

Mohaka River

Summary of Values

For Proposed Plan Change 7: Hawke's Bay Regional
Resource Management Plan

(Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change)



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Mohaka River - Summary of Values

**For Proposed Plan Change 7: Hawke's Bay Regional Resource Management Plan
(Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change)**

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Purpose of Report

1. This report is a compilation of information previously documented on the values associated with the Mohaka River during preparation of Proposed Plan Change 7 prior to its notification on 31 August 2019. It is one of a series of similar reports compiled for each of the respective proposed outstanding water bodies (OWB) identified in Plan Change 7.
2. The approach used by Hawke's Bay Regional Council to identify OWB in Hawke's Bay followed a process that began with a high level review documenting the values associated with 130 water bodies across the region. A short explanation is provided at the beginning of each section which discusses the relevant phase and whether the Mohaka River was considered during that part of the process.
3. Not all OWB identified in Proposed Plan Change 7 were considered during each phase of the process. For clarity, an index table (Table 1) has been included in this report which sets out the relevant phases, report names, values and page numbers for the Mohaka River.
4. No new research or further information was commissioned for the purposes of compiling this report.
5. For further information on the Outstanding Water Body Identification Methodology and each of these phases, see the Plan Change 7 Section 32 Evaluation Report¹.
6. **Table 1: Mohaka River index**

Phase	Included (yes/no)	Report name /date	Page numbers in associated report
High Level Review (Phase 1 & Phase 2)	Yes	Summary of Cultural Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay (March 2018)	34-38
		Summary of the Recreation, Landscape and Ecology Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay (March 2018)	18
Secondary Assessments (Phase 3)	Yes	Secondary assessment - Mohaka River	All of report
Local Expert Panel (Phase 4)	Yes	Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay - Report of the Expert Panel (April 2019)	31 - 35, 67
Final Evaluation (Phase 5)	Yes	Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change - selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay (May 2019)	20, 27, 32, 37, 40, 43, 45, 46, 49, 54, 58, 66, 71, 74, 90, 91, 108

Plan Change 7 Overview

7. Hawke's Bay Regional Council has prepared an amendment to the Hawke's Bay Regional Resource Management Plan (RRMP) to include a list of the region's outstanding water bodies, together with a framework which prescribes a high level of protection for these water bodies in future plan making. That change to the RRMP is referred to as 'Proposed Plan Change 7' or the 'Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change.'
8. The water bodies identified in the Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change have been proposed as the 'best of the best' within the region, featuring an exceptional cultural, spiritual, recreation, natural character, landscape, geology, or ecology value which is remarkable in Hawke's Bay.
9. Since commencing this OWB plan change project in early 2017, a significant amount of work has been undertaken to build a clearer picture of water bodies within the region and their potential for being classed as outstanding.
10. The Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change amends the RPS to reflect NPSFM provisions which require the protection of the significant values of outstanding water bodies. This special protection does not lessen the importance of, or value associated with other water bodies, which are managed through other parts of the Regional Resource Management Plan or Council work programme.
11. Further information about the background and purpose of proposed Plan Change 7 is online at www.hbrc.govt.nz (search #owb).

¹ <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Outstanding-Water-Bodies/1.-Other-supporting-information/Section-32-Evaluation-Report.pdf>

Phase's One & Two: High Level Review & Summary of Values

12. In June 2017, the Council embarked on a high level review documenting the cultural, spiritual, recreation, landscape, geological, natural character and ecology values associated with 130 water bodies across the region.
13. Phase 1 involved a thorough review of over ninety documents being completed. Those documents included Deeds of Treaty Settlements, statutory acknowledgements for Treaty settlements, customary uses reports, Waitangi Tribunal reports, and other documents produced in a national and regional context between 1979 and 2018.
14. This work built a clear picture of values associated with a wide range of water bodies across the region and their potential for being classified as outstanding, prior to short listing. This work culminated in a literature review with the following two tables summarising key values associated with 130 of the region's water bodies:
 - Table C1: Cultural Values Table – Summary of Cultural Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay.
 - Table R2: Recreation, landscape, Ecology Values Table – Summary of the Recreation, Landscape and Ecology Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay
15. Table C1 included all water bodies identified by name in reviewed documents, with a high level summary of the associated 'cultural and spiritual values'. This work was sent out to all Treaty settlement entities in Hawke's Bay in December 2017 for input prior to completion.
16. Table R2 included all water bodies identified by name in reviewed documents, with a high level summary of the associated recreation, landscape, geology and ecology values, and ratings assigned in this document.
17. Appendix 1 sets out the relevant extracts from Tables C1 and R2 for the Mohaka River.

Phase Three: Refine List & Secondary Assessments

18. In 2018, the high level review findings for 130 water bodies, and their associated values, were reported to the Council's Regional Planning Committee (RPC). The RPC selected a list of 22 candidate OWB to proceed forward a more detailed secondary assessment to see if any contained values that were clearly superior to other water bodies in Hawke's Bay.
19. The secondary assessment for Mohaka River is set out in Appendix 2.

Phase Four: Engagement & Local Expert Panel Process

20. Phase 4 involved wider input from the public, iwi authorities, key stakeholders and territorial local authorities. Feedback from this process featured requests for an additional 20 water bodies to be identified as OWB.
21. In December 2018, Council staff contracted a local expert panel to evaluate, categorise and identify outstanding characteristics, for all value sets, from the list of 22 candidate OWB and the additional 20 water bodies put forward during engagement.
22. The local expert panel was appointed via nominations by key stakeholders, iwi authorities and city and district councils, and comprised six members² with good knowledge of the Hawke's Bay region.
23. The recommendations made by the panel were based on existing information, their local knowledge, and a set of assessment criteria they developed at their first meeting. The assessment criteria used by the panel to identify outstanding features is set out at the beginning of each subsection for each value set.
24. The expert panel found the upper Mohaka River to have outstanding ecology, landscape, natural character, amenity and recreation, and cultural and spiritual values. With respect to the Lower Mohaka River, the expert panel recommended iwi be engaged to provide a cultural assessment to better understand the associated cultural and spiritual values. Their findings are set out in Appendix 3.

² Morry Black (Mauri Protection Agency), Matt Brady (DOC), John Cheyne (Te Taiao Environment), Andrew Curtis (Water Strategies Limited), Bernie Kelly (kayaking rep), Tom Winlove (Fish & Game Hawke's Bay)

Phase Five: Final Evaluation

25. Phase Five saw a final evaluation carried out to assist the Council's Regional Planning Committee to select a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay, for inclusion in Proposed Plan Change 7.
26. This work summarised the key values of 42 water bodies nominated during Phases 3 and 4, and informed by
 - The secondary assessments
 - local expert panel findings
 - the values summary reports, and
 - stakeholder engagement.
27. The summary was presented by value-type, based on the work to date and in a format consistent with the direction given by Council.
28. Appendix 4 sets out the relevant extracts from the final evaluation for the Mohaka River.

Appendix 1: Tables C1 and R2 - Mohaka River

Note: Appendix 1 contains extracts only - for further information please refer to the full reports.



Summary of cultural values associated with water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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Prepared By:
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Referencing

When referencing in another report any of the values contained in this document, the author of that report must include the following text as a footnote to the referenced material:

"There are numerous water bodies in the Hawke's Bay region where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims. By referring to these values it is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over a particular water body for one or more iwi group, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group(s) over that water body. This information is being referred to solely for the purpose of identifying the important cultural and spiritual values identified by iwi groups in the region".

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Waterbody / Region / Catchment	Treaty settlement entity	Commentary		Key values
		<p><u>Key</u> DOS = Deed of settlements, SA = statutory acknowledgements, TSL = Treaty settlement legislation, CUR = customary usage reports, WTR = Waitangi tribunal reports, OTHER = any other relevant documents No = waterbody not referred in document N/A = No such document exists.</p> <p>NOTE 1: The 'Key Values' column sets out a pool of eight key values, identified by the tāngata whenua representatives on the Council's Regional Planning Committee, which broadly reflect the most significant cultural values associated with water bodies. The relevant key values for each water body is listed in this column.</p> <p>See commentary column for further explanation about the identified key value for each waterbody.</p> <p>NOTE 2: The HBRC is aware there are numerous areas, including waterbodies, where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims within the HBRC region. The information presented in The Table is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over particular waterbodies for one or more iwi groups, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group over that waterbody. The information is solely for the purpose of recording important cultural</p>		<p>Note: key values as follows: Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga Wai Tapu Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata Mahinga kai, Pa tuna Pa, kāinga Tauranga waka Rohe Boundary Battle site</p>
Mohaka River Hawke's Bay Mohaka	Ngāti Pāhauwera	DOS	<p>The Mohaka River is significant to Ngāti Pāhauwera as taonga and the mauri of their spiritual and material wellbeing. It was significant as a highway, provider of mahinga kai and other resources important to Ngāti Pāhauwera for cultural and commercial reasons.</p> <p>It was a traditional area of residence, urupā, places of spiritual and cultural significance.</p> <p>Te Heru o Tureia is near the Mohaka River and is of paramount importance as a kāinga, mahinga kai and the burial place of high-ranking Ngāti Pāhauwera ancestors, including Te Kahu o Te Rangī.</p> <p>1869 an attack occurred on a Ngāti Pāhauwera mahinga kai and kāinga on the lower part of the Mohaka River valley – many were wounded, killed or taken prisoner.</p>	Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga Wai Tapu Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata Mahinga kai, Pa tuna Pa, kāinga Battle site
		SA	No	
		TSL	Yes	
		CUS		
		WTR	<p>Wai 119: The Mohaka River Report (1992)</p> <p>Ngāti Pāhauwera have a strong spiritual and cultural association with the Mohaka River. "Ko Pāhauwera te awa, ko te awa ko Pāhauwera (Pāhauwera is the river, the river is us)", "the river is a tipuna, an ancestor". Many of Ngāti Pāhauwera are said to be descents of Maree, Popoia and Paikea who are three taniwha who live in the Mohaka River.</p> <p>The River is a taonga of Ngāti Pāhauwera - it is an integral part of Ngāti Pāhauwera's tribal identity which is personalised and glorified in many ways including through a number of chants, waiata, whakatauki.</p> <p>The lower reaches of the Mohaka River flows through Ngāti Pāhauwera's traditional tribal territory from the Te Hoe River junction to its mouth. The river was an essential a part of the tribe's food gathering, means of communication, mana as a tribe and was of major economic importance.</p> <p>Hangi stones from the Mohaka River are of special significance to Ngāti Pāhauwera. The Ngāti Pāhauwera whakatauki "Mohakaharara, taupunga, opunga" 'united in our diversity' refers to the different types of hangi stones which will not break when fired – a symbolic reference to the unity within Ngāti Pāhauwera. Frequently hangi stones were given as koha to other marae.</p> <p>The Mohaka River was significant as a mahinga kai with various types of fishing at the mouth of the Mohaka River, in the estuary and further up the river. Eel weirs were located along the river,</p>	

