

Strategic Objectives:

1. The relationships of tangata whenua and the community with Tarawera Awa and Te Awa o Te Atua (including their social, recreational, cultural, and spiritual relationships) are provided for, enhanced, and protected.
2. Identify and embed methods for collective sources of knowledge (both mātauranga Māori and conventional science) to inform decision making, including across objectives, policy, and procedures, ensuring adaptability through the changing legislative and regulatory landscape.
3. Establish Kōtuku agreements with all major land and water users whose activities impact Tarawera Awa and Te Awa o te Atua, detailing their commitments to actively improve the mauri of Tarawera Awa.
4. Provide for safe and protected communities, where people and places are resilient to the effects of changing climate.
5. Water quality, ecosystem health, and natural flow regimes are continuously improved for freshwater streams and wetlands in the catchment through reducing contaminant discharges and actively enhancing and restoring water bodies.
6. Strengthen iwi and hapū influence in water governance in the Tarawera catchment by ensuring Objectives, Policies, and Rules for water quantity give effect to Māori rights and interests, and include cultural flows and allocations.
7. Improve understanding of the state of Tarawera Awa and Te Awa o Te Atua through frequent monitoring and reporting, recognising equally Mātauranga Māori and conventional science.
8. Identify, monitor, and report on all contamination sites, providing publicly accessible information that prioritises land remediation and otherwise demonstrates active and adaptive risk management.
9. Proactively enable economic opportunities aligned with Te Rautaki wai ki Tarawera, to support sustainable local economic development, cultural enterprise, and a strong sense of community pride.
10. Spatial planning for the catchment enables growth and development, where activities provide for the prosperity of the people and restore the mauri of Tarawera awa and Te Awa o te Atua.
11. Enhance natural flow regimes to and within Te Awa o Te Atua, enhancing the mauri of the wetland and providing for ecological restoration, cultural and community reconnection, and economic potential for Matatā.

12. Proactively enable economic opportunities positioning Matatā as a premier eco-cultural tourism destination and gateway to the Eastern Bay of Plenty, including through advancing the restoration of the mauri of Te Awa o te Atua, to support sustainable local economic development, cultural enterprise, and a strong sense of community pride.

13. Ensure the community of Matatā and its surrounds are safe, protected, and resilient to the effects of changing climate including flood risks, coastal inundation, and erosion and debris flows.

14. Provide for safe and protected road and rail networks through Matatā and alongside Te Awa o Te Atua, resilient to the effects of changing climate.