

# Waikato Waipa River Restoration Strategy

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**April 2015**



# Background to Strategy

- Partnership between DairyNZ, Waikato Regional Council and Waikato River Authority
- Recognises the need for providing a framework for all organisations involved in catchment restoration activities
- Builds on the work carried out in 2010 for the WRISS
- Aligned to the Waikato River Restoration Forum



# Restoration Forum

- Chaired by Waikato River Authority
- Membership
  - WRA, Waikato/Waipā River Iwi, DairyNZ, WRC, Fonterra, Genesis Energy, Mighty River Power, DOC, Territorial Authorities
- Purpose: to maximise opportunities to realise the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River catchment

# Restoration Forum

- Objectives:
  - Oversee the preparation of a staged 5-15 year Waikato River Restoration Action Plan
  - Share information....to best leverage funding opportunities through an integrated and coordinated approach to restoration activities
  - Seek opportunities to work together to raise community awareness and appreciation of the river
  - Support best practice approaches that lead to enduring outcomes for the river and catchment

# River Restoration Strategy Project

- Focus on objective 1:  
*“Oversee the preparation of a staged 5-15 year Waikato / Waipa River Restoration Action Plan. This plan will guide groups engaged in restoration activities to ensure the most appropriate, logical, coordinated, effective and efficient approach is adopted”*
- In doing so will help achieve other objectives

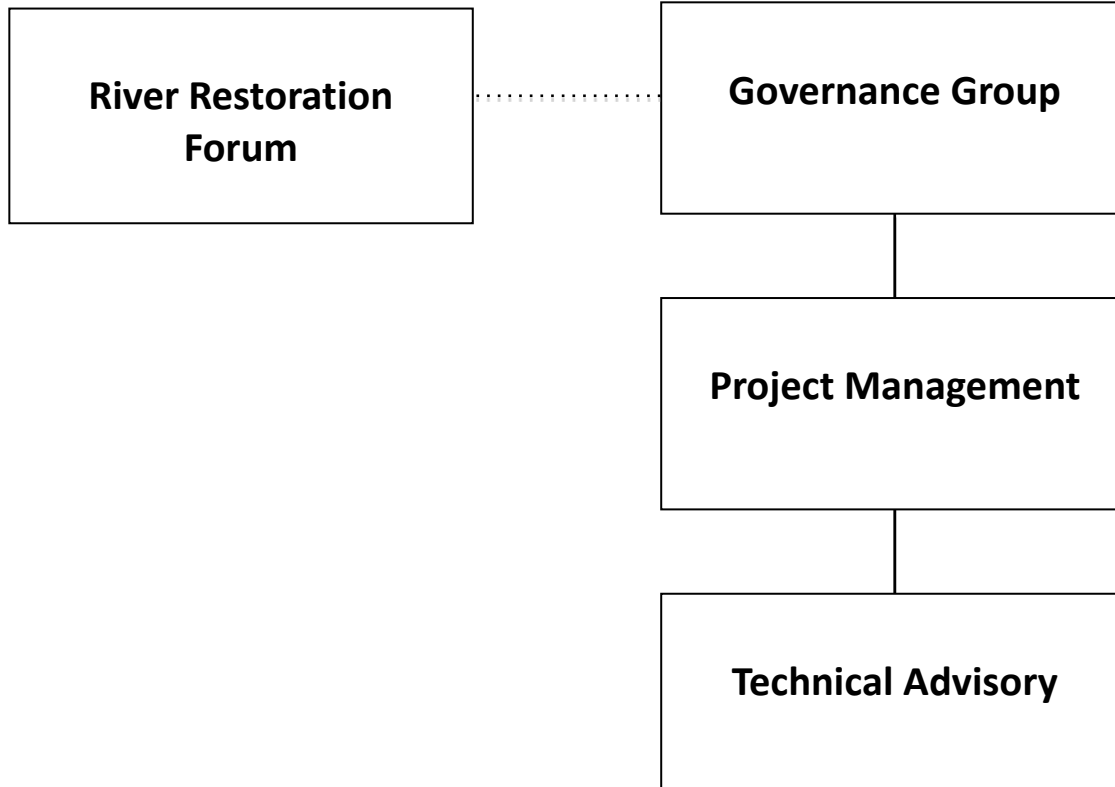


# River Restoration Strategy

- Purpose:
  - To provide the long term foundation and framework for all organisations involved with Waikato / Waipa River restoration activities
  - To guide future ‘on the ground’ activities for all organisations undertaking restoration through identification of specific, technically achievable, prioritised, geographically or issue based activities



# Project Structure



# Project Structure - roles

- Governance Group (DNZ, WRC, WRA)
  - Provide overall accountability to the funding organisations for the project's success;
- Project management team (Envirostrat)
  - Identifying work streams and priorities;
  - Working with WRA, DairyNZ, WRC staff to ensure alignment between projects within each organisation;
  - Delivery of all milestones
  - Also aligning with NIWA wetland prioritisation work