		<p>and Kahawai was often spoken of as being the most highly prized, sought after and succulent of fish. The kahawai of Mohaka is celebrated in the whakatauki by Tureia.</p> <p>Among the other traditional resources procured from the river and adjacent forest and shoreline were birds, rats, timber, firewood, fruit of the kiekie, medicinal plants, dye made from mixing river clay and pigeon oil, and puha. Timber was washed down the river and used for firewood, for building and for canoes.</p> <p>The Water in the Mohaka River is of paramount importance to Ngāti Pāhauwera. The spirituality of the river, the mana, the sacredness and the authority relates to Ngāti Pāhauwera solely. The waters of the Mohaka have healing properties with some Ngāti Pāhauwera families going down to the waterfalls for spiritual cleansing, when sick.</p> <p>There are numerous archaeological sites on the river, with a pattern of permanent settlement concentrated around river crossings on the Mohaka River. The lower Mohaka River contains 13 pā sites, 8 village areas, 4 pit sites, wāhi tapu, urupā, and a number of historical sites. The upper Mohaka River (from Kakariki flats to the Te Hoe River) contains 37 recorded sites – 10 pit sites, two papakainga, eight pā, one midden, two findspots, 10 areas of pits and terracing, and five historic sites.</p> <p>The Mohaka River was an important part of a traditional network of Maori tracks and waterways and was significant as a highway. It was used for transport and communications and for longer journeys between Mahia, Ahuriri, Heretaunga and Taupo.</p> <p>The Mohaka River had a unifying function, with different hapu utilising the river as highways or mahinga kai. The Mohaka River's full name is Mohakaharara, not Mohaka by itself. This is a peaceful joining, a noble joining. It remains as a unifying force within Ngāti Pāhauwera, to unify the tribes. The belief is that it binds us together.</p>	
	OTHER	<p>Affidavits provided as part of Ngāti Pāhauwera's MACA (2013/2014)</p> <p>The Mohaka River mouth and surrounding coastal area was significant to Ngāti Pāhauwera. The area was used for different types of gatherings and was important as a mahinga kai, with knowledge of particular fish breeding grounds, fishing spots, shellfish beds and eeling spots.</p> <p>This area of the coast provided numerous resources. Pumice, drift wood and hangi stones were often collected, which were used for various traditional purposes, including for artistic purposes. For example, affidavits talk about how pumice was collected from the beach to clean feet in the days before soap. Traditionally, pumice was also used keep cray pots hidden, by tricking people into thinking it was just a bit of pumice floating in the water, not realising the pumice had a crayfish pot attached to it.</p> <p>Affidavits confirm the significance of Hangi stones to Ngāti Pāhauwera, noting they are part of their history, with several Ngāti Pāhauwera chiefs named after hangi stones. There are a number of different hangi stones, with each having its own properties. Taupunga is a greyish stone used for sinkers, Opunga is a whitish trachyte rock also used for sinkers and weapons, Poutama is a pinkish stone obtained mainly from the top of the Mohaka River, Kowhaturi/Kowhatuma kauri is a black/blue type of stone; and Haruru. Hangi stones with a hole in it would be used as an anchor, and decorated hangi stones are put on urupā as alternatives to flowers.</p> <p>Driftwood was used for fishing and carving and reti boards. Matai driftwood is very hard and good for making weapons.</p> <p>Pumice, drift wood and hangi stones were often used as a source of trade for resources from other iwi's.</p> <p>Affidavits talk about Te Huki urupā which overlooks the Mohaka River.</p> <p>Affidavits recognise Te Umu toto a Hoeata and Whakaparera as being Wāhi tapu areas located on the foreshore and seabed. A fight took place between Parakiwai and Ngāi Tahu after Tahu refused Parakiwai permission for him and his family to fish south of the river mouth at Te Umu Toto a Hoeata. The fight took place at Whakaparera, with Parakiwai being the victor.</p> <p>Affidavits talk about several battles, including:</p>	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The battle of Otia occurred on the southern side of the Mohaka River mouth where people were killed and a chief named Kupe was wounded. - A battle between Tureia and Ngāi Tahu was on the southern side of the Mohaka River mouth and along the coast to Te Umutoto o Hoeata (The blood filled oven of Hoeata). - There were people killed in the same battles as the Ngāi Tahu waka Te Riu o te whenua landed at the mouth of the Ruakituri or Coquet stream just above the Mohaka Bridge. <p>The battle with the sons of Rakaihikuroa and the killing of Ngāi Tahu rangatira Tawhirangi and his sister and their people occurred on the northern side of the Mohaka River.</p>	
		OTHER	<p>Tribunal Report – WCO Mohaka River (1990)</p> <p>The whole Mohaka River system has outstanding spiritual and cultural values.</p> <p>The tribunal states <i>“On a practical level it is the lower river, below willow flat, and the river mouth that is of day to day significance to the Ngāti Pāhauwera and the upper reaches to the Ngāti Tūwharetoa”</i>.</p> <p>The Mohaka River has cultural and spiritual significance for Ngāti Pāhauwera; it is seen as the life force or spirit of the tribe that binds people together. It is the link with their tipuna and a source of mana “the Mohaka is the soul of the iwi”. The Mohaka River is particularly significant as a traditional food source, for religious, medicinal purposes and hangi stones, firewood. Along its banks are ancestral pā sites, papakāinga, mahinga kai, and wai tapu areas.</p> <p>Places of special significance to the early Maori along the Mohaka River are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An important eeling ground near the Te Mata Block - A large tapu boulder known as Rangi Kapua located where the Ripia River enters the Mohaka River. The boulder marks the site where two chiefs were murdered: A bright red patch known as Tauira Mateawha marks the point where the mythical beauty Mateawha flung herself to her death - Te Purotu pā (near SH5 bridge) here Ngāti Tūwharetoa fought and defeated the Maruwiwi tribe, and followed the refugees up the gorge near the old coach road where most of the surviving Maruwiwi plunged to their deaths - Highly prized hangi stones which have their source in the Waipunga Stream - Numerous sites of a number of urupā or burial grounds along the Mohaka River - The spirit of Te Kooti is permanently stamped on the Mohaka River - Te Kooti’s lookout (Te Hoe and Mohaka confluence) - A boulder fortress is located on the Maungaharuru side of the Mohaka River near where Boundary Road in the Mohaka forest cuts out above the River - A fortress, which takes the form of several colossal boulders, is located in the Mohaka River about half a mile upstream from the Willow Flat bridge. Several of Te Kooti’s followers were swept to their deaths during a midnight crossing of the boulders and a whitewater rafting tragedy at this spot revived stories of a tapu on it <p>The legend of Ten Matakainga (deceased) involves the Mohaka River</p>	
		OTHER	<p>Planning Tribunal Report – WCO Mohaka River (1992)</p> <p>The Mohaka River is a taonga of Ngāti Pāhauwera, commonly used for swimming, fishing, eeling and collecting wood and hangi stones.</p> <p>The Mohaka River has many pā and villages close to the river. There are sites of pits which were used for storing food. Middens, deposits of oven’s remains, graves, urupā and wāhi tapu are known to exist. There are also remains of early European settlements.</p>	

		OTHER	<p>Submission from Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga on Proposed Plan Change 5 to the RPS (2012)</p> <p>Identify and provide for the Mohaka River as an outstanding water body of national significance for various reasons, including cultural association, taonga value, renowned trout fishery, ararau, etc.</p>	
<p>Mohaka River</p> <p>Hawke's Bay</p> <p>Mohaka</p>	<p>Ngāti Hineuru</p>	DOS	<p>Hineuru has a particular cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with Mohaka River.</p> <p>The Mohaka River is a site of great historical significance to Hineuru. It has three major tributaries: the Taharua, the Waipunga and the Te Hoe Rivers.</p> <p>Hineuru had settlements and a number of significant historical pā, kāinga sites, wāhi tapu along the Mōhaka River, and it was used as a key transport route inland. Orangikapua a kāinga and wāhi tapu is located on the Mohaka River near to its junction with the Ripia River. People killed here, and it was the site of a large cemetery.</p> <p>Rahui and Tangataiti were appointed as guardians of the principal access route from Tarawera to the Coast. The brothers were eventually killed in defence of this route, and as a result a rahui was placed over the river.</p> <p>The significance of the Mohaka River is expressed in the Hineuru waiata.</p> <p>Hineuru kaumatua describe the wealth of resources provided by the Mohaka River. It was significant as a mahinga kai resource, the river was plentiful with fish species tuna, trout and koura.</p> <p>Three types of volcanic stone were found in the Mohaka River. Taupanga, (a speckled greyish rock used for hangi), Opunga, (a "whitish rock used for hangi and adzes"); Kowhatu Makauri a blue stone (used for adzes and patu, and hangi). Hangi stones were an important resource which were gathered and used to heat dwellings as well as to cook food.</p> <p>The forest around the Mohaka River was very dense and provided many important resources including harakeke, toitoi, birdlife and a range of plants used for medicinal purposes.</p> <p>The Mohaka River provided the people with drinking water, and was a source of spiritual cleansing, wairua, and was felt to have healing properties (e.g. aids with the healing of women after they had given birth, used for the washing of Tupapaku and an important part of the process of ta moko).</p>	<p>Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga</p> <p>Wai Tapu</p> <p>Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata</p> <p>Mahinga kai, Pa tuna</p> <p>Pa, kāinga</p> <p>Battle site</p>
		SA	Yes – same as DOS	
		TSL	Yes	
		CUS		
		WTR	<p>Wai 119: The Mohaka River Report (1992)</p> <p>Ngāti Hineuru had an agreement with Ngati Pāhauwera which allowed them to fish at the river mouth at certain times when the kahawai was running. In return, Pāhauwera had access to hinterland areas when food on the coast was scarce. Hence the Ngāti Pāhauwera whakatauki: Tangitu ki te moana, maungaharuru ki uta.</p>	
		OTHER		
<p>Mohaka River</p> <p>Hawke's Bay</p> <p>Mohaka</p>	<p>Mana Ahuriri</p>	DOS	<p>Ahuriri Hapū has a particular cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with the Mohaka River.</p>	<p>Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga</p> <p>Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata</p> <p>Mahinga kai, Pa tuna</p> <p>Rohe Boundary</p>
		SA	<p>Ahuriri Hapū has a particular cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with the Mohaka River.</p> <p>The Mohaka River was a key transport route providing a route inland to the Kaimanawa district, and access to the Rangitikei River and therefore to the west coast of the North Island.</p> <p>The upper Mohaka River contained renowned eeling grounds and Ahuriri Hapū established transient camps there during the eeling season.</p> <p>The Mohaka River has been used as a significant boundary marker to define areas of interest.</p> <p>The Mohaka River is also associated with the arrival of Taraia I's party into Ahuriri and Heretaunga. Passage 11 of the Moteatea Te</p>	

			<p>Tangi a Rawiri Tareahi Mo Ahuriri refers to the Mohaka River (The Lament of our ancestor Rawiri Tareahi for our beloved homeland Ahuriri).</p> <p>Kau ana au I taku awa o Mohaka ki Ranga a Tāwhao; E takoto mai ra I te take o te taupae ki Kaweka; Haere tonu atu ki Maharakeke; Ki te tahatika o Ngaruroro ko; Tumataita ko Ngāti Ruapirau; Te tunga o Kohurau o Umukiwi e. (I travel upstream of the Mohaka River to Ranga a Tāwhao; Lying at the feet of the Kaweka Ranges; And made my way to Maharakeke; At the edge of the Ngaruroro River, is the pā of Tumataita of the Ngāti Ruapirau; Where stands two more pou Kohurau and Umukiwi.)</p> <p>This place is on the southern side of the Mohaka River close to the junction with the Mangatutunui Stream.</p>	
		TSL	N/A	
		CUS		
		WTR	<p>Wai 119: The Mohaka River Report (1992)</p> <p>Ngāti Hinepare and Pāhauwera had a pact for the use of the Mohaka River, the whakatauki is: Manahou ki uta. Pahauwera ki te moana.</p> <p>This pact illustrates an agreement regarding uses in relation to the coastal areas and the hinterland.</p>	
		OTHER		
Mohaka River	Ngāti Tūwharetoa	DOS	No	Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga
		SA	No	
		TSL	No	
		CUS		
		WTR	<p>Wai 119: The Mohaka River Report (1992)</p> <p>Ngāti Tūwharetoa have a strong affiliation with the Upper Mohaka River, which results in a special relationship with Ngāti Pāhauwera because the River is shared by both. If Ngāti Tūwharetoa did things up the river that Ngāti Pāhauwera didn't like - there was consultation between the two.</p>	
Hawke's Bay Mohaka		OTHER	<p>Tribunal Report – WCO Mohaka River (1990)</p> <p>The whole Mohaka River system has outstanding spiritual and cultural values.</p> <p>The tribunal states “on a practical level it is the lower river, below willow flat, and the river mouth that is of day to day significance to the Ngāti Pāhauwera <u>and the upper reaches to Ngāti Tūwharetoa.</u></p> <p>Mangatutu Hot Springs and Mangatainoka Hot Springs located in the upper reaches of the Mohaka River have been used since the beginning of Maori occupation. They were of special significance to the early Maori.</p>	

