



**Waikato
RiverCare**



Making a positive difference to
the wellbeing of our River
Kia whakapakari te mauri o to taatou Awa

Waikato RiverCare Annual Report 2012-13

The Waikato River is a national and regional icon holding significant cultural, economic, social and environmental values. The Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc (LWRES, trading as 'Waikato RiverCare') links these values with interested organisations and provides a vehicle for riparian habitat restoration using a base of native plant species. Waikato RiverCare was incorporated in 2001 and is supported by a range of community stakeholders with a common vision and purpose.

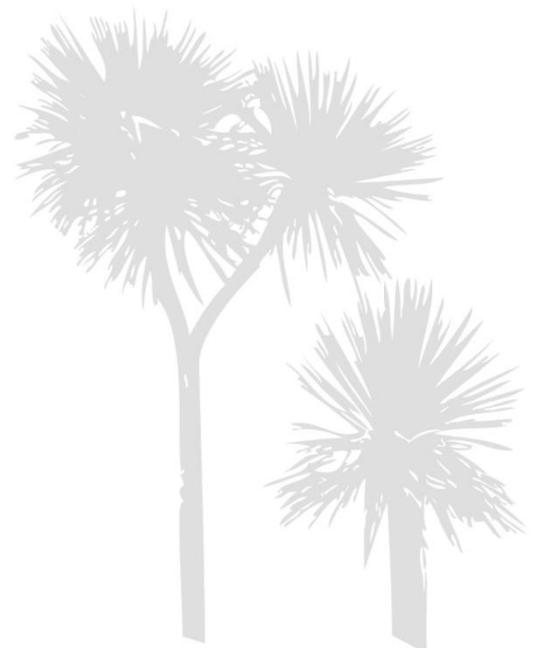
The geographic area covered is over 120 kilometres of river (and associated banks) along the Waikato River downstream of Hamilton City to the river mouth at Port Waikato.

Our Vision

To make a positive difference to the wellbeing of our River
Kia whakapakaritemauri o totaatoa Awa

Our Purpose

To implement an enduring programme to establish self-sustaining native plant-based communities on the lower Waikato River banks



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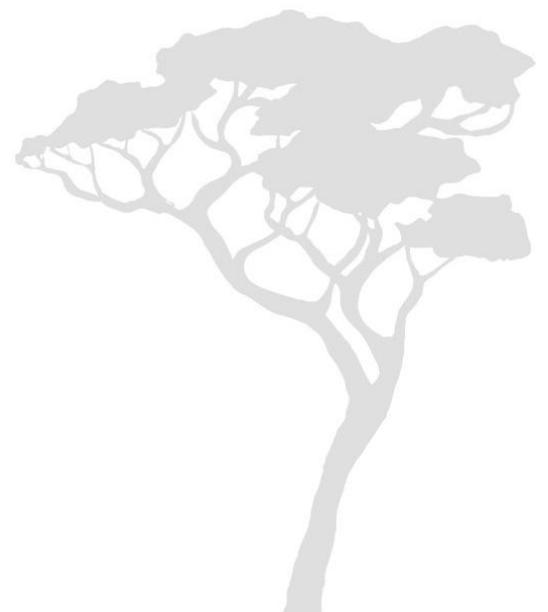


Introduction

Waikato RiverCare is pleased to present our Annual Report for the 2012/13 period. The report documents achievements in relation to established projects and new projects initiated in this period. It also provides the mandatory Chairperson's Report and Annual Financial Statement.

Waikato RiverCare has been operating since 1999 and officially became an incorporated society in 2001. Members include a range of organisations and people who all share a similar passion for the lower Waikato River.

Waikato RiverCare is the leading riparian restoration charity focussing on preparing, planting and maintaining areas of native plant habitat on the banks of the lower Waikato River, and sourcing funds and support to carry out this work. Sound science, cultural understanding, sustainability and a cooperative approach is an important part of the group's focus.



Structure of Waikato RiverCare

The organisation is governed by an Executive Committee whose membership comprises one representative from each foundation member organisation. In addition, up to three general members can also be appointed to the committee. An advisory group is being set up to offer high level support and political advocacy.

Executive Committee

Representative	Role	Organisation
David Klee	Operation Manager's Manager	Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Council
Eric Pene		Department of Conservation
Lizana Tuake (Denise Collis)	Vice Chairperson	Genesis Energy
Dawn Metcalfe		Independent
Wayne Bennett		Independent
Larnie Chrystall		Mighty River Power Ltd
Raymond (Moko) Kumar		NgaMuka Development Trust
Wally Lee		North Waikato Federated Farmers
John Te Maru		Waahi Whaanui Trust
Ben Wolf	Chairperson	Waikato District Council
Bala Tikki Setty		Waikato Regional Council
Sarah Muir		Watercare Services Ltd

General Members

Representative	Role	Organisation
Donna Barakat	Treasurer	Genesis Energy
Suzanne Naylor		Watercare Services Ltd

Advisory Members

Representative	Role	Organisation
Peter Buckley	Advisory Member	Federated Farmers / Waikato Regional Council

Staff at end of March 2013

Kevin Hutchinson	Operations Manager
Jayne Signal	Administrator

Sponsors

Waikato RiverCare would like to sincerely thank its current sponsors – without their support Waikato RiverCare would not be able to achieve our vision and goals. We would also like to thank those who have sponsored us in the past, along with those organisations who have provided grants and in-kind donations.

