

## Wetland showcase for farm nutrient attenuation



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This 2-year project integrates (1) the development of seepage and constructed wetland to reduce agricultural contaminant loading to the Ngutuwera Stream (Pokaiwhenua/Upper Waikato Catchment); and (2) extension of practical knowledge on wetland development and practicality to a mixed stakeholder audience of Waikato dairy farmers, lwi and the wider community.

This study aims to provide greater knowledge around wetland design, performance and practicality to Waikato dairy farmers and the community through the development of a practical case study to reduce agricultural nutrient loads from a 267 ha dairy farm to the Ngutuwera Stream. Resources will be developed to take farmers through the journey of wetland planning and construction in a visible and educational way, thereby raising awareness of the significance of wetlands as a potential tool for nutrient attenuation.

Our ultimate goal is for this project to increase the uptake of on-farm wetland management throughout the Waikato Region and nationally. The cumulative effect of wider uptake is the improvement of water quality and health of the Waikato River and its tributaries, a vision collectively shared by the dairy industry, WRA and the

This project represents a partnership between DairyNZ, Baldwin Family Trust, Opus International Consultants (Hamilton) and Hill Laboratories, with further contributions by NIWA and other organisations.

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