

Implementing targets from the Waimea Inlet Action Plan – progress during 2024

Progress update status: DELAYED/ ON HOLD | IN PROGRESS | ON TRACK/COMPLETE

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Year	Objective	Sub-objective	Action/Target for Waimea Inlet	Lead	Support	TDC Progress Update 2024	NCC Progress Update 2024	Iwi/DOC/TET/WIF/NMFG/TBG Progress Update 2024
Ongoing actions	1. Rangitira-tanga and kaitiakitanga by Te Taihū iwi are provided for.	1.1 Kaitiaki share in decisions about use and protection.	2. Ongoing support for Project Moturoa.	NMIT	All	ON TRACK Project Moturoa has been superseded and NMIT have woven the Te Ao Māori strands into their Kaitiaki Whenua Trainee Ranger programme. Two planting days with NMIT Kaitiaki Whenua students were undertaken on Moturoa in August and September, focusing on the coastal forest sequence along the Traverse and coast care plantings on the eastern side of Moturoa.		
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.1 Indigenous species and their habitats protected from harm and disturbance.	5. Continue monitoring as part of State of the Environment reporting to determine the effectiveness of management actions in upstream catchments and within the estuary and compliance.	TDC and NCC		IN PROGRESS No 'State of the Environment' monitoring in the Waimea Inlet was scheduled for 2024; this happens every 5-10 years. Two related reports were completed and published on TDC's website : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of Potential Nutrient Sources Affecting Macroalgal Blooms in Eastern Waimea Inlet (Oct 2023). This report was completed after an investigation into the likely cause of local anoxia and macroalgae proliferation north of Nelson Pine Industries. Assessment of Saltmarsh Restoration Options for Waimea Inlet (April 2024). 	IN PROGRESS NCC annual web reports have been published that provide five-year medians for Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI) report in Stoke streams. The MCI current Target Attribute State is one measure for reporting on ecosystem health. The four streams monitored at the coast are all degraded, impacted by deposited fine sediment and loss of habitat from flooding and removal of flood debris, woody debris and vegetation. The NCC five year SOE report has also been completed with trend analysis, due to be published in December 2024.	IN PROGRESS TET: Landcare Trust have supported the formation of a Waimea Inlet Catchment Group.
2024	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.2 Nationally and regionally threatened species are under informed active management.	1. By 1 January 2024, complete a comprehensive listing of threatened species and locally significant species and their requirements.	Birds NZ	-	COMPLETE A comprehensive list has been prepared and mapped for TDC's Coastal Environment as part of the Marine Indigenous Biodiversity Project. Further information is added as it is received.		COMPLETE This task was completed in March 2023 by Ivan Rogers and Laura Parks from DOC Motueka and David Melville from Birds NZ and includes all taxa, not just birds (see Appendix in the Waimea Inlet Action Plan). Ngāti Apa and potentially other iwi working with Kārearea data gathering and indigenous data protection. Ngāti Rārua developing dedicated research centre - Tokomaru Te Mana Raraunga – data sovereignty network advocates for the protection of data.

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	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.2 Nationally and regionally threatened species are under informed active management.	2. By 1 January 2024, prepare a unified plan for current or proposed bird surveys, including counts of occupied nests of threatened species conducted by different groups.	Birds NZ	-			<p>COMPLETE</p> <p>This task was completed in March 2023 by Ivan Rogers and Laura Parks from DOC Motueka and David Melville from Birds NZ and includes all taxa, not just birds (see Appendix to Waimea Inlet Action Plan).</p> <p>TET: Battle for Banded Rail (B4BR) undertake fernbird and banded rail surveys. The 2024 banded rail survey shows an increase in evidence of banded rail in previously sited areas and in two new areas. Fernbird survey has shown an increase in fernbird population as well.</p>
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.1 Native vegetation sequences and habitats around the shores of the Inlet, and along contributing waterways, are protected, restored, and cared for.	1. By 1 January 2024, investigate potential for seagrass restoration.	NCC	TDC	<p>DELAYED</p> <p>After failing to achieve this over a decade ago, this is not on TDC's radar. We would like to see the methods proven first (Cawthron work).</p>	<p>DELAYED</p> <p>NCC's broad scale habitat mapping of Waimea Inlet will be conducted in 2025-2026 as planned. NCC will be contributing funding to the 2024-2025 components of the 'Restore the Meadows' campaign, focused on seedling growth trials.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Ngāti Tama have partnered with Cawthron to undertake seagrass restoration research and other work in the Inlet.</p> <p>NIWA seagrass guide discusses iwi estuary monitoring toolkit underway.</p>
2024	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.1 Indigenous species and their habitats protected from harm and disturbance.	1. Continue with Waimea Inlet trapping programmes for mustelids, rats, feral cats and hedgehogs and review plan to identify gaps by 30 June 2024.	TET	-			<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>TET: Traps out = 1,259. 2019–2024: 8,600 trap catches in total. Cat trapping at Pearl Creek continues. Gaps and plan are under constant review and opportunities for intensification and extension of trapping are followed up.</p>