Summary of recreation, landscape and ecology values associated with water bodies in Hawke's Bay

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Waterbody / Region / Catchment	Treaty settlement entity group(s) with linkages back to waterbody	Commentary		Key values
Mohaka River Hawke's Bay Mohaka	Ngāti Pāhauwera Ngāti Hineuru Mana Ahuriri Ngāti Tūwharetoa	64NZR	<p>Key</p> <p>64NZR = 64 New Zealand Rivers – A Scenic Evaluation RRS = New Zealand Recreational River Survey MAF & F = Submission on the Draft Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers of National Importance by MAFF W&SR = National Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers RIVAS = River Values Assessment System LOR & L = A List of Rivers and Lakes Deserving Inclusion in a Schedule of Protected Waters HTF = Headwater Trout Fisheries in New Zealand WONI = Potential Waterbodies of National Importance RAMSAR = Wetlands in NZ which meet the Ramsar criteria W&WH = Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat of Hawke's Bay Rivers</p> <p>Taharua River – Pungahuru = Impressive (scored 14): Note: impressively pure and sparkling water quality Pungahuru – Te Hoe = Impressive (scored 13) Note: impressively pure and sparkling water quality Te Hoe – Willow Flat = Impressive (scored 15) Note: exceptional landscape Willow Flat – Sea = Interesting (scored 9) Assessment took into account vegetation, banks & riverbed, landscape, wilderness quality, water quality, water movement and other qualities. Scoring = Dull (0 -3), Ordinary (4 – 6), Interesting (7-9), Impressive (10 – 15), Exceptional (over 16)</p>	Recreation (angling, rafting and kayaking) Ecology Natural character Landscape (wild and scenic)
		RRS	<p>Upper Mohaka to Pungahuru Scenic value = moderate Recreational value = intermediate</p> <p>Pungahuru to Te Hoe (Category C) Scenic value = impressive Recreational value = high</p> <p>Te Hoe to Willow Flat (Category C) Scenic value = impressive Recreational value = high</p> <p>Willow flat to mouth (Category D) Scenic value = moderate Recreational value = high</p> <p>Scenic values graded on a six point scale: dull, uninspiring, moderate, picturesque, impressive, exceptional. Recreational values graded on a five point scale: insignificant, low, intermediate, high, exceptional.</p>	
		MAF&F	River of national importance (middle and upper reaches)	
		W&SR	On the list of nationally important wild and scenic rivers	

		(Outstanding characteristics – a wide range of recreational experiences in a diverse landscape).
LOR&L	Group One – - the rivers greatest values lies in the wide variety of recreational experiences provided in a diverse landscape. - it is a nationally important trout fishery. - there are major fishing values and jetboating in the lower reaches. the Ripia River is a very important trout spawning stream as it is not subject to floods like the Mohaka.	
HTF	Mohaka River (upper and middle reaches) List A (all season) headwater trout river Rainbow and brown trout (brown dominate upper and rainbow dominate middle) Identified as 'Trophy' and a "Headwater River' in the national angling survey	
WONI	Potential water body of national importance for aquatic biodiversity values (biodiversity dimension of natural heritage). Type: 1 (Mohaka headwaters) (catchment considered to be nationally important for biodiversity), Type 2 (Mohaka River) (contains sections or sites of national importance for biodiversity) Potential water body of national importance for recreation	
RAMSAR	Yes – meets RAMSAR criteria: The Mohaka River has outstanding wilderness, scenic and other natural characteristics. In addition, it supports an important trout fishery and natural amenities for water-based sports and other recreational activities. Some threatened endemic species of plants and animals are present.	
W&WH	<u>Mohaka River</u> The Mohaka River was rated as having 'moderate' value to wildlife. Banded dotterel and black-fronted dotterel. <u>Mohaka River Mouth</u> The Mohaka river mouth was rate as having 'moderate' value to wildlife. blackbilled gull and white-fronted tern. Visited by small numbers of migratory waders. The common lizard (<i>Leiopisma nigriplantare maccanni</i>) was recorded on the river mouth shingle bar.	
RiVAS	Regionally significant for native fish Regionally significant for native birdlife (upper) Locally significant for native birdlife (lower) Nationally significant for salmonid angling Nationally, regionally and locally significant for kayaking Nationally significant for natural character	
OTHER	2004 (1992) Water conservation order: wild and scenic, angling, rafting.	

		OTHER	Geo preservation inventory Mohaka Horseshoe Bend. Excellent example of a horseshoe bend on a meandering river Classification: Regionally significant.	
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Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change

Candidate List of Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay – Secondary Assessments for:

Heretaunga Aquifer, Karamu Stream, Lake Whakakī, Lake Whatumā, Lake Waikaremoana, Lake Tūtira (including Aropaoanui River + Papakiri Stream), Lake Waikareiti, Lower Ngaruroro River (below Whanawhana), Mangahauanga Stream, Makirikiri River, Porangahau River, Ruakituri River, Ruataniwha Aquifer, Taruarau River, Te Whanganui a Orotū (Ahuriri Estuary), Tukituki River, Tutaekuri River, Upper Mohaka River, Upper Ngaruroro River (above Whanawhana), Waipawa River, Waipunga River, Wairoa River.

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Upper Mohaka River (above Willowflat)



Key Values

Cultural

Recreation (angling, rafting, kayaking)

Ecology (wildlife, fisheries, flora)

Landscape (scenic)

Natural Character

Table 1: List of documents reviewed

Year	Name	Author
1966	An Encyclopaedia of New Zealand	T.L Grant-Taylor
1979	64 New Zealand Rivers	Egarr, Egarr & Mackay
1981	New Zealand Recreational River Survey	G & J Egarr for National Water and Soil conservation Authority
1982	Submission on the Draft Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers of National Importance	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
1984	A National Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers	National Water and Soil Conservation Authority
1984	The Relative Value of Hawke's Bay Rivers to New Zealand Anglers	Fisheries Research Division - N.Z. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
1986	A List of Rivers and Lakes Deserving Inclusion in A Schedule of Protected Waters	Grindell & Guest
1989	New Zealand Freshwater Fisheries Miscellaneous Report No. 25 Evidence presented to a hearing in respect of a national water conservation order for the Mohaka River	Electricity Corporation of New Zealand Limited
1990	Mohaka River National Water Conservation Order Application	Tribunal appointed by the Minister for the Environment
1992	Report and Recommendation of the Planning Tribunal - Mohaka River National Water Conservation Order Application	Planning Tribunal
1994	Headwater Trout Fisheries in New Zealand	NIWA
1994	Hawke's Bay Conservancy – Conservation Management Strategy	Department of Conservation

1994	Conservation Management Strategy (Volume II) for Hawke's Bay Conservancy 1994 – 2004	Department of Conservation
1998	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat of Hawke's Bay Rivers	Department of Conservation
2004	Water Conservation (Mohaka River) Order 2004	New Zealand legislation
2004	Potential Water Bodies of National Importance	Ministry for the Environment
2008	Wetland Review Monitoring	Hawke's Bay Regional Council
2009	Angler Usage of Lake and River Fisheries Managed by Fish & Game New Zealand: Results from the 2007/08 National Angling Survey- NIWA	Martin Unwin
2009	The 21 best fly fishing spots	Stuff.co.nz
2009	Death of a waterway	Stuff.co.nz
2010	Recreational Use of Hawke's Bay Rivers – Results of the Recreational Usage Survey 2010	Hawkes Bay Regional Council
2011	Taharua and Upper Mohaka Draft Strategy - A Discussion for Future Management	Hawke's Bay Regional Council
2012	River Values Assessment System (RiVAS)	Lindis Consulting
2014	Jet Boating New Zealand – Rivers Information	Jet Boating New Zealand
2015	Mohaka River Catchment – State and Trends of River Water Quality and Ecology	Hawke's Bay Regional Council
2016	Forest Lifeforce Restoration Trust, Annual Report 2015 – 2016	Forest Lifeforce Restoration Trust
2016	New Zealand Geo-preservation Inventory	Geological Society of New Zealand
2018	Mohaka River Trout and Fly Fishing	NZ fishing website
2018	Land Air Water Aotearoa (LAWA)	Hawke's Bay Regional Council
2018	Cultural Values Table	Hawke's Bay Regional Council
2018	New Zealand Waterfalls	NZ.waterfalls.co.nz
2018	Famous New Zealand Rivers	Fishing New Zealand

Discussion

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to assist the RPC members to determine whether any of the values of the upper Mohaka River are outstanding for the purposes of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM).
2. This report presents the summarised findings of the values attributed to the upper Mohaka River, above Willowflat in those documents referred to in Table 1, above. As such, any values associated with the Mohaka River below Willowflat are not discussed in detail in this report.

Overview

3. The Mohaka River is a large river which rises in the Kaweka and Kaimanawa Ranges flowing into Hawke Bay 175 km later, near the town of Mohaka. The upper reaches of the Mohaka River are renowned for their spectacular scenery and exceptional whitewater boating opportunities.
4. The upper Mohaka River is in a near natural state, with high ecological values which include a number of threatened species of plants and animals. In 1996, the river was recognised as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria which identifies wetlands of international importance.
5. The upper Mohaka River is widely recognised as a top quality wilderness trout fishery, providing anglers with an opportunity to catch large trophy trout in a natural setting. A number of international visitors come to the area each year.
6. The Mohaka River has a total catchment area of 2440 km². The land use in the upper catchment is predominately farming and plantation forestry. Dairy farming occurs on land surrounding the Taharua River which is a major tributary of the Mohaka River.

7. The Mohaka River is known for its stable riverbed which clears quickly after floods and has steady water levels all year round. There are no weed or cyanobacteria problems associated with the Mohaka River, however the quality of water flowing from the Taharua River into the Mohaka River has been steadily declining since the 1990s.
8. In 2004, the upper Mohaka River was recognised as containing nationally outstanding recreational and scenic characteristics, and a water conservation order (WCO) was put in place which restricted damming above State Highway 5. A WCO is the highest level of protection that can be afforded to any water body in New Zealand.

Location

9. The Mohaka River is located approximately 48 km northeast of Napier on the east coast of the North Island. Its main tributaries are the Waipunga, Taharua, Te Hoe and Hautapu rivers.
10. The location and extent of the Mohaka River can be seen in Figures 1 and 2, below.



