

32 Karapiro 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 around **critical source areas**.
- Manage or retire erosion prone land.
- Keep stock away from waterbodies.
- Stabilise erosion-prone land through planting.

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

 **Farm menus**

Steep or rolling land make up more than 70 per cent of the Karapiro catchment. The Karapiro catchment is home to a range of community and natural features, including Waiarumu and Mangaotupua streams, Pukemako Scenic Reserve and the township of Karapiro.

The Karapiro catchment and surrounding environments hold deep cultural and spiritual significance for Ngāti Korokī Kahukura, the primary iwi for this area. Ngāti Korokī Kahukura considers rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands as tūpuna (ancestors) and living taonga (treasures) that must be respected and protected as a matter of priority. Hapū and marae act as kaitiaki (guardians) at a local level to safeguard and preserve the catchment and its taonga species, ensuring they are sustained for future generations.

While the catchment is shaped by past and present land use (including quarrying), 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 Karapiro catchment



Shortfin-eel, Tuna



Common bully



Kahikatea-pukatea forest



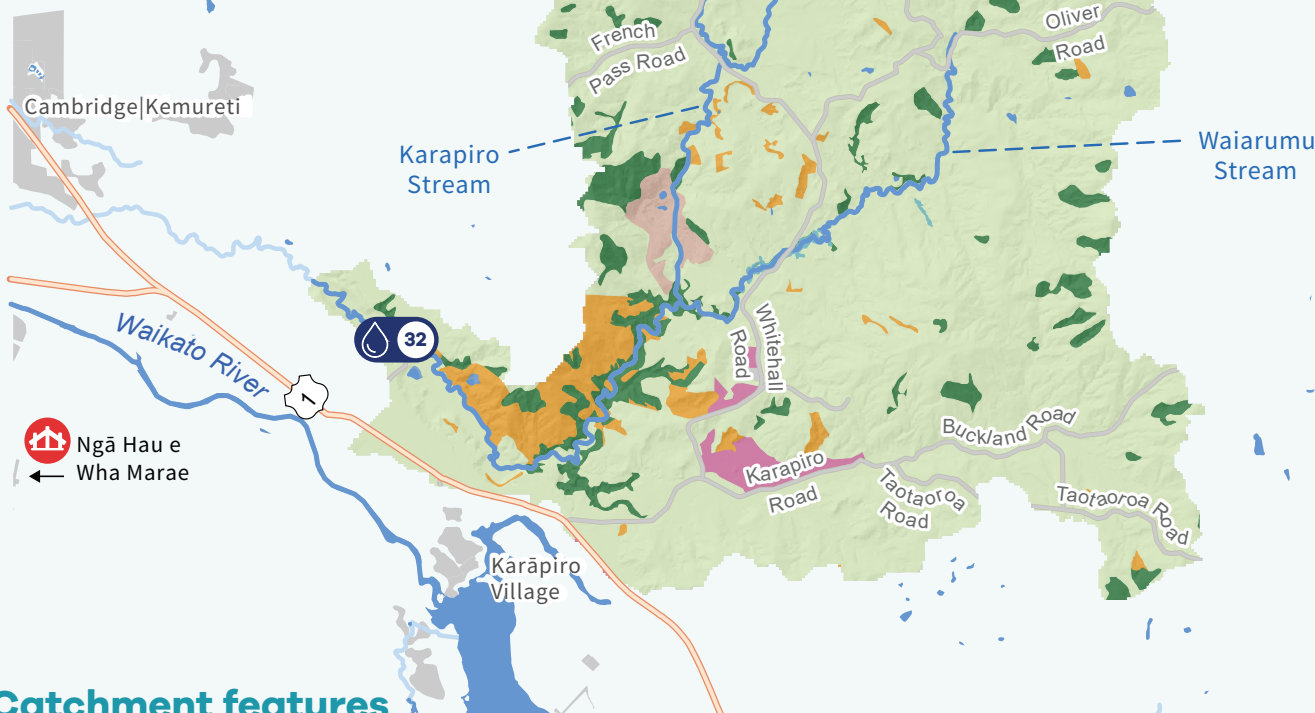
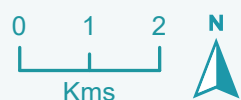
Swamp mosaic

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 Karapiro catchment.

Landform	Main soils + properties	Primary risks	Primary contaminant loss
Flat to undulating land (0-7 degrees) 28% of catchment	Allophanic: Well drained loam over sand.	Nitrogen leaching. Weak structure is prone to erosion.	Nitrogen
	Gley: Poorly drained clay.	Occasional flooding. Soil compaction and pugging if wet.	<i>E. coli</i> Sediment
Rolling land (8-20 degrees) 46% of catchment	Allophanic: Well drained clay.	Weak structure is prone to erosion. Moderate to severe sheet erosion when cultivated.	Sediment Phosphorus
Steep land (>20 degrees) 26% of catchment	Brown: Well drained silt over clay.	Slight to moderate to earth slip, sheet and gully erosion, particularly during heavy rainfall events.	Sediment Phosphorus
	Recent: Well drained silt.	Slight gully and debris flow erosion.	

The Karapiro catchment is a high priority 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.



Catchment features

Karapiro catchment: 6741ha

- Exotic forest (5%)
- Native forest (7%)
- Pasture (87%)
- Orchard or cropland (1%)
- Urban
- Rivers and streams
- Roads
- 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 Karapiro catchment and further downstream. Focus on best practices within your farm and catchment, while keeping your downstream neighbours in mind.

