



»≈ ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER

2014



ADVOCATES
FOR THE
TONGARIRO
RIVER

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COVER



Smallman's Reach where the river broke through in the flood of October 2013

COMMITTEE 2014

Gary Brown	VICE PRESIDENT
Virginia Church	
Stuart Crosbie	PRESIDENT
Walter Freitag	
Richard Kemp	
Kent Price	
Sam Stevenson	
John Toogood	TREASURER
Eric Wilson	SECRETARY
Neville Young	IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Warren Butterworth	Seconded
Sam Coxhead	Seconded

LIFE MEMBERS

Dr Mark Cosgrove
Heather McDonald
Bob McDonnell
Silvia Smith
Eric Wilson

The Registered Office of
Advocates for the Tongariro River Incorporated
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www.tongariroriver.org.nz

≈ NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the Advocates for the Tongariro River Inc. will be held at the Tongariro Lodge, 83 Grace Rd, Turangi on Saturday 18th April 2015 at 10:30am.

All welcome. Morning tea from 10.00am.

≈ AGENDA & PROPOSED CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION

The business of the Annual General Meeting will be to:

- record those present and note apologies
- receive the minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting
- receive the President's report
- approve the financial statements
- consider motions of which due notice has been provided. The full rules of the Advocates for the Tongariro River Inc. are printed in the 2004 Annual Report and are also available on the Advocates website www.tongariroriver.org.nz;

- amend Constitution:-

Notice is hereby given that the meeting consider the following Amendment to the Constitution, that 6.3a of the constitution be amended to *The Society shall hold an AGM on Easter Sunday at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee or at a date after that as decided by the Committee*

- appoint an executive committee comprising a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and committee members
- consider any other matters.

≈ MINUTES OF THE 12TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Advocates for the Tongariro River Inc., held Saturday, 31st May, 2014 at 10.00am, Tongariro Bridge Motel Conference Room, Turangi.

Present:

Stuart Crosbie (Chair), Tony Charlton, Virginia Church, Richard Kemp, Alasdair McNab, Mike Peake, Kent Price, John Toogood, Dick Truebridge, Kathy Whyte, Eric Wilson

Apologies:

Graeme Nahkies, Graeme Shirley, Helen Elliott, Rosemary Small, Mark Cosgrove, Walter Freitag, Gary Brown, Ian Hamilton

Welcome:

Stuart Crosbie welcomed all to the meeting. Stuart was standing in for Neville Young who was unable to attend for medical reasons.

Minutes:

- **Moved** "That the minutes of the eleventh AGM of 30th March 2013 be accepted" by Virginia Church and **seconded** by Richard Kemp. **Carried**.

Matters arising

- Simon Stewart is doing the PhD research into the Trout food study. STUDY ON FOOD WEBS AND TROPHIC STRUCTURE IN LAKE TAUPŌ

President's Report:

The President's report was published in the 2013 Annual Report. The report was taken as read.

The following points arose from the report:

- **Moved** "That the President's report be received" by Stuart Crosbie and **seconded** by Richard Kemp. **Carried**
- **Moved** "A vote of thanks to Neville Young for his services as President" by Stuart and **seconded** Richard **Carried**

Financial Report

Treasurer stated that the society made a loss of \$1,000 in the 2013 year. Funds on hand were mostly for specific projects.

Since its inception, the society has received close to \$0.25M in funds; funds spent on the Tongariro River Trail, under the auspices of TRT Ltd as a Charitable Company, are also nearly \$0.25M, making a combined total approaching \$0.5M.

AFTR Funding has come from:

The Pharazyn Trust	\$74,000
Department of Conservation	\$38,000
Taupo District Council	\$31,500
Waikato Catchment Ecological Trust	\$24,000
Waikato Regional Council	\$49,000
Genesis	\$13,500
Other	<u>\$12,000</u>
	\$242,000



Tongariro River Trail

Taupo District Council	\$84,500
Genesis Energy	\$34,500
These are amounts received and not for work contributions and other.	
DOC contribution in kind	<u>\$130,000</u>
	\$249,000

- **Moved** “That the finance report be received.” by John Toogood and **seconded** by Mike Peake. **Carried**
- **Moved:** “That John Austad be thanked for his role as Reviewer of the accounts” by Stuart Crosbie **seconded** Kent Price. **Carried**

Appointment of Committee

Richard Kemp assumed the chair for election of officers. The following appointments were made:

President	Stuart Crosbie
Vice President	Gary Brown
Immediate Past President	Neville Young (ex officio)
Secretary	Eric Wilson
Treasurer	John Toogood
Other members	Virginia Church; Walter Freitag; Richard Kemp; Kent Price; Sam Stevenson

- **Moved** “That the Committee was elected” by Richard Kemp and **seconded** Tony Charlton. **Carried**
- **Moved** “That Richard Kemp be a committee member” by Virginia Church **seconded** Tony Charlton. **Carried**

In accepting the Presidency, Stuart made it very clear that this would be a short term of one year. He was keen to lead the acceptance of an Integrated Catchment Management Plan adopted by stakeholders with commitment by Waikato Regional Council to fund and resource the ICMP.

Tribute was paid to Mark Cosgrove by Stuart. Mark started the Advocates For The Tongariro River and set very high standards for the society. He brought intelligent levels of discussion which enabled significant achievements by the society and much credibility.

- It was **moved** “that Mark’s contribution to AFTR be acknowledged with a gift”, a motion proposed by Stuart, **seconded** by Eric and **carried with acclamation**.

Other matters

1. **Moved** “That the Strategic Plan be approved” by Stuart Crosbie **seconded** Mike Peake. **Carried**.
2. Mike Peake asked what was happening with the Mangamawhitwhiti land. Virginia Church was able to reply that the land was owned by the Tuwharetoa Settlement Trust. She thought there would be little change in the current land use.
3. It was said that Taupo District Council have approved plans for the river. The committee to investigate what has been approved.

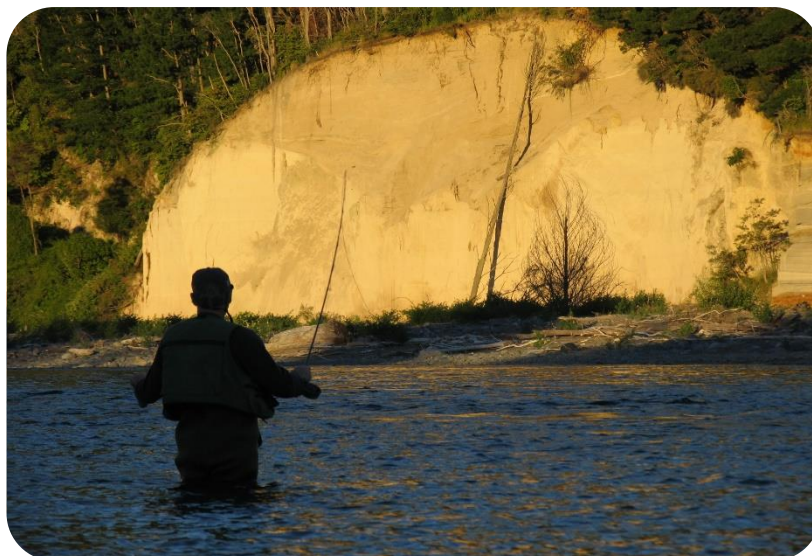
The meeting closed at 11.15am.

≈ ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014

President Stuart Crosbie reports:

Ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa e
tiaki nei i to tātou taonga ko
te awa o Tongariro

Greetings to all of you who
watch over our treasure that
is the Tongariro River



This is the 13th Annual Report of the Advocate's and it is pleasing to report on the notable achievements during 2014. The two outstanding ones are:-

1. being fully accepted as a stakeholder of the river, and
2. successfully getting a PhD study on the food-chain dynamics of the Taupo Fishery underway.