Figure 1: Mohaka River



Figure 2: Mohaka River (above State highway 5)

Cultural values *

11. The upper Mohaka includes the overlapping areas of interest of four treaty settlement entities: Ngāti Hineuru, Ngāti Pāhauwera, Ahuriri Hapū and Ngāti Tūwharetoa. The Mohaka River has been used as a significant boundary marker to define areas of interest. Mohaka is said to have been the name of a river or stream in Hawaiki.
12. Many people who gave evidence in the various Waitangi Tribunal inquiries spoke about the sacralised qualities of this interior landscape, especially of the rivers. Traditionally, there were many pā, kāinga, cultivations, mahinga kai and urupā – many listed by people in Waitangi Tribunal evidence as being used in remembered history and since 1840. The landscape is a culturally dense one loaded with a wealth of place names and remembered events. The upper Mohaka was also a key route inland.
13. Hineuru kaumatua describe the wealth of resources provided by the Mohaka River. It was significant as a mahinga kai resource, the river was plentiful with fish species tuna, trout and koura. The forest around the Mohaka River was very dense and provided many important resources including harakeke, toitoi, birdlife and a range of plants used for medicinal purposes.
14. Attachment 1 contains a more detailed explanation of the cultural values associated with the upper Mohaka River, above Willowflat.

* The HBRC and authors of this report are aware there are numerous areas, including waterbodies, where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims within the Hawke's Bay region. The information presented in this report is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over particular waterbodies for one or more iwi groups, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group(s) over that waterbody. The information is solely for the purpose of recording important cultural and spiritual values identified by iwi groups in the region as sourced from existing published documents.

Recreation values

15. The Mohaka River is widely recognised in New Zealand as a 'top quality wilderness trout fishery' and for its exceptional rafting and kayaking experiences. It contains a variety of water conditions for fishing and boating and is easy to access at various points throughout the catchment making it a highly valued recreational resource in Hawke's Bay.
16. The recreational activities associated with the Mohaka River have been discussed in a number of nationally published documents over the last 40 years, and are consistently described as outstanding, nationally important and exceptional.
17. In 1984, the Mohaka River was the only river in Hawke's Bay to be included in the Government's National Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers, included for its wide variety of recreational experiences which can occur in a diverse landscape.
18. In 2004, a WCO was placed over the Mohaka River to protect the river's outstanding scenic characteristics, trout fishery and rafting and canoeing values. A WCO is a special type of protection that is the equivalent of a national park status for a water body.
19. The recreational activities which take place on the upper Mohaka River are discussed in more detail below.

Angling

20. The Mohaka River is classed as a wilderness and recreational trout fishery with exceptional scenic beauty. It is particularly valued for its clear, cool waters and high numbers of large trout which can reach trophy size. The headwaters are dominated by brown trout which is an unusual characteristic of a headwater fishery where both rainbow and brown trout co-exist.
21. The Mohaka River provides a range of fishing experiences from remote back country fishing, only accessible by a long walk or helicopter, to easily accessible, scenic areas, that contain high numbers of trout. The river has a significant biomass¹ of trout and twice as many large fish as other rivers in the Kaimanawa and Kaweka Ranges.
22. Drift diving undertaken in the 1990s indicates that the number of large trout in the upper Mohaka River are around 48 per km up to 70 per km in stretches. For biomass, the headwaters of the Mohaka River ranked 10th highest in New Zealand² and 4th highest in the North Island.
23. In 1982, the Mohaka River was identified by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as a nationally important scenic and recreational trout fishery. A total of six rivers in New Zealand were identified as being nationally important for these attributes.
24. In 1984, a report by the Fisheries Research Division identified the Mohaka River as supporting a nationally important recreational and scenic trout fishery. The Mohaka River was identified as having exceptional overall importance for its high use, scenic beauty, solitude, large trout and other recreational opportunities.
25. In 1986, the Government released a finalised list of rivers and lakes with outstanding wild, scenic, recreational or other natural characteristics that should be protected. The Mohaka River was placed in 'Group One'³ for its recreational qualities with specific reference to its nationally important trout fishery.
26. In 1994, the Mohaka River was identified by NIWA as a Category A headwater trout fishery which contains trophy trout and fishes well all season. There are a total of 18 Category A headwater fisheries in the North Island.
27. In 2004, the Mohaka River was recognised as a Potential Water Body of National Importance for recreation by the Ministry for the Environment. Later that year, a water conservation order was placed over the Mohaka River, in recognition of a number of outstanding features, including its outstanding trout fishery above State Highway 5.

¹ For comparison with other river habitats, the abundance of fish or biomass takes into account the size of the fish and the size of the river.

² Out of 158 reaches

³ Group One = Excellent rivers or lakes containing an outstanding cultural, fisheries, wild flora, location, recreation, scenic, scientific, tourism, wildlife habitat, value(s). Group One contains the very best examples of these values.

28. In 2012, the Mohaka River was identified as nationally significant for salmonid angling in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments.

Boating

29. The Mohaka River is nationally renowned for its whitewater boating opportunities, with several commercial rafting and canoeing organisations operating in this area. Its stable water flows means the river can be paddled all year round, making it usable when many other rivers are not due to summer low flows.
30. The Mohaka River provides for a range of whitewater experiences above Willowflat, including single and multi-day rafting and kayaking trips. The river is particularly valued for it is increasing skill demands as the river progresses, allowing a graduation from beginner to intermediate paddling ability.
31. The Mohaka River is best known by paddlers for its technical Grade 4 and 5 rapids which can only be found in a few other rivers in New Zealand. In particular, the Te Hoe and the Mokonui gorges provide a demanding and exciting canoeing experience and have an international reputation.
32. In 1981, the New Zealand Recreational River Survey described the Mohaka River as one of the most frequently used rivers in the country, which provides for all levels of paddling difficulty along its length.
33. The upper Mohaka River provides a 55 km stretch of jet boating water between Pakaututu Road and Te Hoe. This area requires advanced jet boating skills, passing through gorges and around numerous rocks and boulders. This water is difficult to navigate and not suitable for family boating. The section of river between Te Hoe and Willowflat is a 10 km stretch of water which contains severe rapids and is unlikely to be used by jet boats.
34. In 1981, The Recreational River Survey assigned the recreational and scenic values of the upper Mohaka to Pungahuru an 'intermediate'⁴ and 'moderate'⁵ rating, respectively. From Pungahuru to Willowflat the recreational and scenic values were rated 'high' and 'impressive', respectively.
35. In 1986, The Mohaka River was placed in 'Group one'⁶ in the Government's list of rivers and lakes deserving protection for its scenic and recreation qualities, with specific note given to its rafting and canoeing values.
36. In 2004, The Mohaka River was recognised as a Potential Water Body of National Importance for recreation by the Ministry for the Environment. Later that year, a water conservation order was placed over the Mohaka River, in recognition of the rivers outstanding rafting and canoeing values between the State Highway 5 Bridge and Willowflat.
37. In 2012, Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for whitewater kayaking concluded the Mohaka River was nationally significant for whitewater kayaking.
38. In 2014, Jet boating New Zealand classified the section of the Mohaka River between Pakaututu and Te Hoe, as a difficult 'Class 3' jet boating trip requiring advanced boating skills, not suitable for families. The section between Te Hoe and Willowflat is classified as 'Class 4' jet boating which is unlikely to be boated due to lack of flow and/or obstructions.

Ecology values

39. The Mohaka River is recognised as a good example of an unmodified, deeply gorged river in New Zealand. The river has high ecological diversity, with a number of threatened endemic species of plants and animals present in the upper catchment.
40. Notably, in 1996 the Mohaka River was identified as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria which is part of an intergovernmental treaty and used to assist countries to identify wetlands of international importance.
41. In 2004, the Mohaka River was identified as a Potential Water Body of National Importance for aquatic biodiversity values by the Ministry for the Environment.

⁴ Recreational values graded on a five point scale: insignificant, low, intermediate, high, exceptional

⁵ Scenic values graded on a six point scale: dull, uninspiring, moderate, picturesque, impressive, exceptional.

⁶ Group One = Excellent rivers or lakes containing an outstanding cultural, fisheries, wild flora, location, recreation, scenic, scientific, tourism, wildlife habitat, value(s). Group One contains the very best examples of these values.

42. The ecological values associated with the upper Mohaka River are discussed in more detail below.

Fish

43. The upper Mohaka River has a highly valued habitat for both native and introduced fish species by providing a near natural environment with high water quality. Despite this, the upper reaches of the river have low native fish diversity with no rare or endangered species of native fish recorded in the area.
44. The upper reaches of the Mohaka River supports high populations of both longfin eel and large brown trout. Brown trout dominate the Mohaka headwaters which is an unusual characteristic of a mixed headwater fishery. Long finned eels are located throughout the catchment as far upstream as Poronui.
45. The most significant feature affecting the distribution of native fish in the upper Mohaka River is the Mokonui Gorge which acts as a natural barrier. This limits the native fish population above the gorge to only those native migratory fish species that are good climbers.
46. In 1996, the Department of Conservation identified the Mohaka River as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria which identifies wetlands of international importance, specifically noting that the river supports ten indigenous species of fish which adds to the rivers special value for maintaining the genetic and ecological diversity of the region.
47. In 2012, the Mohaka River was identified as regionally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for native fish. The RiVAS assessment concludes that the average number of native fish in the Mohaka catchment is 40,305.

Wildlife

48. The Mohaka River provides habitat for many native bird species including the globally endangered blue duck (whio), and the nationally vulnerable long tailed bat which roosts in the gorges and riparian areas. Whio are extremely rare, more so than the kiwi with around 23 kiwi for every whio.
49. The Mohaka River is recognised as being a significant wildlife habitat for the blue duck, supporting around 2% of the national population. The Mohaka River is noted as containing a highly fragmented population of blue duck which consists of a number of isolated groups totalling around 60 birds.
50. In 1996, the Department of Conservation identified the Mohaka River as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria, which identifies wetlands of international importance. With regard to wildlife the report notes:
 - The river and its tributaries supports almost 2% of the world population of *Hymenolaimus malacorhynchus* (blue duck)
 - The river and its tributaries are of special value for their endemic plant and animal species.
 - In 2012, the Mohaka River (above the Te Hoe confluence) was identified as regionally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for native birdlife.

Flora

51. Notable plants in the upper Mohaka catchment include *Pittosporum turneri* (commonly called Turner's kohuhu), the tussock *Chionochloa flavicans*, which is confined to small areas of the eastern North Island, and the calceolaria *Jovellana sinclairii*, a species restricted to the east coast of North Island. *Jovellana sinclairii* is thought to be the native herbaceous plant with the most restricted distribution in New Zealand.
52. In 1996, the Department of Conservation identified the Mohaka River as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria, which identifies wetlands of international importance. With regard to flora the report notes:
 - The river and its tributaries support a diverse fauna, including several species with restricted distributions, which adds to the river's special value for maintaining the genetic and ecological diversity of the region
 - The river and its tributaries supports populations of threatened species of plant, *Pittosporum turneri*
 - The river and its tributaries are of special value for their endemic plant and animal species.

Macroinvertebrates

53. Hawke’s Bay Regional Council regularly monitors the freshwater ecology of the Mohaka River at the following sites (see Table 2). The macroinvertebrate measures in Table 2 provide an indication of stream health, where generally, the higher the Macroinvertebrate Community Index, taxa richness and percent EPT, the better the health of the stream.
54. The monitoring results show that the ecological health of the Mohaka River is generally very good, with mild pollution potentially occurring downstream of the Waipunga confluence.

