

# **OURS.**

THE **MANAWATŪ RIVER**  
LEADERS' ACCORD

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## **Eligibility Criteria and** GENERAL INFORMATION

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**Kei te ora te wai,  
kei te ora te whenua,  
kei te ora te tangata.**

**If the water is healthy,  
the land and the people  
are nourished.**

The Manawatū River Leaders' Accord community funding programme provides an opportunity for our communities to engage positively and constructively by helping to improve the quality of our awa. These improvements could be in direct relation to water quality, or in the way people connect with the waterways in the Manawatū Catchment.

The Accord looks to empower community groups or individuals, by holding information sessions and providing access to resources enabling them to complete projects which will assist in achieving the goals of the Accord.

## OUR GOALS

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Our goal is to improve the Manawatū River, the mauri (lifeforce) of the Manawatū River Catchment, such that it sustains fish species, and is suitable for contact recreation, in balance with the social, cultural and economic activities of the catchment community. This represents a community opportunity to develop leadership in catchment improvement and capture the social and economic benefits of such leadership. The four key goals are:

1. The Manawatū River becomes a source of regional pride and mana.
2. Waterways in the Manawatū Catchment are safe, accessible, swimmable, and provide good recreation and food resources.
3. The Manawatū Catchment and waterways are returned to a healthy condition.
4. Sustainable use of the land and water resources of the Manawatū Catchment continues to underpin the economic prosperity of the region.

There is already a lot of work underway by signatories to the Accord but we want to capture the ideas and energy of other groups in the community. Our Manawatū River Leaders' Accord community project funding programme is designed to support

community-led projects that will help us achieve these goals. At the heart of the fund is a desire to engage and mobilise communities in cleaning up the river.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

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Non-profit organisations such as community groups, schools, early childhood centres, iwi/hapū groups, and individuals or landowners are eligible for our grants. The project must be non-profit making.

## WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR?

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Our Manawatū-River Leaders' Accord grants programme focuses on helping you restore water quality in the Manawatū Catchment and achieve the goals of the Accord. Therefore projects that focus on the vision and goals of the River Accord will be considered favourably.

Applications are assessed on their environmental benefits, feasibility, community involvement and long-term benefits to the region. Administration costs can be included but must be reasonable and in line with the size of the project.

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

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- All successful applicants must be prepared to sign a funding agreement with Horizons Regional Council.
- Permission from any landowner whose property the project is taking place on must be presented at time of application.
- Projects can run for up to two years however, at the end of each financial year there must be a clear milestone that can be counted as completion of a project. This initial funding round can confirm funding for over the life of any proposed projects that are two years or under.
- Projects/milestones must be completed over the 2021/22 financial year with all projects/milestones completed and funding uplifted by 20 June 2022. Projects funded for longer than 12



months must complete milestone one prior to the 20 June 2022.

- Upon completion of the project, a brief report and any supporting imagery must be provided to Horizons Regional Council for reporting and promotional purposes.

## LIST OF ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

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APPLICATIONS ARE ASSESSED ACCORDING TO HOW WELL THEY MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- The project must have clear objectives that are consistent with the goals of the Manawatū River Leaders' Accord;
- The application must demonstrate a tangible improvement in community understanding and involvement in cleaning up the river;
- Projects must be heavily weighted towards tangible outcomes.
- Demonstrate a willingness to work collaboratively with iwi/hapū;
- Demonstrate a degree of actively engaging the community with the Manawatū River;

IN ADDITION APPLICATIONS SHOULD ALSO:

- Be for projects that are designed to become self supporting without on-going financial contributions;
- Demonstrate the necessary skills and experience to undertake the project;
- Demonstrate how the outcomes of the project would be maintained in the future;
- Demonstrate how the effectiveness of the project will be measured and reported.
- Demonstrate how the project will meet its Health and Safety obligations.

THE PROJECT MUST NOT:

- Present a conflict of interest for council as a consenting authority; or
- Be designed for commercial or personal profit.

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