



Waipa Catchment Kahikatea Fragment Enhancement



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Enhance and protect existing kahikatea stands

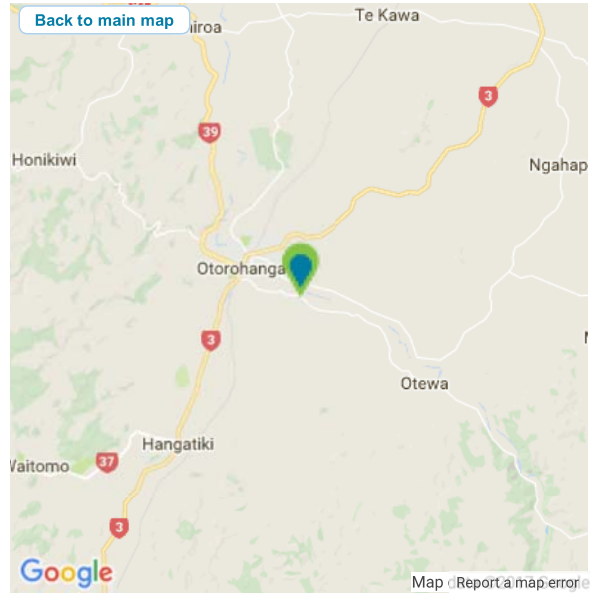
Purpose of this project is to enhance existing kahikatea fragments with the aim to improve 'ecological integrity' (defined as the full potential of indigenous biotic and abiotic features, and natural processes, functioning in sustainable communities, habitats and landscapes').

The goal is to work with four willing landowners, to enhance their existing kahikatea stands by: fencing, weed removal, replanting with missing understorey species, find areas nearby to plant further kahikatea in the future. This will increase connectivity and habitat for birds, and importantly assist kahikatea from dying out in the Waikato region.

Kahikatea forests once dominated the great floodplains of the Waikato and Waipa rivers. They are an ancient survivor from the Jurassic period, yet, now, we have so little left on the lowland plains. Once the remaining stands start to grow old and die, unless we create space for new stands, we could potentially lose kahikatea from our lowlands which would be an ecological tragedy.

This project received funding from the Waikato River Authority (WRA 16-018).

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