Table 2: Macroinvertebrate sampling results – Mohaka River (median 2011 - 2016)

Monitoring site	Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI)	Classification	Taxonomic richness	Percent EPT ⁷ richness
Mohaka site downstream of the Ripia River confluence	MCI >119	Excellent	21.5	62.4%
Mohaka River downstream of the Waipunga River confluence	MCI between 100 and 119	Good	24	50%

Note: Regional Councils use a classification from Stark & Maxted (2007) for MCI sampling, assigning a rating of either excellent, good, fair or poor for ecological health and/or habitat condition.

Landscape / scenic values

55. The Mohaka River is known for its impressive scenic qualities which show a range of landforms. The river runs clean and clear through large native forest areas. Below the Taharua confluence the Mohaka River is shallow and stony, flowing through remote countryside with scrub covering the hills.
56. From Pungahuru, the Mohaka River is entrenched in spectacular gorges almost continuously down to Te Hoe. The increased flows in this section of the river make it more diverse and energetic with large numbers of big boulders, rapids, chutes and plunge pools. There are some powerful rapids within this section which cascade over and around the large boulders.
57. Between Pungahuru and Te Hoe, the river has several waterfalls which drop into the river from impressive heights. Of particular note is the Pungahuru Falls which is a scenic horsetail waterfall that drops 25 m into the Mohaka River.
58. In 1979, the Mohaka River was given an ‘impressive’⁸ scenic rating in the report titled 64 New Zealand Rivers, which contains an indepth scenic evaluation of sixty four of New Zealand’s major Rivers.
59. In 1981, the New Zealand Recreational River Survey assigned the section of Mohaka River from its upper reaches to the Taharua confluence a ‘moderate’ scenic rating, and from Pungahuru to Te Hoe an ‘impressive’ scenic rating.
60. In 1984, the Mohaka River was identified on the Governments National Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers, with the final 1986 inventory placing the Mohaka River in ‘Group one’⁹ for its wide variety of recreational experiences in a diverse landscape.
61. In 2004, a water conservation order was placed over the Mohaka River identifying and protecting the outstanding scenic characteristics of the Mokonui and Te Hoe gorges.
62. Photographs of the upper Mohaka River above Willowflat are contained in Attachment 2.

⁷ EPT stands for Ephemeroptera (mayfly), Plecoptera (stonefly) and Trichoptera (caddisfly), and are macroinvertebrates which are sensitive to water pollution.

⁸ Scenic values graded on a five point scale: dull, ordinary, interesting, impressive, exceptional.

⁹ Group One = Excellent rivers or lakes containing an outstanding cultural, fisheries, wild flora, location, recreation, scenic, scientific, tourism, wildlife habitat, value(s). Group One contains the very best examples of these values.

Geological features

63. The Pungahuru Falls and the Mohaka River Horseshoe Bend are the most notable geological features on the Mohaka River, above Willowflat.
64. The Pungahuru Falls are a 'horsetail' style type waterfall which are created as the Pungahuru Stream drops into the gorge above the Mohaka River. The falls have a total height of 25 m and are described as a 'hidden gem' on the New Zealand waterfalls website.
65. The Mohaka River Horseshoe Bend is an excellent example of a horseshoe bend on a meandering river. The National Geo-preservation Inventory, which ranks geological features according to their relative significance, classifies the Mohaka River Horseshoe Bend as regionally significant.

Naturalness/intactness of waterbody

66. The Mohaka River is largely unmodified in its upper reaches. In particular, the section of the Mohaka River upstream of the Ripia River confluence, is noted for its naturalness and its pristine wilderness.
67. In 2012, Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character concluded the Mohaka River was nationally significant for natural character.

Water Quality

68. Hawke's Bay Regional Council regularly samples the water quality of the upper Mohaka River, above Willowflat at the following locations (see Table 3). The nitrate and ammonia attribute bands provide an indication of the chronic toxicity risk to aquatic animals.
69. The monitoring results generally show that the Mohaka River has excellent nutrient water quality, with very low levels of nitrogen and low to moderate levels of phosphorus. All sites fall within the NPSFM A band which reflects an extremely low risk of nitrate and ammonia toxicity for any aquatic species.

Table 3: Water quality – Mohaka River (2016)

Monitoring site	Water clarity	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Microbiological Indicator (<i>E. coli</i>)
Mohaka at Glenfalls (NIWA SITE)	Turbidity = 1.26 NTU; Black disk = 3.15 metres. Both within the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF BAND A Total Nitrogen, and Total Oxidised Nitrogen are within the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand. Total Nitrogen = 0.346 g/m ³ ; Total Oxidised Nitrogen = 0.2745 g/m ³ (Annual median) and 0.363 g/m ³ (95 th percentile); Ammoniacal Nitrogen is In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand Ammoniacal Nitrogen = 0.0047 g/m ³ (Annual median), 0.0134 g.m ³ (annual maximum)	Dissolved Phosphorus, and Total Phosphorus are within the best 25% of 'like' sites within New Zealand. Dissolved Phosphorus = 0.005 g/m ³ , Total Phosphorus =0.01 g/m ³ .	NOF Band A E. coli = 15 n/100ml (annual median) In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand
Mohaka site downstream of the Ripia River confluence	Turbidity = 1.38 NTU; Black disk = 2.6 metres. Both within the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF BAND A Total Nitrogen, and Total Oxidised Nitrogen are within the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand. Total Nitrogen = 0.36 g/m ³ ; Total Oxidised Nitrogen = 0.27 g/m ³ (Annual median) and 0.441 g/m ³ (95 th percentile); Ammoniacal Nitrogen is In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand Ammoniacal Nitrogen = 0.0046 g/m ³ (Annual median), 0.0126 g.m ³ (annual maximum)	Dissolved Phosphorus, and Total Phosphorus are within the best 25% of 'like' sites within New Zealand. Dissolved Phosphorus = 0.005 g/m ³ , Total Phosphorus =0.0085 g/m ³ .	NOF Band A E. coli = 13 n/100ml (annual median) In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand

Monitoring site	Water clarity	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Microbiological Indicator (<i>E. coli</i>)
Mohaka River D/S Taharua River Confluence	Turbidity = 1.67 NTU; Black disk = 2.8 metres. Both within the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF BAND A Total Nitrogen = 0.7 g/m ³ ; Total Oxidised Nitrogen = 0.61 g/m ³ (Annual median) and 0.98 g/m ³ (95 th percentile) Total Nitrogen, and Total Oxidised Nitrogen are within the worst 50% of like sites within New Zealand. Ammoniacal Nitrogen = 0.0031 g/m ³ (Annual median), 0.0069 g/m ³ (annual maximum) Ammoniacal Nitrogen is in the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand	Dissolved Phosphorus = 0.006 g/m ³ , Total Phosphorus = 0.0105 g/m ³ . Total Phosphorus is in the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand Dissolved Phosphorus is in the best 50% of like sites in New Zealand	NOF Band A E. coli = 9 n/100ml (annual median) In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand
Mohaka River downstream of the Waipunga River	Turbidity = 2.3 NTU; Black disk = 1.9 metres. Black disk test is within the best 50% of like sites in New Zealand. Turbidity state is in the worst 50% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF BAND A Total Nitrogen = 0.28 g/m ³ ; Total Oxidised Nitrogen = 0.1975 g/m ³ (Annual median) and 0.286 g/m ³ (95 th percentile) Total Nitrogen, and Total Oxidised Nitrogen are within the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand. Ammoniacal Nitrogen = 0.0057g/m ³ (Annual median), 0.0216 g/m ³ (annual maximum) Ammoniacal Nitrogen is in the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand	Dissolved Phosphorus = 0.006 g/m ³ , Total Phosphorus = 0.011 g/m ³ . Both are in the best 50% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF Band A E. coli = 12 n/100ml (annual median) In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand
Mohaka River upstream of the Taharua River Confluence	Turbidity = 0.86 NTU; Black disk = 5.3 metres. Both within the best 25% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF BAND A Total Nitrogen = 0.055 g/m ³ ; Total Oxidised Nitrogen = 0.024 g/m ³ (Annual median) and 0.0617 g/m ³ (95 th percentile); Ammoniacal Nitrogen = 0.0025 g/m ³ (Annual median), 0.0057 g/m ³ (annual maximum) All are within the best 25% of like sites within New Zealand.	Dissolved Phosphorus = 0.0048 g/m ³ , Total Phosphorus = 0.006 g/m ³ . Both are in the best 25% of like sites within New Zealand.	NOF Band A E. coli = 7 n/100ml (annual median) In the best 25% of like sites in New Zealand

Note 1: NOF BAND A for E.coli = water suitable for designed use with less than 1% risk of infection from contact with water during activities with occasional immersion (such as wading and boating). Band A is suitable for swimming.

Note 2: NOF BAND A for Nitrogen = high conservation values system. Unlikely to be effects even on sensitive species.

Values Summary

Overarching Value	Sub-value	Description	Outstanding		Comments
			Yes	No	
Cultural	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Recreational	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Ecological	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Landscape	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Natural Character	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC

Attachment 1

Upper Mohaka River – Cultural Values Report



Key Values

Spiritual Values

Wāhi Tapu, wāhi taonga, wai tapu

Mahinga kai, Pā tuna

Pā, Kāinga

Rohe boundary

Table 1: List of documents reviewed

Year	Name	Author
1992	Wai 119: The Mohaka River Report	Waitangi Tribunal
1997	Fisheries Resource Inventory: The Mohaka River	Matt Hickey, Fish and Game NZ
1997	Cultural Health Assessment of the Mohaka, Waikari and Waihua Rivers	Ngāti Pāhauwera Development and Tiaki Trust
2004	Wai 201: The Mohaka ki Ahuriri Report	Waitangi Tribunal
2010	Ngāti Pāhauwera Deed of Settlement documents	Ngāti Pāhauwera and the Crown
2010	Background to Settlement Aspirations and Expectations	Ngāti Hineuru
2015	Ngāti Hineuru Deed of Settlement documents	Ngāti Hineuru and the Crown
2016	Ahuriri Hapū Deed of Settlement documents	Ahuriri Hapū and the Crown
2016	Statutory Acknowledgement Document	Hawke's Bay Regional Council
2017	Ngāti Tūwharetoa Deed of Settlement documents	Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the Crown

1. Introduction *

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to assist the RPC members to determine whether any of the cultural values associated with the upper Mohaka River are outstanding for the purposes of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM).

This report presents the summarised findings of the cultural values attributed to the upper Mohaka River in those documents referred to in Table 1, above.

The report summarises the cultural values associated with the upper Mohaka River into a series of categories. It is recognised that isolating the values into categories can be problematic from a Māori worldview and many of the values are part of a narrative that doesn't fit neatly into categories. However, the intention is not to take a reductionist or isolated approach to cultural values but to try and gain an appreciation of their significance and the level of detail available to progress a plan change. In preparing the reports, it became obvious that all waterways are part of a wider cultural landscape that weaves people and the environment into a rich history of cultural and spiritual association.

Ultimately, the Regional Planning Committee will need to decide what the appropriate threshold is for outstanding cultural values. Any objectives, policies or rules that are proposed to support outstanding waterbodies will be subject to scrutiny and potential challenges by those who may be affected by a plan change.

Importance

The upper Mohaka includes the overlapping areas of interest of four treaty settlement entities: Ngāti Hineuru, Ngāti Pāhauwera, Ahuriri Hapū and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

Mohaka is said to have been the name of a river or stream in Hawaiki.

Ngāti Hineuru

Ngāti Hineuru has a strong cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with the Upper Mohaka River. The River is one of the iwi's most important taonga and there are numerous settlements and sites of significance (Deed of Settlement).

