An aerial photograph showing a coastal area with wetlands, a road, and residential buildings. The wetlands are on the left, with a road (SH2 / SH28) running through the middle. Residential buildings are on the right, and a body of water is in the background. The sky is overcast.

SH2 / SH28
(Watchman Road)
and a Northern
Gateway to
Napier

Kuaka Amidst the Wetlands...

Nick Aiken, Sector Leader Environment WSP Opus
Stefan Steyn
Michele Frey (now XYST)

Knitting



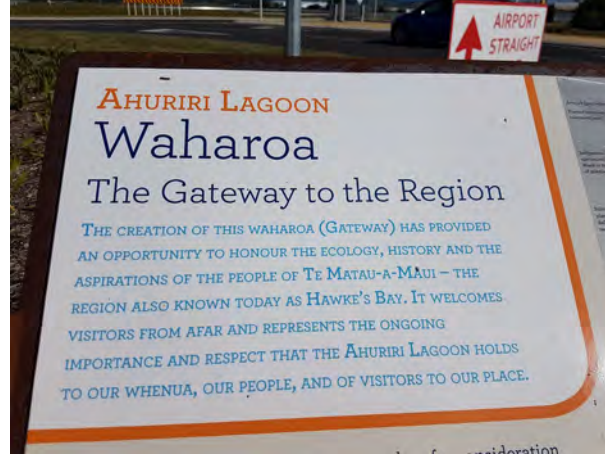
Weaving



Multi-Agency Project

- New Zealand Transport Agency
- Napier City Council
- Hawkes Bay Airport





The Challenge...

-Safety?
-Heritage?
-Amenity?
-Gateway?

The Challenge - Heritage



The Challenge - Transport



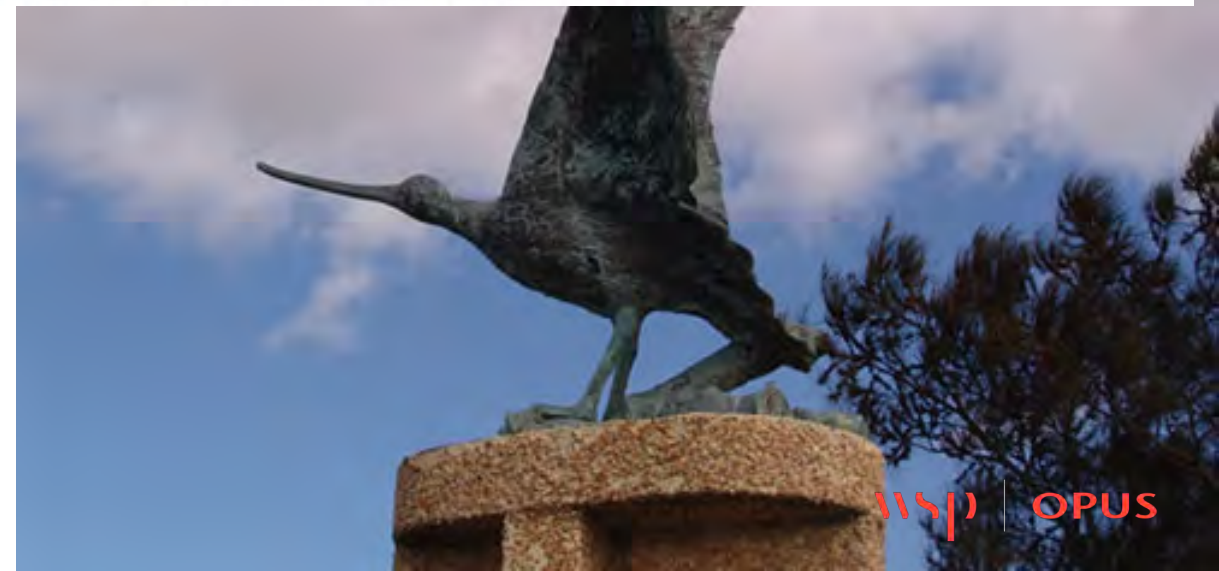
FAIRFAX NZ

Warwick Holmes, a former Hawke's Bay coroner, pictured in 2005 at the SH2/SH2B intersection. He labelled it one of four "death traps" intersections on the Napier-Hastings expressway.



SIMON HENDERY/ FAIRFAX NZ

The Transport Agency has plans to install a roundabout at the notoriously dangerous intersection in the 2016-2017 financial year but regional leaders want the work fast-tracked.