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	1 Rangatiranga and kaitiakitanga by Te Taihū iwi are provided for.	1.1 Kaitiaki share in decisions about use and protection.	1. By 30 June 2024, review plans and actions to ensure rangatiranga and take tupūna are recognised in the management of nga taonga tuku iho.	Iwi	TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS Iwi actively participated in the recent review of the Waimea Inlet Management Strategy & Action Plan, which was finalised mid-2023.	IN PROGRESS Revision of an existing draft Ecological Restoration Plans for Oyster Island is currently occurring. Engagement with Te Taihū iwi will be a part of this process.	IN PROGRESS Initial discussions at high level regarding cultural heritage strategy across Te Taihū at iwi GM/Kaihautū level.
	1 Rangatiranga and kaitiakitanga by Te Taihū iwi are provided for.	1.2 The mauri and wairua of Waimea are actively nurtured and perpetuated.	1. By 30 June 2024, identify what is negatively impacting the wairua and mauri of the Inlet.	Iwi	TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS Iwi identified to lead, TDC will provide support as required. Some of these barriers are identified in the Moturoa/Rabbit Island reserve management plan (2016) and Moutere-Waimea Ward reserve management plan (2022). TDC Environmental Policy staff are working with Te Taihū iwi on the development of a freshwater planning framework that gives effect to Te Mana O Te Wai, which will feed into this work.	DELAYED No progress on this action to date, but NCC will support TDC to advance this action.	IN PROGRESS Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) and Cultural Health Index (CHI) undertaken by iwi.
	1 Rangatiranga and kaitiakitanga by Te Taihū iwi are provided for.	1.2 The mauri and wairua of Waimea are actively nurtured and perpetuated.	2. By 30 June 2024, identify barriers to capacity to exercise customary practices, tikanga, and mātauranga processes including association with wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga.	Iwi	TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS See Action 1.2.1 above.	DELAYED No progress on this action to date, but NCC will support iwi to advance this action. Have also been promoting environmental awareness to infrastructure and consents teams. This is helping to work out types of consents granted and the impact of those consents on the inlet.	IN PROGRESS MfE's Freshwater Improvement Fund supported iwi with funding to undertake Mātauranga research. Uptake from Manawhenua ki Mohua (MKM) and Ngāti Kuia (video produced and released on World Wetland Day).
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and	2.2 Nationally and regionally threatened species are under	3. By 30 June 2024, explore options for protecting key areas where shore birds roost,	TDC and NCC	-	IN PROGRESS Data from the McArthur <i>et al</i> report has informed the TDC Dog Bylaw review to encourage appropriate use of the Inlet edge and reserves by dog walkers. The draft bylaw proposed to prohibit dogs from many locations along the western edge of Waimea	IN PROGRESS This action links with 2.3.1 (see below).	IN PROGRESS WIF: Waimea Inlet Forum made submissions to TDC on both cat and dog bylaws and on the use of jet skis in the inlet.

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	increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	informed active management.	nest and feed (e.g. potential to ban dog walking, motorboats and jet skis from these areas).			Inlet and Moturoa/Rabbit Island and to increase the number of areas where dogs must be on leash in Tasman. Rough Island is proposed to remain as a dog exercise area. Continued Regional Pest Management Plan site-led cat control around the Waimea Inlet. A draft cat bylaw is in development, proposing mandatory microchipping and desexing (exemption for breeders or for welfare purposes) for the control of cat numbers in the wider Tasman District. This bylaw is due to be adopted by the end of 2024. The TDC Navigation and Safety Bylaw was reviewed and the new bylaw took effect in October 2024. The N&S bylaw will be reviewed again in 2027. In conjunction with the TRMP, areas needing protection for biodiversity reasons will be identified and the best method of protection will be used to provide protection.		
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.3 Habitats for indigenous species protected, enhanced, and increased.	1. By 30 June 2024, complete a unified strategic animal pest control plan to 'control' pigs, predators and herbivores, where these negatively impact threatened species and habitats.	TDC and NCC	-	DELAYED No action was taken to prepare a unified plan. Specific pests are controlled within the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) Waimea Inlet site-led programme where they meet the cost-benefit analysis for inclusion.	DELAYED This action aligns with action 2.2.3. NCC to arrange for a subcommittee to prepare a scope for a contract focused on this action.	DELAYED Iwi have supported various predator control programmes but have no capacity to be involved for the most part. Initial discussions held around potential to engage whānau with expertise and how that may work.
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.1 Native vegetation sequences and habitats around the shores of the Inlet, and along contributing waterways,	2. By 30 June 2024, methods of restoring salt marsh vegetation communities will be tested in at least four sites to develop effective	TDC, NCC and TET	-	ON TRACK Salt marsh restoration is ongoing at a number of sites in the estuary. A recent site where work has been undertaken is the Rough Island Embayment, in between Tictoc Road and the Equestrian Park, where culvert upgrades have been undertaken. The resulting increased culvert volume is expected to increase the presence of salt marsh vegetation in the longer term. Planting and targeted weed	ON TRACK NCC are conducting 6-monthly photopoint monitoring of the chenier ridge planting plots, and planting new plots of <i>Juncus kraussii</i> intermittently as budget permits.	ON TRACK Iwi: Te Aka Pūkenga iwi cadets could support monitoring. TET: The main planting sites of salt marsh vegetation by volunteers/Battle for the Banded Rail are Research Orchard Road, Cardno Way, Manuka Island and Bell Island.