Other events of note for the year include:-

3. maintaining the Tongariro River Trail,
4. retaining our membership on key committees: Taupo Fishing Advisory Committee; Waikato Regional Council - Taupo Zone; and WRC Advisory Committee for Regional Environment (ACRE);
5. presenting to the WRC – Taupo Zone the Integrated Catchment Management Plan framework which was accepted by the committee and by Council's Integrated Catchment Management Committee

As has been the custom in recent years, all the above highlights are reported in more detail herein using the Advocates Strategic Planning framework (see **Appendix 4**) In particular, there are three areas of focus seen as essential for the Advocates to be a successful environmental action group -

1. We need to build a strong and informed member base – **Our Member Focus**;
2. We need to effectively engage with stakeholders and tangata whenua – **Our Stakeholder Focus**; and
3. We need to build widespread public awareness and support for affirmative action on key issues – **Our Issue Focus**.

Our Member & Funding Focus

Reduced but steady membership levels

We remain acutely aware that our mandate to 'speak out for the river' is only derived from our member base. **Table 1** provides a summary of membership levels over the years and shows that our membership is stable but well below former levels. The trend is further evidenced in **Figure 1**.

Year	Members	Unpaid	Paid	Single	Family	Club	Total Subs	Total Dons	Total
2014	219	132	87	40	45	2	\$2,470.00	\$1,241.00	\$3,711.00
2013	211	131	80	44	34	2	\$2,240.00	\$1,778.62	\$4,018.62
2012	203	103	100	46	53	1	\$2,800.00	\$1,475.00	\$4,275.00
2011	184	67	117	59	56	2	\$3,275.00	\$2,230.00	\$5,505.00
2010	181	45	136	75	59	2	\$3,765.00	\$1,035.00	\$4,800.00
2009	169	41	128	74	52	2	\$3,530.00	\$2,039.70	\$5,569.70
2008	165	58	107	68	39	0	\$2,870.00	\$1,100.00	\$3,970.00
2007	149	37	112	75	37	0	\$2,985.00	\$2,292.51	\$5,277.51
2006	142	60	82	53	29	0	\$2,315.00	\$1,144.81	\$3,459.81
2005	141	45	96	62	34	0	\$2,570.00	\$1,117.48	\$3,687.48
2004	178	83	95	66	29	0	\$2,045.00	\$1,190.00	\$3,235.00
2003	165	115	50	45	5	0	\$550.00	\$2,374.00	\$2,924.00
2002	58	18	40	30	10	0	\$500.00	\$150.00	\$650.00

Table 1: Summary of members since inception and their financial contribution by way of subscriptions and donations; Paid members are also partitioned into 'Singles', 'Family' and 'Clubs'

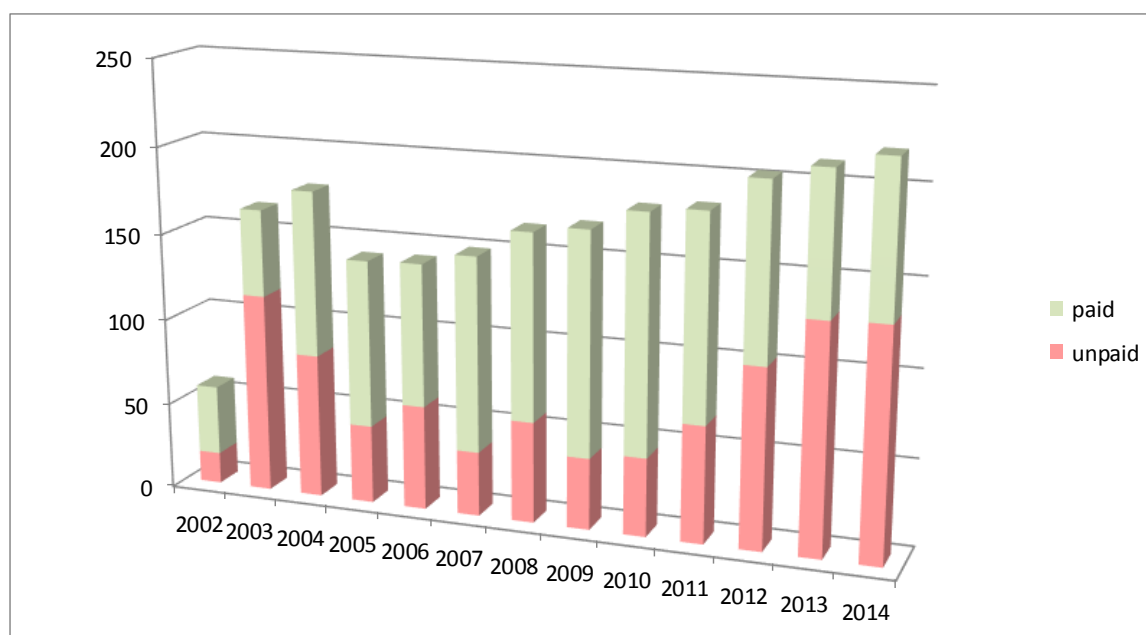


Figure 1: Trend in total membership, showing significant proportion of unpaid memberships in recent years.

As was noted in former years, the primary purpose of having paid-up members is not to raise funds *per se* but to maintain our mandate. With annual fishing licence numbers having dropped

significantly in recent years, it is imperative to regenerate our membership by broadening our appeal.

The Tongariro River basin is one of 51 iconic New Zealand landscapes classified as such by the Department of Conservation (DOC). It is arguably the most accessible of all the 51 so classified in terms of its proximity to SH1 and yet, until 2 years ago, it was impossible for ordinary folk to access reasonable stretches of the river basin with ease. The opening of the 14km Tongariro River Trail loop in October 2012 was the first stage toward improving access and thereby having a broader spectrum of people being aware of and valuing the iconic landscape of the area. Approximately 10,000 people walked/cycled the trail last year and predictions are that this will more than double in 2015.

It is hoped that many of these folk will want to get involved in the protection and enhancement of the Tongariro and so support the Advocates in being an effective environmental action group.

Engaging and communicating with members

At a Committee Meeting in 2014 it was resolved that all future publications be in electronic form; the cost of printing and postage has simply become prohibitive. In recognition that some members are not contactable by email, we will however still provide hard copy communications to these members but only in summary form. Members who only provide Hotmail email addresses will be treated likewise.

Stakeholder Focus

Our primary stakeholders are the Ngati Tuwharetoa, Ngati Turangitukua, Waikato Regional Council (WRC), Taupo District Council (TDC), Department of Conservation (DOC) Department of Corrections (DoC), Genesis, Mighty River Power, Fish and Game, Tongariro National Trout Centre and various associated entities.

We have engaged actively with nearly all of these stakeholders over the past year, and all interactions have been constructive and positive. Without compromising our position to 'speak out for the River', we are continuing to enjoy very strong working relationships with our stakeholders as we get on and get things done in a non-adversarial manner.

Past President Neville Young served on the DOC Conservancy Board until mid-June 2014 after a 3 year term. Richard Kemp continues to represent the Advocates on TFAC as does Eric Wilson on WRC – Taupo Zone Committee. A working relationship has been developed with Ngati Tuwharetoa Maori Trust Board (Topia Rameka as Secretary and Dylan Tahau, Environmental Officer) and Virginia Church maintains informal liaison.

We are grateful that Committee Members are prepared to commit to these appointments in addition to their Advocate roles; it ensures the Advocates have a broad appreciation of regional environmental issues as they emerge and meaningful working relationships with key stakeholder personnel whilst being mindful of managing any potential conflicts of interest that may arise.