# Project Structure - roles

- Technical Advisory Group
  - inform development of the Strategy through provision of technical overview and advice
  - Includes staff from WRC (Bill Vant, Reece Hill, Bruno David, Blair Keenan, Tane Desmond), DairyNZ (David Burger) and NIWA
  - NIWA staff provide connection to WRISS and WRA funded wetland restoration strategy



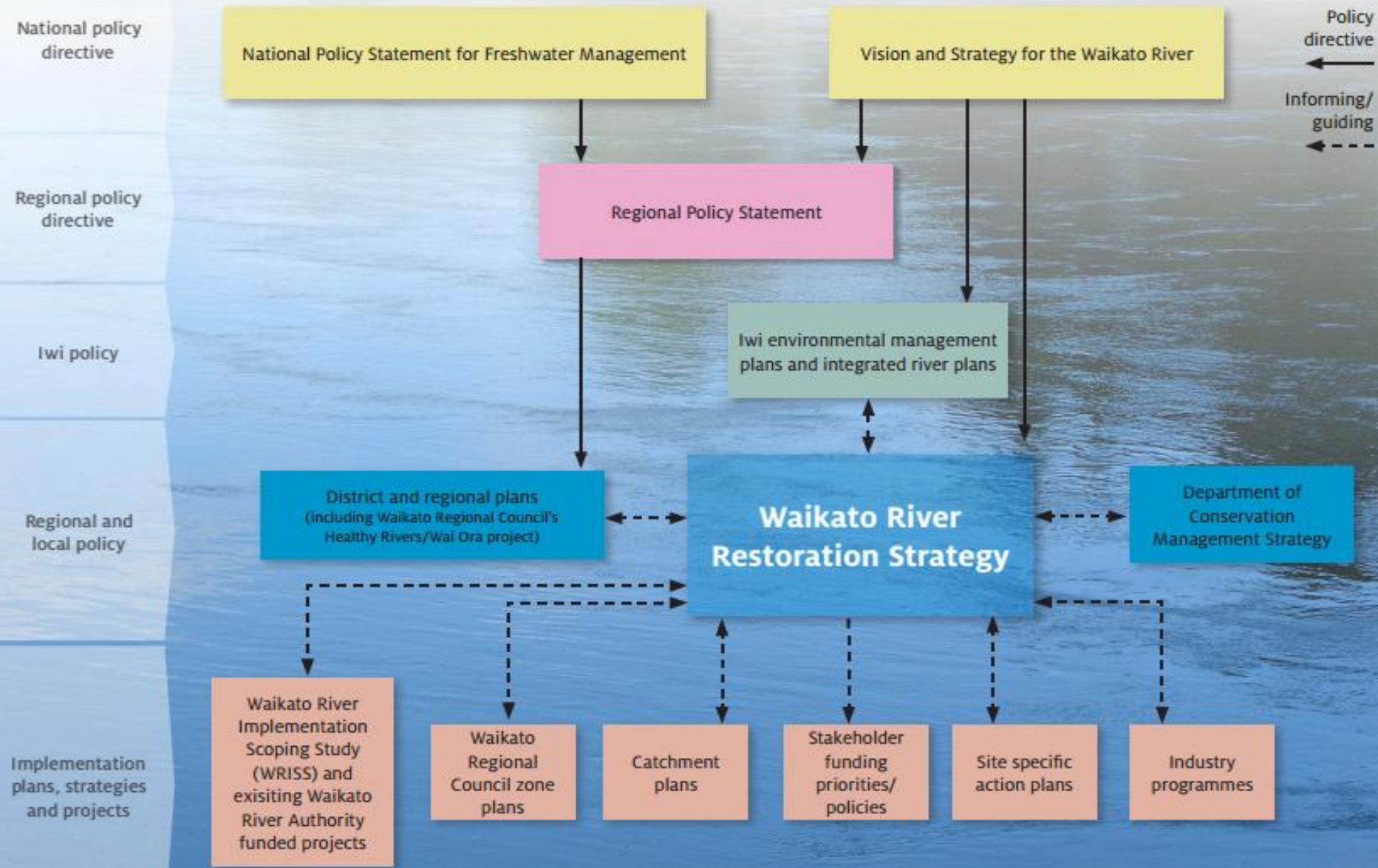
# River Restoration Strategy

- In scope:
  - Waikato / Waipa River Catchment.
  - **All non-regulatory activities** related to the restoration and protection of the Catchment including but not limited to soil conservation, water quality, biodiversity, pest management, cultural values, recreational values and sustainable land management.



