

10 Whangamarino at Island Block Rd

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 around **critical source areas** and hot spots like tracks, gateways, feeding areas and troughs.
- Keep stock away from waterbodies.
- Stabilise stream banks and provide habitat through planting.

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

 **Farm menus**

Whangamarino River is one of seven catchments that flow into the internationally important Whangamarino Wetland, which is rich in native plant and bird species. Contaminants from surrounding rivers and streams degrade the wetland and Lake Waikare, which suffers toxic algal blooms and frequent health warnings. Flood control schemes and pest fish, like koi carp, further disrupt natural process, making care for our waterways critical.

The Whangamarino Wetland and the surrounding environment holds profound cultural and spiritual value for Waikato-Tainui, the primary iwi of this region, and local hapū and marae. The lower Waikato wetlands were once places where taonga were stored and protected, including the koiwi (bones) of tūpuna (ancestors) who fell during the battles of Rangiriri and Meremere in 1863. Waikato-Tainui 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.

Taonga (treasured) species found in the Whangamarino catchment



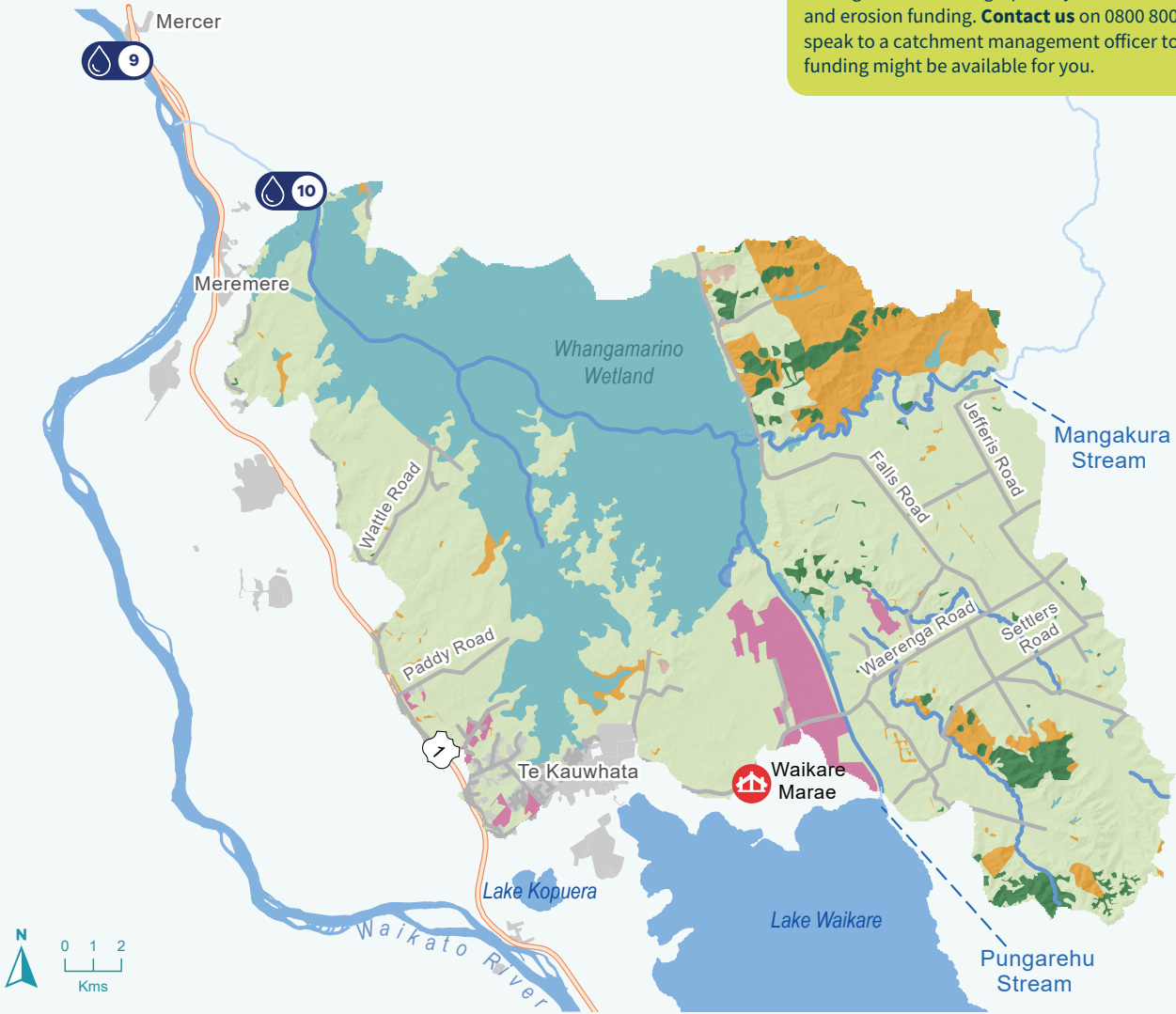
Consider your farm's location in the catchment

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

Landform	Main soils + properties	Primary risks	Primary contaminant loss
Flat land (0-3 degrees) 50% of catchment	Organic: Very poorly drained but may dry out, difficult to rewet	Drainage contributes to ongoing peat subsidence including land level lowering Pugging when wet and unstable substrate	<i>E. coli</i> Phosphorus
	Gley: Poorly drained	Continuing wetness after drainage and pugging when wet	<i>E. coli</i> Nitrogen
Undulating land (4-7 degrees) 20% of catchment	Granular: Moderately well drained and clayey	Slight to moderate sheet or rill erosion when cultivated	<i>E. coli</i> Nitrogen if cropped
	Ultic: Imperfectly drained and clayey	Slight to moderate sheet or rill erosion when cultivated and pugging when wet	Nitrogen if cropped
Rolling land (8-20 degrees) 20% of catchment	Granular: Moderately well drained and clayey	Slight to moderate sheet or rill erosion when cultivated	<i>E. coli</i> Nitrogen if cropped
	Ultic: Imperfectly drained and clayey	Slight to moderate sheet or rill erosion when cultivated and pugging when wet	Nitrogen if cropped
Steep land (>20 degrees) 10% of catchment	Ultic: Imperfectly drained	Moderate to severe slip erosion	Sediment Phosphorus
	Brown: Well to poorly drained, young soils	Moderate sheet and gully erosion	<i>E. coli</i>

Catchment features

Whangamarino is a high-priority catchment for biodiversity and erosion 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.



Whangamarino at Island Block Road: 14365ha

- Exotic forest (7%)
- Native forest (3%)
- Pasture (56%)
- Orchard or cropland (4%)
- Wetlands (29%)
- Surface mine (0.1%)
- Waterbodies
- Roads
- Ⓜ Marae
- Ⓧ Water quality monitoring point

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

Water quality improvement for the four contaminants

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