River Management



Waikato Regional Council (WRC) are continuing to maintain a 1/100 year flood protection scheme for Turangi township. This involves maintaining stop-banks and removal of vegetation in excess of 1½ meters in the flood stream.

The elimination of the bend involving DeLatour's Pool in the floods of late 2013 has resulted in increased river flow rates in the lower river which is hoped to prevent further sediment build-up at the delta.

Integrated Catchment Management – a definitive planning framework for the Tongariro River

In August 2014 I was asked to present to the WRC – Taupo Zone Committee on the approach first put forward in 2011 as a framework for capturing succinctly how the Tongariro River Catchment is, or should be, managed across all stakeholder groups.

The basic idea is to develop a planning roadmap or framework that captures (i) all the aspects that different stakeholders see as important and (ii) ties them all together in a logical and integrated way.

Words don't do the trick but a Strategy Map as in **Figure 2** does:-

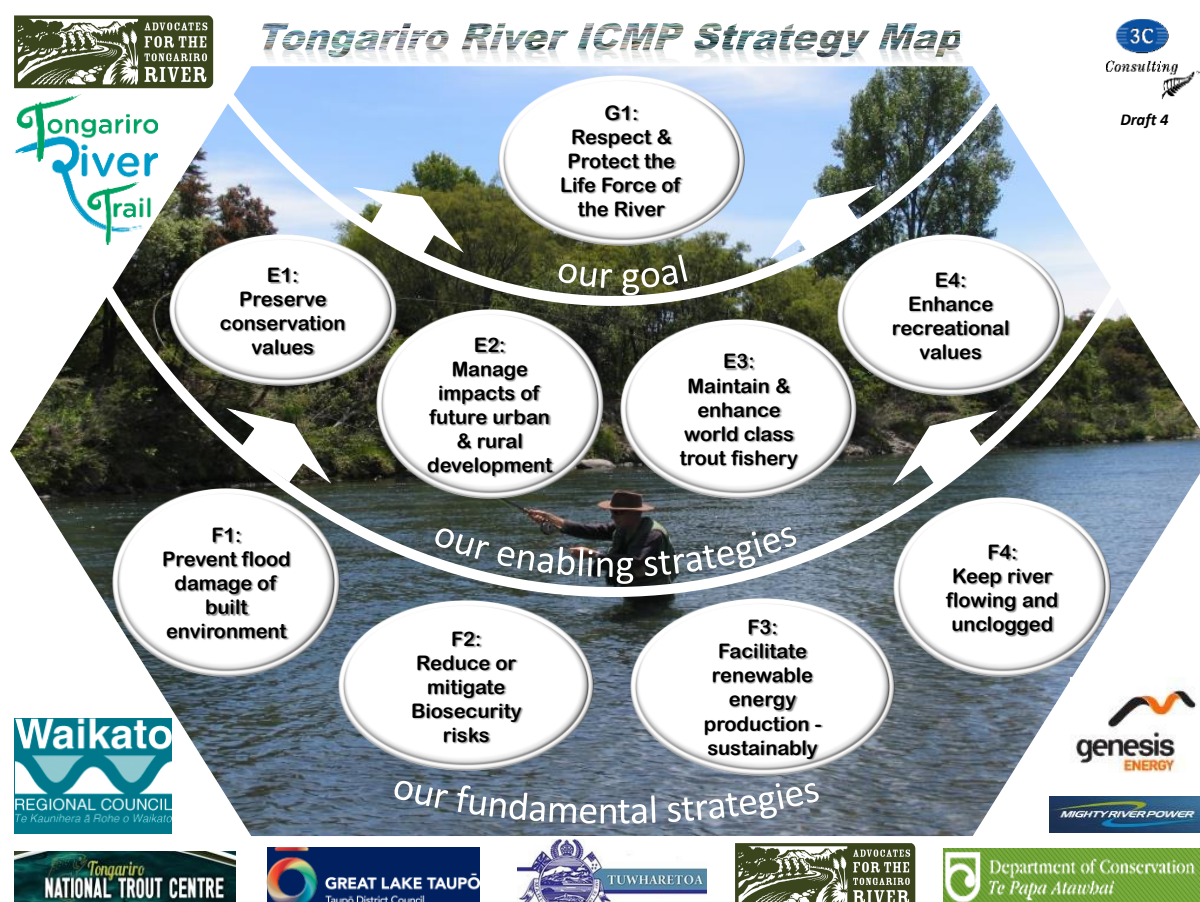


Figure 2: ICMP Strategy Map – comprising a series of 9 inter-connected strategic objectives (or “bubbles”) which begin with the fundamentals (the “F” bubbles) which underpin the enablers (the “E” bubbles) to all come together to support the overall goal (the “G” bubble)

Each of the 9 strategic objectives shown in Figure 2 has a number of elements that sit in behind the “bubble” as it were. The elements are:-

1. A succinct summary of how things are at present in relation to the bubble – the “Recent Situation”
2. A succinct summary of how stakeholders would like things to be in the future – the “2015 Destination Statement”
3. Who the “Accountable Agencies” are for closing the gap between states 1 & 2
4. What “Planning References” there are within the Accountable Agencies pertaining to the bubble; and
5. What planning initiatives are being undertaken the next 12 months and by whom?

Appendix 1 summarises our current thinking on how things are at present and what we might aspire to for each bubble.

After presenting to the WRC – Taupo Zone Committee the approach was formally received by WRC’s Integrated Catchment Management Committee who, in turn, has resolved to work with the Ngati Tuwharetoa and facilitate its development in accordance with this planning framework.

Issue Focus

Our core issues span six areas:-

1. **Aquatic Pests** – advocate for North Island to be Didymo Free and maintain watching brief on other aquatic pests
2. **River Environs Restoration** – facilitate restoration of the River Margin and continue with planting programme and pest plant eradication in accordance with Tongariro River Environs Flora Management Plan.
3. **Lake Levels & River Flow Rates** – seek WRC and power company cooperation in aiding the river to flush itself
4. **Land Use** – maintain watching brief on land use in the Tongariro River catchment
5. **Trout Condition** – ensure our world class fishery is sustained through good science and effect management strategies
6. **Access** – gain improved access (for anglers and non-anglers alike) to a greater proportion of the Tongariro River

Issues 5 and 2 have been our predominant focus over the past year and are therefore reported on in detail below. As for the others:-

Aquatic Pests: There is now a growing awareness of a wider range of aquatic pests to be mindful of and DOC manage this on behalf of the Ministry of Primary Industries. We all have a role in making sure our gear is clean and adhering to “Check, Clean, Dry” disciplines as we move between waterways.

Lake Levels & River Flow Rates : As mentioned earlier, the river is flowing faster in the lower reaches. Although there are consents for the removal of gravel, our understanding is that gravel will only be removed when the river bed rises sufficiently to compromise flow capacity . WRC monitor this.

Land Use: We are not aware of any proposed land use changes of substance. There are Treaty settlements imminent that include prison land adjacent to the river which has relevance to any future development of the Tongariro River Trail.

Access: The Tongariro River Trail has improved access for non-anglers as evidenced in the following table of count data obtained from electronic counters on the trail, **Table 2:-**



Year	Site	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
2013	Town to Trout Centre					692	501	555	435	439	1028	615	458	7,944
	Trout Centre to Red Hutt								423	464	962	569	970	8,355
2014	Town to Trout Centre	905	391	369	344	498	445	650	561	545	859	676	123	7,495
	Trout Centre to Red Hutt	1554	969	609	1248	527	511	677	548	578	760	643	118	9,836
2015	Town to Trout Centre	1893												34,547
	Trout Centre to Red Hutt	1982												36,171

Table 2: Count data from electronic counters located on the Tongariro River Trail; Annual figures have been estimated where there is not data for the full 12 month period

Trout Condition and the Fishery

We are delighted to have Simon Stewart as our PhD-funded student to research the food web dynamics of the Taupo Fishery. Simon comes to us with a Masters degree in freshwater ecosystems and project experience in GNS Science. He also grew up enjoying the lakes of the Central North Island.

