



**SUBMISSION on the Draft River Flood Risk
Management Strategy 2007**

To Environment Waikato

This Submission is from:

Waikato Raupatu Trustee Company Ltd

Private Bag 542

Ngaruawahia

Executive Summary

1. The Waikato Raupatu Trustee Company Limited is the legal and constitutional Iwi Authority for Waikato-Tainui.
2. The health and wellbeing of the Waikato River and its catchment is of utmost importance to Waikato-Tainui.
3. Flood areas should be identified and planning based around the risk, not development first and mitigation second.
4. An integrated approach needs to be developed between responsible agencies to ensure best information is shared and understood.
5. Future land use changes and river modification should not increase further risk of flooding.
6. Waikato-Tainui would like the following issues to be understood and the recommendations to be implemented into the River Flood Risk Management Strategy 2007.
7. The River Flood Risk Management Strategy must reflect at the highest level, the objectives outlined in Clause 44 of the Agreement in Principle for the Settlement of the historical Claims of Waikato-Tainui in relation to the Waikato River.

Flooding issues

8. There are eight marae at risk of flooding along the Waikato and Waipa Rivers and another five with potential risks that affiliate to Te Kauhanganui o Waikato Incorporated, whom are the shareholders of the Iwi Authority.
9. Flood hazard risks have increased due to inappropriate developments within flood prone areas.
10. There is no obvious integrated catchment approach to flood risk management between the responsible authorities and agencies.
11. Land use changes need to be addressed to prevent further flooding risks, this includes forestry to pasture conversions.

General Points

Waikato-Tainui would like the following general points to be noted:

12. Waikato-Tainui supports a whole catchment context approach.
13. Waikato-Tainui supports the Waikato Regional Council to be the single coordinating point for information gathering and sharing, and the coordinating of flood warnings to the public and stakeholders.

14. Waikato-Tainui supports the Waikato Regional Council to facilitate processes to identify practicable options to mitigate flooding risk.
15. Zoning of lands near flood prone areas should be zoned appropriately to prevent risk.
16. Waikato-Tainui supports the desire to maintain a natural river system.

Specific Recommendations to the Draft River Flood Risk Management Strategy 2007

Waikato-Tainui insists the following points be included in the Draft River Flood Risk Management Strategy.

17. Supports the philosophy and principles of the strategy and would like to add the following to the key principles:
"To restore and protect the health and well-being of the catchment within the jurisdiction of the Waikato Regional Council for future generations"
18. Would like to add the following outcome on behalf of Waikato-Tainui:
"Areas and activities of significance to Marae that are prone to hazard risk have been identified and plans developed to mitigate flood risk"
19. Include the following actions points in the action plan for Hazard and Risk Information:
 - Develop flood risk assessments and protection plan for marae;
 - Develop flood risk assessments and protection plans for Waahi Tapu and areas of significance;
 - Develop a monitoring programme to involve Iwi;
 - Integrate Iwi priorities into Hazard and Risk information action plan, action 8;
 - Identify areas to be left as natural flooding zones for cultural purposes.
20. Include the following action points in the action plan for Policy:
 - Investigate the options for land use on Maori lands within flood risk zones;
 - Investigate the opportunity to utilise traditional methods of dealing with flood risk;
 - Policy to utilise native eco-sourced plant species to protect or minimise areas from flooding;
 - Policy to implement koiwi/artefact protocols during flood protection construction phase;
 - Policy to contact Iwi when investigating post flood impacts upon discovery of newly exposed koiwi or artefacts;
21. Include the following action points for Emergency Management:
 - Develop a communications strategy to deal with Iwi, Hapu and Marae;
 - Train marae members to become civil defence wardens for their marae during flood emergency events;

22. The author of this submission will be happy to provide definitions of the above action points to accompany the River Flood Risk Management Strategy.

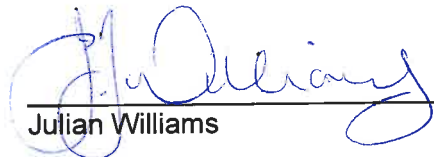
Conclusion

23. Waikato-Tainui seeks to work in good faith with the Waikato Regional Council to satisfy our above issues.

24. We wish to be heard in support of this submission

DATED: 29th May 2008

WAIKATO RAUPATU TRUSTEE COMPANY LTD
By its Environmental Officer;



Julian Williams

Address for Services: C/- Julian Williams
Waikato Raupatu Trustee Company Ltd
Private Bag 542
Ngaruawahia

Telephone: 07-824 8689
Fax: 07-824 5133
Email: julianw@tainui.co.nz