

**Local Matters Talk- The state of our rivers and freshwater**From **Local Matters** Date **28/04/2026 16:07**

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Members of your organisation are cordially invited to a Local Matters Talk on the state of our rivers in the Mapua Hall on Friday 15th May 5.15 - 6.30 PM.

Everyone is welcome. This is the first in a series of Local Matters talks in 2026 and follows a highly successful round of such meetings in 2021-23.

This talk has been organised to help us understand important issues raised in the latest Ministry for the Environment report: Our Freshwater 2026.

The report finds that climate change is adding pressures on our freshwater ecosystems by altering rainfall and river flows, by shifting species distributions, and probably by altering salinity in coastal habitats. It notes that rural communities face a higher risk of waterborne disease from severe weather events which flush contaminants off polluted land into our rivers. TDC reporting has continued to find that several of our local streams that drain intensively used land, are also polluted.

There will be a panel of speakers:

- Roger Young (Cawthron Institute)
- Trevor James (TDC) and
- Lan Pham (environmentalist and MP).

This will be followed by a discussion of practical local actions we must take to improve the quality of our water.

We hope that you will find this topic interesting and useful.

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply and request this.

David Bartle, for Local Matters