Simon's research effort is being supervised by Professor David Hamilton, one of the top four or five lakes scientists in the world and New Zealand's pre-eminent expert in lakes ecology. Professor Hamilton's particular strength is in applied research, and this fits neatly with our expectations for effective outcomes for this project.

The Advocates are extremely grateful to the three organisations who have funded this work by contributing an equal 1/3 share (\$36,000 incl. GST) – these organisations are The Pharazyn Trust, DOC Fisheries and Taupo District Council (TDC).

Appendix 2 provides Simon's most recent update.

River Environs Restoration:-

Nationally there is a growing awareness of the issue of wilding pines and significant sums of money have been put aside by Government to address the issue, primarily in the South Island.

Grey Willow poses another threat for the Tongariro River, especially in the exposed areas of the river flats. The seeds have been known to travel for 60kms and take hold in areas where there is no shade from other trees. This problem is now extensive throughout the Taupo Catchment and the Advocates have been proactive in raising the issue with WRC ever since we received the Weed-busters Award back in 2011. While WRC acknowledges the issue in their Pest Management Strategy, the problem is not categorised as a high risk and only a limited response has been forthcoming to date.

Concluding Remarks

Looking back over the year's accomplishments, I am grateful to Committee Members in being prepared to give of their time so we can pull together and get things done for the benefit of the river and those who might wish to enjoy it. A profile of our current Committee Members is provided in **Appendix 3**. It is with sadness that we record the passing of Committee Member Walter Freitag while in office; Walter had been a member of the Advocates from its inception and had served on the Committee for the past couple of years.

I wish to acknowledge the many people outside the Committee who are actively involved in supporting us in various capacities. Particular thanks go to Mike Forret as our webmaster, and to John Austad for reviewing our financial accounts.

Looking ahead, the Committee's focus for the coming year is largely retaining a focus on the same two issues that occupied us in 2014, namely the PhD study on the fishery and the ongoing need to advocate for proactive management of the river environs – see the updated Strategic Plan in **Appendix 4**.

Finally, as your outgoing President for the second time, I wish to record my heartfelt thanks to Eric Wilson as Secretary/Treasurer and friend.....it has been a very enjoyable partnership working with Eric throughout my terms as President.

I am pleased to move the adoption of this the 13th annual report of the Advocates for the Tongariro River.



Stuart Crosbie

President, March 2015

≈ FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE ADVOCATES FOR THE TONGARIRO RIVER, Inc

Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2014

Income and Expenditure

	2014	2013
Subscriptions and donations	4,289	4,576
Grants - DOC		2,000
Project Funding -		
DOC Fishery	18,000	18,000
Pharazyn Trust	18,000	18,000
Taupo District Council	18,000	9,000
WRC Environment Fund		8,000
	54,000	53,000
Miscellaneous (Refund/TRT)	658	
Interest Received 02 Dep A/c	822	422
Total Income	59,769	59,998

Expenditure

Operating Expenses		
Advertising and Promotion	994	2,634
AGM, Seminar, Report and Expense	2,016	2,108
Admin Postage, Stationery and Banking	410	755
Miscellaneous	492	440
Projects		
Environment	9,254	10,065
Fishery Research	35,500	45,000
Total Expenses	48,665	61,003

Profit (Loss)	\$11,104	-\$1,005
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Financial Position as at 31 Dec

	2014	2013
Current assets		
Bank current account	21,176	22,460
Term Deposit	32,284	20,461
Total Assets	53,459	42,921
Current Liabilities		
Project Commitments*	31,209	31,775
Total Liabilities	31,209	42,921

Net Asset Position	\$22,250	\$11,146
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Accumulated (unassigned) funds

Opening Balance	11,146	12,151
Net Surplus (Loss) for year	11,104	-1,005
Closing Balance	\$22,250	\$11,146



Stuart Crosbie
President



John Toogood
Treasurer

≈ NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

* Due to a minor change in our accounting format, our net equity position is subject to an off balance sheet liability/commitment of a further \$11,184 rendering our overall net position as \$11,066.

Statement of Accounting Policies

The Advocates For The Tongariro River Society Inc. is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. The financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

The accounting principles record historical cost Subscriptions are recorded on a cash received basis.

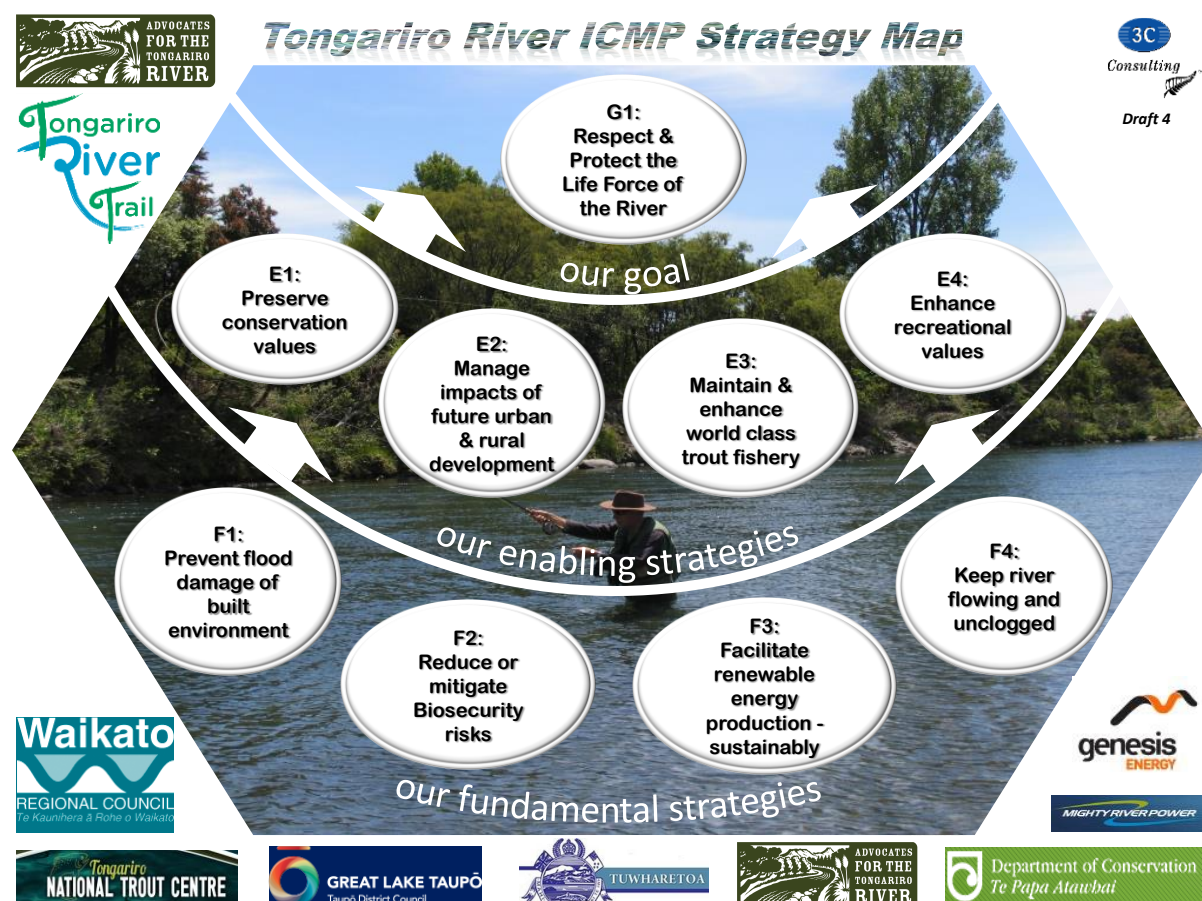
There have been no overall changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on bases consistent with those used in the previous year except for the treatment of project commitments.