Current Gold Sponsors



Current Silver Sponsors



Current Bronze Sponsors



Chairperson's Report

Ben Wolf

The 2012/13 financial year has been one of the most exciting in WaikatoRiverCare's lifespan.

With the support of our committee members and long term foundation members, Waikato RiverCare has grown from being a volunteer-run charity to a major player in environmental restoration in the Waikato.

These changes have come about due to the dedication of the members of Waikato RiverCare, the engagement of our supporters and the investments of our sponsors. As with any organization undergoing growth, there has been change – both at the governance levels, operationally and in staff and membership.

Over the year we have seen nine committee members move on to take up other challenges and welcomed in a host of bright new minds. It is a credit to the rising value of the Waikato RiverCare reputation that we see some exciting new players becoming more involved in the development of RiverCare as an organization. This includes securing the services of a talented and driven Operations Manager in Kevin Hutchinson, as well as professional secretarial support from both Megan Dredge and Jayne Signal.



Waikato riverbank view - Ngaruawahia

We are also happy to welcome Eric Pene, John Te Maru, Lizana Tuake, Raymond Kumar and Larnie Chrystall to the Waikato RiverCare family. They replace outgoing members Derek Edwards, Mark Dean, Hori Awa, Erina Watene-Rawiri, Therese Balvert, Ian Wallace, Joy Mickleson, Michelle Hodges and Denise Collis.

Most of our new members have found the time to take up the mantle and become actively involved in the development of Waikato RiverCare. This enterprising spirit has allowed us to set up dedicated project teams to look at a variety of Waikato RiverCare work streams.

In governance development we have established an advisory membership, and are happy to announce Peter Buckley, Chairman of Waikato Regional Council and crown appointee on the Waikato River Authority board, as our first advisory member. The advisory members offer higher level guidance and political support to Waikato RiverCare.

This year Waikato RiverCare has already undertaken a full assessment of all our existing project sites, developed a detailed forward plan and budget, made new friends and helped to advise stakeholders and landowners on environmental policy.

A major new \$600,000 programme of works has been started in association with our major sponsors and the Waikato River Authority, looking at building the capacity of Waikato RiverCare, developing a riparian restoration guideline, working with stakeholders and of course our main focus, creating corridors of native vegetation along the riverbanks.

The future is bright, and do remember: Thinking about riparian restoration? Ask Waikato RiverCare!



Aerial view: Te Kokiri A and B

Operation Manager's Report

Kevin Hutchinson

It has been an incredibly busy 5 months since joining the Waikato RiverCare team in mid-October, 2012.

As with all organisations linked to the land, the first three months of 2013 can be summed up as being 'extremely challenging', with even the wettest and most established planting projects showing stress as the region wide drought continued. Although some sites appear to have suffered terrible losses in late February / early March I'm hopeful that some plants will recover when autumn rains return.

To pre-empt significant plant losses in the future during drought conditions Waikato RiverCare has chosen to invest in mobile irrigation, purchasing a pump and hose now stored at the Regional Council depot in Gordonton.

The excellent weather conditions this summer has allowed contractors to complete identified weed control, including Ecoarb undertaking tree removal at several sites and Treescape (Waikato and Central North Island) successfully completing all required foliage spraying.

Several key documents and policies have been developed over the last 5 months including a Standard Operating Procedure, Hazard Identification and Management Plan, Project Exit Strategy, Updated Fencing Strategy, Updated Waikato RiverCare's Project Checklist (minimum 10m planting zone above 'mean high water'), and Proposed Future RiverCare Projects.

At the end of last year Waikato RiverCare started work on the Riparian Restoration Guideline with the production of a specification which was sent out to a selection of professional environmental consultants. Three proposals were received from four leading independent consultants, with Wildlands Consultants Ltd chosen as the successful contractor. Over the next three months Waikato RiverCare and its partners will support Wildlands Consultants in the production of the guideline document, a key component of the Waikato River Authority funding.

This coming autumn marks the start of significant in-fill planting in May to make the most of summer weed control and replenish sites hit by the drought. 6,000 plants have been ordered for planting at four projects



Huntly Golf Course site

which are planned to be completed prior to the arrival of winter flooding. Work is also expected to start on erosion control at identified sites in conjunction with Waikato Regional Council's River and Catchment Services.

It is an exciting time for Waikato RiverCare with the announcement of our first Waikato River Authority funded project, RaahuiPookeka A. Site planting is expected to start in September/October this year on the 1100m project.

