

The Kaimais thrive, hence we thrive.



Kaimai Mamaku

Catchments Forum

Strategic Plan for the Kaimai Mamaku Catchments Forum

Supported by

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Department of Conservation NZ Landcare Trust Waikato Regional Council
Hauraki District Council Matamata-Piako District Council Rotorua District Council South Waikato District Council
Tauranga City Council Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Strategic Plan for the Kaimai Mamaku Catchments Forum

Forum members voted a high level of support for the following outcomes/objectives/actions, generally exceeding 85%. Subsequent to the completion of the draft strategic plan feedback process, a number of members' concerns with individual points in the Plan have been resolved, and this has further increased the overall level of support. In some cases, Forum representatives have asked that their lack of support for an individual point within the Plan should be acknowledged, and this information is recorded in Appendix 1.

Three key outcome areas

	Water	Biodiversity	People
Topic outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The mauri (life supporting qualities) of the rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater (puna) is protected throughout the catchment. 2. Our water bodies are enhanced and protected from contaminants. 3. Water allocation is managed sustainably for in-stream and out of stream values. 4. Significant flood impact is minimised. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The health of the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park is restored – bring back the birds. 2. The indigenous biodiversity beyond the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park is enhanced. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People understand and appreciate the multiple values of the Kaimai Mamaku catchments. 2. The Waihou and Tauranga Harbour catchments are sustainably managed to contribute to the environmental, cultural, economic and social well-being of the Waikato and Bay of Plenty communities. 3. People understand and practice sustainable land and water management (including biodiversity). 4. The Forum is recognised as the key voice for the Kaimai Mamaku communities and is effectively engaged in planning and funding opportunities relating to the Kaimai Mamaku project area.

Water

Outcome 1

The mauri (life supporting qualities) of the rivers, streams, wetlands and groundwater (puna) is protected throughout the catchment.

Objective 1a

Improve fisheries stock (e.g. koura, tuna, whitebait).

Actions

- Undertake a stocktake to measure current status, develop baseline data, evaluate fish passage, spawning sites, numbers.
- Ensure discharges to water (e.g. stormwater, waste water or sewage) are compliant with resource consent conditions and rules within regulatory documents.
- Foster a sense of ownership/duty of care to enhance mauri.

Objective 1b

The streams and wetlands support diverse and healthy ecosystems.

Actions

- Exclude stock access to wetlands, rivers and streams except for those areas that are not practicable.
- Assist/encourage riparian planting where appropriate.
- Encourage the re-establishment of wetlands.
- Reduce sediment sources by improved farm and forestry management practices.

Outcome 2

Our water bodies are enhanced and protected from contaminants.

Objective 2a

Reduce the quantity of contaminants generated by human activities that are transported by water bodies to the harbour environments.

Actions

- Re-establish wetlands and encourage the development of additional sediment control measures where appropriate to reduce the effects of land use or development.
- Define the current baseline and trends for sediment, nutrients and microbes in key catchments.

- Determine appropriate water quality standards needed to achieve water quality outcomes.
- Evaluate practical options to achieve these standards.
- Identify existing features/attributes that act to minimise sediment in waterbodies.
- Target areas that generate and deliver large quantities of sediment for restoration or enhancement.
- Increase the planting of suitable species in riparian areas.
- Work with landowners to identify, prioritise and protect wetlands being damaged by stock or drainage.

Outcome 3

Water allocation is managed sustainably for in-stream and out of stream values.

Objective 3a

The allocation of water to various users, including out of stream uses, is efficient and equitable.

Actions

- Document in-stream values (recreational, cultural, economic and environmental) to inform future decision-making.
- Promote efficient water use for dairy, horticulture, irrigation, industrial, municipal and household.
- Promote recycling and reuse of waste water.
- Seek representation from the Forum on sub-regional water management groups.

Outcome 4

Significant flood impact is minimised.

Objective 4a

There is no increase in flood risk to existing developments and land uses.

Actions

- Retain the functioning of existing stopbanks and related infrastructure where needed.

Objective 4b

New developments are not susceptible to (or creating) flood hazards.

Actions

- Provide educational material to landowners/developers to increase awareness of flood risk avoidance.

Objective 4c

There is a localised reduction of risk in existing floodable areas.

Actions

- Identify areas where the community believes existing flood risk is unacceptable.
- Prepare and distribute educational material for the community to improve preparedness and reduce the risk of harm from flooding.
- Identify and prioritise activities such as tree planting and wetlands construction in the upper catchment where that will decrease flooding.
- Promote the use of low impact design techniques to reduce flood risk.

Objective 4d

The community is resilient and prepared for expected increases in extreme weather events.

Actions

- Improve awareness of the potential impacts of extreme weather events and make relevant information available to the community.
- Encourage the protection of forest and wetland assets that minimise and mitigate damage caused by extreme rainfall events.
- Identify actions to minimise predicted increase in sediment generation from future extreme weather events.
- Encourage management practices which reduce sediment run-off.

Biodiversity

Outcome 1

The health of the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park is restored – bring back the birds.

Objective 1a

To manage animal and plant pest species so as to be a low threat to biodiversity values.

Actions

- Collaborate and develop a multi pest management control programme plan across the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park to reduce pest numbers across the whole park.
- Co-ordinated engagement of stakeholders in pest control activities across boundaries beyond the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park.
- Develop a monitoring programme to ensure objectives are reviewed and met.