Preparation of Accounts:

The accounts have been produced on information provided by your Treasurer and have been verified by John Austad, a former Chartered Accountant.

John Toogood
Treasurer

≈ Appendix 1: ICMP Planning Framework as presented to and adopted by WRC in August 2014 - Dr Stuart Crosbie, President, AFTR.



Objectives and Accountabilities and Stakeholder' Plans

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
F1 : Prevent Flood damage of built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turangi township and SH1 bridge have both been impacted severely by flooding in recent past Stop banks in place for protection of Turangi township above SH1 bridge and to some extent below Consent issued for gravel extraction below SH1 bridge to lower the river bed and avoid the 'Mississippi effect' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing stop banks are maintained and rendered effective through lowering the river bed as appropriate Riparian areas managed so trees and other potential debris do not increase flood risk Land use changes within the catchment are controlled so as not to increase flood risk 	Waikato Regional Council	

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
F2 : Reduce or mitigate biosecurity risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Didymo has been kept in South Island thus far but border control measures remain inadequate Other aquatic weeds are becoming a potential risk Wilding pines have been poisoned extensively in river basin but work remains incomplete Willows are becoming a major threat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic pests kept out of river and fishery Extensive wilding pines management throughout river basin with strong evidence of rejuvenating native bush Good control of willow seedlings in river bed and control of broom, blackberry and other weeds in intensively managed areas, such as river reserves Methods of control are sustainable 	Biosecurity NZ	
			DOC	Flora Management Plan (with AFTR)
			Waikato Regional Council	
			Department of Corrections	
			Advocates for the Tongariro River	Flora Management Plan (with DoC)

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
F3 : Facilitate renewable energy production sustainably	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be developed in consultation with Energy Companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be developed in consultation with Energy Companies 	WREC	
			Genesis Energy	
			Mighty River Power	

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
F4 : Keep river flowing and unclogged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the river mouths are either completely closed off or significantly impacted by sediment build-up Tree debris lying in river in places with sediment build-up and islands being formed WRC undertaken willow work from Hydro to DeLautours & Ngati Turangitukua from DeLautours to near the Delta Lake is often being held higher than normal at times when the river is in flood – preventing flushing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flow rate regime assists in sediment movement to prevent flooding and enhance the riverbed as a fish nursery habitat Lake level and delta management regime helps the river to flush itself Careful channel management and riverbed terracing prevents unnecessary erosion and debris Contingencies in place for restoration following volcanic eruptions and lahars 		

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
E1 : Preserve conservation values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tongariro River and environs is designated an 'Outstanding Landscape' in TDC's District Plan River reserve planting programme facilitated by AFTR in recent years Some early evidence of regeneration of natural bush in areas where pine trees have been poisoned Community project in place to bring back the Whio (Blue Duck) DOC planted hill above SH1 bridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced regional and national status of river & environs The river bed and its environs is preserved as close as possible to its natural state Native bush regeneration throughout river basin, especially adjacent to the river Maintenance of biodiversity including protection of threatened species such as the Blue Duck 	DOC	
			WRC	
			TDC	
			AFTR	
			Genesis Energy	

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
E2 : Manage impacts of future urban and rural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern on adequacy of existing provisions under the District Plan in the context of eg recently proposed Mangamawhitiwhiti block development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Plan recognises eco importance of river and stream catchments by preventing urban runoff, providing wildlife corridors and guaranteeing continued public access Extensive riparian provisions for Tongariro River with up to 25% of land area planted in natives 	TDC	District Plan; LTCCP; Annual Plan
			WRC	RMA provisions and Catchment Management Plans

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
E3 : Maintain & enhance world-class trout fishery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant deterioration of fishery in recent past (size & condition of trout)—thought to be caused by reduced food supply, namely smelt, because of lack of churning of the lake caused by changing wind patterns. AFTR brokered funding of PhD study to undertake scientific assessment of food-chain ecosystem with up-to-date numbers of biomass. Significant decline in licences and therefore revenue to DOC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trout size, condition and abundance are consistently good Up-to-date modelling of ecosystem and food-chain biomass gives confidence in sustainability of fishery The fishery is being well managed and aligned with the national protection of our fresh water fisheries as advocated for and undertaken by Fish & Game The international reputation of the Mighty Tongariro is beginning to be restored 	DOC	Taupo Sports Fishery Management Plan
			AFTR	PhD Completion and Publication

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
E4 : Enhance recreational values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricted access for anglers and non-anglers to significant portions of the river basin Some integration of existing tracks and ability to do loop walks (Turangi, Trout Centre, Re Hutt across bridge and back to Turangi for example) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tongariro River Trail (3 day 70 km loop circuit) fully developed and operational Responsible management of trail with good adherence to well developed protocols for shared use Good governance structure for sustainable management of trail Much wider appreciation of river and its environs by New Zealanders and overseas visitors 	AFTR	
			Ngati Turangitukua	
			DOC	
			Dept of Corrections	
			TDC	
			Genesis Energy	

Strategic Objective	Recent Situation	2020 Destination Statement	Accountable Agency (ies)	Planning References
G1 : Respect and protect the life-force of the river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tongariro River viewed by AFTR and others as a Taonga – of national and international importance for cultural, recreational and aesthetic reasons AFTR has been operating for 11 years now, speaking out for the river First stage of TRT completed to encourage awareness and appreciation of this iconic landscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Much wider appreciation of the importance of the Tongariro River and environs as an iconic natural landscape Extensive patronage of TRT creates sustainable funding streams to continue to advocate for the river and raise awareness of the river's iconic importance 		

≈ Appendix 2: Lake Taupo food web research update

Simon Stewart – University of Waikato Doctoral Candidate
Supervisory Committee: David Hamilton (University of Waikato),
Troy Baisden (GNS Science), Piet Verburg (NIWA) & Ian Duggan
(University of Waikato).



As autumn conditions settle in, this provides a good time to give a brief update on how my PhD research on the Lake Taupo Food web is progressing. The long warm summer that we've been having this year has provided perfect conditions for field work. As a result, the project has really been gaining momentum and I am very excited about how things will develop over the next six months. Keep an eye out for updates!

Field work:

I am now halfway through my field campaign and am starting to gather a large amount of data. With the help of University of Waikato technical staff Dudley Bell and Warrick Prowrie, collecting water samples, algae and zooplankton (microscopic invertebrates) from deep water mid-lake sites off the boat has been refined and is now very successful. They have also helped with collecting koura (crayfish) and kakahi (mussels) from down to 20m depth. These are important data for understanding the lake's food web. This summer I have also been incubating smelt, bullies and kakahi in containers of water in order to measure their nutrient excretion. This work allows us to investigate how various species can influence productivity in the lake, feeding into the overarching goal of this thesis; understanding the interactions between nutrient cycling and food web dynamics within Lake Taupo. I have been very fortunate to have the assistance of a very competent and enthusiastic group of field assistants to make this shore based sampling possible; namely locals Nick Bradford and John Crowley and my wife Anna Sintenie.

Analysis of the samples in the stable isotope laboratory at GNS Science in Lower Hutt has now begun. Already, the data that we have produced has given interesting insights into the nitrogen cycling in Lake Taupo. Over the year, this data will be expanded to include samples from a range of species in the lake (from algae and invertebrates through to trout) to allow us to understand how the food web and nitrogen cycling in the lake interact.

