



Puketoi to the Pacific Catchment
Collective – AGM 2024

Coordinator Report

Where have we been:



Water Testing began

PPCC Coordinator role began

July 2024

September 2024

October 2024

PPCC launched into the Community
with a very successful Water Hui at the
Pongaroa Hotel



PPCC Strategy Day

Facilitated by Michelle Rush, the Board came together and set out direction. This was great for me to also attend, as it gave me parameters around my direction in my role as Coordinator, to best fulfil Board expectation. It was a really fun day – everyone collaborated, and we got our website up and running as a result.

Empowering present and future guardians to build thriving catchment communities from the ranges to the sea.



What have I achieved so far?

- Developed a cohesive and supportive relationship with June our Administrator, where we are each others 'other'
- Implemented a strong Iwi Engagement Strategy, where input was sought from both Rangitane and Ngati Kahungunu – it has been shared around National Catchment Groups as a 'best practice' document by MPI
- Facilitated a successful Water Hui launch
- PPCC Health and Safety is in place
- Completed Water Testing training with Izzy from Horizons
- Completed a Wetland Construction course at Massey University
- Have water testing in the Catchment underway – great relationship with Tania from Landcare Trust who guides us, and reads our results, John from Central Lab who completes our testing, and our local water sample collectors
- Attended the NZARM (NZ Association of Resource Management) Conference in Manawatu, where great connections were made
- Assisting June in our MPI Working Plan – deciding on events, plans, meetings
- Developing a close relationship with Kim and Holly at Mountains to Sea, with Wai Connections, successfully securing funding
- Liaising with Horizons staff on lots of topics, including Rabbit Weir removal, and fish passage work
- Monthly reporting to the Board, and detailed time reporting of works completed via Xero software
- QGIS Mapping training in Fielding
- Liaising with June to collaborate with Carbon Crop in an exciting venture for our Catchment land-owners
- Attended Beef and Lamb Roadshow around Fresh Water Planning, and Government works around this
- Catchment Group meetings are underway
- EnviroSchool training at Weber School, and preparation for it at both Weber and Pongaroa Schools in 2025

Enviro Schools – Education focus



This was a great training day with the staff at Weber School, led by Rowena Brown – Enviro-School Facilitator for our Region. I had previously been to Weber School with Sarah Williams (Regional Coordinator). Enviro-Schools gets our Tamariki out into nature, with both a water and nature-based focus. It aims to create an awareness of our impacts, and how we can help, which they can then also take home. Enviro-Schools offer great resource packs, and lots of fun, interactive learning. We are working with Weber School to help fund the clearing of their school river-bed.

Some Learning and Networking Opportunities

Catchment Solutions Regional
Training – Mangatainoka, July

ANZCC AMG – Aotearoa NZ
Catchment Collective – Wellington,
August

Horizons Water Testing Education,
Pongaroa, September

Wetland Construction Training –
Massey University, October

NAZRM Conference Attendance –
Manawatu, November



Fish Passage

This is also a focus area for our MPI funding. We are currently working alongside the Horizons Regional Council team, in their project to remove the upper Akitio 'Rabbit Weir'. Our purpose is to ensure local voice is heard, and to monitor the outcomes. This has been a project which has been in the pipeline for some time. E-DNA testing both above and below the weir prior to removal, and then further testing after will give us an indication of what is living in our waterway on both sides. We will be creating a small monument with a section of weir I both the Pongaroa and Weber Communities to acknowledge the historical significance of this structure. Engineers, historians, Water Scientists and Iwi have all been involved with this process with Horizons also.



Beers, Beards, and Old-Mans Beard – Community Hauora and Engagement

• *Sunday 26th January, Pongaroa Hotel*

- *Jack Keast and the Horizons crew talking Old Man's Beard Management;*
- *Kids rock painting and leaf art;*
- *Beers and BBQ;*
- *Enviro-School information stall;*
- *SLUI Plan information stall;*
- *Back to school haircuts and beard trims for the dads;*
- *Bouncy castle;*
- *Music (hopefully live);*
- *Giveaways!!!*



What is 2025 looking like? Busy!!!

- Working with Carbon Crop and land-owners
- Encouraging more Community Engagement
- Getting our water results onto our website, and starting analysis
- E-DNA testing of weirs
- Enviro-School planning and implementation
- Catchment groups up and running
- Kids Trapping Holiday Challenge
- Weber School River project
- Removal of Rabbit Weir – Fish Passage
- Pushing myself for continual education and learning, so I can further support our catchment



Thank-you to June, for her
amazing support and
knowledge in the Catchment
space, as I continue to learn in
this role;
and to the PPCC Board for
their support and enthusiasm!

