

# Proposed Visions, Values, Environmental Outcomes for the Marlborough Sounds Complex FMU

(As at October 2023 based only on community feedback after the first round of community engagement, as such this does not include tangata whenua visions, values and environmental outcomes, these we be included in 2024)

MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS COMPLEX FMU		
<b>Visions</b>		
<p>The health of the waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems are maintained, protected, and enhanced for current and future generations. Freshwater and riparian habitats are restored, enhanced and protected. Healthy freshwater systems are associated with healthy coastal marine receiving environments. The wider environment and communities are thriving and resilient.</p> <p>The contribution of waterways to the natural and scenic values of the Marlborough Sounds Complex FMU are maintained and protected from degradation. The area continues to be used for recreational purposes, mahinga kai and food gathering.</p> <p>Drinking water sources for the community are protected and viable for both community and stock drinking water supply ongoing into the future.</p> <p>Commercial and industrial activities are provided for within the bounds of waterbody and ecosystem health, including the health of coastal marine areas.</p>		
Values	Value description	Environmental Outcomes
<b>1 - Ecosystem Health</b>	Healthy freshwater ecosystems sustaining indigenous aquatic life expected in the absence of human disturbance or alteration.	<p>The five biophysical components that contribute to freshwater ecosystem health are managed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Water quality – Freshwater quality supports and sustains healthy waterbodies and their freshwater ecosystems.</li> <li>b. Water quantity – Waterbody flows and levels, including variability, supports and sustains healthy waterbodies and their freshwater ecosystems.</li> <li>c. Habitat – The extent, form and structure of waterbodies including their bed, banks and margins are maintained, protected and enhanced, including riparian vegetation. Restoring, retaining and maintaining connections to and between channels, floodplain, and wetlands including refuges to enable recolonisation following disturbance.</li> <li>d. Aquatic Life – Waterbodies and their margins support and sustain abundant, healthy and diverse biota, including microbes, invertebrates, plants, fish and birds. Indigenous ecosystems are thriving, and populations are resilient to disturbance including changing climatic patterns.</li> <li>e. Ecological Processes – Healthy functioning ecological process occur in waterbodies and their margins, including primary production, nutrient cycling,</li> </ol>

		<p>trophic connectivity as well as life cycle functions such as feeding, migration, reproduction.</p>
<p><b>2 - Human Contact</b></p>	<p>Waterbodies support people being able to connect with the water through a range of activities, including swimming in the Waitohi River, paddling, mahinga kai and food gathering and exploring. The quality of freshwater entering into the coastal marine environment in the many bays of the Marlborough Sounds does not affect people being able to undertake a range of water-based activities in the coastal marine area, including swimming, paddling, kayaking, paddle boarding, boating, water skiing, fishing and mahinga kai and food gathering.</p>	<p>Waterbodies can be enjoyed and are safe for people to connect with through a range of recreational activities, including swimming in the Waitohi River, paddling, mahinga kai and food gathering and exploring, when flows or levels are suitable. The receiving environment of the coastal marine area can also be enjoyed and are safe for people to continue to undertake a range of water-based activities in the coastal marine area, including swimming, paddling, kayaking, paddle boarding, boating, water skiing, fishing and mahinga kai and food gathering.</p>
<p><b>3 - Threatened Species</b></p>	<p>Critical habitats and ecosystem health necessary to support the presence, abundance, survival, and recovery of a population threatened species. Species specifically identified for the Marlborough Sounds Complex FMU – further information to come.</p>	<p>Habitats of threatened species and conditions necessary to support the presence, abundance, survival, and recovery are protected and improved. Habitats for species identified for the Marlborough Sounds are protected and enhanced. Coastal marine habitats, as receiving environments of freshwater rivers and streams, are not adversely affected by freshwater inputs.</p>
<p><b>4 - Mahinga Kai</b></p>	<p>Kai is safe to harvest and eat and the mauri of the place is intact for rivers, streams, wetlands and coastal marine areas, being receiving environments. Tuna (eels) from Moawhitu lake and wetland on D'Urville Island and watercress in waterbodies such as Ohingaroa Creek.</p> <p>Mahinga kai generally refers to freshwater species that have traditionally been used as food, tools, or other resources. It also refers to the places those species are found and to the act of catching or harvesting them. Customary resources are available for use, with customary practices able to be exercised to the extent desired, and tikanga and preferred methods able to be practised. Transfer of knowledge can occur about the preparation, storage and cooking of kai.</p>	<p>Kai, including whitebait, watercress and tuna (eels), is safe to harvest and eat from rivers, stream, wetlands and the mauri of the place is intact. The ecological and cultural mauri of the Moawhitu lake and wetland on D'Urville Island is restored and taonga species to Ngati Koata such as tuna are thriving. Customary resources are available for use, with customary practices able to be exercised to the extent desired, and tikanga and preferred methods able to be practised. Transfer of knowledge can occur including the species / resource location, harvesting, preparation, storage and cooking of kai.</p>