With the blessing of Ngati Tuwharetoa, a group of researchers who I am collaborating with are extending a wider scale project to include Lake Taupo, looking at the role that kakahi play in cycling nutrients within lakes. This research will provide fantastic high resolution data on this elusive species. The research team includes Associate Professor Helené Cyr from the University of Toronto, Associate Professor Kevin Collier and Professor Brendan Hicks from the University of Waikato and Dr Sue Clearwater from NIWA. Along with koura population research being conducted by Dr Ian Kusabs, this research complements the wider scope of my PhD research and will provide a great range of data for the lake which managers will be able to utilise.

Over the weekend of 21st – 22nd March 2105, I was lucky enough to attend the Taupo Fishing Club's annual trout fishing competition. This provided a fantastic opportunity to collect a good number of trout tissue samples while meeting with a wide range of anglers and discussing the lake food web. Although the official count isn't yet in, I have collected samples from over 70 trout covering a wide

range of sizes from all over the lake. This will form the back bone of my dataset for analysing trout diet.

Biofish sampling:

The Biofish is an instrument owned by the University of Waikato which can be towed behind a boat to measure water quality parameters (temperature, electrical conductivity, pH & chlorophyll a) throughout the water column. Professor Hamilton has secured funding from Mighty River Power for this work. With the Harbour Masters, I have now completed two runs around the northern bays and central lake basin. This will continue bi-monthly through until August. Currently I am in the process of compiling this data and will have several months available for presenting in my next report.

Further developments:

I am currently working on writing up two publications which I aim to submit to peer-reviewed journals before the end of the year. One is a literature review discussing research which integrates nutrient cycling and food web dynamics while the other is an analysis of the twenty year water quality data set which has been collected by Waikato Regional Council.

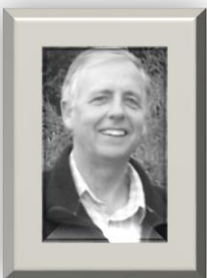

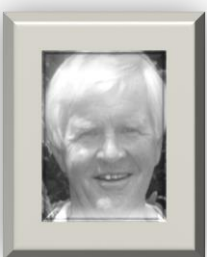
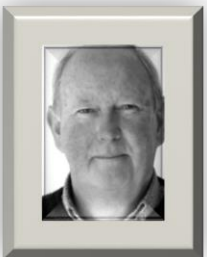
Other news:

In November last year I presented a poster at the Water Symposium – the joint meeting the New Zealand Freshwater Sciences Society and New Zealand Hydrological Society in Blenheim. This was a great opportunity to discuss my project with a range of experts from around New Zealand while also seeing interesting and relevant research occurring in other parts of the country.


If anybody would like to know more information on any aspect of this project, or would like to bring something to my attention, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Simon Stewart

≈ Appendix 3: Profile of AFTR Committee for 2014-15

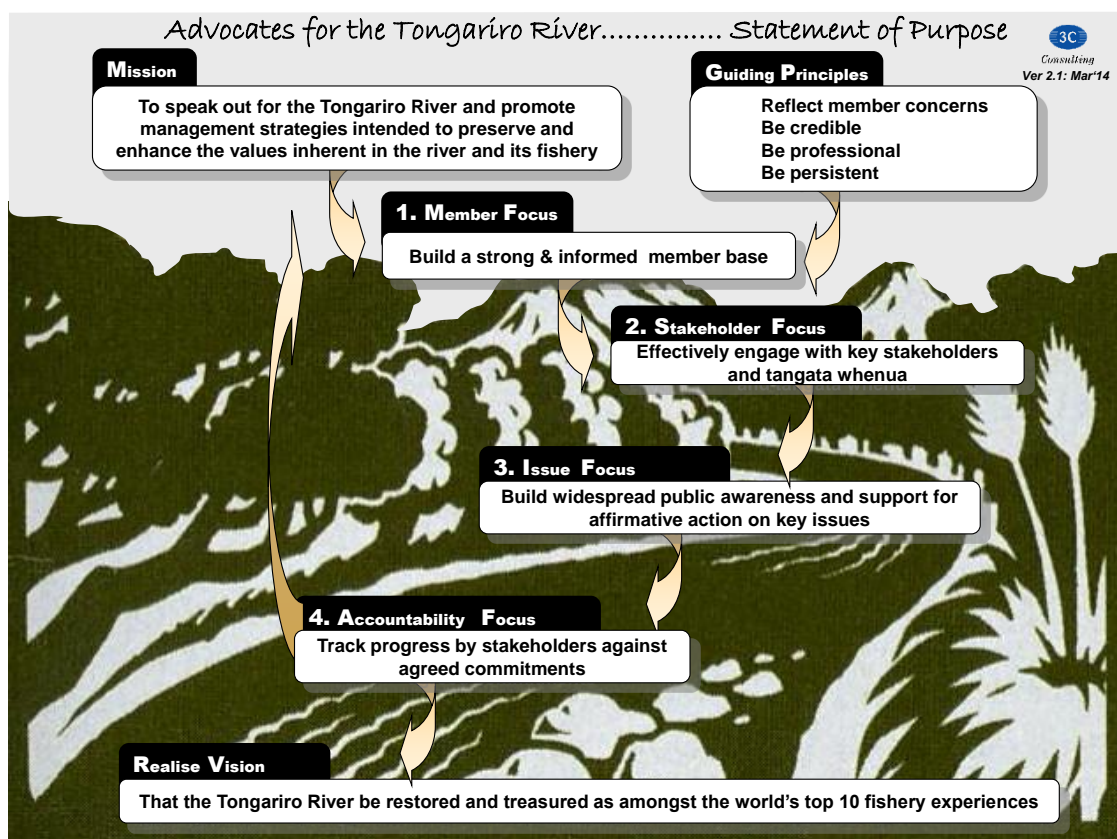
Office Holders for 2014-15	
	<p>Stuart Crosbie – President & Committee member since 2006</p> <p>President for 4 of the past 5 years.</p> <p>Stuart is the driving force behind the Advocate’s strategic plan, the Integrated Catchment Management Plan (ICMP) framework and the Advocate’s statistical analyses on lake levels and river flow rate data spanning the past century. He is an Advocate’s former director of the Tongariro River Trail (TRT) Ltd and has maintained a policy overview of the trail’s development.</p> <p>Stuart lives in Auckland and is a director of a number of charitable and not-for-profit entities.</p>
	<p>Gary Brown – Vice President & Committee member since 2011</p> <p>As with a couple of other Committee members, Gary’s family has over a half century association with the Lake Taupo fishery and a life-long interest in hunting and fishing. Gary’s prime focus as a committee member is therefore likely to be on the state of the fishery and monitoring the effectiveness of the DoC’s Taupo Sports Fishery Plan.</p> <p>Gary lives in New Plymouth and is an architect by profession.</p>
	<p>Eric Wilson – Secretary & Distinguished Member</p> <p>Secretary for past 9 years and former Treasurer for 10 years.</p> <p>Eric is a local government appointee to Waikato Regional Council’s Lake Taupo Zone Committee; an Advocate’s appointed director of the TRT Ltd; and a key local liaison person involved in just about everything.</p> <p>Without Eric’s sustained dedication and extensive commitment to Advocate matters, our society simply would not survive.</p> <p>Eric has been a local Turangi resident for past 25 years and a former Principal of Tongariro High School.</p>
	<p>John Toogood – Committee member since 2005</p> <p>Treasurer for past year.</p> <p>John first came to Turangi with his parents in 1951 and he and his family have enjoyed the Tongariro environment in all respects ever since. A keen environmentalist at heart, John has led the Advocate’s campaign to ‘bring back the bush’ and rid the river environs of wilding pines and other weeds. His work, supported by Eric and Marja, was recognised in 2010 when the Advocates were recipient of Environment Waikato’s Weedbusters Award and a DOC Taupo Tongariro Conservancy Environment Award in 2008.</p> <p>John and his wife, Susie, run their own business in Wellington and he enjoys being involved in project work.</p>

