

Environment Network Manawatu (ENM)

ENM is a charitable umbrella organisation dedicated to enhancing the environment within the Manawātū River catchment area. ENM has 60 active member groups engaging in water quality and biodiversity, food action, waste minimisation, alternative energies and active transport. Our member groups are distributed right throughout the catchment.

ENM's agenda is set by its member groups and ENM's role is to support the member groups in achieving their goals. ENM's role has changed significantly over the last couple of years in line with member groups' aspirations. In addition to communication, advocacy and networking at public events, ENM is now also enabling collective action of its member groups by supporting the two initiatives Manawātū River Source to Sea (30 member groups) and Manawātū Food Action Network (12 member groups).

Submission

Overall, ENM supports the new high-level outcomes (p.8) that Horizons has set in the Draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031 and would like to work more closely with Horizons to ensure "Our region's communities are vibrant and empowered".

ENM endorses the more comprehensive and detailed submission made by Manawātū River Source to Sea.

As hosts of collective action programmes such as Palmy's Plastic Challenge (Manawātū River Source to Sea programme of collective action), ENM sees the increasing interest and demand for nature-based experiences and active engagement in regenerative projects, citizen science and education. People want to be engaged and take more ownership of what happens in our environment.

At the same time, people in today's world are time-poor and prefer to engage in activities that have been well organised and adhere to high safety standards – this requires a level of coordination that goes beyond volunteer goodwill.

We are encouraged to see Horizons' commitment to allocate more funding to community projects and we count on some of this funding to be available for much needed coordination. In particular, we would like to see some non-contestable funding for the Manawātū River Source to Sea programme of collective action to increase its ability to contribute to the collective good and Horizons goal of "having vibrant and empowered communities".

We do not wish to speak to our submission.