

Riparian Plant Selection Tool



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To extend the awareness and use of the 'Planting Wheel' which was created in 2011, by doing an outreach programme with rural professionals.

In 2012, the Waikato River Authority funded a project to develop an easy-to-use field tool for landowners to determine the most appropriate riparian species to plant to address the specific issues present at, and unique to, their watercourse.

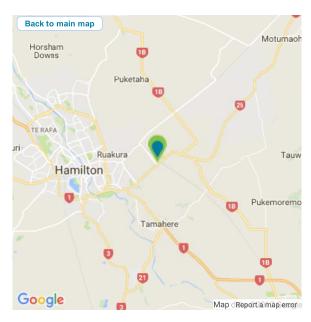
The tool is known as the Riparian Plant Selection Wheel for Waikato Waterways (Planting Wheel). The project took existing practical and scientific information, expertise and experience from physical, chemical, geomorphological, ecological, plant physiology and morphology disciplines and used a multidisciplinary analysis to combine it into a tool for identifying the best planting solution for the unique characteristics of an individual site. The Wheel offers a method for ensuring the success of riparian planting.

Riparian planting offers a valuable means of protecting and restoring the health of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers, essential in meeting the goals of the Waikato River Authority (WRA) 'Vision and Strategy'. This project aims to extend the awareness of the Wheel in an outreach programme with rural professionals.

The first of three workshops will target the Upper Karapiro (Area B in the WRA Vision and Strategy), linking with a WRA and DairyNZ co-funded initiative to implement auditable Environmental Management Plans. Two further workshops will be held at DairyNZ for the Upper and Lower Waikato and Waipa River catchments (Areas A and C respectively). Boffa Miskell and DairyNZ will collaborate to provide the workshops with the objective of assisting farmers/rural professionals in using the Wheel to select appropriate riparian plants for the unique combination of circumstances and issues present along regional watercourses.

This project recieved funding from the Waikato River Authority (WRA 11-013)

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