Other coming highlights include the identification of the second Waikato River Authority project, the development of project signage/promotion and work starting on the Hakarimata A extension project. There is also an opportunity to work with those planning and implementing planting on NZTA roadside/river areas near the Rangiriri Bridge.



Waikato River at Rangiriri

Future Plans

Waikato RiverCare is ensuring financial sustainability by looking at budgets moving forward on a 5-year cycle and planning for the future through an on-going sponsorship. The generous support of our major sponsors: Waikato River Authority, Mighty River Power, Genesis Energy, Waikato Regional Council, Watercare and the Waikato Catchment Ecological Enhancement Trust have made it possible to plan more efficiently into the foreseeable future. Waikato RiverCare is always looking at opportunities to establish relationships with organisations that have synergies with Waikato RiverCare’s leadership role in riparian restoration, and is in the process of seeking additional sponsorship opportunities.

It is Waikato RiverCare’s objective to plant up to two hectares of riverbank per year (or two kilometres based on a ten-metre wide riparian margin). Quality of planting is paramount, so Waikato RiverCare is concerned with good preparation of the sites, the application of sound science, sustainability, eco-sourcing and creating corridors of continuous native habitat.

Education and collaboration are key to ensure the best possible environmental enhancement of the lower Waikato River. It is for this reason that Waikato RiverCare spends time and effort to try to recreate native ecosystems, to get everything right and share this knowledge with our partners.

Each site has an average 5 year cycle from inception to being returned back to the landowner as a native habitat. With each site, there is an approach of undertaking the project in distinct phases:

Table 1: Indicative Costs per 1 Hectare Site

Phase		Indicative cost per hectare:
Preparation:	Involving assessment of the site, planning, landowner consultation, weed spraying, fencing	\$13,000.00
Planting:	Involving selection of plants based on habitat parameters, project management and health and safety procedures, and active planting.	\$59,220.00
Maintenance:	Involving weed control, releasing and monitoring of plant establishment and survival. Anticipated involvement of three-year period minimum.	\$8,000.00 over three years
Exit Maintenance:	Once a project has been largely completed it is put into an ‘exit maintenance’ category. It involves inspecting the project site every 2 years and undertaking maintenance if required.	\$1,500.00 every two years

Indicative costs will vary from site to site depending on the amount of preparation required and social and stakeholder involvement.

Every year the typical workload of Waikato RiverCare involves:

- two sites being initiated in preparation phase
- two sites being planted in planting phase; and
- six sites being maintained in maintenance phase
- an increasing number of sites completed.

Site Location Map



Map Key:

- Current Site
- ◻ On Hold
- ◆ Completed
- Marae

Site Progress and Achievements

During the 2012/13 planting season, Waikato RiverCare actively engaged around 40 volunteers for some of the planting and maintenance work on sites. In total, 5375 native plants have gone into the ground at four riverbank locations between Ngaruawahia and Pokeno. The table below shows what phase of management each of Waikato RiverCare's sites were in this year and will be in for the coming year.

Table 2: Management phases for 2012/13 and 2013/2014

Project Site	2012/13	2013/14
Ngaruawahia Waikato Esplanade	On-going planting and maintenance	Infill planting & maintenance
Hakarimata A	Completed but may require some weeding & maintenance	Maintenance
Hakarimata A extension	New project	Site preparation and planting
Hakarimata B	Maintenance	Maintenance
Clearwater concession	New project	Site preparation and planting
Hakarimata C& D	Planting	Maintenance
Taupiri A	Maintenance	Maintenance
Taupiri B	Maintenance	Infill planting & maintenance
Taupiri Ki Waenganui	On Hold	On Hold
Taupiri D	Planting	Infill planting & maintenance
Raahui Pookeka A	New project	Site Preparation and planting
Huntly A (Huntly College)	Completed	Completed
Tumate Mahuta Drive	Completed – on-going maintenance by landowner (Waikato District Council)	Completed – on-going maintenance by landowner (Waikato District Council)
Te Ohaaki	On Hold	On Hold
Huntly Golf Course	Maintenance	Infill Planting & Maintenance
Te Kokiri A	Maintenance	On Hold
Te Kokiri B	Maintenance	Maintenance
Rangiriri A	Completed	Maintenance
Rangiriri B	Maintenance	Maintenance
Rangiriri C	Maintenance	Maintenance
Horahora A	Completed	Completed
Churchill East A	Fencing	On Hold
Churchill East B	On Hold	On Hold
Meremere	Completed but may require some infill planting	Maintenance
Gedye (Private Land)	Completed – on-going maintenance by landowner (Gedye family)	Completed – on-going maintenance by landowner (Gedye family)
Tuakau (Batkin Reserve)	Completed – on-going maintenance by landowner (Waikato District Council)	Completed – on-going maintenance by landowner (Waikato District Council)

Sites Update - Current Sites

1. Ngaruawahia Waikato Esplanade

Previously reported as two planting sites, the Upper and Lower Waikato Esplanade reserves, Waikato RiverCare has suspended planting effort at the Upper esplanade reserve indefinitely. A review completed and presented to Committee concluded poor long-term prognosis for the site due to topography and green waste dumping, and recommended a withdrawal of effort and focus on the Lower Esplanade Reserve.

