

# Te Hoe 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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## **Te Hoe River - Summary of Values**

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

HBRC Publication Number: 5506

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## Purpose of Report

1. This report is a compilation of information previously documented on the values associated with Te Hoe 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 Te Hoe 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 Te Hoe 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 Report<sup>1</sup>.
6. **Table 1: Te Hoe 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)	38 - 39
		Summary of the Recreation, Landscape and Ecology Values Associated with Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay (March 2018)	20
Secondary Assessments (Phase 3)	No	N/A	N/A
Local Expert Panel (Phase 4)	Yes	Outstanding Water Bodies in Hawke's Bay - Report of the Expert Panel (April 2019)	31 - 35
Final Evaluation (Phase 5)	Yes	Outstanding Water Bodies Plan Change - selecting a list of outstanding water bodies in Hawke's Bay (May 2019)	18, 27, 50, 54, 90, 106

## 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](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz) (search #owb).

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

## Phase One & Phase 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 Te Hoe 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. Te Hoe River was not selected as a candidate OWB, as such a secondary assessment was not carried out for this water body.

## 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 members<sup>2</sup> 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 Upper Mohaka River, including Te Hoe River, to have outstanding ecology, landscape, natural character, amenity and recreation, and cultural and spiritual values. Their findings are set out in Appendix 2.

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<sup>2</sup> 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 3 sets out the relevant extracts from the final evaluation for Te Hoe River.

# Appendix 1: Tables C1 and R2 - Te Hoe 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

HBRC Report No. SD18-01  
Plan Number 4978

**Strategic Development Group**

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

HBRC Report No. SD18-01  
Plan Number 4978

14 March 2018

Prepared By:  
Belinda Harper, Senior Planner

### 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><b>NOTE 1:</b> 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><b>NOTE 2:</b> 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>
Te Hoe River  Hawke's Bay Mohaka	Ngāti Pāhauwera	DOS	Hangi stones in the Te Hoe River are a significant resource for Ngāti Pāhauwera.	Mahinga kai, Pa tuna
		SA	No	
		TSL	Yes	
		CUS		
		WTR		
		OTHER		
Te Hoe River  Hawke's Bay Mohaka	Ngāti Hineuru	DOS	<p>Hineuru has a particular cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association with Te Hoe River.</p> <p>The significance of Te Hoe River stems from its importance as a traditional boundary marker, and a mahinga kai resource.</p> <p>Ngatapa was an important Hineuru pā located on the junction of the Te Hoe and Hautapu Rives, which was settled permanently. Ngatapa was a site of cultivations and wāhi tapu sites where dead are buried.</p> <p>Where the Te Hoe River meets the Mohaka River, there is a concentration of sites of significance, particularly wāhi tapu sites (urupā). An important wāhi tapu site (Pahiakai) is located in this area.</p> <p>The Te Hoe River was abundant with fish species, including tuna, trout and the koura. Hangi stones were gathered from the river.</p> <p>The forest around the Te Hoe 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 Te Hoe 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 ta moko process.</p>	Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga Wai Tapu Mahinga kai, Pa tuna Pa, kāinga Rohe Boundary
		SA	Yes – same as DOS	
		TSL	Yes	
		CUS		
		WTR		
		OTHER		