Ngāti Hineuru's rohe focused on the upper Mohaka valley and a rich area of forest further inland. Their traditional boundaries are defined by rivers and mountains; the Mohaka, Te Hoe, and Waipunga rivers tend to be highlighted. Their main villages were at Waiparati, Te Haroto, Tarawera and Runanga.

Although in a mountainous region lying across the main divide, Hineuru's rohe was a strategic position as it lay across the main access routes from Hawke's Bay to Taupō, Rotorua and the Bay of Plenty. Prior to the confiscations in the 1860's, the District Land Purchase Commissioner noted that there was a major Māori route running inland from Hawke's Bay to Taupō. This was the Waipunga River down to Tarawera, to the Mohaka and across the Titiokura saddle to the Kaiwaka and Waiohingaanga (Esk) rivers. The route was also used frequently by early European travellers and traders.

Traditionally, they had many pā, kāinga, cultivations, mahinga kai and urupā – many listed by people in Waitangi Tribunal evidence as being used in remembered history and since 1840. The landscape is a culturally dense one loaded with a wealth of place names and remembered events.

Ngāti Pāhauwera

The Mohaka River is significant to Ngāti Pāhauwera as taonga and the mauri of their spiritual and material wellbeing. It was significant as a highway, provider of mahinga kai and other resources important for cultural and commercial reasons. It was a traditional area of residence, urupā, places of spiritual and cultural significance.

Ngāti Pāhauwera's traditional tribal territory is from the Te Hoe river junction to its mouth.

Te Heru o Tureia (Historic Reserve) is near the Mohaka River and is of paramount importance as a kāinga, mahinga kai and the burial place of high-ranking Ngāti Pāhauwera ancestors, including Te Kahu o Te Rangī.

* The HBRC and authors of this report are aware there are numerous areas, including waterbodies, where two or more iwi groups have agreed, shared interests and/or contested overlapping claims within the Hawke's Bay region. The information presented in this report is not intended to imply any exclusive rights over particular waterbodies for one or more iwi groups, nor does it confirm the validity of the claims of any group(s) over that waterbody. The information is solely for the purpose of recording important cultural and spiritual values identified by iwi groups in the region as sourced from existing published documents.

Ahuriri Hapū

Ahuriri Hapū also state a cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with the Mohaka River. Like the Upper Ngaruroro, it was a key transport route inland and it has been a significant marker of land interests from ancient times (Deed of Settlement).

The upper Mohaka River contained renowned eeling grounds and Ahuriri Hapū established transient camps there during the eeling season.

Ngāti Tūwharetoa

Ngāti Tūwharetoa have a strong affiliation with the Upper Mohaka River, which results in a special relationship with Ngāti Pāhauwera because the river is shared by both.

2. Spiritual Values

Many people who gave evidence in the various Waitangi Tribunal inquiries spoke about the sacralised qualities of this interior landscape, especially of the rivers (notably the Mohaka, Waipunga, Hauturu and Te Hoe).

The Mohaka River provided drinking water, was a source of spiritual cleansing, and was considered to have healing properties. It was used for the healing of women after they had given birth, used for the washing of Tupapaku and was an important part of the ta moko process.

Mangatutu Hot Springs and Mangatainoka Hot Springs located in the upper reaches of the Mohaka River have been used since the beginning of Māori occupation. They were of special significance to the early Māori.

3. Wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga, wai tapu

Orangikapua was a kāinga and wāhi tapu, located on the Mohaka River very near to its junction with the Ripia River. According to traditional sources there were people killed here, and it was the site of a large cemetery.

4. Mahinga kai

Hineuru kaumatua describe the wealth of resources provided by the Mohaka River. It was significant as a mahinga kai resource, the river was plentiful with fish species tuna, trout and koura. The forest around the Mohaka River was very dense and provided many important resources including harakeke, toitoi, birdlife and a range of plants used for medicinal purposes. Hineuru people hunted on all over Waitara block until the native bush was cleared in recent years and took eels from the streams that ran into the Mohaka.

The rivers and their beds did not only provide kai - a range of stones were highly prized, especially for hangi stones. Stones were also used for paths, anchors, weapons, tools, walls and tuahu. Shingle and sand were used for seed raising, improving drainage and retaining heat loss in soils. Three types of volcanic stone were found in the Mohaka River. Taupanga, (a speckled greyish rock used for hangi), Opunga, (a "whitish rock used for hangi and adzes"); Kowhatu Makauri a blue stone (used for adzes and patu, and hangi). Hangi stones were an important resource which were gathered and used to heat dwellings as well as to cook food.

Te Wero o Maru is a Pā tuna on the Mohaka and Hinaki o Kotihe and Hinaki o Kotene are places where eel traps were set.

The Ripia River was utilised as a mahinga kai.

Ngāti Hineuru had an agreement with Ngāti Pāhauwera which allowed them to fish at the river mouth at certain times when the kahawai were running. In return, Pāhauwera had access to hinterland areas when food on the coast was scarce. Hence the Ngāti Pāhauwera whakatauki: Tangitu ki te moana, maungaharuru ki uta.

5. Pā, Kāinga, ara

Hineuru had settlements and a number of significant historical pā, kāinga sites, wāhi tapu along the Mohaka River, and it was used as a key transport route inland.

Archaeologists suggest that until the early or mid nineteenth century the population was relatively dense with competition for resources necessitating defenses around living areas and food storage pits and/or the location of sites hidden or difficult access places. Many settlements on the Mohaka were in proximity to routes and crossings.

An archaeological survey by Bain (1992) notes that:

....between Kakariki and Te Hoe indicate a clear pattern of settlement associated with known river crossings. Where the Mohaka River can be crossed, settlement is concentrated, and it was sparse in the intervening areas although the landscape might suggest suitable sites.

One of the principal routes taken by tribes entering the Mohaka Catchment from the north was via the Hautapu stream that runs into the Te Hoe River. The routes that travellers could take from the Mohaka and Te Hoe confluence included:

- Follow the Mohaka downstream to Mohaka and the sea
- Follow the river downstream to Kakariki then cross to follow the trail to Wairoa
- Climb the Maungaharuru to Pohokura and descend to Tutira
- Follow the Mohaka upstream and cross over Titiokura or Ranga a Tawhao near Puketitiri
- Cross the Mohaka and take a number of different routes inland

Orangikapua was a kāinga and wāhi tapu, located on the Mohaka River very near to its junction with the Ripia River. According to traditional sources there were people killed here, and it was the site of a large cemetery.

6. *Rohe boundary*

The Mohaka River has been used as a significant boundary marker to define areas of interest.

Ngāti Hineuru's traditional boundaries are defined by rivers and mountains: in this respect Titiokura, Maungaharuru, and the Mohaka, Te Hoe, and Waipunga rivers tend to be highlighted.

The Ripia River was a boundary between the Te Matai block and the Tarawera block, which are both of importance to Hineuru.

7. *Archaeology*

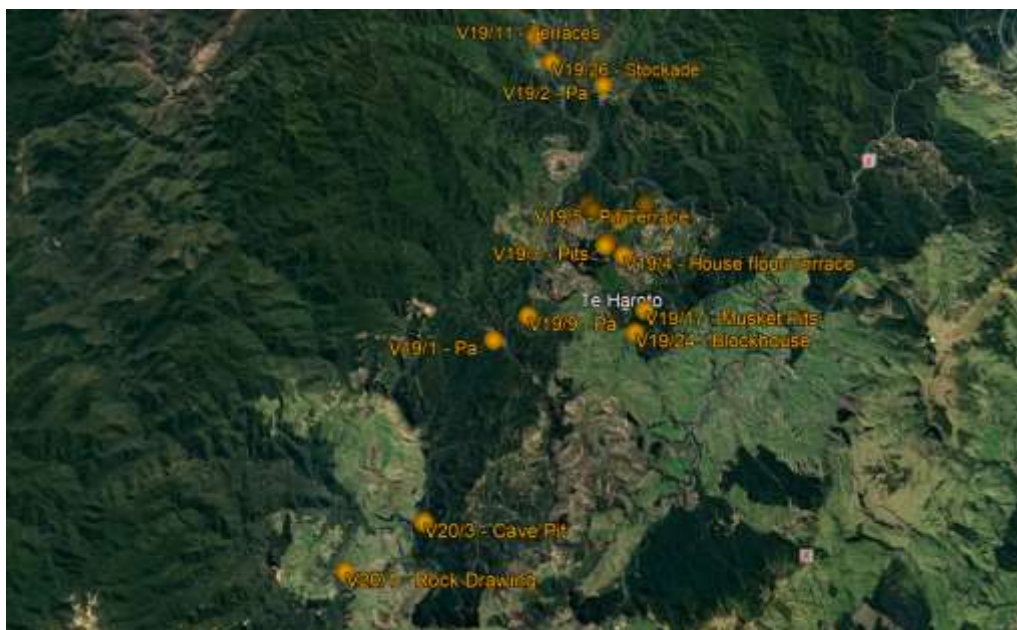


Figure 1: Archaeological sites in the Upper Mohaka

8. Statutory Acknowledgement Areas of Interest

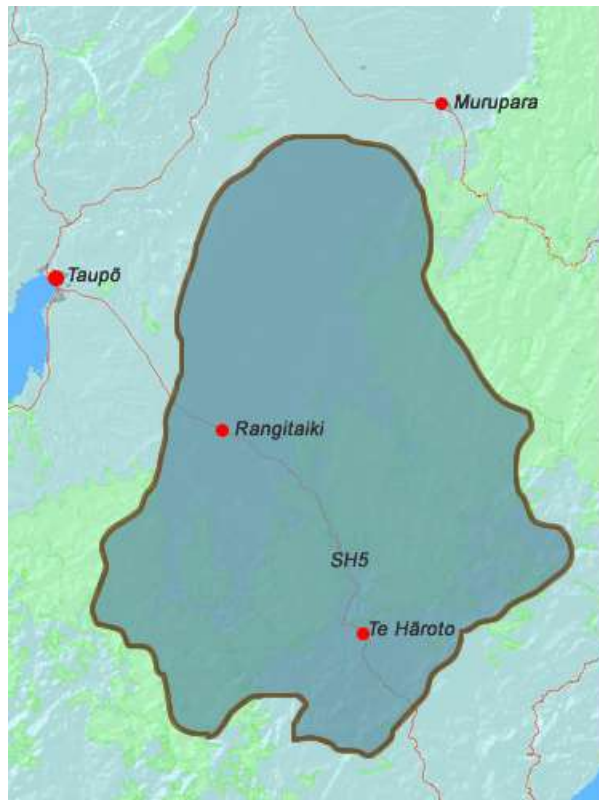


Figure 2: Ngāti Hineuru Area of Interest



Figure 3: Ngāti Pāhauwera Area of Interest



Figure 4: Ahuriri Hapū Area of Interest

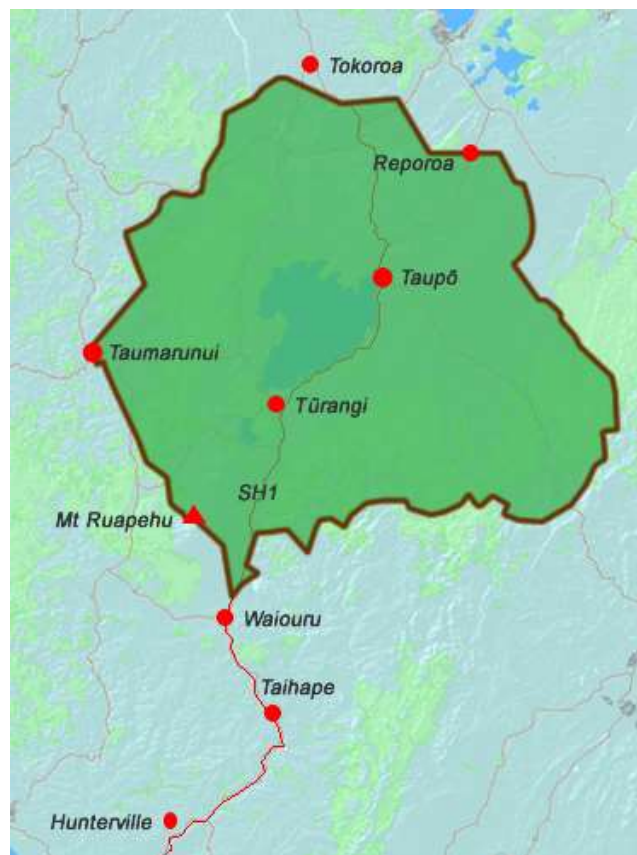


Figure 5: Ngāti Tūwharetoa Area of Interest

9. Resource Management Plans

The following tables list any relevant resource management plans developed by iwi/hapū, the regional council or territorial authorities. The tables include any specific provisions that apply to the Upper Mohaka River. They do not include all of the general policies or rules that may apply. Water quality and water quantity provisions have been included as it is recognised that these aspects can significantly impact on cultural values.