In December 2012 1,000 flax (*Phormiumtenax*) were planted by Waterside Planters Ltd between the boat ramp and road-bridge at Turangawaemarae in Ngaruawahia, which have done extremely well even through the drought conditions experienced this summer.

Maintenance weed control was completed by Treescape and weed tree removal completed by Ecoarb.

This autumn work will focus on completing planting at this site and maintaining weed control with the existing planting area.

The dumping of green waste from adjoining properties continues to be an on-going challenge for Waikato RiverCare in this area, with Waikato Rivercare's Committee endorsing a management approach fostering greater collaboration with Waikato District Council to raise awareness within the community around green waste dumping. A signage campaign, in association with local schools, has been put in place to enhance public awareness of the issue.

2. Hakarimata A

Hakarimata A is now a well established planting with good canopy cover throughout its length. Work at this site is now largely focused on maintenance weed control.

Both Treescape and Ecoarb contractors spent time working at Hakarimata A, controlling a number of weed species. This planting site has Waikato RiverCare's only known Tutsan (*Hypericumandrosaemum*) infestation which is limited to an area which received erosion protection.

The extension of this planting project in the 2013-14 financial year downstream into the Department of Conservation managed Marginal Strip Reserve is a fantastic opportunity for Waikato RiverCare, and adds an additional 350m of riverbank planting to the project.



Hakarimata A

3. Hakarimata B

Hakarimata B is now a well established planting with good canopy cover throughout its length. Work at this site is now largely focused on weed control of Woolly Nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*) and Japanese Honey Suckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and maintenance. The close proximity of Hakarimata Road and a blind corner at the northern end of this planting has made working at this site challenging.

Future work at Hakarimata B will be maintenance focused with the long-term goal of site management returning to the Waikato District Council.

4. Taupiri A

Planted in 2009 the Taupiri A site has developed well despite being a difficult site. Recent work at the site has focused on weed maintenance and infill planting round the boat ramp. The inability of sedges to prevent weed species from establishing has required further investment in plants that will form a canopy with height while still providing a vista of the river from the car park/boat ramp area.

Weed tree control was completed by Ecoarb in the vicinity of the boat ramp, removing several Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) trees previously drilled and poisoned.

Infill planting is planned for Autumn 2013.

5. Taupiri B

Planting started at Taupiri B in 2011 and continued in 2012 through the partnership between Waikato RiverCare and the Ngaruawahia Police youth diversion scheme. Scheme participants planted around 300 plus plants on organised monthly planting days.

Although narrow, the site is relatively weed-free and elevated, reducing Yellow Flag Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) encroachment on the site. Treescape completed maintenance weed control at the site in preparation for infill planting in autumn 2013.

Taupiri B has been identified as a priority project to promote the work of Waikato RiverCare to the general public as there are excellent views over the project area from State Highway One. The development of project signage for this site is well advanced.



Taupiri B

Once infill planting in autumn 2013 has been completed the priority for Waikato RiverCare at Taupiri B will be maintaining stock exclusion and maintenance weed control.

6. Taupiri Ki Waenganui

Taupiri Ki Waenganui was identified in 2011 with funding earmarked for fencing and site preparation in 2012. However all works at this site are now on hold due to the property being placed on the market. Once the property is sold Waikato RiverCare will discuss fencing and planting opportunities with the new owners.

Waikato RiverCare remains committed to completing a project at Taupiri Ki Waenganui with the new property owners.

7. Taupiri D

First planted in 2011 with infill planting completed in September 2012 by contractors working for WaahiWhaanui Trust; Taupiri D has suffered some significant plant losses during the drought due to the sandy soils found at this location as well as the short period of time between planting and the effects of the drought.

During routine monitoring of this site in November 2012 a significant infestation of Alligator Weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) was found growing within the planting. Control was completed by Waikato RiverCare staff and Waikato Regional Council contractors over several months with good results. However continued monitoring of this site will be required for the next two years to confirm elimination of this pernicious weed threat.

Infill planting is planned at this site in autumn 2013 to replace lost plants during this year's drought.



Taupiri D

Taupiri D has been identified as a good location to place promotional project signage given its close proximity to the RaahuiPookeka site, views from State Highway 1 of the plantings and long boundary adjoining the State Highway.

8. TeOhaaki

Te Ohaaki was first proposed as a project in 2011 but not progressed further. In November 2012 Waikato RiverCare's Operations Manager visited the site, presenting a report to Committee identifying risks and opportunities at this site. The Committee endorsed placing this project on hold until identified issues at the site are addressed.

