

Consultation submission summary

Submission analysis

The twenty seven submissions comprised:

- 17 online survey, 3 hard copy survey, 7 emailed submissions
- 19 individual submissions (two of who identified as Ngāti Hikairo)
- Eight organisation submissions:
 - One submission received from Apakura Rūnanga Trust
 - One submission from Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board
 - One submission from Te Pahu Ratepayers and Pirongia Ward Committee
 - Five rowing and sailing club submissions: Te Awamutu Rowing Club, North Shore Rowing Club, Waikato Thames Coromandel Youth Sailing Development Trust, Schick Civil Waikato Rowing Club, Clifton Rowing Club Inc

In general there was support for the key aspects of the draft RMP. This is evidenced by the results to the survey questions shown in Figure 1. At least seventy percent of submitters who filled out the submission form questions supported all key aspects, and the remaining submitters partially supported them.

Question	Support	Partially support	Oppose	Total
Do you agree with the Vision?	71%	29%	0%	21
Do you support Objective One and the draft policies to achieve this objective?	70%	30%	0%	20
Do you support Objective Two and the draft policies to achieve this objective?	80%	20%	0%	20
Do you support Objective Three and the draft policies to achieve this objective?	75%	25%	0%	20
Do you support Objective Four and the draft policies to achieve this objective?	70%	30%	0%	20

Figure 1. Submission form question results

Many submitters provided rationale for their position and also provided further feedback that they wanted considered.

In the individual submissions, feedback focused on:

- The importance of improving the lake's water quality

- Changes and improvements to adjoining land management
- Affordability
- Leadership in research
- Revegetation and pest control
- Volunteering
- Developing a strong connection with mana whenua in achieving the plan and working with iwi on lease processes
- Providing further information on the significance of the lake
- Access (including dogs on lead) and accessibility
- Retention of freedom camping
- Visitor infrastructure such as shade, signage and seating
- Transfer of management
- The readability, legibility and length of the draft RMP
- Lack of detail on the logistics and implications of changes proposed

The Te Awamutu and Kihikihi Community Board acknowledged the cultural significance of the land and lake and recognised it as a valued community space that must be protected. It emphasised the importance of incorporating local stakeholder views and ensuring the plan is financially realistic to avoid delays and cost escalations. The Board supported the proposed priorities for the next ten years and the long-term outcomes for the next thirty, but stressed the need to address funding and implementation costs. It called for solutions benefiting all parties and reminded Council the Reserve belongs to the community.

While supportive of all of the key elements of the draft RMP, the joint submission from Te Pahu Ratepayers and Pirongia Ward Committee noted concerns about the lack of reference to recreation in the draft vision, the proposed reclassification from a recreation reserve to a scenic reserve, the lessee requirements to negotiate with mana whenua, and the prohibition of legal substances and drones. They advocated part of the vision should be to include and unite people and encourage recreational activity and healthy living. They also identified the need for more viewshafts; particularly along the northern and western edge.

The five rowing clubs all noted the importance of the lake to the rowing community. Schick Civil Waikato Rowing Club encouraged Council to continue supporting and promoting recreational opportunities on the lake in harmony with its ecological and cultural values. Te Awamutu Rowing Club more specifically noted:

- Support for the policy of facilitating non-motorised recreation, the provision of infrastructure to support water access and events and the promotion of camping before and after regattas
- Support for the intention of developing "high quality infrastructure to support [sporting activities] ... such as clubrooms and storage", facilities which the club urgently requires in order to develop further
- Support for initiatives such as mobile food and drink vendors (Policy 4.15) that will encourage people to spend time in the Reserve and bring the rowing (and sailing) clubs to the notice of the local community

- Concerns about the proposal to plant raupō along the lake edge of the Main Arrival Zone
- The need to be more explicit about what club contribution refers to in the monitoring and reporting section
- The need to adhere to health warnings when advice isn't timely or meaningful, and
- Te Awamutu Rowing Club has been active since 1963 (not the 1970s).

The Waikato Thames Coromandel Youth Sailing Development Trust's submission focused on the appropriateness of Lake Ngā Roto being referred to as a wāhi tapu in the draft RMP.

The Apakura Rūnanga Trust's submission outlined support for the majority of draft RMP, with concerns noted only about commercial and recreational activities that may compromise cultural or environmental values and the lack of specificity around co-governance.

The two submissions from individuals from Ngāti Hikairo focused on:

- The proposal to restore the traditional name of Wairoto
- Clearer pathways to co-governance arrangements
- Describing mana whenua values, connections and roles and responsibilities accurately and from a mātauranga Māori lens
- Archaeological investigations and the treatment of taonga discovered in the lake and the land, and
- Referencing key documents.