<b>5 - Natural form and character</b>	The very high natural character of the Waitohi River (excluding urban Picton) and the high natural character of the Graham and Kenepuru Rivers. Waterways contribute to the outstanding landscapes and landforms of the Marlborough Sounds.	The very high natural character of the Waitohi River (excluding urban Picton) and the high natural character of the Graham and Kenepuru Rivers is protected. Waterways continue to contribute to the outstanding landscapes and landforms of the Marlborough Sounds.
<b>6 – Drinking Water</b>	Part of Picton and Waikawa's water supply is provided through the Essons Valley water supply in the upper Waitohi River catchment. The main supply for the town is groundwater sourced at Speeds Road located in the adjoining Wairau FMU. Many smaller waterways provide domestic supply through numerous small schemes to communities located throughout the Marlborough Sounds.	Water quality and quantity is sufficient for water to be taken and used for drinking water supply with minimal treatment to meet Drinking Water Standards. Drinking water supply sources including the upper Waitohi River (Essons Valley water supply), the Tuamarina (Speeds Road) groundwater supply and multiple small stream supplies to dispersed communities are protected. Allocation of water for domestic and community water supplies is prioritised over other water uses.
<b>7 - Wai tapu</b>	The Waitohi River and Waikawa Stream have special places in the rohe of Te Atiawa. Moawhitu lake and wetland and the surrounding catchment on D'Urville Island is highly valued by Ngati Koata through long association and history as a place of unique mauri and wairua. Other places where rituals and ceremonies are performed, or where there is special significance to tangata whenua.	Special places to tangata whenua relating to the Waitohi River and Waikawa Stream, Moawhitu lake and wetland and its surrounding catchment on D'Urville Island are protected. Other places where rituals and ceremonies are performed, or where there is special significance to tangata whenua are free from human and animal waste, contaminants and excess sediment. The features and unique properties of the wai and identified taonga in the wai are protected.
<b>8 - Fishing</b>	Whitebaiting at the mouth of various Sounds streams such as those around Okiwi Bay.	Whitebaiting at the mouth of various Marlborough Sounds streams is sustainable, being in sufficient numbers to maintain a thriving population and are safe to be eaten.
<b>9 - Animal Drinking Water</b>	Water quality and quantity meets the needs of farmed animals, including being palatable and safe.	Drinking water for farmed animals is safe and palatable, being available to meets the needs of farmed animals, including allocation during droughts to provide for animal welfare.
<b>10 - Irrigation / Cultivation / Production of Food and Beverages</b>	Water quantity is suitable for irrigation needs, including supporting the cultivation of food and beverage crops, the production of food from farmed animals, non-food crops such as fibre, and pasture.	Within waterbody and freshwater ecosystem limits, water is available to support irrigation needs for the cultivation of food and beverage crops, the production of food from farmed animals, non-food crops such as fibre, and pasture.
<b>11 – Commercial</b>	Water quality and quantity can provide for commercial and industrial activities providing economic opportunities for people, business and industries.	Water quality is suitable for commercial and industrial use activities, with allocation related to efficient use requirements supporting economic opportunities for people, business and industries, within waterbody and ecosystem limits.

<b>and Industrial Use</b>		
<b>12 – Recreation and Amenity</b>	Recreational activities can take place adjacent to waterways, that do not involve direct water immersion, including walking, cycling, picnicking, camping and enjoying the Marlborough Sounds' natural environment.	Waterbodies are desirable to be close to and access to waterbody margins is maintained and enhanced, supporting a range of opportunities for recreational activities to take place close to waterbodies including walking, cycling, picnicking, camping and enjoyment of the natural Sounds environment, except in circumstances where public health and safety, ecological or cultural values are at risk.
<b>13 – Access</b>	Public access to rivers and streams close to communities such as the Waitohi River, along walking routes including the Queen Charlotte Track and in the many popular bays like White's and Ngākuta Bays.	Public access to waterbodies and their margins is maintained and enhanced, subject to landowner permission if access over private land is required and except in circumstances where public health and safety, ecological or cultural values are at risk.
<b>14 – Education</b>	The Waitohi River has educational value for stream studies and learning.	The Waitohi River continues to be used for education with stream studies and learnings. There is opportunity to explore, investigate and learn about waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems, subject to landowner permission if access is over private land and except where ecosystem health, natural values and cultural values are adversely affected.