9. Huntly Golf Course

The 900m long project at the Huntly Golf Course has done well since being planted in 2009. Its location on the Te Araroa trail and easy access from the Huntly Golf Course makes this site one of Waikato RiverCare's priority areas. Weed control completed by Treescape has significantly reduced weed burden at the site this year. Infill planting is planned in autumn 2013, to reduce the spacing between

plants in an effort to combat weed reinvasion and take advantage of site weed control completed by Treescape during the Christmas period.

Effort at the Huntly Golf Course site will be focused on: complementing the Waikato Regional Council's work to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the lower Waikato River; reducing the prevalence of weed species within the planting zone and increasing Waikato RiverCare's profile with walkers on the Te Araroa trail and the Huntly Golf Course users through signage and web site development.

10. Te Kokiri A

Te Kokiri A has failed to develop with only isolated patches of plantings establishing. A period of prolonged flooding impacted on the new plantings combined with continued stock encroachment and Yellow Flag Iris establishment within the planting site. In addition this site is subject to extensive erosion due to its location on a river bend and sandy soils.

Effort at Te Kokiri A will be focused on complementing the Waikato Regional Council's work to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the lower Waikato River, reducing the prevalence of weed species within the planting zone and increasing Waikato RiverCare's profile with neighbouring property owners and Horahoramarae members.



Te Kokiri A and B

11. TeKokiri B

Te Kokiri B continues to develop well with increasing canopy cover and robustness.

Stock has been observed grazing in the plantings on several occasions. Follow-up communication with adjoining landowners has reduced the incidence of grazing occurring; however the long term security of Te Kokiri B requires resourcing.

The riverbank stabilisation undertaken at the site by the Waikato Regional Council has worked extremely well arresting the loss of riverbank, continuation of this work downstream into the TeKokiriA site is encouraged by Waikato RiverCare.

Treescape completed maintenance weed control at Te Kokiri B, noting Yellow Flag Iris as the single significant weed threat.

Effort at this site will be focused on complementing the Waikato Regional Council's work to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the lower Waikato River and reducing the prevalence of weed species within the planting zone.

12. Rangiriri A, B, C

Rangiriri A, B and C collectively form Waikato RiverCare's longest continuous length of riparian planting, with a total length exceeding 3.0km. Topography through this distance varies greatly from flat flood plain through to steep drop offs down to river level of up to 8m high. A site review undertaken in late 2012 identified several areas of concern for Waikato RiverCare; including the road stability of Churchill East Road in the Rangiriri C planting, the extensive Yellow Flag Iris invasion within the plantings and the narrow width of plantings.



Rangiriri A project

In early 2013 Treescape was contracted to undertake spraying at all three sites in the first steps to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the planting sites. Control of several other key weed species was also undertaken in conjunction with Yellow Flag Iris spraying.

Effort at the Rangiriri sites will be focused on complementing the Waikato Regional Council's work to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the lower Waikato River, reducing the prevalence of weed species within the planting zone and building partnership opportunities with NZTA and the Rangiriri community during the construction and realignment of State Highway 1 particularly round the Rangiriri A&B sites.

13. Churchill East Road A (CERA), Churchill East Road B (CERB)

The Churchill East Road A and B sites were first planted in 2009 and 2010 after fencing was completed to exclude stock access to the river.

A site review completed by the operations manager in 2012 identified significant concerns at both the Churchill East Road A and B sites. The recommendation presented to Committee that all works at these two sites be placed on hold until such time as river bank erosion is addressed, was endorsed by Committee members. Waikato RiverCare is actively encouraging and supporting the Waikato Regional Council to complete bank stabilisation works at these sites in August/September 2013. When both the Churchill Road sites are stable Waikato RiverCare is committed to returning to these sites and completing the riparian planting.

14. Meremere

Meremere is one of Waikato RiverCare's first projects and our most northern project actively worked on currently. The project is well established and provides Waikato RiverCare and the public with an excellent example of what's possible when starting off a planting project. With plantings nearing 7-8m in height you experience a sense of visiting a lowland forest and not a planting as you walk the trail.



Meremere

The Meremere site's position on the TeAraroa trail provides Waikato RiverCare with an excellent opportunity to raise our profile with visiting hikers as they walk the trail. In addition to this site the trail passes through five more Waikato RiverCare projects.

Its close proximity to State Highway 1 makes it an ideal site to build Waikato RiverCare's profile with passing motorists through the placement of signage.

The position of the Meremere site on a river back-water and the significant weed infestations upstream has led to both Waikato RiverCare and the Waikato Regional Council spending a significant amount of time and resources controlling Yellow Flag Iris and Alligator Weed at this site. In the future this cost should reduce as upstream control programmes reduce weed seed sources.

This year Treescape completed weed maintenance at Meremere, focusing effort on Yellow Flag Iris and Woolly Nightshade. In the coming year some effort will be required on controlling and preventing the spread of Japanese Walnut (*Juglans ailantifolia*) through the planting site.