Regional Resource Management Plan

Specific water quality standards apply to the Mohaka River

- 50 Faecal Coliforms (cfu/100ml)
- 10 Suspended Solids (mg/l)

Catchments Sensitive to Animal Effluent Discharges (Schedule 6b)

Rivers Considered for Riparian Protection (Schedule 8)

Regional Coastal Environment Plan

Specific water quality standards apply to Mohaka River Catchment

- 50 Faecal Coliforms (cfu/100ml)
 - 10 Suspended Solids (mg/l)
-

Attachment 2: Photographs - Upper Mohaka River



Upper zone - Mohaka River



Downstream of the Taharua Confluence



Mohaka River

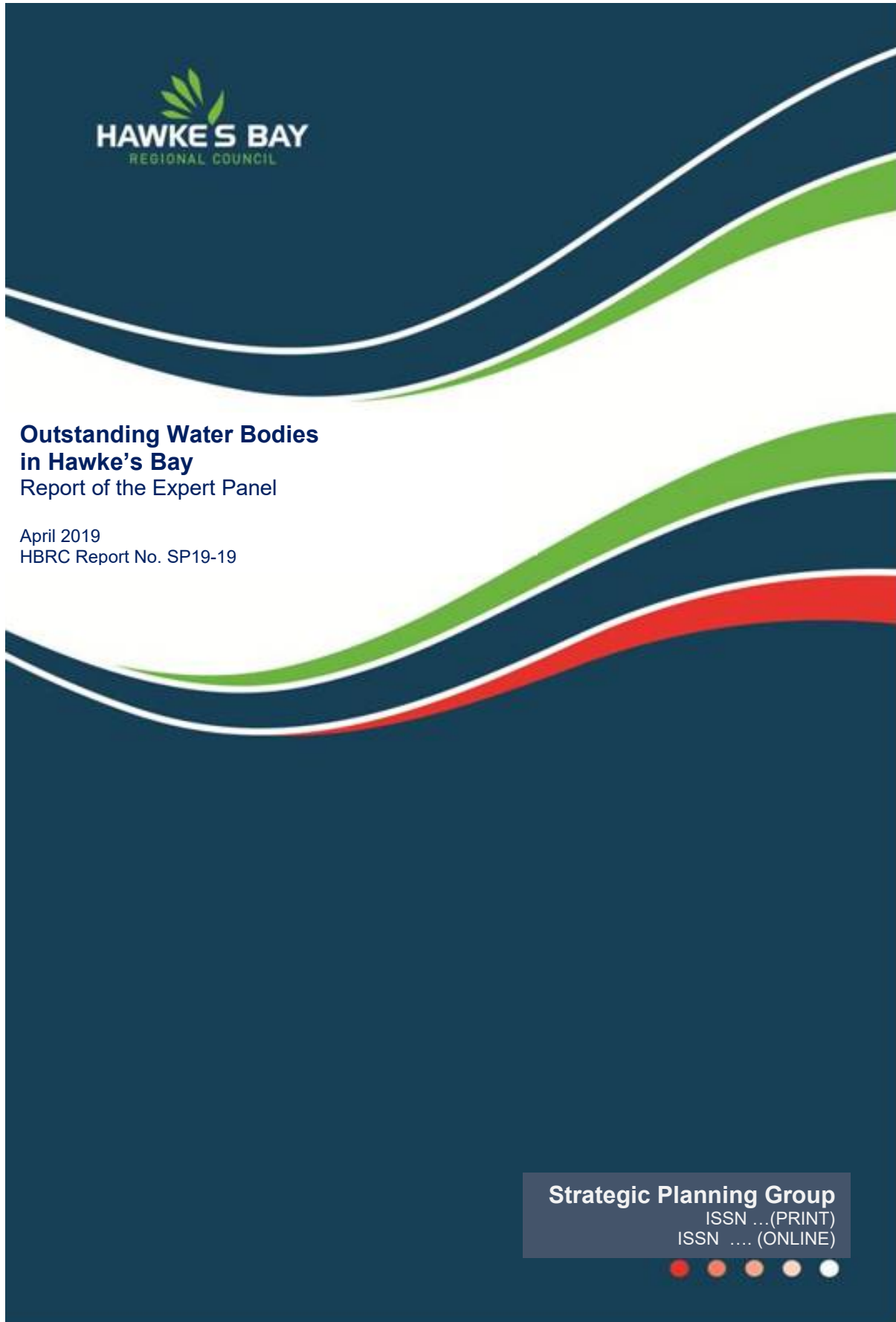


Mohaka River

Appendix 3: Expert Panel Findings - Mohaka River

Note: Appendix 3 contains extracts only - for further information please refer to the full report of the expert panel.

Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay: Report of the Expert Panel



April 2019



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Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay Report of the Expert Panel

April 2019
HBRC Report No. SP19-19



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Outcome 2: OWB Assessment Criteria

The Panel considered the criteria for what makes the selected values regionally ‘Outstanding’. The Gisborne District Council OWB criteria provided a useful framework but needed both simplification and some additional criteria.

Both quantitative and qualitative (descriptive) measures were selected and are set out below in Table 4. ‘Outstanding’ values could also be variable, for example, customary values can be dependent on the season or time of year.

TABLE 4: CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING ‘OUTSTANDING’ VALUES

‘OUTSTANDING’ VALUE	CRITERIA	INDICATOR
Ecology	Threatened Species	4 or more threatened species
	% of Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >2% of a national population of a native species • >15% of a regional population of a native species
	Ecological Distinctiveness	Presence of a unique or distinctive characteristic/ habitat or species at the regional level
	Ecological Function	Presence of a critical or outstanding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeding site • Ecosystem component • Assemblage • Kohanga ika/ nursery • Fish passage/ fish spawning
Landscape	A water body that contains a unique hydrological, geological or culturally significant feature A water body that is widely recognised at the regional level for its scenic values	
Natural Character	A water body that is highly natural with little or no human modification, including to the flow, bed and riparian margins, water quality, flora and fauna, within a largely indigenous landscape	
Amenity/ Recreation	A recreational experience that is exceptional in or on the water An exceptional location for angling or customary food gathering A unique historical or heritage site	
Cultural & Spiritual	Preliminary and high level comments only are provided using the following framework: For understanding and assessing the outstanding values, attributes and uses of water bodies from a cultural and spiritual perspective, the following concepts have been applied:	

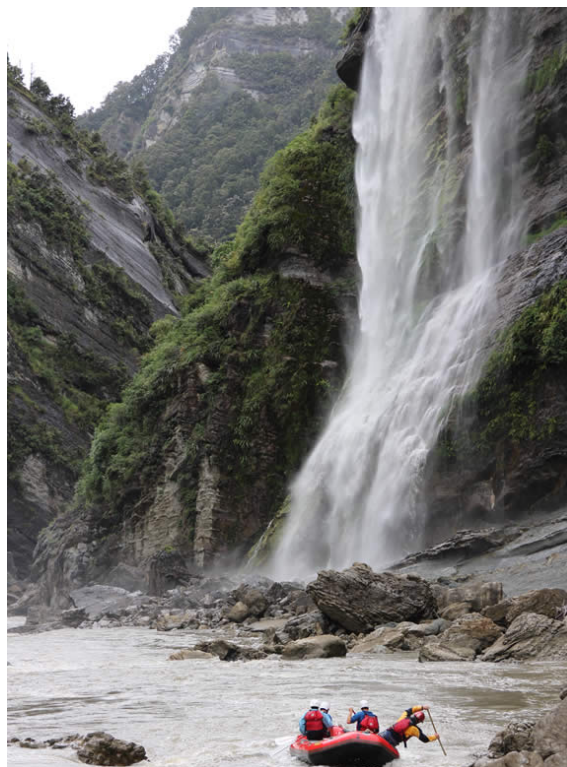
	<p><i>Wairuatanga</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mauri Mana Tapu Taonga tuku iho <p><i>Rangatiratanga</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mana whenua – mana moana Kaitiakitanga Mahinga kai (as a place, action or practice) <p><i>Whakapapa</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> O te whenua O te wai O te tangata Ki uta ki tai <p><i>Matauranga Maori</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tikanga Maori knowledge systems Traditional uses and values Origins of cultural knowledge <p><i>Cultural Natural Character</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiritual condition Mana o te wai Connectivity between ground and surface water Cleansing properties as water passes through the whenua Spring / aquifer sources – water recharge systems <p>SPECIAL NOTE:</p> <p>Tangata whenua will provide locally relevant assessments through separate input to the process (Refer to Appendix 4: Maori cultural and spiritual values, and see Diagram 1).</p>
--	---

Upper Mohaka River


Upstream of Willow Flat Bridge, including Waipunga and Te Hoe Rivers



Mohaka River downstream of Taharua confluence





Waterfall halfway down Long Rapid, Grade V Section

 World Playground - Own work

Looking downstream mid-way through Long Rapid, at higher flows.