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		are protected, restored, and cared for.	restoration techniques.			control will speed this along. Monitoring plots have also been installed to measure the natural regeneration of salt marsh species. Further planting of salt marsh species will be undertaken at Research Orchard Road and Estuary Place - this will mainly target infilling rush land species below or at MHWS.		<p>All planting sites are assessed for salt marsh opportunities and appropriate species are planted wherever possible (there is a degree of salt marsh planting at all B4BR sites). Survival of salt marsh species is very good to date.</p> <p>In conjunction with DOC, six Coastal Peppercross sites have been established with eight planter boxes. Approximately 50 seed groups.</p> <p>WIF: Waimea Inlet Forum followed up on landowner concerns about potential impacts of dumping of waste material at the mouth of the Waimea River.</p>
	4 Human activities including land uses in the catchment around the Inlet make a positive contribution to its health and natural values.	4.1 The health, mauri and wairua of the Inlet’s water, substrate, flora, and fauna is improved by reducing inputs of contaminants.	1. By 30 June 2024, develop a long-term plan for the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit, which considers its operations with regards to sustainability, environmental and cultural impacts.	NRSBU	TDC and NCC	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The work completed to date to prepare a draft Regional Wastewater Plan (RWWP) has informed NRSBU masterplan work currently underway.</p>		<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Iwi working group – Wastewater.</p>
	5 The natural ecosystems of the Inlet can evolve in response to climate change and land subsidence effects.	5.1 Indigenous ecosystems can adapt to any future shore-line change.	1. By 30 June 2024, commission a study to assess the full range of effects from climate change and land subsidence on the Inlet.	TDC and NCC	-	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>TDC and NCC staff are collaborating together to progress this action, utilising information from the Nelson-Tasman Resilience Explorer and ecological information held by both councils. A proposal for progressing this action was discussed at the November 2024 hui.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>A proposed methodology is being developed to carry out actions 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 and was discussed at WICG hui in Nov 2024 for further feedback and recommendations.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Consultation with iwi on climate risk assessment tool. Ngāti Tama actively engaged. Ngāti Rārua has been undertaking own research. Ngāti Toa is developing a Climate Strategy. Priority area for Ngāti Kuia/Apa and other iwi.</p>

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	6 The natural ambience of the Inlet is improved by controlling human activities which have potential to disturb its peaceful character.		1. By 30 June 2024, map areas where hunting occurs and identify those areas where parties are agreed it is appropriate to restrict this activity.	TDC and F&G	-	IN PROGRESS Discussed at August 2024 hui. F&G agreed to send shape files showing areas where game bird hunting is not undertaken/restricted in the Inlet. This will be mapped. TDC agreed to pass on information to F&G regarding the increased presence of people working to restore the Waimea Delta area, so they can inform hunters and avoid potential conflicts. Hunters will continue to self-regulate by and large.		
	7 Understanding and appreciation of the natural attributes and functions of the Inlet and their intrinsic characteristics and spiritual significance is increased.	7.1 People value and understand the Waimea Inlet at every level.	1. By 30 June 2024, create and keep current applicable mātauranga Māori information, along with evidence-based information and research strategy, that identifies the information required to improve the overall understanding of the Inlet, how that can best be organised and maintained, and gaps that need to be filled by further kōrero with tangata whenua and research.	Iwi	TDC/NCC/DOC	IN PROGRESS Actions related to 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will provide opportunities to explore mātauranga Māori values. TDC staff are preparing an internal Science and Information Strategy that may guide implementation of this action in future years.	IN PROGRESS Actions related to 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will provide opportunities to explore mātauranga Māori values.	IN PROGRESS Ngāti Kuia developed cultural narrative for Waimeha and held a field trip to get whānau out on site. Rangitāne and Ngāti Apa developing mapping tool.