Committee Members for 2014-15

	<p>Virginia Church - Committee member since 2011</p> <p>Although elected to the Committee in more recent times, Virginia's Petition to Parliament in 2001 with some 602 signatures was the catalyst for formation of the Advocates as an incorporated society.</p> <p>After living in Australia, Virginia and her family have returned to Turangi where they have very close hapu associations with local iwi.</p>
	<p>Walter Freitag – joined the Committee in 2013; deceased 2014</p> <p>After a long, fulfilling career as Chief Scientist with BPNZ, including secondments overseas, Walter retired to personal affairs, travel and various voluntary work. At that time, he started to take increasing "holidays" in Turangi and fell in love with the unique surroundings, walks, community and gladly joined the Advocates.</p> <p>Walter served on the Committee as his health permitted up until his untimely passing in the latter part of 2014. Committee members appreciated his enthusiasm and support.</p>
	<p>Richard Kemp – Committee member since 2002</p> <p>A Wellingtonian, Richard has been coming to Turangi to fish all his life - as has his father before him and his son after him. He has a passion for the fishery and a particular interest in its sustainability.</p> <p>Richard has served as Vice-President from 2006-2010 and has been the Advocate's legal advisor throughout. He is the current Advocate's representative on the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee.</p> <p>As a former lawyer, Richard's networks have been invaluable in helping to profile the Advocates and successfully source funds from philanthropic sources.</p>
	<p>Kent Price – Committee member since 2012</p> <p>Kent is the proprietor of the Turangi Bridge Motel.</p> <p>Kent is formerly from Hamilton where he was a builder.</p>

	<p>Sam Stevenson – Committee member since 2014</p> <p>Sam has recreationally enjoyed Turangi, the Tongariro River and the Central Plateaux for his entire life, with his family having ties to the Tongariro stretching back to the 1950's.</p> <p>Sam currently resides in Wellington but attempts to spend as much time as possible on the river.</p> <p>Sam spent 15 years in the NZ Army and now owns and operates a risk management business.</p>
	<p>Neville Young – Committee member since 2008</p> <p>Former Vice-President for 2 years and President for 1 year; Committee member for 4 years.</p> <p>Neville is a former government appointee to Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board and the Advocate's key liaison person for central government agencies and politicians.</p> <p>Neville lives in Wellington and has extensive legal, commercial and governance expertise. This has proven invaluable in formulating the 'optimal' charitable company structure for the governance of the TRT on which he serves currently as a director.</p>
	<p>Sam Coxhead – Seconded to Committee 2014</p> <p>Sam has been coming to Turangi for the last 20 odd years. He is a keen angler, who relishes any time he can spend on the river.</p> <p>Sam and his large young family now have a home in Turangi. It has become more important for him to help with the responsibilities of looking after the river.</p> <p>Sam wants to help ensure that the fishery, and river environment as a whole, is looked after so the future generations are able to enjoy all it has to offer.</p>
	<p>Warren Butterworth – Seconded to Committee 2014</p> <p>Warren is a lawyer and part time farmer. He has fished the Tongariro and surrounding streams for more than 40 years and been a member of TALTAC for most of that time.</p> <p>Warren resides in Auckland and is a board member of two substantial charitable trusts and of many private companies.</p>

≈ Appendix 4: AFTR Strategic Plan



1. Member Focus

Build a strong & informed member base

Strategies

- M1 Gain public involvement and support for the Advocates as an entity and build membership
- M2 Be informed and credible through increasing Advocate's collective knowledge of all aspects of the river
- M3 Sustain financial viability to fund planned activities

Achievements to date

- Have developed respect from stakeholders as a credible organisation
- Current membership 219 (Dec '14)
- Funds on hand \$10,000
- Website developed
- A dedicated committee
- Satisfied membership base
- Grants in excess of \$0.5M to date
- Each year member donations are significant

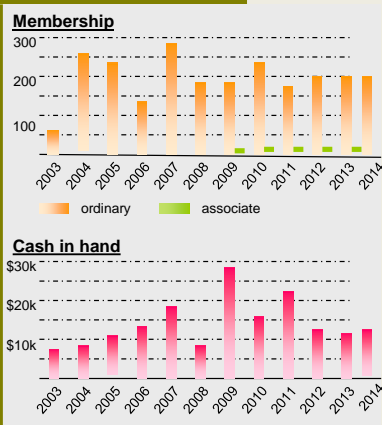
Destination by 2018

- Increase Turangi members
- Have a membership in excess of 250
- Fishing clubs and other recreational groups of the Tongariro are associate members
- Cash reserves at least \$20,000
- 40% of annual income derived from non-subscription sources
- Comprehensive knowledge base established, maintained and communicated on all aspects of the Tongariro River

Actions for 2015

	WHAT	WHO	WHEN	BUDGET
MA1	Keep website up to date	Secretary	Ongoing	\$1,500
MA2	Continue to look for cost-effective ways of promoting ourselves, eg TRT publication, and using electronic media to better communicate with members	Treasurer	Ongoing	
MA3	Regularly communicate with members -through website blogs, Annual Report & AGM	President/ Secretary	Monthly blogs	\$500
MA4	Assemble reference material on the Tongariro River and publish/ reference on website.	Secretary/ Committee	Ongoing	
MA5	Network with other like advocacy bodies (eg Freshwater Anglers, National Trout Centre, Environmental Defence Society)	President/ Committee	Ongoing	\$500
MA6	Develop and maintain Strategic & Annual Action Plan	President/ Stuart	Ongoing	
MA7	Undertake routine administration, prepare Annual Budget and gain appropriate funding sources for approved projects	Treasurer	Ongoing	\$1,000
Total				\$3,500

Scorecard



2. Stakeholder Focus

Effectively engage with key stakeholders

3C
Consulting
Ver 7 Mar '15

Strategies

- S1 Ensure there is an Integrated Catchment Management Plan for the Tongariro based on credible scientific information and sound river management methodology
- S2 Maintain effective relationships with stakeholders
- S3 Liaise effectively with Ngati Tuwharetoa

Achievements to date

- Brought about establishment of Tongariro River Management Forum and agreement to develop ICM Plan
- Represented on Taupo Fishing Advisory Committee, WRC Liaison Committee & Conservancy Board
- Crosbie report on lake level regime requested by joint TDC/WRC Committee on lake shore erosion.
- Constructive working relationships with all primary stakeholders & good local networks
- National level contacts initiated in some areas

Destination by 2018

- Comprehensive Tongariro River Management & Catchment Plan part of WRC's 10 year plan (LTCCP)
- All primary stakeholders respect and value the Advocate's balance between (i) working alongside stakeholders whilst (ii) retaining its discretion to act independently
- Comprehensive local and national networks in place

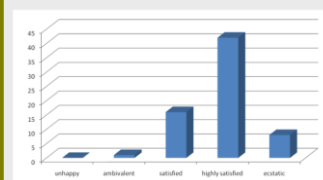
Actions for 2015

	WHAT	WHO	WHEN	BUDGET
SA1	Contribute to development of Tongariro River Catchment Mgmt Plan (whole catchment) as part of WRC's LTCCP	Stuart & Committee	On-going	
SA2	Maintain strong working relationships / partnerships with the primary stakeholders – WRC, TDC, DOC, Genesis, MRP, Ngati Turangitukua and Ngati Tuwharetoa.	Secretary & Committee	On-going	
SA3	Maintain good local networks – including Turangi Tongariro Community Board, Ngati Turangitukua, the River Management Forum, Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee, National Trout Centre Trust, TALTAC, etc.	Secretary & Committee	On-going	
SA4	Develop national networks – including DOC, Ministry for the Environment, Biosecurity NZ, EDS etc – as appropriate	Secretary & Committee	On-going	
SA5	Through TFAC, follow-through on draft Review of the Taupo Sports Fishery Plan	Richard	On-going	
Total				

