F45/15 – Worked timber and charcoal lens

NZTM E1287154 N4887590

Site type:	Unclassified
First Recorded:	08/12/2020
Last Updated:	28/04/2022
Address:	East bank of Mataura River, 50m northwest of the intersection of River Terrace and Huron Street.
Legal Description:	Hydro
Summary:	This site was reported to be exposed during 2020 floods. It consists of a curved charcoal lens containing a large piece of worked wood. The feature is approximately 6 metres in length, and likely relates to the remains of a small burnt structure, although no buildings are depicted on available historic maps of the location. Fragments of a leather shoe were observed in a slumped section of the riverbank. The age and cultural association of the feature were unable to be determined, although it predates construction of the flood banks in 1902.
Features:	Unclassified
Condition:	The exposed sections of the slumped riverbank indicate that the site is actively eroding, although it is unclear how much of the site has been lost since its initial recording.

2022 Field Work

F45/9 was inspected in the field by Chris Jennings and Tristan Russell on 28 April 2022. All site information was updated on ArchSite, including NZTM coordinates (See Appendix A).

Management recommendations

Inspection of F45/15 indicates that it is under threat from ongoing erosion. Future flood events will likely destroy more of the site fabric. Although protection of the site would be difficult without significant modification to the banks of the river, the site could be investigated by archaeological investigation under a scientific authority under the HNZPTA. This would constitute a preservation by record, offsetting natural destruction through erosion.

A general archaeological authority should be applied for and obtained prior to any ground disturbance in the immediate vicinity of the site.