



WAIROA RECOVERY

TE WAIROA KA ORA TE WERO TE TAKI
STRENGTH x UNITY x RESILIENCE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH 2023 | NEWSLETTER 5



He toka tū moana - A steadfast rock, unwavering amidst the turbulent sea.

These words beautifully capture the essence of resilience and strength passed down through generations. They remind us that even through challenging times, the changing season and the arrival of spring symbolise hope and renewal. This also reminds us that we are the realisation of our ancestors' dreams, carrying forward the legacy and aspirations of those who came before us. Hold fast, e te whānau, stand strong, we have got this.

MĀORI WARDEN SUPPORT

Within days of Cyclone Gabrielle striking, an out-of-region group of Māori Wardens was on the ground supporting local whānau.

They began in the isolated communities of Willow Flat, Kotemaori, Putere, Raupunga, Mohaka, and Waihua.

From the southern end of the district, the team then focused on the North Clyde community, starting by helping with the welfare support that Hinemihi Marae whānau was coordinating and then supporting the community with welfare, under-house silt removal, rubbish removal, building-repair work, food parcels and connecting individuals through door knocking and psycho-social (wellbeing) check-ins.

Auckland-based Blaine Hoete is coordinating the Wairoa effort under the combined regional umbrella of Te Piringa Manatopu, Takitimu and Te Tairāwhiti regions and said the foundation of Māori Wardens is based on Aroha Ki Te Tangata, Manākitanga, Whānaungatanga, Kotahitanga and Tino Rangatiratanga, togetherness, supporting one another to maintain individual's mana and dignity while

in these traumatic spaces. "We are active in the community and try to fill the gaps where we are needed. We are like connectors and are onto visit number 10 for some whānau. Our role can be heartbreaking when we see what some whānau and individuals are going through, but it is also rewarding when we can assist and get an improved outcome.

It was while the Māori Warden team was in the community that they met experienced carpenter Steve Kingi, who lives at Marumarū with his wife, Wilma. Steve was already helping in the community, focusing on kaumātua and Wairoa's more vulnerable whānau and individuals. By working together, Steve and the team have been able to achieve more, and the Kingi's also provide accommodation for the Māori Wardens.

Blaine says the Māori Warden's presence will remain in place for as long as needed. "Wairoa still has a high need. We are seeing displaced elderly, disabled, and single parents moved from pillar to post because there is no appropriate accommodation in town. This puts pressure on the individuals and whānau who support them".

"We see that Wairoa had some infrastructure and social economic issues prior to Cyclone Gabrielle, but because the cyclone did not discriminate as to who it would target, it has left a pathway of destruction and trauma in its wake. We are here to support by rebuilding capability and capacity in the community. It is also an opportunity to support the growth of the Māori Warden Movement here so that Wairoa can strategise, maintain and sustain itself."



A team of Māori Wardens is supporting Wairoa's Recovery. Their most recent task was sorting and organising donations. Pictured are Blaine Hoete (Auckland Central), Waiata Takuira (Palmerston North), Tamihana Hohaia (Tāmaki Ki Te Tonga), Dawn Wairama (Feilding) and their Wairoa host Wilma Kingi (Omahu Marae). Absent, Steve Kingi (Takitimu and Te Reinga Marae).

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

Finding accommodation for whānau who could not live in their homes following the Cyclone Gabrielle flooding has been an enormous undertaking.

Enabled and Tātau Tātau o Te Wairoa have both been involved in ensuring people have a safe place to stay.

Melissa Kaimoana from Enabled has been key in sourcing suitable accommodation, and through the Temporary Accommodation Service (TAS), 19 one and two-

bedroom units were placed directly on properties that had been flooded and around 20 homes rented.

The Temporary Accommodation Service connects people to accommodation after a natural disaster, providing safe, secure and accessible accommodation while people's homes are repaired or rebuilt.

Tātau Tātau o Te Wairoa has also had 15 accommodation pods delivered and has an additional

55 pods still to come.

While housing for most people has been arranged, if you need accommodation due to Cyclone Gabrielle, please contact Melissa at Enabled on O6 838 7390.

A reminder, if your home was affected by flooding and, as a result, you rented accommodation prior to July 20, you may be able to receive an additional rental subsidy; call into the local MSD Office to see if you meet the criteria.

UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE FOR LOCAL COUPLE

A very happy John and Toni Bouchet are loving their new accommodation pod which means they can still live on-site at their flood-damaged home.