Scorecard

Integrated Catchment Management Plan
• Benchmarking shows it is best in class with regular review and updating

Stakeholder Feedback
• Periodic feedback assessment affirms a constructive relationship with all key stakeholders



3. Issue Focus

Build widespread public awareness and support for affirmative action on key issues

3C
Consulting
Ver 7: Mar '15

Strategies

- I1 Maintain watching brief on current and emerging issues – their potential impact and mitigation strategies being advocated
- I2 Generate increased awareness of value of the River, its heritage, potential and the risks to its sustainability if not well managed
- I3 Advocate for actions that will protect and enhance the in-stream values of the fishery and the river environment

Achievements to date

- PhD funding raised for Fishery Study
- Raised awareness of potential risks of Didymo incursion and stimulated local action; national ban of felt-soled waders
- DOC-AFTR partnership in Flora Management Plan
- Grants of >\$50,000 for pine eradication
- Developed stage 1 TRT Cycle/Walkway
- Science Seminars held on key influences on the river
- Analysis of lake level and river flow rate data for past 50-100 years

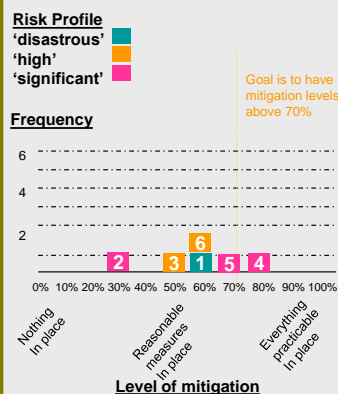
Destination by 2018

- North Island remains Didymo free
- All 'disastrous', 'high' and 'significant' issues are being managed responsibly

Actions for 2015

	WHAT	WHO	WHEN	BUDGET
IA1	Aquatic pest prevention – Advocate for NI to be Didymo Free; continue to support 'Check, Clean, Dry' campaign. 1	Sam S	On-going	
IA2	River Environments Restoration – Continue with planting programme and pest plant eradication (esp Willow) in accordance with TR Environments Flora Management Plan. 2	John / Sam C	Ongoing	\$10,000
IA3	Lake Levels & River Flow Rates – Continue to seek stakeholder cooperation in aiding the river to flush itself 3	Stuart / Virginia	Ongoing	
IA4	Urban development – Maintain watching brief on the TDC urban development strategy as it affects the Tongariro River 4	Virginia / Warren	Ongoing	
IA5	Trout Condition – Ensure our world class fishery is sustained through good science and effect management strategies through progression of the PhD research 5	Gary / Richard / Sam S	Ongoing	\$108,000
IA6	Access – Ensure TRT is maintained and continue to actively pursue the long-term plan to extend the TRT sustainably; liaise with DOC DoC and Iwi re secure access. 6	Eric / Neville / Stuart / Sam C	Ongoing	\$35,000
Total				\$153,000

Scorecard



≈ Appendix 5: AFTR Membership – 2014

Adams	Cecilia	Duckworth	Bob	Kemp	Richard	Stevenson	Anna
Adams	Garry	Duckworth	Heather	Kemp	William	Stevenson	Dan
Andrews	Charles	Duff	Graeme	Lean	Peter	Stevenson	Prue
Appleton	Bob	Duff	Marion	Macdonald	Heather	Stevenson	Sam
Appleton	Shirley	Duthie	Ian	McCallum	Elizabeth	Stevenson	Sally
Appleton	Allan	Elliott	Helen	McCallum	John	Stoner	Sally
Avery	William	Fair	Bill	Mcgregor	Craig	Strang	John
Bamford	Dave	Franks	Trish	Mcgregor	Rod	Sutton	Annabelle
Bartle	Murray	Freitag	Walter	McNab	Alasdair	Sutton	Terry
Batson	Brian	Fullerton		Mills	Jim	Teague	Clint
Beasley	Alistair	Smith	David	Nahkies	Graeme	Teague	Brenda
Bingham	Peter	Gabelich	Vince	Nahkies	Natasha	ter Haar	Marja
Blackbeard	Robert	Gay	Gary	Nott	John	Toogood	John
Brace	Robert	Gay	Loritta	Peake	Anita	Toogood	Susie
Brown	Gary	Gibb	Antony	Peake	Mike	Toy	Max
Brown	Karilyn	Gibb	Sonia	Price	Kent	Truebridge	Dick
Brown	Mark	Gibb	Amy	Pritt	Christine	Truebridge	Heather
Brown	Marie	Gibb	Mark	Rickards	Adrian	Waite	Barry
Brownlie	Bryan	Gibb	Lauren	Rickards	Renee	Wakefield	Rohan
Butterwrth	Warren	Gibb	Michelle	Roberts	Kyra	Wakefield	St.John
Campbell	W N	Glover	Bob	Roberts	Peter	Watson	Richard
Chapman	Barr	Godkin	Wayne	Robertson	Amanda	Whyte	Elizabeth
Charlton	Mark	Godkin	Wendy	Robertson	James	Whyte	Malcolm
Charlton	Tony	Grant	David	Robertson	Trevor	Williams	Gwynne
Church	Jock	Hamilton	Ian	Rosoman	Alan	Williams	Paul
Church	Liam	Hazelwood	Robert	Ross	Carol	Williams	Peter
Church	Virginia	Hazelwood	Robert W	Ross	Grace	Wilson	Eric
Cosgrove	Alison	Hines	Vern	Ross	James	Wilson	Lorraine
Cosgrove	Mark	Hodder	Marie	Ross	Miles	Wilson	Maryke
Coxhead	Sam	Hodder	Selwyn	Sherborne	Mary	Young	Arnica
Cranfield		Holden	Peter	Shieff	Jen	Young	Chris
Crosbie	Stuart	Horton	Warwick	Shirley	Graeme	Young	Hydon
Cunnack	Rennie	Hosking	Lynn	Short	Niwa	Young	Irene
Dandy	Valerie	Ireland	G	Short	Murray	Young	Neville
Devlin	Tony	Jamieson	Murray	Small	Neil	Young	Valerie
Devlin	Jude	Kemp	Honor	Small	Rosemary	5 not listed	
Dickson	Steve	Kemp	Stephanie	Smith	Catherine		



One form per Nominee

__/__/2015 I nominate _____

Tick ✓ Position nominated

- ☐ President
- ☐ Vice President
- ☐ Committee member

Either

- ☐ Secretary
- ☐ Treasurer

Or

- ☐ Secretary/Treasurer

Signed by nominee

Nominator (Signed) _____

Secunder (Signed) _____

President, Vice president, Sec/Treasurer and up to 11 committee members + Immediate Past President (15)

or President, Vice president, Secretary, Treasurer and up to 10 committee members + Immediate Past President(15)



One form per Nominee

__/__/2015 I nominate _____

Tick ✓ Position nominated

- ☐ President
- ☐ Vice President
- ☐ Committee member

Either

- ☐ Secretary
- ☐ Treasurer

Or

- ☐ Secretary/Treasurer

Signed by nominee

Nominator (Signed) _____

Secunder (Signed) _____

President, Vice president, Sec/Treasurer and up to 11 committee members + Immediate Past President (15)

or President, Vice president, Secretary, Treasurer and up to 10 committee members + Immediate Past President(15)

