



**Regional
Infrastructure
Fund (RIF)**

**Wairarapa
REGION**

**\$0.880m
CONTRACTED**

**2025
COMPLETED**



GWRC – Waipōua Site 4 – Waipōua Industrial Site – Akura Road, Waipōua Awa

This RIF project fixed the erosion scarp that developed on the true right bank of the Waipōua River, preventing further damage from lateral erosion and protecting adjacent infrastructure and property.

Background

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

There has been significant erosion of the riverbank at Akura Road in Masterton. This was undermining an adjacent industrial property that protects Masterton’s main water supply. The aim was to protect the industrial area from erosion and enhance the resilience of Masterton’s water supply.

The work was divided into two stages because of funding constraints. Stage 1 involved constructing six groyne, with approximately 2,100 tonnes of rock. It also included earthworks and regrading the true (viewed downstream) left bank to limit further erosion.

Stage 2 will be done later (outside of this programme) and involves constructing a further three groyne and a 60-metre revetment (retaining wall) using approximately 2,100 tonnes of rock.

Performance

The groyne (water barriers) are designed to deflect water and redirect the flow away from vulnerable sections of the bank.

By managing both low and high flows, the groyne will reduce the erosive water pressure that leads to damage. The site will be monitored, with Stage 2 included in the Greater Wellington Regional Council long term plan.



Learnings

The total cost of materials increased, consistent with rising construction costs. This meant the full scope could not be delivered. A key lesson learnt was the importance of factoring in rising costs and staging in alternate options during planning.

Variations

As above, the full scope of the project could not be delivered due to the increased cost of materials.

Benefits*

The benefits include:

Protecting vulnerable sections of the Waipōua Riverbank due to groyne construction redirecting water flow. Rating: HIGH. Duration: 30 yrs.

Strategic flood protection with lower material and maintenance costs by using groynes instead of full bank armouring. Rating: HIGH. Duration: 30 yrs.

A more stable and predictable river channel by managing water flow and sediment. Rating: HIGH. Duration: 30 yrs.

Benefits to outcomes**

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

Increased flood protection due to groyne construction.

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

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

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

Increased local productivity due to less flooding.

More highly skilled workers due to the nature of the work involved.

KEY INFO

Grant

FUND TYPE

\$0.880m

CONTRACTED

\$0.587m

CO-FUNDED

\$1.467m

TOTAL VALUE

5,455

HOURS WORKED

3.5

ANNUAL FTES

75%

LOCAL

13%

MĀORI

Sep 2024

START

Jun 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).