

Proposal to Council

**To Eradicate Koi from the Catchment
By Implementing a Koi Eradication Plan
Supported by Controlled Lake Flushing**



The Koi Problem



Sources of Sediment & Phosphate in Waikare & Whangamarino

Koi Carp

Potentially. 44% of Issue

Increase Sediment & Phosphate by moving Historical deposits into the water column in Lake Waikare & into the Whangamarino.

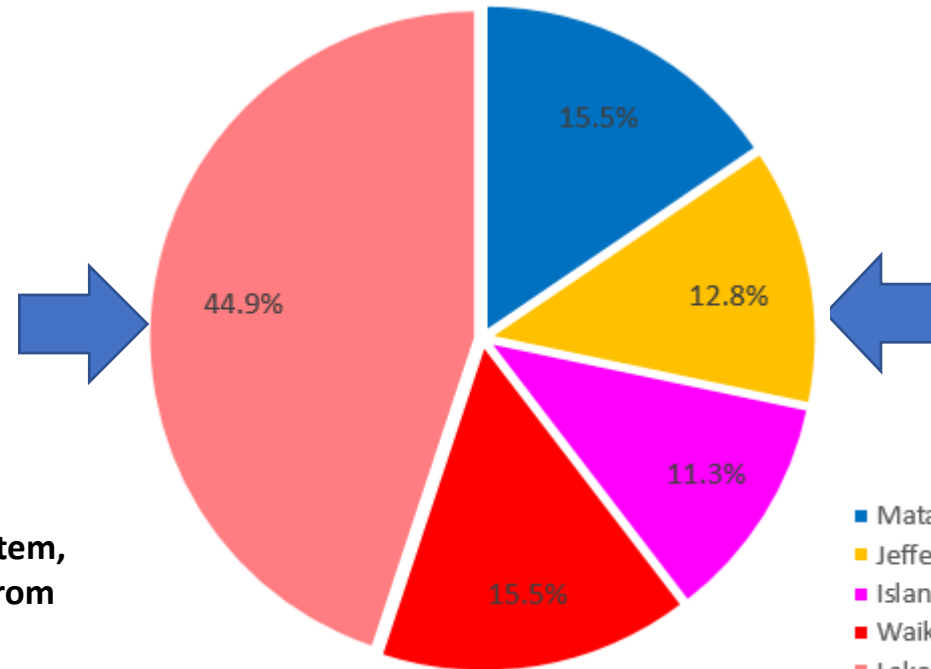
- Destroy native plant & fish habitat
- Increase Nutrient levels
- Prey on invertebrates
- Prey on native fish and their eggs

Historical Deposits: Te Kauwhata Sewerage system, Early land development, Natural Rain, Inflow from Waikato River (Te Onetea Stream & Flooding)

Community Action:

Land based treatment Te Kauwhata Sewerage/Storm water

Percentage of total phosphate load passing Island Block



Catchment inflows

Approx. 56% of Issue

- Natural sources
- Inflows from Waikato River (Te Onetea Stream)
- Land-use (Agriculture)
- Secondary effect of Koi Carp: (undermining feeder streambanks)

- Matahuru
- Jefferies/Waerenga
- Island Block
- Waikare Catchment
- Lake Waikare and Whangamarino ponding areas?

Joint Action

Support Eradication of Koi Carp

WRC Plan states "to work with relevant agencies, DOC, F&G, MPI, & community to control & eradicate Koi Carp."
When???

Landowner Action:

Good Practice Options/Farm Environment Planning

Addressing the Problem ?

- **Rather than address the Koi issue the Draft Plan seeks to raise the Lake water level (along with other misguided ideas)**
- **Lifting the Lake would increase area from 34sqKm to 49sq Km**
- **Result: “ Creating at least 1500ha of water less than a metre deep”**
- **Creating an excellent stagnant habitat for Koi & Waterfowl pollution.**

What we suggest is Action

- We heard last Tuesday from a number of Koi Specialists
- Excellent presentations including from Bruno David, WRC & DOC.

Take away messages –

Get on with Koi Eradication.

Focus on capture/Eradication & Allow Commercial operations to supplement Koi use if economics work.

- To do so will require a focused Governance Entity charged with the single aim of getting action on the ground.

Koi Eradication

A focused Governance Entity charged with the simple aim of getting action on the ground.

- **Options;**
- **While recognising DOC responsibility a new entity should be established that has a sole focus on Koi Eradication.**
- **This entity must not carry the baggage of the Draft Plan.**
- **Perhaps support a ‘Landcare Type Community Catchment Group’.**
- **Perhaps this could be named ‘Waikato Centre of Excellence for Koi Eradication’**

Avian Pollution.

- **Sensibly this must be addressed alongside the Koi Eradication Project.**
- **How? Addressed at the review of the Weir Consent (due 2027)**
- **Weir has added to sedimentation in the wetland and likely exacerbated Black water events.**
- **The Weir interferes with essential River Bedload**

Recommendations

- **Reject the current Draft Action Plan**
- **Implement an Action Plan Focused on Koi Eradication**
- **Fully consider Controlled Flushing of the Lake**
- **Address Avian Pollution**
- **Use funds wisely!!**