The couple, John, 80 and Toni, 79, have lived in Wairoa for 15 years, ironically choosing the town because of its great climate and affordable housing. Flooding in their Carroll Street villa was enough to ruin everything, rising to about 30cm inside the house and around a metre outside.

The couple, however, are planning to build back better. The Jehovah's Witnesses will have their house raised by half a metre with insurance paying for materials and tradies of the Jehovah's Witnesses faith providing the labour.

"All we have to do is feed them," laughs a grateful John. The team of tradies will turn up and get the job done. The couple say they have already been well looked after, with 23 local people turning up the day after the flooding to help begin the massive cleanup.



Carroll Street residents John and Toni Bouchet are loving their new pod, arranged by Melissa Kaimoana from Enabled.



MAYORAL MESSAGE

As a result of a lot of hard work from many people, Wairoa is starting to slowly recover from the devastation of Cyclone Gabrielle. There is still a long way to go, and I know many people are still hurting, but it is good to celebrate some small successes.

The opening of the Glenbrook river crossing at Waikare has restored connectivity for that rural community, which is fantastic as they have had a long haul, particularly over winter.

It is frustrating for everyone that some aspects of our recovery seem to move very slowly, which

is why we must acknowledge even the little bits of progress that we make.

It is great to see the Wairoa Recovery team gaining in strength. The upcoming appointment of three navigators/kaimanaaki will provide extra feet on the ground and help the team connect even more with flood-impacted whānau.

We need to remember that this recovery is uncharted territory, and it can be very challenging. Most of us are moving through doing the best we can and hope to rebuild better than we were before.

C'MON THE BAY

More than 200 Wairoa locals headed to the Bay to support the Hawke's Bay Magpies team which played Bay of Plenty in a Battle of the Bays game earlier in the month.

Hawke's Bay Rugby, with support from match day sponsor One NZ, banded together to offer free tickets to the game for cyclone-affected whānau.

Wairoa people made the most of the opportunity, including a bus load of 35 students from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngati Kahungunu o Te Wairoa.



Kia hiwa ra! Come join the team rebuilding state highways and rail on the East Coast!

'Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini'

Success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many



The Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) Alliance has been set up to plan, organise and deliver much of the recovery and rebuild work needed on the highway and rail networks, in conjunction with local businesses and contractors. Alliance members include Waka Kotahi, KiwiRail, Downer, Fulton Hogan and Higgins.

The TREC team will come from local communities where possible and we're calling on good people across Te Tairāwhiti (Gisborne) and Te Matau a Māui (Hawke's Bay) to ensure the successful delivery of the works.

If you are inspired to help deliver a world-class project with a lasting impact then we want to hear from you!

We have a number of opportunities which we'll share on a regular basis in more detail, but right now we're looking for people who could do the following jobs:

- Tairāwhiti Area Manager
- Construction Engineers, Managers and Supervisors
- Supplier Manager, Traffic Manager
- Constructability Engineers
- Health & Safety Advisors/Co-ordinators
- Kaiārahi
- Quality Engineers and Quality Manager
- Environmental and sustainability professionals
- Administrators
- Recruiters
- Māori Communications Advisors
- Document Controllers

And this is just the start!

What we need from you?

- A real desire to make a difference for the East Coast
- Your local knowledge and connections
- Either construction experience or skills that can be transferred to the project
- A short CV or a brief description of your skills, experience, and qualifications and of course your contact details

If you're interested, please send your details to: Jobs@TREC.nz

Going forward we'll need more people in other roles so please email us if you have an interest in joining TREC in the future. Come and join the team!

Transport Rebuild East Coast



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

PLEASE FOLLOW THE REBUILDING CHECKLIST

Flood-damaged homes need a verified moisture check by the Wairoa District Council building team before wall relining can begin.

There have been people and tradies who have begun the rebuild process without following the correct procedures, and this could result in further damage to homes or the property records not being accurate.

Wairoa District Council is obligated to record each property that was impacted by flooding. This information will be shown on Land Information Memorandums (LIM) reports, which can be requested as public documents. When the Council's building team completes the required reinstatement checks, there is a record that the work was repaired to the approved standard.

Ensuring the correct process is followed could be important for insurance purposes and if you sell your home in the future.

