

Fluvial geomorphology is the study of river function and character in relation to flows, erosion and sediment deposition, and includes an understanding of the controls that influence these dynamics and their resulting landforms. Geomorphic knowledge can be useful for developing river restoration strategies that are robust, resilient, and adaptive to a changing climate.

He Awa Ora, He Tāngata Ora: Healthy Rivers, Healthy Communities

Investigating the role of fluvial geomorphology to support kaitiaki-led river restoration in the face of climate change

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

River restoration in Aotearoa

Fluvial geomorphological insights will support resilient river restoration in the face of climate change, to adapt to increased flooding and erosion of river systems that pose major threats to vulnerable communities.

RESILIENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Iwi and hapū aspirations

Wānanga enables the identification of iwi and hapū values and aspirations for river restoration and provides opportunities for gathering and sharing mātauranga.

Mana whenua need to be involved in decision-making processes from the outset.

Working together to create resilient landscapes

Mana whenua, local communities, scientists, and councils all working together towards common goals.

Knowledge is power

Importance of mātauranga Māori and science and technology working together to ensure resilient, adaptive, and meaningful river restoration.

This could include utilising geospatial modelling or remote sensing data in ways that align with Te Ao Māori ways of thinking about river systems and their restoration aspirations.

He taonga tuku iho

Knowledge of mātauranga-a-hapū, a-iwi, is passed down through generations and ensures cultural practices persevere and adapt for future generations.

Ongoing loss of tikanga [cultural practices] and mātauranga could be aggravated by climate change through community dislocation.

Ready to start?

- Rivers Group | Engineering New Zealand and Water NZ Technical Group
- Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management | University of Canterbury
- Te Kāhui Mangai | Directory of Iwi and Māori Organisations

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