Waikato RiverCare will continue to complement the Waikato Regional Council's work to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the lower Waikato River and reducing the prevalence of weed species within the planting zone at the Meremere site.

Upcoming Sites in 2013/2014

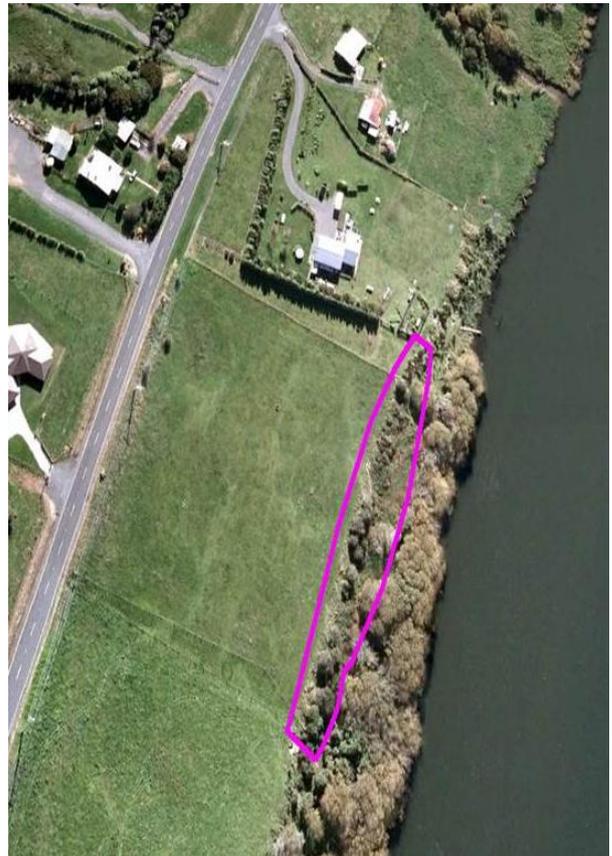
1. Hakarimata A extension and Clearwater licence projects

Both the Hakarimata A extension and Clearwater licence projects are located on Department of Conservation administered reserves next to existing Waikato RiverCare projects. The Hakarimata A extension project adds 318m to the Hakarimata A site and the Clearwater project provides an additional 100m to the Hakarimata B site.

Both sites provide excellent opportunities to build relationships with other land owners and administrators, with the potential to expand into new areas adjoining these sites.



Hakarimata A extension – Google Earth view 



Clearwater licence project – Google Earth view 

2. Hakarimata C and D projects

The Hakarimata C and D projects are located either side of the one-way bridge located on Hakarimata Road.

These projects have progressed well over the last year, with site planting preparation almost complete. Forest Flora have done an excellent job taking on the weeds found at these two sites and their good work can be viewed from Hakarimata Road as you drive Hakarimata Rd. Planting at the sites is expected to start in September 2013, subject to river water levels.



Hakarimata C, in preparation for planting



Hakarimata D, in preparation for planting

3. RaahuiPookeka A

RaahuiPookeka Ais Waikato RiverCare's first Waikato River Authority funded site and is situated within Huntly Township on the true right bank or eastern side of town. The Waikato Regional Council administers this land as part of the Lower Waikato Flood Protection Scheme with key stop bank infrastructure protecting Huntly located at this site.

This site begins at the river bank off the end of Jackson Road, next to the Waikato District Council managed water treatment plant and finishes 1081m south in line with the first house viewed when travelling into Huntly on SH1 from the south.

Fencing and site preparation has already started and is planned to be completed in autumn 2013 following the removal or burning of cleared tree weeds on the site. Site planting is expected to start in August subject to river levels and ground conditions. This restoration project is one of Waikato RiverCare's biggest projects in recent years and is possible due to the excellent support of our sponsors and the Waikato River Authority.



Raahui Pookeka A, in preparation for planting

Completed Sites

Huntly A (Huntly College)

This year Treescape completed weed maintenance at this 600m long site, focusing effort on Yellow flag Iris. Waikato RiverCare will continue to complement the Waikato Regional Councils work to eliminate Yellow Flag Iris from the lower Waikato River by continuing to monitor completed projects and taking steps to address weed threats when they are identified.

TumateMahuta Drive

This site is now a Waikato District Council managed project, with no further Waikato RiverCare involvement.

Horahora A

This is a completed project, with yearly project inspections and a pulse management approach, working with adjoining landowners.

Gedye project

Completed in 2011/12, day to day management of this site is now completed by the property owners. Waikato RiverCare will continue to maintain an interest in the site with property visits every two years.

Tuakau (Batkin Reserve)

This site has now been returned to the Waikato District Council to maintain and oversee day to day works. A site inspection in late 2012 identified Yellow Flag Iris encroachment into the planting which has now been addressed by a Council Reserves contractor.

Future Waikato RiverCare involvement at this site will be limited to site inspections and raising any identified issues with Council staff.