Please do not cover your wall framing with GIB or install skirting boards etc, until the Council's building officers have confirmed the timber framing moisture levels are at the correct levels. If the building team can't measure the moisture levels, the wall coverings may have to be removed, and the process started again.

The building team knows that people want to return to their homes and will support that as much as possible, but the following checklist must be followed. Items 1-7 need to be completed before the Council building team will conduct a verification moisture test.

MOISTURE VERIFICATION CHECKLIST

This checklist will help guide you as to when you can contact the Wairoa District Council Building team to conduct a verification moisture check.

Items 1-7 need to be completed before the Wairoa District Council Building Team will conduct a verification moisture check.

- ✓ **1** Septic tank cleaned, waste pipes flushed & toilet usable.
- 2** Potable water supply available.
- 3** Electrical Safety Certificate obtained.
- 4** Silt removed from internal wall cavities, exposed timber cleaned and disinfected.
- 5** Silt level gap under piled houses is greater than 400mm from the lowest timber, foundation vents are not blocked, and no organic matter or foul odours are present.
**If above conditions cannot be achieved silt level to be reduced to 15mm.*
**If polythene under house is covered in silt all silt must be removed.*
- 6** Moisture content of exposed pine wall framing has been confirmed <18% by a contractor.
**Native timbers 20-25%.*
- 7** Floors cleaned/disinfected or replaced if required.
- 8** Wall coverings, insulation reinstated.

REBUILDING TIPS

- In some houses, particle board flooring beneath timber wall framing has deteriorated due to the porous nature of the particle board. This can slow the drying process with the moisture moving into the timber framing. It is recommended all damaged particle board flooring is removed.

- Some houses have not had silt adequately removed from beneath the foundations. If you still have silt under your home, please get in touch with the Council, and an underhouse silt removal crew will be arranged.

- It is recommended to use treated/tanalised plywood flooring as it provides some resilience if future flooding occurs.

- Asbestos is known to be in some properties. For your health and safety, following the appropriate process, including wearing protective gear, is necessary.

- Installing new insulation in your walls generally needs consent from the Council. However, the Council recognises that while linings are off walls, it is a chance to install insulation to improve the quality and comfort of the home. If you plan to put new insulation in your walls, please contact the Council building team to arrange a quick chat about the correct processes so the insulation can be installed via a building consent exemption.

To have your moisture levels checked and verified by the Council, please lodge a CSR (Customer Service Request) or call the Council on 06 838 7309 for any additional assistance or information.

BUSINESS BACK

CARROLL STREET DAIRY

The doors of the new Carroll Street dairy had only been open for two weeks when Cyclone Gabrielle struck, and the river flooded the shop and home.

Owner Kurawari Panere dug deep, and with support from whānau, friends and the church, The Wairoa Dairy was back open within a fortnight, with the convenience store becoming a hub for North Clyde.

Kurawari has a genuine love for Wairoa, and with her heart particularly on the North Clyde side of town, opening a dairy on Carroll Street was a perfect fit.

Her goal had been to open the dairy on January 30, which was achieved. "Little did we know that just two weeks later, Cyclone Gabrielle would strike. On the morning of February 14, I opened up as usual and then Michelle (McIlroy) alerted us to what was happening. We were grateful to be able to still walk out, and as we closed the front door, the water was

starting to cross the road."

Flood waters rose to about knee level through the dairy and home, with Kurawari relocating to live at Hinemihi Marae. "I am thankful for the aroha and support from my Hinemihi whānau."

In true Kurawari style, whānau and friends stepped in, cleared silt and

damaged items, and two weeks later, The Wairoa Dairy was reopened. Since then, the dairy has served as a North Clyde social hub; a place whānau gather, laugh and have a talk.

The North Clyde-based dairy is open Monday to Saturday from 6am-7pm with its key foundation aroha and trust.



OFFICE SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR

Wairoa Recovery Office is seeking an Office Support Administrator to support the recovery work programme and services to whānau and communities across the district.

This role is for a 12-month fixed-term period to meet the Recovery Office's focus and commitment to recover and reconnect communities adversely affected by flooding and restore them to what they were previously and, where possible, enhanced.

We are looking for a passionate and dedicated Office Support Administrator to join our amazing team. The role will include administration support and reception tasks.

To be successful in this role, you will:

- Be a great team player, as well as work autonomously.
- Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Be whānau-focussed and results-driven.
- Be highly organised and dedicated to meeting timeframes.