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

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

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14 March 2018


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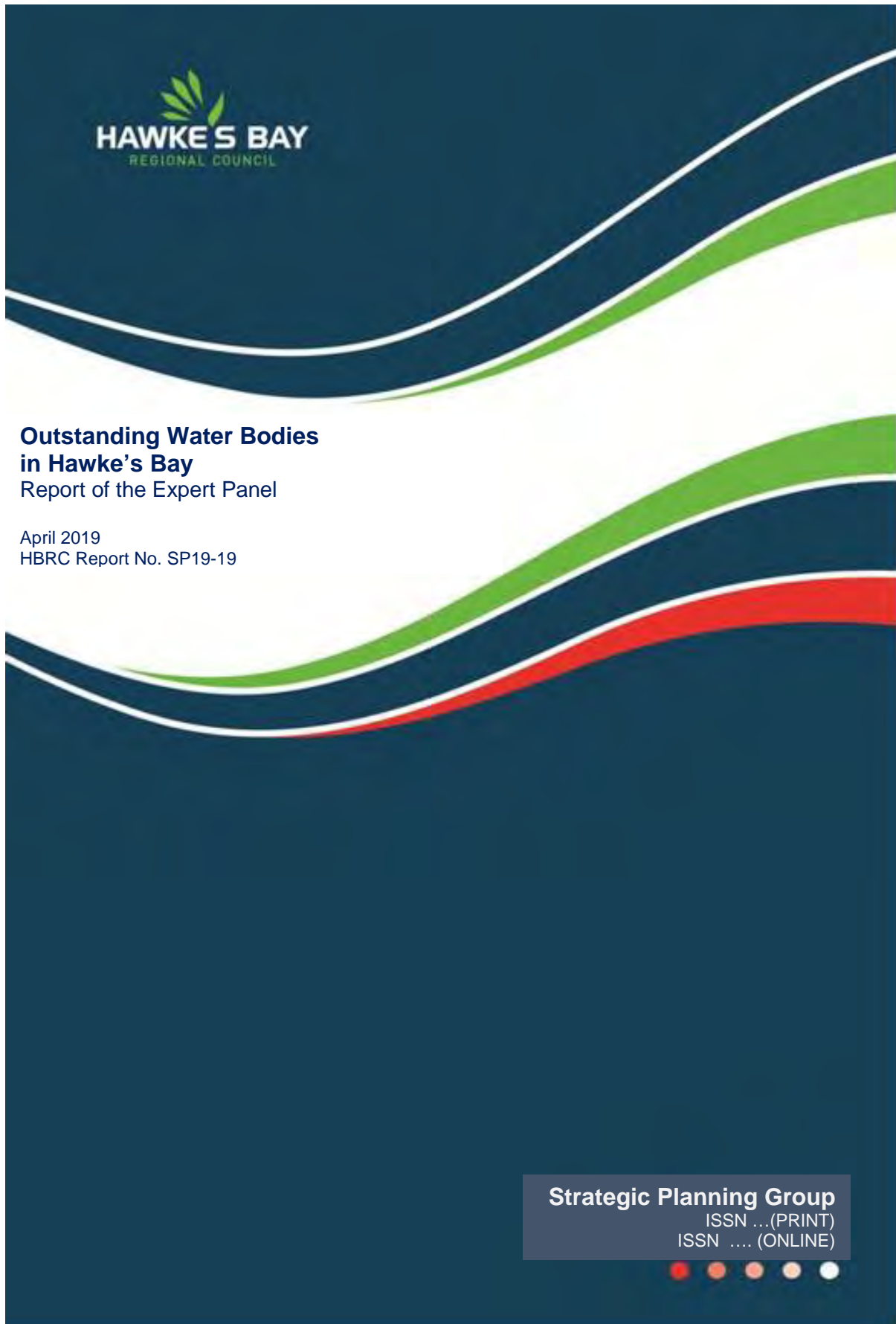
Waterbody / Region / Catchment	Treaty settlement entity group(s) with linkages back to waterbody	Commentary		Key values
Te Hoe River  Hawke's Bay <b>Mohaka</b>	Ngāti Pāhauwera  Ngāti Hineuru	<u>Key</u> 64NZR = 64 New Zealand Rivers – A Scenic Evaluation RRS = New Zealand Recreational River Survey MAF & 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		
		64NZR	No	Recreation (angling, kayaking)
		RRS	Scenic value = impressive Recreational value = insignificant 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.	
		MAF&F	No	
		W&SR	No	
		LOR&L	No	
		HTF	No	
		WONI	No	
		RAMSAR	No	
W&WH	N/A			
RiVAS	Regionally significant for native fishery value Nationally significant for salmonid angling Nationally significant and regionally significant for kayaking			



# Appendix 2: Expert Panel Findings - Te Hoe River

*Note: Appendix 2 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



Prepared by:

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Matthew Brady, Department of Conservation  
John Cheyne, Wetland Works  
Andrew Curtis, Water Strategies Ltd  
Bernie Kelly, Hawke's Bay Canoe Club  
Tom Winlove, Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council