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2025	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.1 Indigenous species and their habitats protected from harm and disturbance.	2. By 1 January 2025, establish or continue control of pest plants for <i>Wilsonia</i> and <i>Spartina</i> at all relevant sites.	DOC	TDC	ON TRACK Surveys and control of <i>Spartina</i> continue to be undertaken by both DOC and Project De-Vine (through the Protecting Flora Jobs for Nature project, overseen by TDC).		ON TRACK DOC: Surveillance and control of <i>Spartina</i> and <i>Wilsonia</i> has been established and is ongoing at all relevant sites throughout Waimea Inlet with the objective of eradication of both species. <i>Spartina</i> was controlled at Cotterell Road, Manuka Island, Rabbit Island, Motorway (west of Abattoir), and the mouth of Stringer Creek. A <i>Spartina</i> detection dog was deployed at priority sites. <i>Wilsonia</i> was controlled at sites on Saxton Island in March.
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	1. By 1 January 2025, repeat broad scale habitat monitoring (at least for opportunistic macroalgae and substrate) to monitor the ecological health of the Inlet, and periodically re-assess Inlet vulnerability to ensure management targets key stressors.	TDC and NCC		DELAYED The 2020 broad-scale mapping report provided robust information about the health of the estuary. A StoryMap was published so people can more easily assimilate this information. The frequency of this mapping has been pushed out to free up resources to achieve several of the recommendations from this report. The next report will be in 2026-27. One of the recommendations in the 2020 report is impact monitoring, such as looking more closely at the causes of the issues raised in the broad-scale mapping report.	DELAYED Nelson City Council’s broad scale habitat mapping of Waimea Inlet will be conducted in 2025-2026 as planned.	DELAYED Te Pūkenga iwi cadets can assist with monitoring.
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	2. By 1 January 2025, complete a scoping study into the opportunities for restoring salt marsh around the Inlet margin in the areas not	TDC, NCC and TET		ON TRACK There is now one report from Salt Ecology covering the entire Waimea Inlet, which assesses salt marsh restoration opportunities. This is being worked through where budget and landowner interest is available.	ON TRACK Action on 5.0 and 5.1 will provide information to inform future restoration potential of areas within NCC parts of Waimea Inlet.	ON TRACK TET: Coordinating with TDC to engage volunteers in planting.

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			already completed.					
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	3. By 1 January 2025, assess feasibility, and if appropriate seek funding, to alter the causeway to Moturoa/Rabbit Island to achieve flushing and therefore reduce sea-lettuce proliferation in the non-flushed pockets of the Inlet.	TDC		DELAYED No progress was made during 2024. Funding for this action was not included in LTP and is unlikely to be secured from TDC.		Moturoa is a wāhi tapu for iwi. Suggest cultural safety if this progresses to an operational stage.
	4 Human activities including land uses in the catchment around the Inlet make a positive contribution to its health and natural values.	4.1 The health, mauri and wairua of the Inlet's water, substrate, flora, and fauna is improved by reducing inputs of contaminants.	2. By 1 January 2025, work with landowners to ensure contaminant loads do not exceed the assimilative capacity of the Inlet and are below levels that cause significant adverse effects, particularly due to excess fine sediment, in the eight monitored waterways discharging to the Inlet.	TDC and NCC for respective waterways		DELAYED in part Partly reliant on Freshwater Farm Plan Regulations. Central government have paused the rollout of Freshwater Farm Plans while they review the regulations. Anticipate the result of the legislative review in mid-2025. Unclear when regulations will apply in this district. Landcare Trust has held two meetings to measure interest from landowners in the Waimea Catchment for setting up a Waimea catchment group. Strong interest, and next steps to discuss what a broader 'collective' might look like to represent smaller sub-catchment groups if these are established. Early days, with strong interest.		DELAYED Freshwater Farm Plans – MfE provision for iwi catchment officer oversight of plans on hold.