What we offer:

You will be rewarded with a competitive salary based on your experience and be a part of a friendly and collaborative team that is dedicated to our district. You will receive training and development to equip you with the necessary information to be successful in your role. Applications close at midnight on **Thursday, 5th October 2023**.

Applications will be reviewed as they are lodged and may be filled before the closing date. To apply, with a cover letter and CV, or for further information or a copy of the job description, please email the Wairoa Recovery Manager at benitat@wairoadc.govt.nz

OUR WEBSITE IS LIVE

Wairoa Recovery has launched its website Head to www.wairoarecovery.co.nz for up-to-date recovery information, stories, newsletters and a whole lot more. Please feel free to send us any of your cyclone-related pics and videos and we will share on our webpage.

www.wairoarecovery.co.nz

THE RAPID RELIEF TEAM IS COMING TO TOWN

Hitch up your trailer - flood-affected Wairoa farmers are about to be supported by the Rapid Relief Team.

On Wednesday, October 4, the Rapid Relief Team (RRT) will visit Wairoa to host a Farmers' Community Connect event, which will include donations of fencing materials.

The event will be at the Wairoa Airport and include donated fencing packs including posts, battens and wire and a free barbecue lunch and barista coffee.

There will also be access to local support services, including health services, farm management advisory and veterinary support.

Mayor Craig Little said the RRT events have been successfully held in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti and he is thrilled the team is coming to Wairoa.

"This is an opportunity for farmers to connect with their local community and also to be looked after.

"As a farmer myself, I know how hard it is out there and through the generosity of the RRT we are being given a bit of support and a massive feel-good factor. Thank you to the Rapid Relief Team, we really do appreciate you including Wairoa."

It is vital that farmers register for the event in order to receive donations. To register, visit www.bit.ly/oct23fcc or call 028 2550 0838. Registrations close on Wednesday, September 27.



Supporting flood affected farmers in Wairoa with donations of fencing materials

RRT is heading to Wairoa to host a Farmers Community Connect event for locals to enjoy, with access to:

- Donated fencing packs including posts, battens, and wire
- RRT's FREE BBQ lunch
- Barista coffee
- Access to local support services including health services, farm management advisory and veterinary support
- Opportunity to connect with your local community



WHEN:
9AM - 12PM
Wednesday
4 October 2023

WHERE:
Wairoa Airport,
Airport Road,
Wairoa

HOW TO REGISTER:

IMPORTANT!
Farmers must register to receive fencing donations.

To register, visit
www.bit.ly/oct23fcc
or call 028 2550 0838



Thanks to our supporters:



Registration cut off - Wednesday 27th September 2023

COMMUNITY | COMPASSION | SUPPORT

RURAL ROUND UP

Due to inquiries relating to silt deposits, slips, erosion and waterway changes, the Hawke's Bay Regional Council has brought Will Conley from WSP onboard to assist. Will is an engineer specialising in river dynamics. This work will involve a site visit to gather background information and maps. Will's role will then include an onsite consultation, including providing

the landowner with options – and benefits and consequences of these actions. HBRC will cover Will's first consult. Follow-up consults will be at the farmer's cost.

Wairoa Cropping Group – Funding from FAR will be used to carry out more soil tests followed by specific advice on what can be grown on flooded river flats.



For more information, contact Ashley Boardman, Rural Recovery Advisor as part of the Rural Recovery team for the Hawkes Bay Regional Council ashley.boardman@hbrc.govt.nz

HAPPY TO HAVE A FAMILY HOME AGAIN

Nearly seven months on from Cyclone Gabrielle, Karl and Becky Donovan are back on their land and have a home again.

The Marumaru family are still awaiting an insurance decision on the fate of their 100-plus-year-old character homestead, which was swamped by flooding.

While their house is unliveable, the versatile and optimistic couple have repurposed their woolshed, transforming it into a four-bedroom home.

The Donovans have lived at the 7-ha block, 20km from town, for eight years. The property is their home and also their income source. They rear calves on the block, along with Karl working as a mechanic and firewood contractor and Becky, a massage therapist.

Becky said they never thought they would lose the house that has stood there for over a century. "Then, over one night, everything we had built up was gone."

Becky was seven months pregnant when Cyclone Gabrielle struck. "I was restless as we were getting heavy rain, and in the 2022 weather events, the river, which comes down from Te Reinga, had come up to the bottom of the clothesline. Tairāwhiti had declared a Civil Defence emergency, and I knew our headwaters came from Gisborne and high tide was coming.