# Relationship with Healthy Rivers

- Strategy is non-regulatory & non-binding plan
- Healthy Rivers Plan is a regulatory process arising from statutory obligations for the Waikato Regional Council.
- Ultimately both seek to give effect to the Vision and Strategy, but go about this in quite different ways

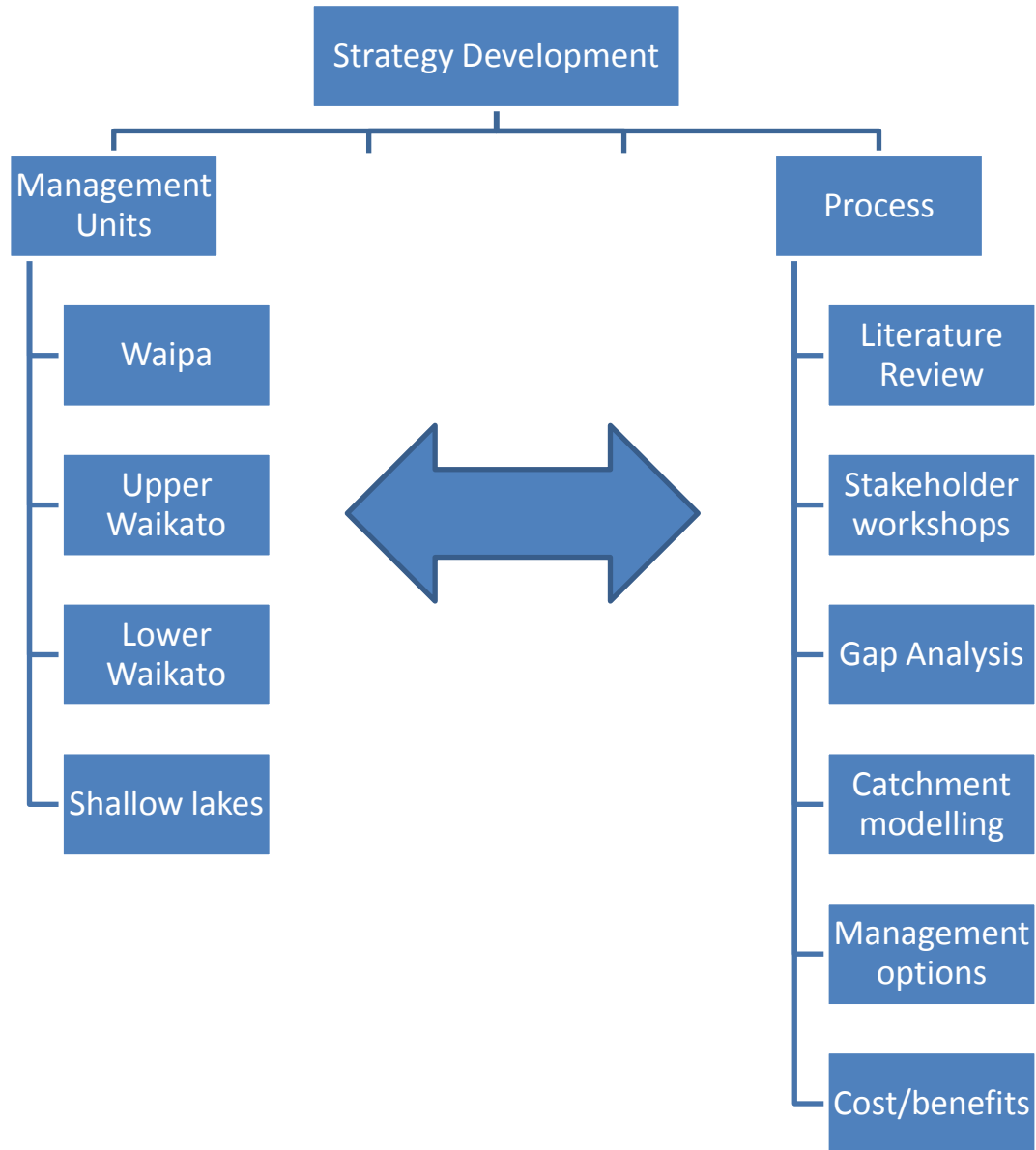


# Establishing what success looks like

- Engagement done as part of the WRISS
  - 15 aspirations for a healthy and well Waikato River including its lakes, wetlands and tributaries
- Waipa catchment plan visioning workshops
- WRA workshop
- Stakeholder workshops



# Approach



# Timeframes

- Confirm approach: March – April 2015
- Waipa catchment: April – October 2015
- Shallow lakes: April 2015 – February 2017
- Unit 3: October 2015 – April 2016
- Unit 4: April 2016 – September 2016
- Compilation of final strategy: by June 2017



# What will the Strategy contain?

- Strategy sections for each management unit
  - Current state
  - Goals, strategies, actions, costs
  - Prioritisation across the unit
  - Will provide a framework for organisations working in those subcatchments/sites
- Summary for entire catchment
  - Prioritisation across the Waikato/Waipā catchment
  - Will provide a framework for WRA and all organisations working catchment wide



# Questions