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	5 The natural ecosystems of the Inlet can evolve in response to climate change and land subsidence effects.	5.1 Indigenous ecosystems can adapt to any future shore-line change.	2. By 1 January 2025, acknowledge that changes to the morphology of the Inlet and to its interface with Tasman Bay <i>Te Tai o Aorere</i> will result from the increase in the tidal compartment due to sea level rise, and use adaptive pathways to accommodate these natural processes, rather than seeking to prevent, control or restrict them.	TDC and NCC		<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>A proposed methodology is being developed to carry out actions 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 and was discussed at WICG hui in Nov 2024 for further feedback and recommendations. The effects of climate change on Tasman District's coastlines are considered in the 'Tasman Climate Response Strategy and Action Plan' and resource management decision making processes. Adaptive pathways are being considered as part of TDC's adaptation planning and Council documents and processes, where relevant.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>A proposed methodology is being developed to carry out actions 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 and was discussed at WICG hui in Nov 2024 for further feedback and recommendations.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Te Mana o Te Wai alignment. Iwi statements (Te Puna Kōrero?)</p>
	5 The natural ecosystems of the Inlet can evolve in response to climate change and land subsidence effects.	5.1 Indigenous ecosystems can adapt to any future shore-line change.	3. By 1 January 2025, work with tangata whenua, key landowners, and stakeholders to establish, in a non-confrontational way, a methodology using the adaptive planning approach to enable the future migration of salt marsh and marginal vegetation onto publicly and privately owned	TDC, NCC and TET		<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>As a first step, TDC has commissioned and received an integrated report from Salt Ecology for the entire Inlet, that identifies areas with the best potential for salt marsh restoration.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Action on 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will provide information to inform future engagement processes around restoration within NCC parts of Waimea Inlet.</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>Ngāti Apa/MKM/TET ‘Core and Restore Blue Carbon’ project provides insights that can contribute to the development of this methodology.</p> <p>TET is happy to support engagement with landowners.</p>

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			low-lying rural land, incrementally over time, without unduly burdening individual parties.					
2025	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.1 Indigenous species and their habitats protected from harm and disturbance.	3. By 30 June 2025, as part of the Waimea Inlet Enhancement Project, undertake effective control of Class 1, 2 and 3 species as determined in the Waimea Inlet Pest Plant Strategy.	TDC and NCC		ON TRACK Large work programme underway for FY 2024-2025, the final year of Jobs for Nature funding. This will continue to target Class 2 and 3 weeds. No recorded class 1 species so far. Significant progress was made.		
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.1 Indigenous species and their habitats protected from harm and disturbance.	4. By 30 June 2025, reduce disturbance from human activities, plant and animal pests, and domestic animals (cats, dogs, and browsers) through legal, physical, educational and compliance programmes.	TDC and NCC		IN PROGRESS TDC consulted on and adopted a Cat Management Bylaw in 2024, with microchipping, registration and desexing now required for cats over six months old in Tasman District. TDC also reviewed the dog control bylaw in 2024, with increased protection put in place for coastal birds in many areas, including Waimea Inlet. The new bylaw takes effect on 31 March 2025.	IN PROGRESS NCC also consulted on and adopted a Cat Management Bylaw in 2024. Discussions were held with TDC staff about the Birds on Beaches campaign to align collaborative approaches between both councils.	IN PROGRESS Te Kāhui Mātauranga – iwi rōpu focuses on education.
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and	2.3 Habitats for indigenous species protected, enhanced, and	2. 30 June 2025, 3ha of marsh bird habitat will be enhanced by wetland creation and ecological restoration	TDC		ON TRACK This target has already been exceeded, with 3.5 ha enhanced since early 2022. Two phases of earthworks have been undertaken (during 2022 and 2023) to create greater open water areas and 're-wet' portions of the project site. Over 10,000 native plants have been planted		

Implementing targets from the Waimea Inlet Action Plan – progress during 2024

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Year	Objective	Sub-objective	Action/Target for Waimea Inlet	Lead	Support	TDC Progress Update 2024	NCC Progress Update 2024	Iwi/DOC/TET/WIF/NMFG/TBG Progress Update 2024
	increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	and increased.	activities in the Waimea River Delta as part of the Waimea Inlet Enhancement Project.			in the last three years and targeted weed control undertaken. Monitoring for marsh birds commenced in September 2024.		
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.1 Native vegetation sequences and habitats around the shores of the Inlet, and along contributing waterways, are protected, restored, and cared for.	3. By 30 June 2025, identify terrestrial Inlet margin areas subject to tidal influence and secure resources to work with landowners to exclude stock and prevent infilling, channelisation and new barriers to tidal connection (e.g., bunds, flap gates).	TDC and NCC		DELAYED No progress made during 2024.	DELAYED No progress made during 2024.	
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.1 Native vegetation sequences and habitats around the shores of the Inlet, and along contributing waterways, are protected, restored, and cared for.	4. By 30 June 2025, as part of the Waimea Inlet Enhancement Project, fence watercourses to exclude stock and vehicles around the Waimea Inlet – target of 2km of fencing.	TDC		IN PROGRESS A total length of 1.45km of fencing has been installed to date. However, the 2km target will be not achieved, due to the very high material cost associated with fencing currently.		
	4 Human activities including land uses in the	4.2 Human uses are managed to sustain	1. Support major infrastructure owners and operators to	TDC and NCC		IN PROGRESS Refer to the update under Action 4.1.1 above.		