"By 3am, we started packing up, and within half an hour, the river had risen by a metre and had increased so much in width.

"We packed up the kids, Maddie, nine and Tommy, seven, and as I drove out, the river was halfway up my tyres. I couldn't see if I was driving on the driveway or in the drain."

Becky drove next door to her sister, Laura Jerram, and by this stage, the river was swirling around in all directions caused by a build-up of woody debris at nearby bridges.

Karl drove out 10 minutes behind his wife, and by then, the river was over the bonnet of his truck.

"The water was rising so quickly, and being pregnant, I felt so vulnerable and just wanted to get everyone to safety. There was no power, it was dark, and you couldn't see where the water was coming from."

The Donovans, Laura, and her two children took refuge in the higher forestry block across the road.

As dawn began to break, Becky knew it would be bad despite it being a fine, still morning. "I could hear the cicadas clicking and the birds singing. But as the sun rose, we could see our home surrounded with water up to the windows.

"When I saw the house, it was not a reality. I was just so grateful we all got out and were ok.

"I am more devastated now than I was then. It took a while before it began to bite in, and I started to realise we had lost our home and our income. Karl's workshop and all his tools were underwater, so he couldn't even fix anything. Where do you start? We had two kids, nowhere to live, and I was having a baby."

"Initially, I thought this is okay, we just have to clean up, this is repairable. Then we got red stickered. That meant we couldn't even go into the house to get the water and silt out, I just felt like I was betraying my home."

The floodwaters did not affect Laura's house, so initially, the Donovans stayed there, although they were without power for weeks.



Becky and Karl Donovan are happy to have a family home again.

The family then moved to a nearby farm cottage just in time for the arrival of a new baby boy, Benjamin, on April 23. "Originally, I had planned to have a water birth at home, but the flood was not quite what I expected.

"It was around the time of having Benjamin that we started looking at options. We wanted to stay on our property and didn't want to

live anywhere else, so we decided on converting the woolshed as it would give us a roof over our head in the short-term and an asset to our property in the long-term."

Karl developed a floor plan, and with help from his friends and family, the transformation began.

Karl searched on Trade Me and other sites and travelled nationwide, sourcing a kitchen and other supplies

to complete their new home. They have also kept the character of the four-stand woolshed, complete with overhead shearing plants and a sheep chute down to a playroom.

The family moved into their new woolshed home in the first week of September and said while it's great to be home and back on their land, it is hard to look across at their now gutted and abandoned former home.

"I loved our homestead so much. We are waiting on insurance, and after that decision, we will need to decide what we will do, as I don't know yet if I will be able to live there again.

"It's great to have our own space and a roof over our head. Emotionally, it has been huge, we lost so much, but we have also had amazing support from family and friends."

"Karl is always positive and has a don't worry attitude. Renovating the woolshed has been a cool project and given us something positive to move forward with, and now that we have a family home again, we can look towards the next stage of our journey."



Karl and Becky Donovan's Marumaru homestead flooded up to the windows.



The Donovans converted woolshed home still retains some of its past heritage.

COLLECTION OF CYCLONE-RELATED BUILDING MATERIALS FROM FLOOD-DAMAGED HOMES SET TO BEGIN

Wairoa District Council is meeting the needs of the flood-affected community by collecting building materials from damaged housing, along with its ongoing silt collections.

Wairoa District Council Chief Executive Kitea Tipuna said the post-cyclone period has been a rapidly changing time, and seven months on, there is a change in need. "People are starting to rebuild, and as a result, there is an increase in building materials from flood-damaged homes. This collection will ensure we are putting solutions in place to support this part of the recovery process.

"Directly after the cyclone, the Council collected flood-damaged property, including flood-affected contents. This was funded by NEMA and the collection had to stop at the end of June. Now, there is a greater need for collecting and removing building materials and building-related debris, so we have shifted our focus.

"In most cases, the collection of flood-damaged building materials will relate to uninsured or under-insured households. Those people with full insurance should have the disposal of flood-damaged building materials included as part of their insurance cover, which will pay any associated costs.

"Up until the end of June, Council had collected approximately 3,000 tonnes of flood-affected contents from impacted residential properties, which has been disposed of at no cost to individuals.

