

23 Kirikiriroa 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:

- Keep stock away from waterbodies.
- Manage livestock around **critical source areas**.
- Capture contaminants before entering waterways using grass or vegetated buffers.

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

 **Farm menus**

The Kirikiriroa catchment has significant urban land use and includes a range of natural and community features, such as the Kirikiriroa Stream gully system, Mangaiti and Tauhara parks, Porrit Stadium and Chartwell Mall. Productive agricultural land is located in the east of the catchment. Together, these features provide recreational opportunities and support community wellbeing.

The Kirikiriroa catchment and surrounding environments hold deep cultural and spiritual significance for Waikato-Tainui, the primary iwi for this region. 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.

While the catchment has been shaped by land use, particularly urban land use, it continues to provide important ecological, recreational, 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 Kirikiriroa catchment



- Longfin-eel, Tuna -



- Inanga -



- Common smelt -



- Giant kōkopu -



- 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 Kirikiriroa catchment.

Landform	Main soils + properties	Primary risks	Primary contaminant loss
Flat to undulating land (0-7 degrees) 85% of catchment	Allophanic: Well drained loam over sand.	Nitrogen loss.	Nitrogen <i>E. coli</i>
	Gley: Poorly drained silt over clay.	Soil compaction and pugging when wet.	<i>E. coli</i> Sediment
Rolling land (8-20 degrees) 11% of catchment	The majority of this landform is not in agricultural landuse.		
Steep land (>20 degrees) 4% of catchment	The majority of this landform is not in agricultural landuse.		



Catchment features

Kirikiriroa catchment: 1233ha

- Native forest (6%)
- Pasture forest (24%)
- Urban areas (70%)
- Roads
- Rivers and streams
- 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 Kirikiriroa catchment and further downstream. Focus on best practices within your farm and catchment, while keeping your downstream neighbours in mind.

