



Celebrating the Tākaka Valley – A Community Story

Distinctive marble and limestone – with sink holes, underground caves and clear waters provide a unique environment for a wide array of indigenous species, many of which are only found in the area. Community conversations have revealed deep historical connections and a rich local knowledge of this treasured catchment; insights which form a powerful foundation for collaboration and long-term care.

Community Conversations

Emerging Themes



Catchments are interconnected, living systems – from the mountains to the sea

Recognising the relationship between land, water, ecosystems and people.



High value placed on the unique ecology and cultural identity of the area

Acknowledging how karst landscapes shape water flow and landforms. Recognising marble limestone environments are home to rare ecosystems and species.



Intergenerational thinking linked with Te Ao Māori

Recognising a shared responsibility to take care of this special place, guided by mātauranga Māori.



Desire for land and water use to uphold catchment health and support livelihoods

Increasing our knowledge and understanding land and water health.



Effects of climate change and seasonal influences

Creating biodiverse habitats across the catchment, allows birds, insects and fish to move in response the changing environmental conditions – securing food, shelter and breeding grounds as climates shift



Aspirations to enhance biodiversity and protect unique habitats and species

Creating catchment corridors linking biodiverse habitats. Restoring green pathways enabling species to move easily from mountains to sea.



Desire to learn and share knowledge – by working together, we can achieve more!

Making research and monitoring information available and accessible to the community. Increasing our knowledge base – combining traditional knowledge, local experience and scientific insights.



Communities connecting with nature builds long-term care of catchments

Nature-based recreation and restoration strengthen community relationships with place.


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Shaping our pathway forward

Drawing upon the material collected through the background scoping and community engagement process, a vision was crafted – with clear statements of intent, core values and a strategic enhancement framework.





AN ENHANCEMENT PATHWAY

Acknowledge what we have!

We have a unique and special karst landscape with a large area cloaked by Kahurangi NP; pristine water flows from the upper catchment



What can we do now?

Enhance biodiverse ecosystems through natural regeneration & habitat restoration to make them more resilient to environmental changes. Identify key biodiversity areas for protection & support initiatives to improve soil health & reduce nutrient loss.



Work collaboratively on community projects

Work with the willing & key partners to keep positive initiatives going, creating opportunities for learning and sharing what we know



What do we know?

We have some understanding of the catchment dynamics but there are still large gaps in our knowledge we need to fill to guide future actions



Bring knowledge strands together

Integrate indigenous, science & community knowledge into monitoring planning & decision-making - with a focus on adapting and being more resilient to climate change



Keep Celebrating Successes

Create opportunities for the community to tell their stories, share information & ask for help