"A reminder also to anyone who needs silt cleared from under their homes, please get in touch. More than 125 houses have had the silt removed from underneath them, and this free service is still available. The Council is also collecting silt from residential properties.

"We won't be able to continue with this free service indefinitely, but we do want to help our community and ensure we are meeting the needs.

Because we need to collate the collection of building materials and silt, we ask everyone who would like a collection to please lodge a CSR (Customer Service Request) with the Council to arrange collection.

This can be done by phoning the Council on 06 838 7309 or going online at www.wairoadc.govt.nz/contact-us/customer-service-request/, or visit the Council offices.

Please note, this service is funded through the Sediment and Debris funding announced by government in May 2023, administered by Hawke's Bay Regional Council, whereby an agreed funding portion has been allocated to Wairoa District Council to support its community with the recovery of sediment (silt) and debris (waste) created as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle.



HEALTH PRECAUTIONS ENCOURAGED TO REDUCE DUST INHALATION

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand is working with other agencies to assess the public health impacts of dust generated from airborne silt in Hawke's Bay.

Medical Officer of Health Dr Bridget Wilson says until more is known from air quality monitoring in affected regions, it is important for people to take precautions during times when dust is a significant issue.

"This is particularly important for the elderly, very young and people with heart or lung conditions."

People can take measures to reduce the amount of dust they breathe in, she says.

"When outside in dusty areas wear a well-fitting mask (N95/P2) and eye protection, avoid exercising outside, and wash your hands and clothes after being in contact with large quantities of silt. When conditions are very dusty due to high winds stay indoors if possible and close windows.

If you are cleaning up dust inside homes or cars, it is important to do so by wiping down surfaces or vacuuming rather than sweeping which can resuspend dust."

Dr Wilson says people worried about their symptoms should contact their doctor or Healthline on 0800 611 116.

BIG SHOUT OUT

A huge thanks to the voluntary organisation St Vincent de Paul for its generosity to the people of Wairoa.

The New Zealand charitable organisation has donated whiteware of washing machines, fridges and ovens, not once but twice.

Thank you so much.

Pictured during the recent visit are Wairoa Recovery Manager Benita Tahuri and Wairoa Recovery Kaimanaaki Matua Rupene Amato with Kathy and Jim from St Vincent de Paul.



COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

Hineaka Smith considers herself lucky that her Ormond Road home was only white stickered.

She has lived at the North Clyde address for more than 40 years and raised her family in the home with daughters Claudine, Parekura and Joylene, still living locally, and sons Kelvin and Wairoa artist Chantze, living away.

Hineaka says she knows she is in trouble when the water hits the top of the drain across the road. "We were evacuated to Affco in Cyclone Bola, and the water only overflowed onto the front lawn, but Cyclone Gabrielle was different."

Hineaka stayed with family on the south side of town the night before the flooding. "The next morning, we came to check on the house, and everything was cordoned off, and the flooding was just starting. Much later in the afternoon, when we were able to make it back, the house was surrounded with knee-high silt and water, with a few of my garden ornaments bobbing around.

"I love my gardening, and it was soul-destroying to see the mess, but there was no time to cry, and I just got to work."

Hineaka got her grandson to take the baseboards off her

house, and using an old plastic tablecloth, she began to clear the silt from underneath her home. She would crawl under, load the tablecloth with silt, pull it out, shovel it into her recycling tub, and then drag it to the front of her house for collection. "I had done quite a bit underneath my house when someone told my son what I was doing, and so he came and helped, and the silt crew finished it.

Not to be beaten, the independent great-grandmother then watched how the tradies were flushing the septic lines down Waihirere Road. "So, I came home and did it to mine, and then three weeks later, a man turned up and said he was here to flush the septic line, and I told him I had already done it. He checked, and it was fine, so that's good he could go and help someone else."

Hineaka said she has had a lot of help from her kids and whānau; the standout was Hinemihi Marae. "We had no power or water, and they delivered cooked meals. We had other packages dropped off. Wairoa Recovery has provided a lot of support, and it is nice to know people are in the background.

"The community has come together and helped each other. There are a lot of people far worse off than me, and it is good to know there has been support for those who need it."

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

Rupene Amato is a key connector for the Wairoa Recovery team.

The son of Manu and Julie Amato returned home to help his parents whose home was flooded. Being a true Wairoa lad he has stuck around and helped the community.

