LGOIMA Request – Waikato Regional Council

(Focus: river/estuary sedimentation, pine forestry impacts, maintenance obligations, water quality, consent compliance)

To: info@waikatoregion.govt.nz

Subject: LGOIMA Request – Sedimentation, Forestry Impacts, Wentworth River (Upper Harbour) and Moanu Anuanu Estuary Management

To Information Requests, we are requesting the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). This request relates to the Moanu Anu Anu Estuary (Whangamatā), the Wentworth River system, and upstream forestry catchments.

A. Sedimentation, Channel Condition, and Estuary Capacity

1. All reports, data, modelling, surveys, or investigations since **2010** relating to sedimentation rates or infill of the Wentworth River (Upper Harbour) and Moanu Anuanu Estuary.
2. Any assessment of loss of tidal prism, reduced flushing capacity, or associated ecological changes.
3. All documentation relating to WRC's statutory responsibilities for sedimentation management in this estuary, including obligations under:
    - Regional Coastal Plan
    - Waikato Regional Plan
    - Resource consents held by TCDC for stormwater discharge
    - Any agreements with TCDC or Waka Kotahi about shared responsibilities.

B. Forestry Impacts (Carbon Loading and Runoff)

4. Any WRC reports or data on:
    - carbon loading from pine forestry debris,
    - carbon loading and other chemical run-off from Urban farming,
    - carbon-to-sand ratios affecting shellfish/estuarine ecology,
    - runoff volumes or sediment export following harvesting activities in Whangamatā catchments.
5. Any monitoring or compliance findings for pine forestry operators under:
    - National Environmental Standards – Plantation Forestry (NES-PF),
    - WRC regional requirements.

C. Flooding Risk, Channel Maintenance, and Freeboard

6. WRC's requirements (or expectations) for maintaining the Wentworth River channel, freeboard, and obstruction removal downstream of the SH25 bridge – bypass route.
7. Any correspondence between WRC, TCDC, or Waka Kotahi regarding maintenance responsibilities or identified deficiencies.
8. Any flood-risk assessments that identify sedimentation or pine debris as a contributing factor.

D. Enforcement or Non-Compliance

9. Any notices, investigations, or enforcement actions taken by WRC relating to sedimentation, water quality, re-forming of land designated as flood plains, or forestry impacts in the Whangamatā catchment.
10. Any assessments of whether current conditions pose an increased flood hazard to residential properties.

Format Requested

Please provide all documents in digital form (PDF, DOCX, GIS data, or email correspondence).

Regards,
Ian Holyoake and Robert Boston
Whangamatā