

8 Whangamarino at Jefferies 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 and run off around **critical source areas** and hot spots like tracks, gateways, feeding areas and troughs.
- Manage livestock type and numbers on poorly drained soils during critical periods (winter).
- Keep stock away from waterbodies.
- Manage or retire erosion-prone hill country.

 **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 wetlands 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 (0-7 degrees) 46% of catchment	Gley: Poorly drained and clayey	Pugging and soil compaction	Nitrogen <i>E. coli</i> Phosphorus
	Brown: Imperfectly drained and clayey		
Rolling land (8-20 degrees) 29% of catchment	Ultic: Imperfectly drained and clayey	Pugging and soil compaction	Sediment Phosphorus <i>E. coli</i>
Steep land (>20 degrees) 25% of catchment	Ultic: Imperfectly drained, often clayey	Moderate to severe landslides Moderate sheet and gully erosion Livestock access to small streams	Sediment Phosphorus <i>E. coli</i>
	Brown: Well drained and clayey		
	Recent: Moderately well drained, young soils		

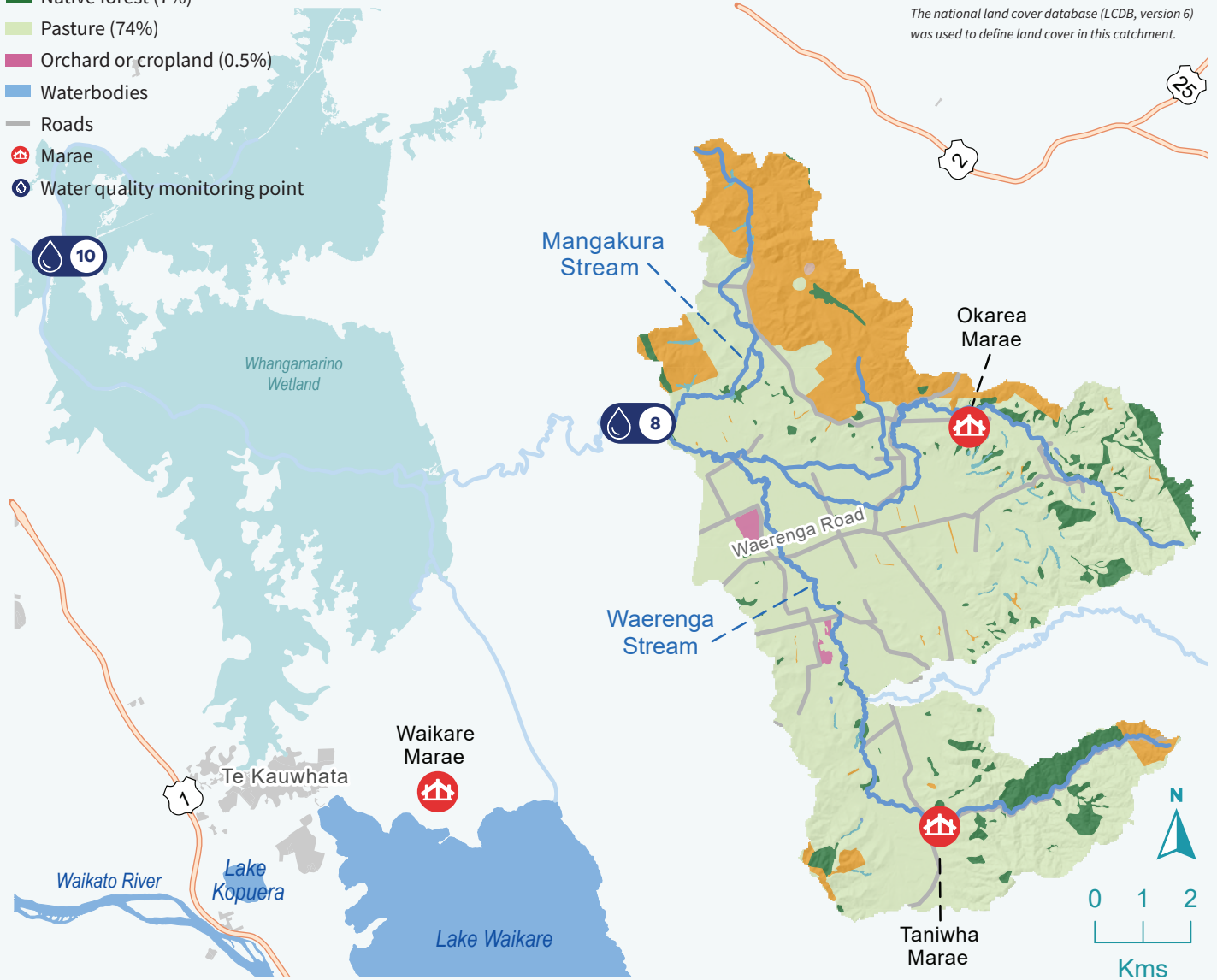
Catchment features

Whangamarino catchment at Jefferies Road: 9701ha

- Exotic forest (17%)
- Native forest (7%)
- Pasture (74%)
- Orchard or cropland (0.5%)
- Waterbodies
- Roads
- Marae
- Water quality monitoring point

Whangamarino is a high-priority catchment for 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.

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.