Rupene's position is Kaimanaaki Matua, and he is looking forward to the three new kaimanaaki joining the recovery team.



GLENBROOK RIVER CROSSING

After seven long months of isolation the Glenbrook river crossing at Waikare is complete.

The building and installation of the crossing is a huge success allowing Glenbrook's rural residents to once again have connectivity.

Wairoa District Council Chief Executive Kitea Tipuna thanked

the Glenbrook residents for their patience over the last seven months. He also thanked Council staff and contractors for their work and focus on regaining connectivity.

Once the temporary crossing is complete, site investigations around the design and feasibility at the old bridge site will begin.



The concrete deck of the Glenbrook river crossing being poured.

CLAIMS RESOLUTION SERVICE

In person support at Wairoa Recovery (Airport) fortnightly if you need support with your insurance claim.

The New Zealand Claims Resolution Service can help you access the services you need to resolve it. They provide free advice, case management where appropriate and access to legal, engineering and wellbeing support, tailored to individual's needs.

Contact Alana Hema – Case Manager Directly

Mobile 027 720 0055

Free Phone 0508 624 327



WAIROA RECOVERY

WOODY DEBRIS RECOVERY CONTINUES

Woody debris recovery from beaches and around bridges has seen more than 20,000 cubic metres stockpiled around the district.

Stage one of the clearing involves stacking the debris into piles above the high tide mark so people can again enjoy using local beaches. Stage two will see the piles incinerated, mulched, made available firewood and community use or left to nature. This is subject to further funding if it becomes available to the Silt and Debris Recovery Taskforce.

At Mohaka Beach, both East and West and around the river mouth, 5,000m³ has been piled. At Whakamahi Beach, 200 m³ of native timber has been recovered and stockpiled for marae use, and around 3,000 m³ of debris remains stockpiled. At the Kopu Road mudflats, progress has been made in removing stranded debris and stacking it on the adjacent wetlands outside the tidal zone. To date, approximately 800 m³ of woody debris has been removed. At Mahia and Opoutama beaches, large debris has been stacked into piles above the high-water line. The piles of debris have been removed from the boat ramp area and are being removed from the beach onto the east end of the Pohutakawa Reserve. The work on the beach has progressed as far as the Mahia Golf Club and approximately 2,000 m³ has been stockpiled, with an additional 8,000 m³ in piles on the

beach. Some large logs are being embedded in the upper high tide zone for shorebird protection.

Debris clearance has been completed at most of the 26 bridge sites where work was programmed.

People are encouraged to help themselves to firewood from the piles. However, they are also reminded to please be careful around the piles of debris, please do not to light them on fire, and for children not to climb on the stacked piles as the piled logs can easily roll.

Subject to available funding, the following debris recovery sites remain on the works schedule: Taylor's Bay, Mangawhio Lagoon, Mahanga Beach, Black's Beach, Waikare Beach and Waihua Beach.

The Wairoa District Council is assisting the Hawke's Bay Regional Council project, which includes liaising with tangata whenua and communities to draw on local knowledge.

People are encouraged to report areas that need debris removed by following the Council's CSR (Customer Service Request) process either online <https://www.wairoadc.govt.nz/contact-us/customer-service-request/> or by phoning the Council on 06 838 7309 or calling into the Queen Street office.

Alternatively, phone the Hawke's Bay Regional Council on 0800 108 838 or visit the regional council website to inform them about an issue or log a job for the regional council to follow up on.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US



WAIROA RECOVERY
TE WAIROA KA ORA TE WERO TE TAKI
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- Online form via WDC website: www.wairoadc.govt.nz/contact-us/customer-service-request
- Phone 06 838 7309
- Email recovery@wairoadc.govt.nz
- In-person at the Recovery Team Office at the Wairoa Airport (end of Airport Road) our office hours are Monday to Friday 10am-2pm.
- Recovery Website www.wairoarecovery.co.nz

You can also pop into the WYAT office on Marine Parade for support and funding assistance with: Mayoral Relief Funding, HBRC Disaster Funding (residential), Pātaka forms, Red Cross Funding



WAIROA RECOVERY

Disclaimer: The Wairoa Recovery team has made every effort to ensure that this information is as up-to-date and accurate as possible. We acknowledge this is a rapidly changing environment and the information provided should be used for general purposes only. We encourage people to seek additional information before making any business, legal or other decisions. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us at recovery@wairoadc.govt.nz.