



Pūrongo-ā-Tau

Annual Report 2022/2023





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Kupu Whakataki



Chair's Foreword

Kaipara Moana Remediation (KMR) is intended to be a long-term, intergenerational programme. This year's Annual Report demonstrates that KMR is making rapid progress in scaling up its work directly with landowners to protect and restore Kaipara Moana. However, KMR is still working to develop the more integrated programme envisaged under the KMR Memorandum of Understanding.

In time, KMR will rest firmly on two solid foundations. The first is soil conservation – a science-led and holistic approach to protect the precious soils in the catchment and to retain them at their point of origin, so they do not flow into the waterways and pollute the Kaipara Moana. The second is to yield the distinctive and unique contribution of the communities in the catchment, both as landowners as well as tangata whenua, to improve the health and wellbeing of the Kaipara Moana by using their deep knowledge of the area – contributions that cannot be sourced from any other place.

Both foundations are in development now. Both will amplify and support greater restoration efforts by landowners across the catchment, while safeguarding the wise and efficient investment of the available funding. Together, they will create place-based, local solutions to specific local challenges in terms of reducing sediment losses from the whenua into the Moana, and both will recognise that there are places of particular significance in terms of environmental and cultural values.

I therefore encourage landowners, Kaipara Uri, iwi, hapū, marae, whānau and other community members in each of the seven river systems across the entire Kaipara Moana catchment to come together to create a shared path towards protecting the waterways flowing into the Moana. Only by supporting action from the headwaters of each river to the Kaipara Moana itself can KMR succeed in its long-term goal of halving sediment flows into the Moana.

Tame Te Rangi
Chair

Ngā Aronga a te Pou Tātaki



Pou Tātaki Foreword

This report describes Kaipara Moana Remediation's progress and achievements to 30 June 2023, a year of major transformation as KMR evolved from a 'start-up' into programme maturity.

As we cycled through our first full year of operational delivery, KMR made some significant shifts: ramping up our communications and outreach into communities across the Kaipara Moana catchment, moving to a digital-first approach to develop sediment reduction plans, and consolidating and streamlining core business processes.

However, the year was dominated by ongoing adverse weather, including the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle. The storms and rains affected many of our communities, as well as KMR staff, governors and programme partners, disrupting KMR activities and significantly affecting landowner ability to engage with us and take action through the programme.

Given these ongoing challenges, I am even more proud of the KMR team's achievements over a relatively short time. By 30 June 2023, 18 months into programme delivery, KMR had contracted over \$10.3 million in project value, creating over 190,000 hours of new employment in rural communities, and supporting 49 local businesses and nurseries.

In our latest annual results, KMR exceeded targets for retiring and planting eroding streambanks and hillsides, working with over a third of the landowners in the catchment.

At the time of writing, KMR has just achieved the milestone of one million native trees planted or contracted to plant over winter.

We have also invested significantly in capability by training and mentoring 56 people, including many from local iwi/hapū. Good progress has been made towards developing future career pathways for them, enabled by KMR's new digital technologies.

While KMR's focus is unrelentingly on reducing sediment, taking action to protect and restore the Kaipara Moana brings wider benefits. Restoring wetlands, planting trees and regenerating vegetation on erodible land all increase carbon storage and create space for valued species to thrive. With KMR now investing in projects *ki uta ki tai* – on an integrated whole-of-catchment basis – there is a growing opportunity for nature-based solutions to strengthen the resilience of our landscapes and farm systems in the future. Come and join us.

Justine Daw
Pou Tātaki





Ko ā mātou Mahi

Our Work

The Kaipara Moana is the largest natural harbour in the Southern Hemisphere, and a place of global environmental significance.

As Aotearoa's largest harbour system, the Kaipara Moana includes 6,000 km² of catchment spanning Auckland and Northland regions, with 8,110 km of waterways flowing into the harbour. The Moana has deep environmental and cultural value, with many taonga species and some the rarest ecosystems in New Zealand, including sand-dune, seagrass, freshwater and estuarine wetland ecosystems. As the breeding ground for New Zealand's snapper fishery, the Kaipara Moana also has major economic and recreational value.