Review, Assessment and Evaluation of the Society's Performance

Compliance with Governing Legislation

The governance of Waikato RiverCare continues to follow the articles set out in the Society's constitution that has an Executive Committee comprising:

- Each Foundation member can appoint one representative to the Executive Committee
- Election of up to three representatives from the General Membership to the Executive Committee.

Waikato RiverCare has twelve foundation members listed for the 2012/13 Financial Year. The Foundation Members of Waikato RiverCare have renewed their commitment to the society for the 2013/14 year and continue to have an active involvement in the executive committee decisions. There has been one resignation for the upcoming year, from Derek Edwards of Naturally Native.

All subscription requirements have been fulfilled.

Compliance with the Society's Objectives

Waikato RiverCare has been compliant with the objects and rules listed in the Constitution:

The Society was established for environmental and charitable objects and purposes within New Zealand only.

- a) **Core Activities** – the enhancement of the natural water and riverside environment of the Lower Waikato River and thereby benefit the users of the river and its environments, local communities, and visitors now and for future generations through:
 - Providing improved plant and animal habitat in and around the Lower Waikato River for general ecological benefit,
 - Promoting public interest and appreciation of the Lower Waikato River and its environments through education and communication with local communities and other river users for the benefit of achieving awareness and support for the need to maintain and enhance the Lower Waikato River environment.
- b) **Funding** – to raise, accept, accumulate and employ funds for the environmental and charitable purposes authorised by these objects.
- c) **General** – to do all such things that are conducive or incidental to the attainment of the environmental and charitable purposes authorised by these objects.

Performance Measures

Waikato RiverCare measures its performance by assessing project success through site evaluations, pest and native plant monitoring, the use of photo points to monitor planting success and the number of sites moving from active management to completed, and thereafter receiving pulse maintenance. Waikato RiverCare is working with a PhD researcher to assess its monitoring systems and to look at improving this aspect of our work. Staff are given Key Performance Indicators to achieve and continual learning is core to the Waikato RiverCare ethos.

Performance in relation to the Strategic Business Plan

The objectives in the Strategic Business Plan are:

- To plant up to two hectares (two kilometres of riverbank 10 metres wide) per year.

Table 3 is a summary of the infill planting undertaken during the 2012-2013 year, whilst Table 4 lists the species of plants used overall.

Table 3: Summary of in-fill planting undertaken by Waikato RiverCare in 2012-2013

Project Site	Length of planting (m)	Number of plants
Taupiri B	690m	700
Taupiri D	580m	1223
Taupiri E	340m	2452
Ngaruawahia Waikato Esplanade	420m	1000
Total	2030m	5375

Table 4: Summary of planting species used for in-fill planting by Waikato RiverCare in 2012-2013

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Laurelia novae zelandiae</i>	Pukatea
<i>Sophoramicrophylla</i>	Kowhai
<i>Podocarpustotara</i>	Totara
<i>Myrsineaustralis</i>	Mapou
<i>Dacrycarpusdacrydioides</i>	Kahikatea
<i>Kunzeaericoides</i>	Kanuka
<i>Melicytusramiflorus</i>	Mahoe
<i>Plagianthusregius</i>	Ribbonwood
<i>Cordylinaustralis</i>	Cabbage tree
<i>Coprosmarobusta</i>	Karamu
<i>Phormiumtenax</i>	Flax

Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2013

Hart & Associates Limited

Director ~ Philip Hart
Associate ~ Jody Grut



Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Incorporated Auditors Report For the Year Ended 31 March 2013

Audit Report

To the members of the Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Incorporated

We have audited the attached Financial Statements. The Financial Statements provide information about the past financial performance of the society and its financial position as at 31 March 2013. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies.

The Committee's Responsibilities

The committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial report which fairly reflects the financial position of the society as at 31 March 2013 and of the results of operations for the year ended on that date.

Auditor's Responsibilities

It is our responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial report presented by the committee and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. It also includes assessing:

- The significant estimates and judgements made by the committee in the preparation of the financial report; and
- Whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the society's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with New Zealand auditing standards. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial report was free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial report.

In our opinion:

- Proper accounting records have been kept by the Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Incorporated, as far as appears from our examination of those records.
- The Financial Statements attached,
 - Comply with generally accepting accounting practice in New Zealand; and
 - Give a true and fair view of the financial position of Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Incorporated as at year end, and the results of its operations for the year ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 29th May 2013 and our opinion is expressed as at that date.

