

Mahere mō te kanorau koiora me Te Awa o Manawatū

Biodiversity and the Manawatū River plan

We want a healthy Manawatū River, greater biodiversity, and a thriving native ecosystem.

The Manawatū River is of great historical, cultural, spiritual and traditional significance to Rangitāne and to our city. However, our river and the natural environment it supports and depends on, are under threat. The Manawatū River Leaders Accord reflects our commitment to improving the mauri of the whole river system.

Biodiversity contributes to and enhances climate mitigation and adaptation. Conversely, climate change can lead to further degradation and loss of biodiversity. Historic harms caused by land management practices prevent or slow down the re-establishment of native ecosystems. We need to rectify these harms and ensure that they are not repeated in the future. We want to nurture our natural resources and ecosystems as environmental stewards, promoting biodiversity and environmental sustainability.

Ka aha mātou? What will we do?

Protect, enhance and increase natural areas (e.g. bush remnants, gardens, stream banks, and berms)

What will this mean?

The Manawatū River supports a healthy and diverse ecosystem. Natural areas thrive alongside more managed green spaces.

Specific actions

- Support the Te Āpiti-Manawatū Gorge Governance group to implement the Whakatakatoranga Matua Ki Te Āpiti Masterplan
- Develop biodiversity corridors e.g. along the Mangaone, Turitea and Kahuterawa Streams [See **Recreation and play plan** and **Water plan**]
- Provide citywide pest management [See **Recreation and play plan**]
- Plant native trees throughout the city [See **Recreation and play plan**]

New or one-off actions

- Select and trial areas of public space for rewilding (from year 1)

Encourage and enable the community's connection with the Manawatū River

What will this mean?

The Manawatū River is accessible for recreation and is a focus of community activities and events. Communities have information they need to understand the environmental, cultural and historic aspects of the River.

Specific actions

- Protect and restore the mauri of the Manawatū Awa and coastal lagoons, tributaries and connections
- Recognise and provide for the relationship of Rangitāne o Manawatū with freshwater sites
- Provide opportunities for Rangitāne o Manawatū to be involved in city planning and delivery of Manawatū River projects
- Provide and facilitate multiple points of access to the Manawatū River
- Incorporate river locations in planning for community events and celebrations
- Develop Te Motu o Poutoa
- Develop Marae Tarata [See the **Arts and culture plan** and the **Recreation and play plan**]

Support and fund for-purpose organisations and local communities working to help achieve nature conservation outcomes

What will this mean?

Local communities and for-purpose organisations communities of interest have support to promote community wellbeing through conservation initiatives and information.

Specific actions

- Provide education programmes and visitor experiences at Central Energy Trust Wildbase Recovery Centre

New or one-off actions

- Provide funding to for-purpose organisations, local communities, and communities of interest through:
 - Strategic Priority Grants
 [See the **Community support plan**]