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Year	Objective	Sub-objective	Action/Target for Waimea Inlet	Lead	Support	TDC Progress Update 2024	NCC Progress Update 2024	Iwi/DOC/TET/WIF/NMFG/TBG Progress Update 2024
	catchment around the Inlet make a positive contribution to its health and natural values.	natural attributes.	review the impacts of their activities on the Inlet and develop plans to remediate past damage and avoid or mitigate future impacts by 30 June 2025.					
	5 The natural ecosystems of the Inlet can evolve in response to climate change and land subsidence effects.	5.1 Indigenous ecosystems can adapt to any future shore-line change.	4. By 30 June 2025, identify areas of the Inlet in which managed retreat can be achieved ‘at scale’ while protecting and restoring biodiversity and support landowners to implement managed retreat opportunities.	TDC, NCC and TET		IN PROGRESS Action on 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will provide information to inform future managed ecological retreat options for areas within the TDC part of Waimea Inlet. TDC and Salt Ecology have developed a list of priority sites for restoration around the Waimea Inlet. Restoration of priority sites where ecological retreat can occurMar is progressing, particularly on public land (e.g. at Waimea Delta).	IN PROGRESS Action on 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will provide information to inform future managed ecological retreat options for areas within the NCC part of Waimea Inlet.	IN PROGRESS TET participated in workshops convened by GNS Science to apply systems thinking to the work to protect and enhance coastal wetlands for biodiversity and carbon sequestration benefits. The final report was completed in September 2024.
	6 The natural ambience of the Inlet is improved by controlling human activities which have potential to disturb its peaceful character.		2. By 30 June 2025, identify options for controlling disruptive human activities (e.g. use of vessels, jet skis, hovercraft, drones, float planes and shooting) in order to protect natural quiet and calm.	TDC and NCC		DELAYED The recently adopted Navigation & Safety (N&S) Bylaw will be reviewed in 2027. Careful consideration is needed to determine which method is best to control the nuisance effects from vessels on wildlife: the N&S Bylaw, TRMP or other legislation. Reconsideration in 2027 will give time for the TRMP to identify which areas have significant Indigenous biodiversity values and what activities impact those values.		

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Year	Objective	Sub-objective	Action/Target for Waimea Inlet	Lead	Support	TDC Progress Update 2024	NCC Progress Update 2024	Iwi/DOC/TET/WIF/NMFG/TBG Progress Update 2024
	7 Understanding and appreciation of the natural attributes and functions of the Inlet and their intrinsic characteristics and spiritual significance is increased.	7.1 People value and understand the Waimea Inlet at every level.	2. By 30 June 2025, measurably increase community involvement by informing and supporting people to manage threats and restoring natural ecosystems.	TET	-			ON TRACK TET: Battle for the Banded Rail continues to involve the community with trapping and planting around the Waimea inlet. Currently, 20 private landowners are planting their properties to support restoration of the natural ecosystems. Over 3,500 volunteer hours are contributed to restoration around the inlet yearly This is a 25% increase on 2018 baseline. The number of volunteers at planting and maintenance days are stable and showing some increase.
2026	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	4. By 1 January 2026, no increase in the net extent of shoreline armoring, and replace with “soft engineering” techniques wherever possible. All new shoreline protection uses soft engineering techniques, unless it is not feasible.	TDC and NCC		ON TRACK There has not been any new rock armoring around the Waimea Inlet over the past year. Council is preparing two plan changes that will update current provisions for regulating coastal protection structures across the District, in accordance with the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010. A Coastal Environment plan change will be notified in early 2025, which will consider coastal protection structures in relation to coastal natural character. A second plan change on Natural Hazards is also being developed and that plan change will include new and specific policy and rules for coastal protection.		
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	5. Survey the quality of the marine habitat, shellfish beds and fish numbers with a view to restoration by 1 January 2026.	TDC and NCC		IN PROGRESS A survey will be undertaken in 2024/2025 of potential shellfish beds in Golden Bay, as part of the Marine Indigenous Biodiversity project. No surveys are proposed for Waimea Inlet as part of that project. TDC and NCC are continuing a project compiling existing marine and coastal spatial data throughout the region, in collaboration with Marlborough District Council (MDC), for a future web portal of marine geospatial data. In future, this will be used to inform	IN PROGRESS: A report by Mark Morrison on Waimea Inlet fish populations was finalised in 2023. TDC and NCC are continuing a project compiling existing marine and coastal spatial data throughout the region, in collaboration with MDC, for a future web portal of marine geospatial data. In future, this will be used to inform restoration projects and explore a review of significant sites.	