We wish to acknowledge the assistance provided by your staff during the audit. If there is any further information you require, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Auditor: Philip Hart
Chartered Accountant
Huntly

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168 Main Street ~ PO Box 280 ~ Huntly 2191 ~ New Zealand
Website www.hartal.co.nz ~ Email admin@hartal.co.nz

Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc
 Trading Account
 For the Year ended 31st March 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
REVENUE		
Genesis Energy	40,000	40,000
Mighty River Power	29,312	30,246
SMF Funds Advisor	-	-
The Gallagher Group Sponsorship Committee	-	-
Waikato Catchment Ecological E	98,383	41,576
Watercare Services Ltd	10,000	10,000
Waikato River Authority (All Parties)	211,783	-
Enveco Plants	824	1,646
Department of Conservation	-	8,696
Int Affairs COGS - Waikato West	-	1,877
Lion Foundation	-	10,000
Interest Received	2,162	869
Total Sales	392,464	144,910
GROSS SURPLUS FROM TRADING	392,464	144,910
GROSS SURPLUS MARGIN	100%	100%

Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc
Statement of Financial Performance
For the Year ended 31st March 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Gross surplus from Trading	392,464	144,910
Less Expenses		
Accountancy Fees	500	500
Administration /Comm Engagement	4,989	766
Administration Coordinator	8,238	7,290
Bank Charges	126	129
Cashmanager Upgrade	-	264
General Plant Purchases	-	24,330
Insurance	640	625
Signage	280	-
Staff	58,587	103,040
General Maintenance	2,475	
Churchill East	-	1,700
Hakarimata A	1,102	-
Hakarimata B	1,102	-
Hakarimata C	2,812	-
Hakarimata D	2,812	-
Huntly Project 1	-	1,193
Huntly A	1,016	-
Huntly Golf Course	1,016	-
Meremere A	1,016	-
Ngaruawahia A	2,810	-
Rangiriri A	339	-
Rangiriri B	339	-
Rangiriri C	339	-
Rangiriri	-	3,094
Taupiri	-	9,266
Taupiri A	1,102	
Taupiri B	508	
Taupiri D	7,443	
Taupiri E	7,149	
Te Kokiri A	510	
Te Kokiri b	508	
WRA Restoration Strategy	5,434	
Total Expenses	113,192	152,197
NET TAXABLE SURPLUS	279,272	(7,287)
Non-taxable items		
Non-deductible Penalties	-	-
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	279,272	(7,287)

Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc
Statement of Financial Position
For the Period ended 31st March 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
BNZ - Current Account	111,167	26,381
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments		
Term Deposit - Bank of NZ	130,000	0
Interest Receivable Accrual	1,966	0
Total Investments	<u>243,133</u>	<u>26,381</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
GST Due for Refund		2,475
Debtors Accrual (Receivables)	179,212	80,783
Total Current Assets	<u>179,212</u>	<u>83,258</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>422,345</u>	<u>109,639</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
GST Due for Payment	33,719	0
Creditors Accrual (Payables)	9,877	10,161
Total Current Liabilities	<u>43,596</u>	<u>10,161</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>43,596</u>	<u>10,161</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>378,750</u>	<u>99,478</u>
Represented by;		
EQUITY		
Share Capital	-	-
Reserves	-	-
Retained Earnings	378,750	99,478
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>378,750</u>	<u>99,478</u>

Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year ended 31st March 2013

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements presented here are for the entity Lower Waikato Enhancement Society Inc., a registered company under the Companies Act 1993.

Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc. qualifies as an Exempt company under the Financial Reporting Act 1993. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Act 1993 and the Financial Reporting Order 1994. Further, the company has provided additional information in accordance with the framework for Differential Reporting issued by the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Measurement Base

The accounting principles recognized as appropriate for the measurement and reporting of earnings and financial position on accruals basis and are based on historical cost, with the exception of certain items for which specific accounting policies have been identified.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on bases consistent with those used in previous years.

(a) Goods and Services Tax

These Financial statements have been prepared on a GST exclusive basis with the exception of accounts receivable and accounts payable which are shown inclusive of GST.

(b) Taxation

No Provision for Income Tax has been made as there is no current or deferred tax payable.

(c) Investments

Share investments in listed companies are stated at their fair value. Initially they are recorded at cost, and are then valued at market bid prices at the Statement of Financial Position date in subsequent periods. Any gains or losses generated as a result of revaluation is recognized in the statement of Financial Performance.

Other investments are stated at cost less any amortization. Amortisation is recognized in the Statement of Financial Performance.

2. AUDIT

These Financial Statements have been audited



Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society Inc.
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31st March 2013

3. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At balance date there are no known contingent liabilities (2010:\$0). Lower Waikato River Enhancement Society inc. has not granted any securities in respect of liabilities payable by any other party whatsoever.

4. RELATED PARTIES

There were no related party transactions during the year under review.

5. SECURITIES AND GUARANTEES

There was no overdraft as at balance date nor was any facility arranged.

6. TAXATION

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Operating Surplus before taxation	279,272	(7,287)

Permanent Differences

The following non-taxable items have been included in the calculation of Net Surplus before Tax, and result in Permanent Differences, whose effect is included above

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Non-Deductible Expenditure		
Non-deductible Penalties	-	-
Total	-	-



 Ben Wolfe
 Chairperson - LWRES



 Donna Barakat
 Treasurer - LWRES

