

# Ngongotahā Flood Review Project

## A Year in Review 2020

Tēnā koutou katoa

It has been two years since the independent review panel released its report in relation to the Ngongotahā Flood Event of 29 April 2018. This report summarises the work carried out in 2020 in relation to Ngongotahā Flood Review Action Plan.

Significant progress has been made this year, in particular:

- Shortlisting of potential flood mitigation options.
- Continued removal of problematic trees from the upper catchment down to the Brookdale Drive area.
- Construction of detainment bunds in the upper catchment.
- Completion of the Paradise Valley Community Response Plan.

Most significantly, \$3.7 million of central government funding was secured to progress the detainment bunds, tree removal and engineering options.

Elva Conroy, Ngongotaha Flood Review Project Co-ordinator

Refer to our project webpage (<http://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/floodreview>) for a copy of the review report, Ngongotahā Flood Review Action Plan and 2019 End of Year report.

## Cluster 1: Roles and Responsibilities

### ACTIONS 1-4

Work progressed or completed in 2020:

- \$3.7 million in central government funding secured to progress engineering solutions (Action 8) and tree removal (Action 6).
- Only 2 Community Reference Group meetings held in 2020 due to covid-19 restrictions.
- Planning Community Information Session (29 August) cancelled due to covid-19 restrictions.
- Project was part of a wider multi-project community information evening in September.
- Use of Ngongotahā news, Weekender and project e-pānui & webpage to disseminate information.

The screenshot shows a news article from the Rotorua Daily Post dated 7 Aug 2020. The headline is 'Ngongotahā floods: Nearly \$4 million handed down for councils to fix issues'. The article mentions that the Ngongotahā Flood Review Project is a programme of action relating to the 2018 flood event. It lists several actions: stream repairs, modelling for engineering solutions, civil defence readiness, RMA planning, and upper catchment considerations. It also mentions physical works like tree removal and debris dams. A note at the bottom states that a community information session scheduled for 29 August has been cancelled due to COVID-19. The article is part of a project funded by the Government, with \$3.7 million allocated for flood mitigation actions to reduce future risk.

Focus for 2021: Landowner engagement followed by wider community engagement for proposed mix of flood mitigation options downstream of State Highway 5.



## Cluster 2: Stream repairs and maintenance

### ACTIONS 5-7

Work progressed or completed in 2020:

- Stream repairs and maintenance carried out throughout the year.
- Tree removal programme accelerated due to central government funding.
- Stream maintenance plan completed.

Focus for 2021: Continued tree removal as well as stream repairs and maintenance

## Cluster 3: Engineering, modelling and options

### ACTIONS 8-9

Work progressed or completed in 2020:

- Flood mitigation options shortlisted from 12 options to a combination of six options.
- Downstream of SH5, this will include raising a small portion of western road, stop banks, overland flow paths and enhancing existing high flow bypasses. Modelling continues to confirm the extent of each intervention.
- The upper catchment options including detainment bunds and exploring land use change.

Focus for 2021: Completed modelling. Landowner engagement followed by wider community engagement for proposed mix of flood mitigation options downstream of SH5. Commencement of works, where resource consent is not required.

## Cluster 4: Civil defence and readiness

### ACTIONS 10-12

Work progressed or completed in 2020:

- Community response plan completed for the Paradise Valley Community.
- Other actions completed in 2019 (e.g. Emergency Management Plan) or are ongoing.

Focus for 2021: Commence Community Response Plan for the Ngongotahā Community.





## Cluster 5: RMA Planning and Consents

### ACTIONS 13-18

Work progressed or completed in 2020:

- Plan scoping and technical assessments to inform the District Plan review are underway.
- Other actions completed in 2019 (13-15) or are reliant on the completion of other actions (17-18)

Focus for 2021: Complete District Plan Review.

## Cluster 6 Upper Catchment considerations

### ACTIONS 6, 10 AND 19

Work progressed or completed in 2020:

- Tree removal & detainment bund programme accelerated due to central government funding.
- 11 detainment bunds to be constructed by Christmas (example in below right photo).
- Community response plan completed for the Paradise Valley Community.

Focus for 2021: Continued tree removal. Construction of additional detainment bunds.



*Detainment bund construction in progress*