For Strategic Planning Group  
Hawke's Bay Regional Council

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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"> <li>• &gt;2% of a national population of a native species</li> <li>• &gt;15% of a regional population of a native species</li> </ul>
	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"> <li>• Breeding site</li> <li>• Ecosystem component</li> <li>• Assemblage</li> <li>• Kohanga ika/ nursery</li> <li>• Fish passage/ fish spawning</li> </ul>
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"> <li>Mauri</li> <li>Mana</li> <li>Tapu</li> <li>Taonga tuku iho</li> </ul> <p><i>Rangatiratanga</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mana whenua – mana moana</li> <li>Kaitiakitanga</li> <li>Mahinga kai (as a place, action or practice)</li> </ul> <p><i>Whakapapa</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>O te whenua</li> <li>O te wai</li> <li>O te tangata</li> <li>Ki uta ki tai</li> </ul> <p><i>Matauranga Maori</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tikanga Maori knowledge systems</li> <li>Traditional uses and values</li> <li>Origins of cultural knowledge</li> </ul> <p><i>Cultural Natural Character</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spiritual condition</li> <li>Mana o te wai</li> <li>Connectivity between ground and surface water</li> <li>Cleansing properties as water passes through the whenua</li> <li>Spring / aquifer sources – water recharge systems</li> </ul> <p><b>SPECIAL NOTE:</b></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>
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# 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"> <li>• 35% of regional population</li> <li>• 1.5 – 7.7% of national population</li> </ul>	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
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### 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 3: Final Evaluation - Te Hoe River

*Note: Appendix 3 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



Prepared by:

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Reviewed by:

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**Dale Meredith: Senior Planner**

**Tom Skerman: Group Manager Strategic Planning**

## Ecology values

### Wildlife

Te Hoe River is a tributary of the Mohaka River. It is in a highly natural state and supports a significant number of blue duck, and high number of other native species.

Most notably, Te Hoe River is a breeding site for the blue duck, supporting around 18% of the regions (40 whio) blue duck population, which is one of the two largest populations in Hawke's Bay.

The whio is an iconic species of waterbird, which were once widespread through New Zealand but are now extremely rare, with only 1,000 breeding pairs remaining. It is classified as endangered on the IUCN<sup>3</sup> red list and nationally vulnerable on the NZTCS (see Table 6 for descriptions).

The local expert panel found Te Hoe River to have outstanding wildlife values, specifically noting the high numbers of blue duck in the greater catchment area. The local expert panel's report is attached in Appendix 6.

## Natural character

Very little information could be found discussing the natural character values of Te Hoe gorge. Further, the Hawke's Bay RiVAS assessments for natural character, did not include Te Hoe River.

The local expert panel found Te Hoe River to have outstanding natural character values, noting the outstanding scenic characteristics of Te Hoe gorge. Appendix 6 sets out the full findings of the local expert panel.

## Cultural and Spiritual values

Te Hoe River has a particular cultural, spiritual, historical and traditional association with Ngāti Hineuru and Ngāti Pāhauwera.

A tributary of the Mohaka River, Te Hoe River is a traditional boundary marker for Ngāti Hineuru. A number of significant sites are located along the length of the river, including a pa site at Ngatapa and wāhi tapu sites by the confluence of the Te Hoe and Mohaka.

The river provided drinking water, was a source for spiritual cleansing and was considered to have healing properties. Hangi stones were gathered from this river, and it has abundant fish species, including tuna (eel), trout and the koura.

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

- Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi taonga
- Wai Tapu
- Rohe Boundary
- Pa, kāinga
- Mahinga kai, Pa tuna.

The local expert panel found that the whole Mohaka system (including Te Hoe River) was outstanding for known cultural and spiritual values, and that it should be managed as an Outstanding Water Body along with the Upper Mohaka River above Willowflat.

Iwi authorities at the Wairoa sub-regional hui recommended that all waterbodies, including all tributaries, in the Wairoa catchment have outstanding cultural and spiritual values. The Te Rohe o Te Wairoa Deed of Settlement notes that the river is of particular significance for the reasons listed above and is included in pepeha.

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<sup>3</sup> International Union for Conservation of Nature red list of threatened species.