



**Regional  
Infrastructure  
Fund (RIF)**

**Wairarapa  
REGION**

**\$0.950m  
CONTRACTED**

**2025  
COMPLETED**



## **GWRC – Waingawa Site 8 - Waingawa River Hood Aerodrome**

This RIF project established a hard-edge barrier along the true left bank of the Waingawa River to prevent erosion and protect the western end of the Hood Aerodrome runway, a key regional asset threatened by flooding in 2000.

### **Background**

The project supports the objectives of the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan.

Historic erosion compromised the western end of the Hood Aerodrome. In 2000, the site flooded overwhelmingly and the aerodrome’s runway was nearly damaged.

This highlighted the need for protecting the true (when facing downstream) left bank by preventing further lateral erosion.

The work involved constructing four groynes and 17-metre-long groyne extensions with approximately 2,000 tonnes of rock.

### **Performance**

The groynes are designed to deflect water and redirect the flow away from vulnerable sections of the bank. By managing both low and high flows, the groynes will reduce the erosive water pressure that leads to damage.

The full performance and long-term impact of the groynes can only be reliably assessed following one or more high-flow or flood events.

At the time of writing no such events have occurred since construction was completed.

While early signs are positive, the effectiveness of the structures in extreme conditions remains untested.

## Variations

Assessments of the technical complexities of the site, and resource consent requirements, resulted in a more efficient design using less rock.

## Benefits\*

The benefits include:

**Enhanced protection of Hood Aerodrome runway edge from future erosion** due to hard-edge barrier construction. Rating: HIGH. Duration: 30 yrs.

**Reinforced effectiveness of existing flood protection** due to increased support. Rating: HIGH. Duration: 30 yrs.

**Reduced vulnerability to flooding events** due to enhanced flood protection. Rating: HIGH. Duration: 30 yrs.

## Benefits to outcomes\*\*

The project fits to the following intended outcomes of the RIF:

**Increased flood protection** due to construction of a hard-edge barrier.

**More local jobs, especially for unemployed** by creating sustained employment opportunities and training programme for locals, including those previously unemployed.

**Reduced impacts of natural disaster** due to the enhanced flood and erosion protection.

**More vital assets and services protected** by protecting the Hood Aerodrome's western runway edge from erosion.

**Strengthened local and Māori communities** by engaging Māori-owned business as the main contractor and protecting a culturally significant area.

**Increased local productivity** due to reduced risk of flooding and erosion.

**More highly skilled workers** due to the nature of the project.

## KEY INFO

**Grant**

FUND TYPE

**\$0.950m**

CONTRACTED

**\$0.633m**

CO-FUNDED

**\$1.583m**

TOTAL VALUE

**5,326**

HOURS WORKED

**3.4**

ANNUAL FTES

**69%**

LOCAL

**36%**

MĀORI

**Sep 2024**

START

**Sep 2025**

END

TOTAL MONTHLY  
EMPLOYEES



\* Benefits of each project are rated HIGH, MEDIUM or LOW with an estimated duration. Not all benefits may be included.

\*\* Benefits to outcomes include the RIF outcomes the project fits to either fully or partially. Not all benefits may be included.

Notes on KEY INFO: Employment figures use recipient Monthly Reports of employment and hours worked. One annual FTE is equivalent to 1,560 hours and may be spread across multiple employees. Percentage local and Māori are of the total monthly employed. Start dates are contract start dates and end dates are construction end dates (approximate).