

Reflections of collaborative processes from a regional council perspective (Panel discussion: collaborative processes)

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1. Collaborative processes are resource hungry and there is a greater need to have the science/information at the front of the process to inform the consequent decision-making processes. This does result in current information needing to be used, rather than having 7–8 years to get data like we have had with the typical RMA Schedule 1 process; although the reality around this is that the data collection becomes reactive rather than properly integrated.
2. It is important to integrate mātauranga Māori knowledge into the information set used by collaborative processes. Māori have generations of knowledge based on long-term observations that could be useful for looking at condition and state of the water bodies.
3. We have existing information that we have analysed previously, but now need to work within the collaborative process to identify the questions Māori have and then reanalyse our data to answer those questions. State of the environment data may not be at the right scale to answer these questions.