WSP | OPUS

Stakeholders

Mana
Ahuriri

Hawkes
Bay Airport

Watchman
Road
residents

DOC

NZTA

Westshore
Residents
Association

Friends of
the Estuary

KiwiRail

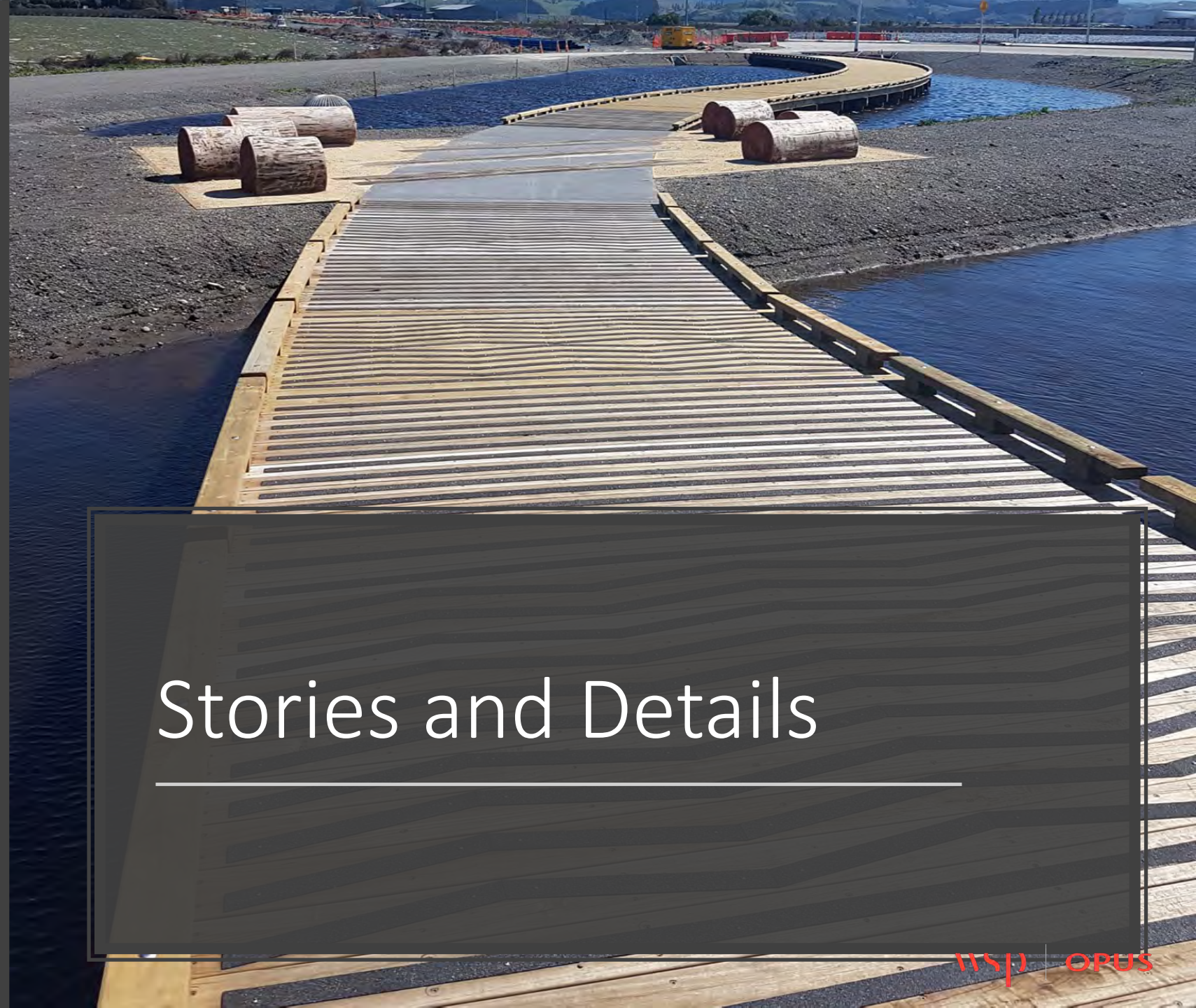
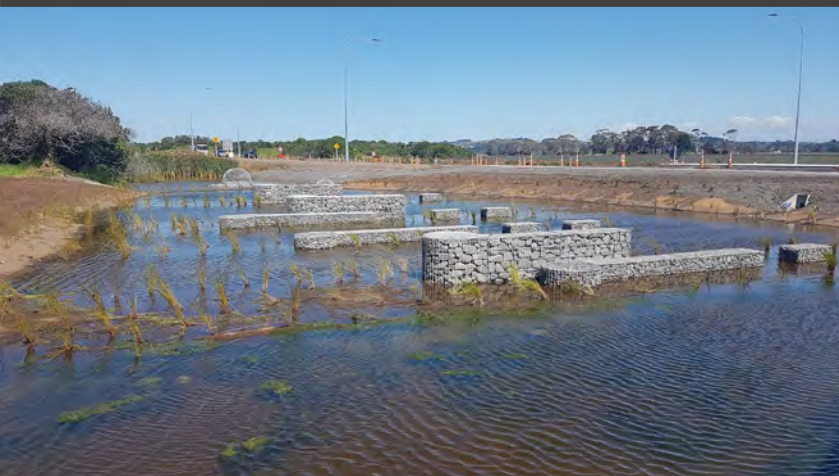
Westshore
Holiday
Park

Napier City
Council

WSP OPUS

Weaving a Solution





Stories and Details



Awarua Lagoon Wetlands

The Awarua Lagoon Wetlands are a significant natural area located in the heart of the Awarua Lagoon. The wetlands are home to a variety of native plants and animals, including the Awarua Lagoon Wetlands. The wetlands are a significant natural area located in the heart of the Awarua Lagoon. The wetlands are home to a variety of native plants and animals, including the Awarua Lagoon Wetlands.