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Year	Objective	Sub-objective	Action/Target for Waimea Inlet	Lead	Support	TDC Progress Update 2024	NCC Progress Update 2024	Iwi/DOC/TET/WIF/NMFG/TBG Progress Update 2024
						restoration projects and explore a review of significant sites.		
	5 The natural ecosystems of the Inlet can evolve in response to climate change and land subsidence effects.	5.1 Indigenous ecosystems can adapt to any future shore-line change.	5. By 1 January 2026, through involvement in resource management planning and policy processes, ensure that priority provision is made for managed retreat of natural ecosystems as sea level rises and climate effects intensify, preventing new infrastructure on sites required for future biodiversity.	TDC and NCC		<p>DELAYED</p> <p>Due to resource management system reform, Council has put on hold our whole of plan review. Instead, the short-term focus will be on progressing a smaller number of policy topics of importance to Tasman. This includes responding to natural hazards and climate change, however, will be on a longer timeframe than this action.</p>		
	5 The natural ecosystems of the Inlet can evolve in response to climate change and land subsidence effects.	5.1 Indigenous ecosystems can adapt to any future shore-line change.	6. By 1 January 2026, support processes that allow the carbon sequestration of estuarine ecosystems (including areas historically drained or cut-off from tidal connections), and areas potentially inundated by future sea level rise, to be properly valued for their	TET	-			<p>ON TRACK/COMPLETE</p> <p>TET participated in workshops convened by GNS Science to apply systems thinking to the work to protect and enhance coastal wetlands for biodiversity and carbon sequestration benefits. The final report was completed in September 2024.</p>

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			ecosystems services, and identify potential economic incentives to be achieved through financial incentives such as environmental compensation and Blue Carbon credits and how these can be used to benefit future initiatives for Waimea Inlet.					
2026	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.2 Nationally and regionally threatened species are under informed active management.	4. By 30 June 2026, update the DOC Ecological Management Unit assessment.	DOC	-			IN PROGRESS DOC's currently in development Business Planning Approach will prioritise management of threatened species and ecosystems. The Waimea Inlet Ecological Management Unit will be assessed using criteria pertinent to the process.
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.3 Habitats for indigenous species protected, enhanced, and increased.	3. By 30 June 2026, <i>Gambusia</i> eradication programme reviewed in context of national programmes.	DOC	-			DELAYED DOC: <i>Gambusia</i> eradication has been deemed unfeasible by DOC's Freshwater Technical Advisory Group. DOC is currently exploring the feasibility of containment with ongoing control at select priority sites.

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Year	Objective	Sub-objective	Action/Target for Waimea Inlet	Lead	Support	TDC Progress Update 2024	NCC Progress Update 2024	Iwi/DOC/TET/WIF/NMFG/TBG Progress Update 2024
	2 Indigenous species and their habitats are protected, enhanced, and increased and are safeguarded from harm and disturbance.	2.3 Habitats for indigenous species protected, enhanced, and increased.	4. Continue programmes to restore freshwater fish habitat, including inanga spawning sites, and identify and remove targeted fish passage barriers in contributing waterways by 30 June 2026.	TDC and NCC	-	ON TRACK Monitoring and remediation on the Dominion Valley Stream at Māpua Drive is well underway. Increased inanga spawning production at Pearl Creek is probably related to the tide gate remediation.	ON TRACK Fish passage remediation has continued with improvements to the Maitai South Branch and Roding.	
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.1 Native vegetation sequences and habitats around the shores of the Inlet, and along contributing waterways, are protected, restored, and cared for.	5. By 30 June 2026, increase the area of naturally vegetated inlet margin by a further 10km (to an average width of 10m) and complete the Waimea Inlet One Billion Trees Phase 2 Project to plant and maintain 70,000 indigenous plants around the Waimea Inlet.	TET and TDC		ON TRACK The Waimea Inlet 1 Billion Trees Project (Phase 2) is on track to plant circa 110,000 natives around the Inlet by June 2025. This project alone has already increased the margin of native vegetation by 5.8 km since 2021.	DELAYED Discussions have not occurred on additional planting of Whakatu Drive due to the most suitable areas currently being at capacity. Any emerging gaps could be infilled in June 2026.	ON TRACK TET: Battle for the Banded Rail planted 13,700 plants in 2024. 2018: 4.7 km of estuary margin planted. 2024: 18 km of estuary margin planted.
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.1 Native vegetation sequences and habitats around the shores of the Inlet, and along contributing waterways, are	6. By 30 June 2026, increase the area of naturally vegetated dune land on Moturoa/Rabbit and Rough Islands by 750 square metres, and on	TDC, NCC and TET		ON TRACK As part of the Waimea Inlet 1 Billion Trees Projects, native species have been planted in the dune lands along the margins of Moturoa/Rabbit and Rough Islands, increasing the area of native vegetation by approximately 19,492 square meters since 2021.	DELAYED Airport Peninsula plantings for June 2024 were put on hold while Private Plan Change 30 is progressed. About 1,000 plants that were intended to be planted on Airport Peninsula were planted on Oyster Island, the remaining plants were provided to TDC. Ongoing planting will now be focused on Oyster Island.	ON TRACK TET: The Waimea Inlet 1 Billion Trees (Phase 1 project led by TET)) has planted 50,000 coastal native species along the margins of both Moturoa/Rabbit and Rough Islands over the last three years. These are back dune plantings along the Inlet margins.