Objective 1b

To re-introduce lost species of flora and fauna to help restore indigenous ecosystems.

Actions

- Identify species for re-introduction to the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park.
- Ensure that adequate protection and support exists to enable the species to flourish.
- Carry out re-introductions of identified species.

Objective 1c

To increase the diversity, natural range and number of indigenous bird species and the total number of those species present in the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park.

Actions

- Habitat requirements for bird species are identified and enhanced where necessary.
- Identify actions to enhance bird life and implement community-based projects to deliver.
- Bird populations are assessed and reported using consistent reliable means.

Outcome 2

The indigenous biodiversity beyond the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park is enhanced.

Objective 2a

Landowners outside of the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park are supported and encouraged to recognise and provide for biodiversity enhancement on their properties.

Actions

- Develop a priority list of sites for biodiversity enhancement based on biodiversity value, connectivity, and ecosystem representativeness.
- Identify and collate initiatives that protect and enhance biodiversity on land beyond the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park.
- Hold field days and use local champions to deliver biodiversity information to landowners.
- Develop and make readily available through a variety of means, educational material regarding biodiversity enhancement.
- Develop a monitoring programme to support meeting the objectives.

People

Outcome 1

People understand and appreciate the multiple values of the Kaimai Mamaku Catchments.

Objective 1a

Develop an awareness of the values and a culture of cooperation between agencies, iwi, industry, organisations and individuals.

Actions

- The Forum develops its own website content for different audiences including local communities, user groups, schools, agencies, iwi and hapū.

Objective 1b

Develop an awareness of the values of the Kaimai Mamaku catchments.

Actions

- Develop a series of resources about the social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects of the Kaimai Mamaku catchments for all schools, consistent with national curriculum requirements,
- Work with local educators to deliver the programme in all schools in the catchment.
- Publish the history and story of the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park.

Objective 1c

Provide a wide range of well managed recreational opportunities both within the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park and wider catchment areas.

Actions

- Undertake an assessment of the level of risk, usage and community value of different sites.
- Improve or develop infrastructure (car parks, tracks, toilets and signage) to high visitor number areas and high impact areas.

Objective 1d

Comprehensive information including written publications, internet publications and track signage is available.

Actions

- Quality track signage and interpretation is provided at all recreation sites to make visitor experience safe and enjoyable for all
- Identify key existing high value sites (based on accessibility, natural and cultural values) for active promotion to the public
- Emphasise the intrinsic value of the Kaimai Mamaku catchment areas to all users through publications, media, communications and campaigns

Outcome 2

The Waihou and Tauranga Harbour catchments are sustainably managed to contribute to the environmental, cultural, economic and social well-being of the Waikato and Bay of Plenty communities.

Objective 2a

Ecosystem services provided within the Forum area and their contribution to the economic well-being of the community are understood, valued and sustained.

(‘Ecosystems services’ are defined by Landcare Research as “the benefits that humans receive from nature...(e.g.) clear air to breathe, pollination of our food crops, and appealing landscapes in which to spend our time”.)

Actions

- Kaimai Mamaku Catchment Forum members actively participate in planning, business and economic development forums to ensure the value of ecosystem services are taken into account in future plan development, and political and business decisions.
- Create a store of existing data and information that identifies the value of ecological services in the Kaimai Mamaku project area.
- Prepare and promote an easy-to-understand and user-friendly summary of the economic and other benefits of ecosystem services.

Objective 2b

Economic activity within the Kaimai Mamaku project area is enhanced.

Actions

- Using existing information from various sources (e.g. Ministry of Social Development, industry, agencies, councils), estimate the value of economic activities undertaken within the Kaimai Mamaku project area.
- Produce guidelines which encourage economic activities with minimal impact on the natural and cultural values of the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park to be undertaken at appropriate locations.

Objective 2c

The social and cultural well-being of tangata whenua, residents and landowners is enhanced.

Actions

- Identify - and where practical, quantify - the social and recreational values of the Kaimai Mamaku project area including developing a comprehensive visitor opportunity assessment and plan for the project area, involving relevant iwi and hapū, landowners, tourism authorities and user groups.
- Tangata whenua are supported and encouraged in their role as Kaitiaki.

Outcome 3

People understand and practice sustainable land and water management (including biodiversity).

Objective 3a

The communities and organisations within the Kaimai Mamaku project area work together for sustainable land and water management.

Actions

- Find and empower passionate people to work as leaders and influencers for sustainable land management and water quality.
- The Forum collaborates with statutory agencies.
- An up-to-date calendar is maintained on the Forum's website with a range of activities suited to all ages, abilities and sectors.
- Public agencies and Forum member groups plan to meet at least once a year to co-ordinate key aspects of their activity plans that relate to the Kaimai Mamaku project area for the coming year.
- Information about land and water quality is shared and readily available.

Outcome 4

The Forum is recognised as the key voice for the Kaimai Mamaku communities and is effectively engaged in planning and funding opportunities relating to the Kaimai Mamaku project area.

Objective 4a

Councils and regulatory bodies who are developing statutory planning or resourcing (including funding) documents that relate to the Kaimai Mamaku project area take account of the Forum's Strategic Plan and collaborate/consult with the Forum.

Actions

- Public agencies provide the Forum with an annual calendar of planning processes to support participation.
- The Forum participates in planning and funding processes relevant to the Forum's objectives.
- Resourcing opportunities are identified and applications made to support achieving the Forum's objectives.