 CC BY-SA 3.0

 File: Mohaka River, Falls at Long Rapid.jpg

 Created: 20 January 2014

Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay: Report of the Expert Panel



UPPER MOHAKA RIVER: DESCRIPTION OF OUTSTANDING VALUES

SUMMARY

TYPE	NAME	OUTSTANDING VALUE				
		ECOLOGY	LANDSCAPE	NATURAL CHARACTER	AMENITY & RECREATION	CULTURAL & SPIRITUAL
River	UPPER MOHAKA RIVER					

ECOLOGY

Description	Notes	Reference
<p><i>% of Population:</i></p> <p>Whio (blue duck):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35% of regional population • 1.5 – 7.7% of national population 	Includes Te Hoe River	<p>Bird list in Appendix 2.1</p> <p>Whio list in Appendix 2.2</p>
<p><i>Ecological Function</i></p> <p>Regionally significant for native birds</p> <p>Regionally significant for native fish</p>		<p>Native Birds RiVAS 2012</p> <p>Native Fish RiVAS 2012</p>

LANDSCAPE

Description	Notes	Reference
Horsehoe Bend (regionally important)	Horseshoe Bend	NZ Geopres. Inventory
Waipunga Falls (regionally important)	Waipunga Falls	NZ Geopres. Inventory

NATURAL CHARACTER

Description	Notes	Reference
Outstanding scenic characteristics in gorge areas	<p>Mokonui gorge</p> <p>Te Hoe gorge</p>	WCO 2004
Highest score for natural character in Hawke's Bay		Natural

Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay: Report of the Expert Panel

		Character RiVAS 2012
--	--	-------------------------

AMENITY & RECREATION

Description	Notes	Reference
<p><i>Outstanding Trout Fishery:</i></p> <p>Nationally significant wilderness trout fishery protected by a Water Conservation Order. Known for its outstanding back country/wilderness trout fishery, scenic beauty, solitude and large trout. Ranked no. 1 trout fishery by RiVAS report.</p>	Upstream of SH5 bridge & including the Te Hoe and tributaries above that point	WCO 2004 Fish & Game HBRC 2018 Salmonid Angling RiVAS 2012
<p><i>Outstanding amenity for water-based recreation:</i></p> <p>Internationally renowned for its whitewater boating opportunities, with several commercial rafting and canoeing organisations operating in this area. Its stable water flows means the river can be paddled all year round, making it usable when many other rivers are not due to summer low flows.</p> <p>One of the most frequently used rivers in the country, which provides for all levels of paddling difficultly along its length</p> <p>Placed in 'Group one' in the Government's list of rivers and lakes deserving protection for its scenic and recreation qualities, with specific note given to its rafting and canoeing values</p> <p>In 2004, The Mohaka River was recognised as a Potential Water Body of National Importance for recreation by the Ministry for the Environment</p>	SH5 bridge to Willow Flat	WCO 2004 HBRC 2018
<p><i>Kayaking:</i></p> <p>Nationally renowned for its whitewater boating opportunities</p> <p>High density of hydraulic features with multi day capability</p> <p>Good access for a range of kayaking abilities</p>		Whitewater Kayaking RiVAS 2012 WCO 2004 Kelly 2019

CULTURAL & SPIRITUAL

Description	Notes	Reference
The landscape is culturally dense with a wealth of		HBRC 2018

Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay: Report of the Expert Panel

place names and remembered events The upper Mohaka was also a key route inland		
Culturally significant for Ngati Hineuru - Waipunga Falls and hotspots of note		HBRC 2018
Outstanding spiritual & cultural values	Whole Mohaka system	WCO 2004
<i>Wairuatanga:</i> Mauri, Mana, Tapu, Taonga tuku iho <i>Whakapapa:</i> o te whenua, o te wai, o te tangata		Maungaharuru Tangitu and Ngati Pahauwera Statements of claim (Waitangi Tribunal)
<i>Landscape:</i> Whole of upper river		Mohaka River Report 1992
<i>Cultural Natural Character: Spiritual condition/connection</i> Scenic, gorge section		

Appendix 4: Final Evaluation - Mohaka River

Note: Appendix 4 contains extracts only - for further information please refer to the full report.



Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change Selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay

HBRC Report Number: SD19-18
Publication Number: 5400

Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change

Selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay

HBRC Report Number: SD19-18
Publication Number: 5400



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Dale Meredith, Senior Planner

Reviewed by:

Ceri Edmonds: Policy and Planning

Dale Meredith: Senior Planner

Tom Skerman: Group Manager Strategic Planning

Ecology values

Wildlife

The upper Mohaka River is in a highly natural state, supporting many native bird species, most notably the endangered blue duck (whio) and the long tail bat which roosts in the gorges and riparian areas.

In particular, the upper Mohaka River is identified as a breeding site for blue ducks with around 9% of the region's blue duck population (19 Whio) present at the river.

In 1996, the Mohaka River was identified as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria, which identifies wetlands of international importance, with specific reference given to its blue duck population.

In 2012, the upper Mohaka River was one of 16 river segments in Hawke's Bay identified as regionally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS for native birdlife.

The local expert panel found the upper Mohaka River to have outstanding wildlife values and outstanding ecological function, specifically noting the river as being regionally significant for native birds and the high numbers of blue duck in the greater catchment area. The local expert panel's report is attached in Appendix 6.

Native fish

The upper Mohaka River has a high quality habitat for native fish species by providing a near natural environment with high water quality. The river supports good populations of longfin eel.

The upper reaches of the Mohaka River have a low native fish diversity, with the Mokonui Gorge acting as a natural barrier limiting the movement of native fish. Above the gorge, the native fish population is limited to only those native fish that don't migrate or who are good climbers, such as shortfin eels, common bullies and long fin eels.

In 1996, the Mohaka River was identified as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria, which identifies wetlands of international importance, with specific reference given to ten indigenous species of native fish. This finding related to the river as a whole, including its estuary area.

In 2012, the Mohaka River Catchment was one of four major catchments³ in Hawke's Bay to be identified as nationally important in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for native fish. However, the RiVAS findings were related to the whole catchment, including the Mohaka River estuary area. Limited information could be found specifically in regard to the upper section of river.

The local expert panel found the upper Mohaka River to have outstanding ecological distinctiveness, specifically noting the river as being regionally significant for native fish. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Native plants

The upper Mohaka River catchment contains a number of notable plants, including the threatened *Pittosporum turneri*, the tussock *Chionochloa flavicans*, which is confined to small areas of the eastern North Island, and the calceolaria *Jovellana sinclairii*, which is thought to be the native herbaceous plant with the most restricted distribution in New Zealand.

In 1996, DOC identified the Mohaka River as meeting the Ramsar Sites Criteria, which identifies wetland of international importance, citing its special value for its endemic plant species particularly the threatened *Pittosporum turneri*, in the greater catchment area.

The local expert panel's report does not discuss the native plant values associated with upper Mohaka River. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

³ Tutaekuri, Mohaka, Ngaruroro, Tukituki Catchments.

Natural character

The upper Mohaka River runs clean and clear through large native forest areas, in its upper parts, flowing through remote countryside with scrub covering the hills past the Taharua confluence to Pungahuru. The flow regime is highly natural with no modification to the flow pattern.

From Pungahuru, the upper Mohaka River is entrenched in spectacular gorges almost continuously down to Te Hoe. This section of river is diverse and energetic with large numbers of big boulders, rapids, chutes and plunge pools. There are some powerful rapids in the upper river, with a number of water falls and a horseshoe bend.

The upper Mohaka River is widely recognised as being in a near natural condition, and has some of the highest MCI scores in Hawke's Bay, indicating its ecological condition is excellent and its water quality is pristine. Specifically, MCI scores are 125 at Willowflat, 128 upstream of the Taharua River, and 129.5 below the Ripia River. Even below the Taharua River confluence, where there is some localised degradation of water quality, the MCI score is still a high 120.

In 2012, the Mohaka River was identified as nationally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character, along with 14 rivers reaches in Hawke's Bay.

The local expert panel found the upper Mohaka River to have outstanding natural character values specifically noting the outstanding scenic characteristics in the gorge areas and the highest score for natural character in Hawke's Bay. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Landscape / geological features

The upper Mohaka River is in a near natural state known for its impressive scenic qualities, passing through spectacular gorges and past several waterfalls that drop from impressive heights.

The river itself contains some powerful rapids and is diverse and energetic pass with large numbers of big boulders, rapids, chutes and plunge pools. The river passes through spectacular gorges and around a horseshoe bend.

The Mohaka River has consistently been given impressive scenic ratings in past publications. In 1979 and 1981, the Mohaka River was given 'impressive'⁴ scenic ratings in 64 New Zealand Rivers, and New Zealand Recreational River Survey.

In 1984, the Mohaka River was the only Hawke's Bay River to be identified on the Governments National Inventory of Wild and Scenic Rivers, and in 1986 the Mohaka River was placed on 'Group One' on the Governments list of rivers and lake deserving protection.

Notably, in 2004 a Water Conservation Order was placed over the Mohaka River identifying and protecting the outstanding scenic characteristics of the Mokonui gorge. In 2012, the Mohaka River was identified as nationally significant in the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character, along with 14 other reaches of river in Hawke's Bay.

The horseshoe bend on the Mohaka River is identified on the Geopreservation Inventory as being Class C (regionally important), along with 89 other features in Hawke's Bay.

The local expert panel found the upper Mohaka River to have outstanding landscape values, specifically noting the horseshoe bend. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

⁴ Scenic values graded on a five point scale: dull, ordinary, interesting, impressive, exceptional.

Recreation

The Mohaka River is widely recognised in New Zealand as a 'top quality wilderness trout fishery', and for its exceptional rafting and kayaking experiences. It contains a variety of water conditions for fishing and boating and is a highly used by people from within and outside of Hawke's Bay.

The upper Mohaka River is highly valued for its exceptional scenic beauty, which sets the scene for a range of top quality kayaking, rafting and fishing experiences. It is reliable and can be used at any time during the year due to its stable river flows. A number of commercial organisations operate in this area.

The Mohaka River is best known by paddlers for its technical Grade 4 and 5 rapids, particularly Te Hoe and Mokonui gorges, which are the best in Hawke's Bay and have an international reputation. The upper Mohaka River contains a 55 km stretch of jet boating water, which required advanced skills and is not suitable for family boating.

The trout fishery in the Mohaka River is valued for its clear, cool waters and high numbers of large trout which can reach trophy size. The river contains around twice as many large fish as other rivers in the region. In 1994, NIWA identified the Mohaka River as a Category A headwater trout fishery.

The recreational activities associated with the Mohaka River have been discussed in a high number of published documents, where they are consistently described as outstanding, nationally important and exceptional. Notably, in 2004, a WCO was placed over the Mohaka River in recognition of its outstanding recreational and scenic characteristics.

The local expert panel found the upper Mohaka River to have outstanding recreation values, specifically noting its: trout fishery, whitewater boating opportunities, variety of experiences, reliability all year round, scenic values and its high level of use. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

Cultural and Spiritual values

The Mohaka River is significant to Ngāti Pāhauwera, Ngāti Hineuru, Mana Ahuriri and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

The river is taonga, an integral part of tribal identity for Pāhauwera. The various hapu have a number of riverside settlements, and the Mohaka is a rohe boundary for Mana Ahuriri and Hineuru.

Pāhauwera and Tūwharetoa shared a pact for the use of the Mohaka in relation to the coastal areas and the hinterland, enabling coastal dwellers to move inland when coastal resources were scarce, and vice versa. The river was a key transport route between the inland hills and mountains and the sea.

Resources include hangi stones, drinking water, water for spiritual cleansing and healing. A range of fisheries were supported, with kahawai being the most celebrated.

The Water Conservation Order (WCO) report for the Mohaka River recognised the whole river system has outstanding spiritual and cultural values, however, the lower Mohaka was later removed from the WCO by request of Ngāti Pāhauwera.

Three taniwha live in the river – Maree, Popoia and Paikea.

Information reviewed indicates the water body contains the following key values:

- Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga
- Wai Tapu
- Rohe Boundary
- Battle site
- Pa, kāinga
- Mahinga kai, Pa tuna
- Acknowledged in korero tuku iho, pepeha, whakatauki, waiata.

The local expert panel found that the Upper Mohaka contained known outstanding cultural and spiritual values, specifically wairuatanga, whakapapa, cultural natural character and landscape. They found that a cultural assessment was needed for the Lower Mohaka (below Willowflat).

Ngāti Pāhauwera has requested that the Lower Mohaka River (below Willowflat) is not identified as an Outstanding Water Body.

Iwi authorities at the Wairoa sub-regional hui advised that the Mohaka has outstanding cultural and spiritual values. The Ngāti Hineuru Deed of Settlement notes that the river is of particular significance for the reasons listed above.