

58 Waiotapu at Campbell catchment

Use these insights to develop a farm environment plan that reduces impacts on fresh water and protects what matters in your catchment. For more details or support, call 0800 800 401 or visit waikatoregion.govt.nz/farm-environment-planning.

Prioritise these actions in your farm plan to improve water quality:

- Manage livestock and machinery on poorly drained soils during critical periods to minimise soil damage.
- Manage or retire erosion-prone hill country.
- Keep stock away from waterbodies.
- Manage livestock and run off around **critical source areas**.

 **Actions to include in a farm environment plan**

 **Farm menus**

The Waiotapu catchment is home to a diverse range of community and natural features, including the Waiotapu geothermal area and volcanic lakes, Kākaramea Rainbow Mountain, and the Haingaroa plateau. These features provide recreational opportunities and support community wellbeing.

The catchment and its surrounding environments hold deep cultural and spiritual significance for Te Arawa, the primary iwi for this region. Te Arawa regards its coastal areas, rivers, lakes and streams as living ancestors whose mauri (life force) and mana (authority) must be actively protected and restored. Hapū and marae act as kaitiaki (guardians) at a local level to preserve and sustain the waterbodies and taonga (treasured) species for future generations. While the Waiotapu catchment is shaped by land use, it continues to provide important ecological, recreational, community and cultural values. Protecting and enhancing the health of its waterways is therefore essential for both people and the environment.

Taonga (treasured) species found in the Waiotapu catchment



--- Longfin-eel, Tuna ---



- Freshwater mussel, Kākahi -



- Common smelt -



- Geothermal kānuka scrub -



- Tawa-mangeao forest -

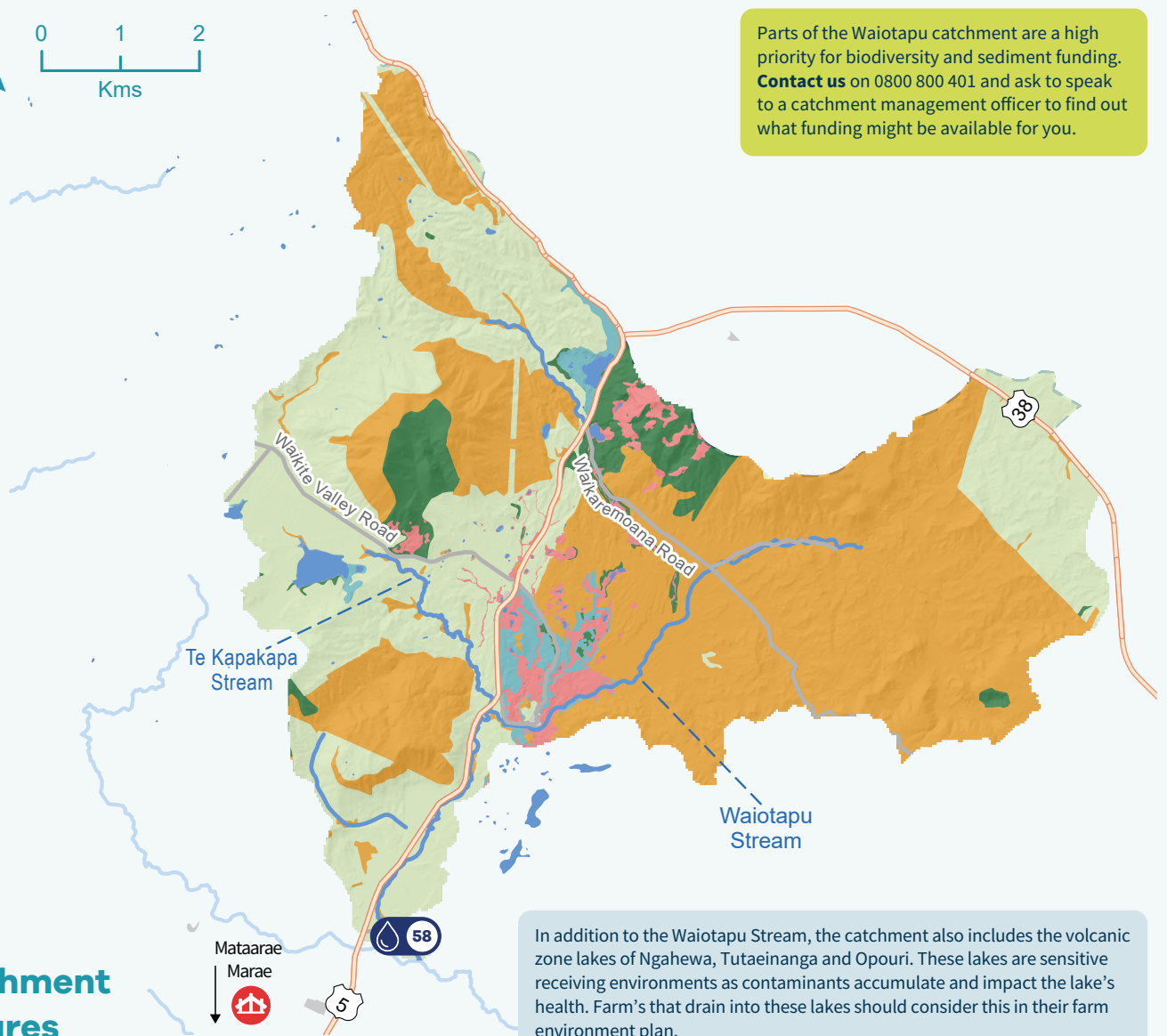
Consider your farm's location in the catchment

The table shows how landform and soil characteristics shape primary risks and contaminant losses specific to the Waiotapu catchment.

Landform	Main soils + properties	Primary risks	Primary contaminant loss
Flat to undulating land (0-7 degrees) 30% of catchment	Raw: Well drained loamy sand.	Prone to gully and stream bank erosion.	Sediment
	Recent: Moderately well drained loam over sand.		Nitrogen Sediment
Rolling land (8-20 degrees) 40% of catchment	Pumice: Well drained, loam or loam over sand.	Moderate sheet, soil slip and gully erosion risk when cultivated. Moderate tunnel gully erosion. Very high N leaching vulnerability.	Nitrogen Sediment
Steep land (>20 degrees) 30% of catchment	Allophanic: Well drained loam.	Potential for moderate soil slip and sheet erosion.	Sediment



Parts of the Waiotapu catchment are a high priority for biodiversity and sediment funding. **Contact us** on 0800 800 401 and ask to speak to a catchment management officer to find out what funding might be available for you.



Catchment features

Waiotapu catchment: 5594ha

- Exotic forest (51%)
- Native forest (6%)
- Pasture (38%)
- Geothermal (4%)
- Wetlands (3%)
- Roads and urban areas

- Rivers and streams
- Water quality monitoring point
- Marae

The national land cover database (LCDB, version 6) was used to define land cover in this catchment.

In addition to the Waiotapu Stream, the catchment also includes the volcanic zone lakes of Ngahewa, Tutaeinanga and Opouri. These lakes are sensitive receiving environments as contaminants accumulate and impact the lake's health. Farm's that drain into these lakes should consider this in their farm environment plan.

Water quality improvement for the four contaminants

This diagram shows the level of collective effort needed to positively impact water quality in the Waiotapu catchment and further downstream. Focus on best practices within your farm and catchment, while keeping your downstream neighbours in mind.

