

Ruamāhanga Whaitua Scenarios

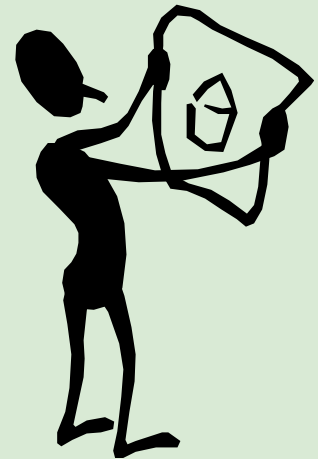
Summary of Social Narrative

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Social Assessment – as defined

- *A systematic effort to identify, analyze, and evaluate* social impacts of a *proposed* change on people and communities
- *In advance of decision making*
- The information is used to help identify options and manage change
- To enhance sustainability and social outcomes

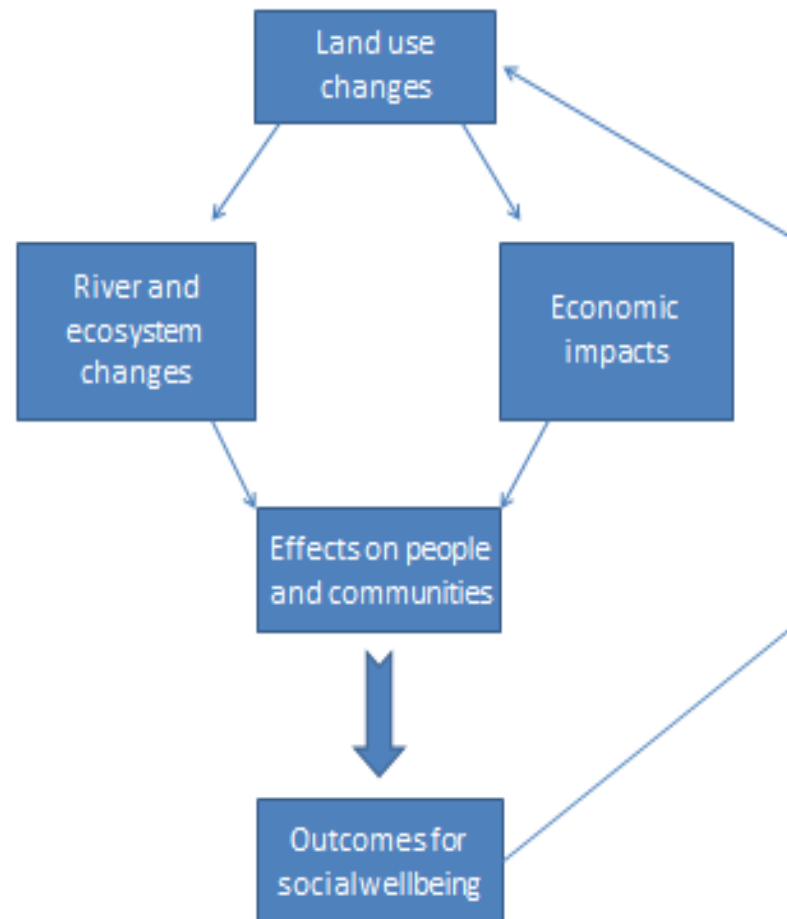


Social Assessment of the Scenarios Drew on

- The social baseline and outcomes framework completed last year
- Discussions and engagement of the Committee
- Modelling results, particularly
 - The economic analysis
 - E. coli results for rivers and lakes
 - Ecological results



Linkages to Social Wellbeing Outcomes



Effects on Employment and Population

- Regional employment effect (FTE) of 88 (Silver 2025) to 206 (Gold 2080) cf BAU
- Will have an effect on farm households and population across the region, and on sheep and beef areas in particular
- Flow on effect small places to rural schools and social life



Effects of Changes to Farm Systems

- Effect on regional employment and population, mitigated by:
 - adjustment of farm households to loss of revenue
 - resilience and adjustment of rural communities over an extended time period
 - management of change/transition



Effects on the Form of the Countryside

- Farmers will look for economies of scale, diversification, alternative sources of household income, subdivision to lifestyle blocks ...



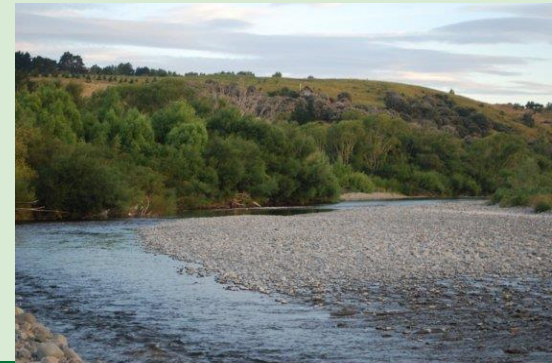
Effects on Water Quality and Recreation Outcomes

- Outdoor recreation and healthy lifestyles are important social outcomes
- Pathogens and cyanobacteria are concerns for human health and aesthetics of water
- Eight sites improve for E. coli (contact recreation)



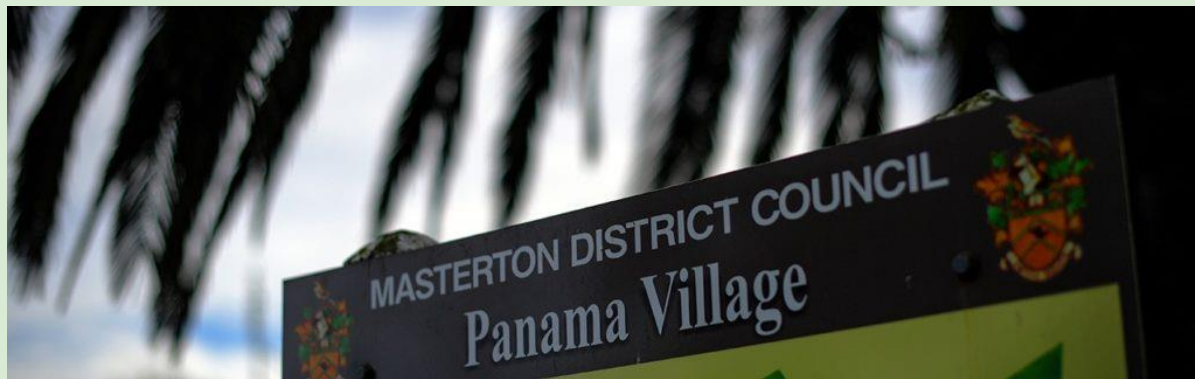
Effects on Ecosystem Health and Recreation Outcomes

- Reduced nutrients and sedimentation will enhance stream and lake ecosystems
- This effect will benefit aesthetic and recreational attributes
- Gains to trout size and abundance are small
- This finding fits the message from fishers that greatest gains are from better management of the stream bed (pools, riffles, willows) for flood control



Effects on Cost of Living

- Increase capital costs or rates will affect households as TLAs implement change
- Low income households in urban areas, such as the elderly, are vulnerable to increased costs and may require assistance



Effects on Social Equity & community cohesion

- Costs and benefits of policy change will not be distributed evenly – with an early period of stress
- If not managed well, there will be an increased level of social conflict and reduced cohesion
- But positive outcomes and community initiatives can enhance social cohesion



Management of change

- People and communities do adapt to change
- A proactive approach to management of change will assist
- Some households and groups may require targeted assistance
- Work with existing groups



Conclusion

- The combination of benefits to human health and outdoor activity favours the Gold scenario in the longer term
- But Silver has less negative social impact in the short term
- Additional tools and flexibility will help to maximise social benefits
- A change management strategy will help to mitigate negative social effects