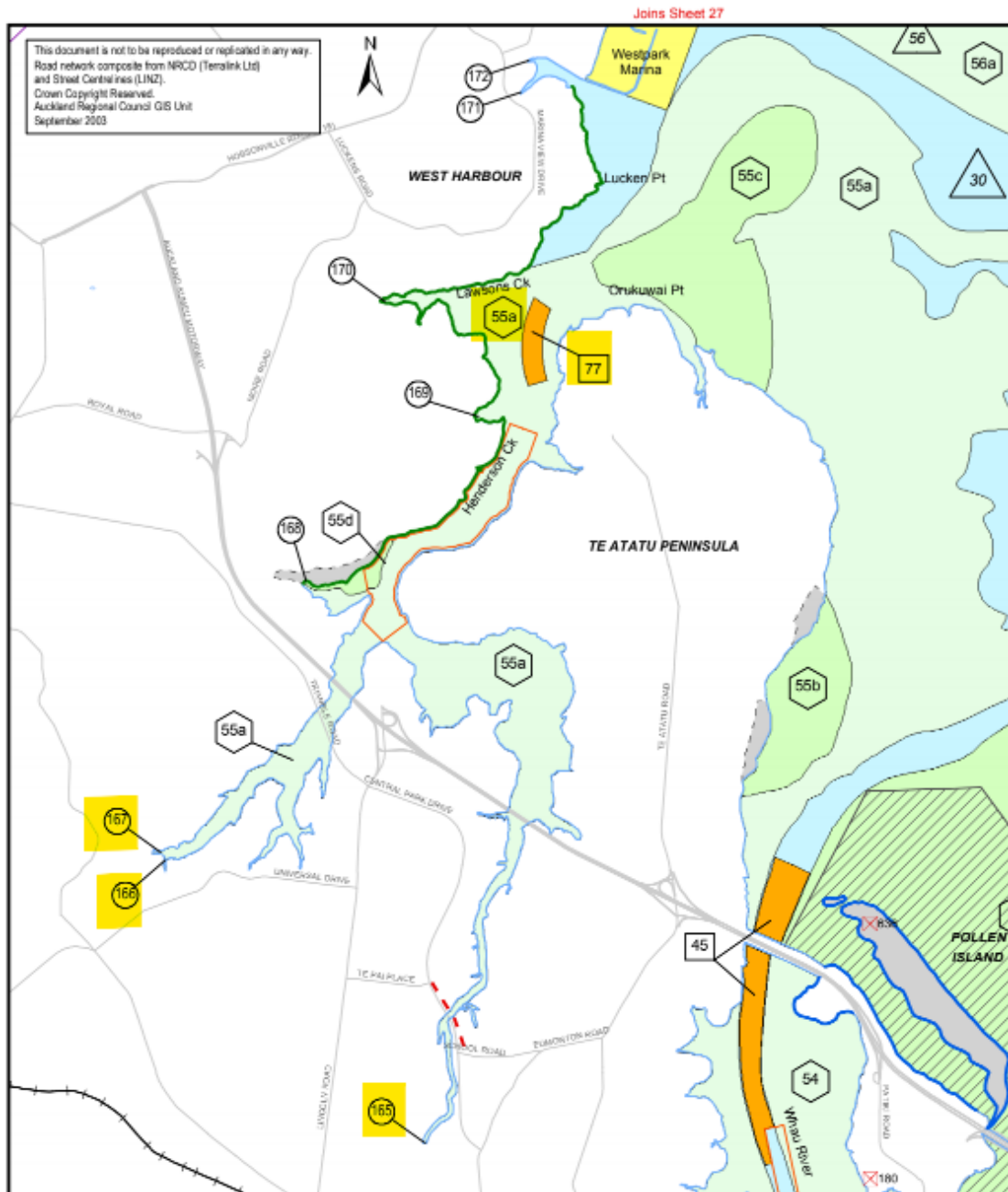
Measures of success / Hei ine angitu:

By December 2022 TWOPRG will:

- Have undertaken a review of the governance team and identified skill gaps.
- Continue to evolve a well-rounded and sustainable governance team that meets the trust deed requirements as a minimum.
- Identify and provide professional development opportunities to the governance team and operational staff.

- Maintain the existing operational team and transition identified responsibilities from the governance team to an expanded operational team.
- Be delivering or working towards delivering an identified programme of activities.
- Have obtained or be seeking funding to support its programme of activities.
- Have continued to develop a network of connections with other like-minded groups.

- Te Wai o Pareira RiverCare Group - Geographic Boundaries / Te Rōpū Manaakiawa o Te Wai o Pareira – Ngā Rohenga Whakatakotoranga Papa



165	Henderson Creek	R11 562 800	36°52'38.9"S 174°38'02.1"E
166	Paremuca Stream	R11 546 816	36°51'20.2"S 174°37'00.2"E
167	Huruhuru/Swanon Stream	R11 545 817	36°51'18.8"S 174°36'58.5"E

Extracted from Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal Maps
Kua unuhia mai i te Hoahoa ā-Rohe o Tāmaki Makaurau: Mahere Takutai