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Boost for storm funds

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WAIKATO

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Ōtorohanga and Waipā District councils will each get \$100,000 for their mayoral relief funds, the Government has announced. Thames-Coromandel District Council is getting a "\$100,000 top-up" after an earlier January contribution, Emergency Management and Recovery Minister Mark Mitchell and Associate Minister Chris Penk announced. "These contributions will help local authorities tackle the most immediate areas of need within their communities, while the broader recovery efforts get under way," Mitchell said in a statement. Waipā mayor Mike Pettit said the money will help with practical assistance for those who most need it. "The extra \$100,000 means we can help more people, more quickly, at a time when many are doing it tough. Many people and businesses are still dealing with the financial and emotional impacts of the storm." Waipā District Council started its mayoral relief fund with a \$100,000 council contribution, and Pettit said people had stepped up to help - from volunteers to donors to neighbouring

councils. "Recovery doesn't end when the water recedes," Pettit said. "For some, the effects will be felt for months to come." Details on how to apply to the Waipā fund are on the council website, waipadc.govt.nz/relief-fund.



Corcoran Rd, Te Pahu, after a culvert failed in a storm.