

Whangawehi Catchment Management Group

Community Engagement Officer

About us

The Whangawehi Catchment Management Group (WCMG) is a group of landowners, Tangata Whenua, Marae, local government agencies and local school representatives working together to monitor land use and lead environmental work and education in the community.

The group shares the desire to encourage the protection of the Whangawehi River catchment area by increasing water quality and the habitat for freshwater and estuarine species through the improvement of the unique biodiversity that it encompasses.

The group started its activities in 2010, thanks to the dedication and commitment of a few determined volunteers who have led the way by strengthening existing networks and engaging positively with agencies.

About the Role

The WCMG is seeking to engage a part time contractor (500 hours) to assist the group in engaging with the community. The role is for a fixed twelve month period with options for extension.

The WCMG is in the development phase, but already has a number of key relationships. The role holder will be required to continue development with, and increase involvement of, the target audiences. This will be achieved by building upon work already carried out by the project team.

The main function of the role is to build relationships with the local community of Mahia with a clear focus being the three Marae signatories of the MoU, and landowners of Mahia Peninsula and relevant organisations. The person in the role will also be expected to organise and deliver a number of community days in order to build community interest and capability in those major areas.

Remuneration :

This is a part time fixed term position

Term: 12 month

Hours of work : No fixed schedule but depending on activities. Maximum 500 hours

An hourly rate will be negotiated with the successful applicant depending on experience and skills

Responsible to :

The Whangawehi Catchment Management Group Committee and project coordinator.

About you:

✓ **Qualifications, skills and experience:**

- A passion for conservation
- Ability to organise, plan and budget;
- Ability to work with a range of organisations, both Māori and non-Māori;
- A good understanding and knowledge of tikanga Māori, with particular reference to kaitiakitanga and tikanga;
- Ability in liaison and effective communication with Māori groups, individuals, community groups and larger community organisations;
- Ability to communicate effectively, including oral presentations and written reports;
- A good knowledge of New Zealand native fauna and flora.

✓ **Personal attributes and behavioural competencies:**

- The ability to plan and work effectively on his/her own and also as a member of a multidisciplinary team;
- Maturity, commitment, availability and ability to carry out direction and instructions;
- The ability to encourage and support volunteers, develop innovative community projects and partnerships;
- The ability to deliver administrative requirements including monthly reports;
- Ability to travel within and outside the Mahia area;
- Good computer skills (eg, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint etc);
- Availability to undertake frequent travel throughout the Mahia area and prepared to work during weekends or evenings;
- A positive “can do” attitude;
- Enthusiasm and a cheerful disposition.

✓ **Physical requirements**

- A full and current driver licence;
- The jobholder must be able to physically carry out the functions of the position.

To Apply

To apply, please send a covering letter and Curriculum Vitae to Rae Te Nahu , WCMG Secretary: rae.tenahu@xtra.co.nz or Nic caviale Delzescaux, Project Coordinator: caviale@hbrc.govt.nz. To find out more about the group, please visit <http://www.whangawehi.com>.

Responsibilities and targets:

Responsibilities	Expected outcomes
Building communities interest and capability in conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Develop a good and reliable base of volunteers who could undertake conservation work in the wider Mahia area.- Organise 6 community days per year around planting and fresh water habitat restoration. A minimum of 4 community plantings days will have to be held along the Whangawehi stream.- Assist with the group's Hui already in place (Nga Whenua Rahui community days, annual community day, official visits etc.). Prepare and help Marae logistic related to such events when required.
Engaging with local Marae (signatories and non signatories) and the Mahia beach community to develop awareness, synergies and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Organise a minimum of one community meeting per year with each Marae in the Mahia/ Opoutama area showcasing the group's activities and wish to develop partnerships.(3 days minimum)- Organise similar community meetings with key stakeholders including the Mahia beach community during the summer period and throughout the year (3 days minimum)
Community's aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- As a consequence, organise a signing of the MoU with new stakeholders- After consultation with the wider Mahia Community, the officer will present relevant suggestions on how the WCMG could better engage with the community

Communicating, promoting conservation and lifting awareness and educating others on the value of conservation

- A minimum of 6 newspaper articles published in the Wairoa Star per year.

- Regular updates for the WCMG's Newsletters and a minimum of 12 posts published on the group's blog.

- A minimum of 2, 4 minutes film showcasing the volunteer's activities for publication on Youtube.