AHURIRI LAGOON Kuaka Connection

KUAKA (GODWIT) IS A SACRED BIRD THAT NAVIGATES 29,000 KM ACROSS OCEANS, FROM ALASKA TO AOTEAROA, THE ROUTE THEY TRAVEL EACH YEAR TO REPLENISH AND REVITALIZE BEFORE RETURNING TO NEST. IN ANCIENT TIMES THIS ANNUAL ARRIVAL OF THE KUAKA WAS LOOKED AS A GREAT EVENT, AS A TIME TO CELEBRATE THE IMPLICIT STRENGTH AND CAPACITY OF WHĀNAU MAORI.



Historically Māori were assisted by the Kuaka to navigate their own journeys and guide their search for abundance. The call of the Kuaka is loud as they fly along. During daylight the

course of the flight in their canoes by of the birds flight. During the night e cries of the Kuaka above the fleet of aided by them on their travels south. of selfless community and community ka flaps its wings it creates an 'uplift' for flying in a 'v' formation the whole flock ng range. alled the mation

Like the Kuaka we harmony across o even greater thing Each of us has a r the whānau to the responsibility for Of all the places migrate to, they o For this reason, t long been connec its estuary, Haw

AHURIRI LAGOON Wetlands

SINCE HUMAN SETTLEMENT HAWKE'S BAY HAS LOST 95% OF ALL ITS WETLANDS. THE TWO BODIES OF WATER ADJACENT TO THE LAGOON ARE REMNANTS OF THE ORIGINAL KAIHAKAU ESTUARY AND WERE ONCE COVERED BY THE SUBMERGED FORELANDS FORMING THE LAGOON'S BAY.

Wetlands provide a wide range of services. They are classified as coastal wetlands that are connected to or directly connected to the ocean. They are also known as salt marshes. These are valuable wetland habitats as they provide a natural barrier between summer and winter, offering a natural habitat for many species and a breeding area for a wide variety of birds.

Wetlands are home to many different bird species. Some of the most common species include the Kuaka (Godwit), which usually fly to Aotearoa to spend the spring and summer months here. In addition, rare plant species such as Maori Musk are also found in these wetlands.



As part of the construction project to create this gateway to Hawke's Bay from the airport, a large portion of the southern end of the Westshore Wildlife Reserve was redeveloped, to off-set habitat loss and disturbance. This redevelopment work involved the creation of a unique new wetland environment known as a scrape lake.

A scrape lake is ideally suited to this location, and is a shallow body of water during the winter months when the lagoon water level is high, but is exposed during the dry summer months to provide a habitat for the many migratory and wading bird species. Both areas are designated as a Wildlife Refuge and as such are protected in perpetuity.



TE WHANGANUI-A-ĀROTU



AHURIRI LAGOON Waharoa

The Gateway to the Region

THE CREATION OF THIS WAHAROA (GATEWAY) HAS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO HONOUR THE ECOLOGY, HISTORY AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF TE MATAPUNGA-MAUI - THE REGION ALSO KNOWN TODAY AS HAWKE'S BAY. IT WELCOMES VISITORS FROM AFAR AND REPRESENTS THE ONGOING IMPORTANCE AND RESPECT THAT THE AHURIRI LAGOON HOLDS TO OUR WHĀNAU, OUR PEOPLE, AND OF VISITORS TO OUR PLACE.

The design approach has set a new precedent for consideration of environment, culture, engineering and technology to achieve harmoniously all its purposes. When viewing this Gateway from the air by those flying into the region there is a unique opportunity to see the symbolic Kuaka. The roadworks when viewed from the sky take the shape of the eye and beak of this remarkable bird, with the tributaries of the restored wetlands further articulating its form.

Around the gateway and causeway the positioning of five tall pou whenua artwork represent the people of this place and make reference to the five historic pa sites once located on the headlands of Roro-o-Kuri Island in the old Lagoon.

Linear bands of planting and stylized gabion stone features reflect the post-earthquake pattern of drainage ditches throughout the estuary.



The causeway is designed to respect the Lagoon and buffers for birdlife while treating stormwater runoff more naturally through its innovative engineering design feature of a 'wavy' profile. Stormwater is collected at dispersed points before entering the planted scale.



TE WHANGANUI-A-ĀROTU





Manutai
Marae













And a Gateway to Napier/Ahuriri

The Value, looking back...

Early, meaningful and demonstrably responsive engagement led to:

- Enhanced identification and mitigation of Impacts
- Support from multiple stakeholders
- Increased certainty of outcomes for all stakeholders
- Non-notification and Rapid consenting
- Opportunities such as 'gateway' aesthetics
- Overwhelmingly positive community reaction