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		protected, restored, and cared for.	airport peninsula by 900 square metres.					
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	6. By 30 June 2026, reduce the level of nitrates reaching the Inlet to ensure that there is no further increase in nuisance macroalgae.	TDC		<p>DELAYED in part</p> <p>This issue is to be included in the new Land and Freshwater Plan Change (LFPC) in 2024/25 and addressed in part through Freshwater Farm Plans (FWFP). Note, that the FWFP regulations are currently being reviewed by central government, which has delayed their application in Tasman. Regardless, over 1,000 ha of horticultural land (comprising 13 growers) on the plains participated in HortNZ Growing Change project and are subject to the NZGAP (New Zealand Good Agricultural Practice) - Environmental System plans. These voluntarily adopted plans demonstrate whether farms are adopting good or best management practices for nitrate loss reduction.</p>		
	3 The healthy natural functioning of ecosystems is ecologically sustained.	3.2 Degradation of natural ecosystems is halted and reversed.	7. By 30 June 2026, if external funding can be obtained, assess feasibility of turning causeways blocking tidal flows into bridges to allow for the free flow of water (e.g., at Māpua Drive cutting off Dominion Flats reserve from the Inlet; at the Traverse linking Moturoa/Rabbit and Rough Islands).	TDC		<p>DELAYED</p> <p>No progress made during 2024. Funding for this action was not included in LTP and is unlikely to be secured from TDC.</p>		

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	4 Human activities including land uses in the catchment around the Inlet make a positive contribution to its health and natural values.	4.2 Human uses are managed to sustain natural attributes.	2. By 30 June 2026, improve discharge and land disturbance monitoring and enforcement by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. plan effectiveness monitoring (are the current regulations achieving what is intended or do they need to be strengthened?); ii. reviewing effectiveness of granted resource consents (are they achieving what they are supposed to achieve?); iii. targeted compliance monitoring and enforcement; and iv. compiling and making available to the public the forthcoming expiry dates of existing consents. 	TDC and NCC for respective areas		IN PROGRESS Regarding (i) plan effectiveness monitoring, RMA s35 efficiency and effectiveness assessments of the existing regulation in the TRMP were undertaken in 2019-20 as part of the whole-of-plan review. While parts of this review are on hold, given the resource management reform process, the freshwater work is being progressed through the Land and Freshwater Plan Change in 2024-25. The Section 35 review for freshwater-related parts of the plan identified aspects to retain in the new framework, but identified overall review was needed to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and implement the NPS-FM and some rule frameworks required greater clarity and stringency to give effect to the objectives and policies. These changes will be addressed through the Land and Freshwater Plan Change.	DELAYED No further discussion has been had after the original discussions that have been had with NCC consents staff. This action to be followed up in 2025.	
2050	4 Human activities including land uses in the catchment around the Inlet make a	4.1 The health, mauri and wairua of the Inlet’s water, substrate, flora, and	3. Ten percent of urban and industrial storm water and effluent discharges to streams in the catchment meet	TDC and NCC for respective waterways, then		IN PROGRESS This year we have conducted an estuary impact study at stormwater outfalls in Motueka and Māpua. These have been compared to the guidelines and for Māpua all are within the guidelines apart from Cadmium and Nickel (but this is likely due to the mineral content of the local geology). The	ON TRACK Sediment quality monitoring in 2022 indicated 3/23 sites with lead (Pb) and 2/23 with zinc above the (low) default guideline value. Overall, metal contaminants are declining in catchments. Wastewater and stormwater improvement programmes are underway to target and fix leaks and	

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	positive contribution to its health and natural values.	fauna is improved by reducing inputs of contaminants.	ANZECC (2000) ISQG low sediment toxicity criteria within 50m of the discharge outfall by 2050.	new WSE		monitoring in Richmond is ongoing and includes dry weather and wet weather monitoring as well as industrial outfall monitoring. We have installed 10 litter traps in the Richmond CBD and also installed a Jellyfish filter to treat the runoff from the Poutama industrial area. Draft Stormwater Catchment Management Plans (CMPs) for Brightwater/Wakefield and Māpua are getting closer to completion.	infiltration of the network. NCC undertook a point source sediment contaminant survey in July 2023 at discharge outlets in the Waimea Inlet and Nelson Haven to better establish a baseline for environmental monitoring. With 11 sites in the Waimea Inlet, this report found elevated mud content at 9 sites, but heavy metal concentrations were low at almost all sites, excluding Nickel, elevated at multiple sites due to natural catchment sources.	