However, high sediment levels have put this at risk. Decades of deforestation and land-use intensification have degraded the catchment. Today, less than 10% of original native forest and 5% of wetlands remain, leading to a seven-fold increase in average annual soil erosion and associated sediment washing into the Moana (~700,000 tonnes). Over 800 km² of the catchment is considered highly erodible land.

Sediment is *the* critical contaminant in the catchment: it can carry harmful nutrients, pathogens affecting human health, and heavy metals.

In high concentrations, such contaminants can make people and animals unwell and water quality unsuitable for swimming, drinking or mahinga kai (food gathering).

The significant impacts of sedimentation on the Moana are well-documented, with studies showing that species and habitats are smothered, leading to ecological losses.

On 9 October 2020, the Ministry for the Environment, Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Te Uri o Hau, Northland Regional Council and Auckland Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to jointly establish Kaipara Moana Remediation, a decade-long programme to protect and restore the mauri of the Kaipara Moana.

KMR is a \$200m programme, comprising \$100m from the Crown through a Deed of Funding, matched by \$10m each from Northland Regional Council and Auckland Council, as set out in each region's Long Term Plan (LTP). A further \$80m of remediation activity is budgeted to be sourced in various ways from landowners, industry associations, community and philanthropic organisations. Such an approach recognises that widespread action across the catchment is needed to restore the Kaipara Moana, while reflecting that for every dollar of Crown funding, a matched contribution is required.

Rautaki Tūmahi Tau Tuatoru The Year in Review

This Annual Report looks back at the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and reports on KMR's ongoing evolution and achievements.

Eighteen months into full operational activity, KMR's efforts to revitalise the mauri of the Kaipara Moana have scaled up rapidly, with the programme maturing into a phase of consolidated delivery.





Maurikura Matomato Thriving Maurikura

The Kaipara Maurikura is the operational unit that leads the delivery of the KMR programme. This year saw the appointment of a monitoring and evaluation specialist, bringing the KMR team to 11.75 full-time equivalent staff (FTE).

As the KMR programme has matured, the leadership focus has shifted from team building and alignment, to role clarity for staff and project planning. A further focus has been to streamline and document core systems and processes, and review and sign-off pathways. This is particularly important as KMR scales up programme delivery via the training and deployment of external contractors.

In terms of systems development, a major focus this year has been the pilot and roll out of Mātai Onekura, KMR's Whenua Planning Tool, to aid the development and oversight of KMR Sediment Reduction Plans. Both Kaipara Maurikura staff and external delivery partners have been trained and mentored on the Whenua Planning Tool, with ongoing support from the Maurikura for Field Advisors and Kaitiaki Field Advisors (see the *Digital Tools* section).

Kaipara Maurikura staff also benefited from other training and development opportunities through the year. All staff were able to access Northland Regional Council's Te Whāriki programme and undertook training on the Treaty of Waitangi.

Two contracted staff began work to accredit as Registered Forestry Advisors to ensure that KMR can continue to provide advice on afforestation projects.

KMR work is largely dictated by seasonal cycles. As the programme moved into its second annual cycle of operations, we reviewed and improved key elements of our operations. This involved seeking feedback from both landowners and partners, and led to a raft of minor improvements, increased technical training and support, and a refreshed calendar of engagement and activity.

A cohesive team, the Kaipara Maurikura demonstrated resilience, and offered awahi (support) to each other and many partners and landowners in what was a challenging year. KMR delivery was delayed at several critical points by adverse weather, including significant events such as the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, as well as COVID-19 outbreaks which limited our ability to engage with communities and programme partners.

Mana Kawenga, Mana Tātaki me te Hanga Mahere

Governance, Management & Planning

The KMR Joint Committee continued to provide governance direction and decision-making to the KMR programme, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding. In line with local government settings, all hui agendas and minutes were made available publicly on the KMR website, with meetings recorded and published online.

In-person Joint Committee hui resumed on marae in 2023 to facilitate engagement with haukāinga and local communities, and better share information about KMR, its aims and grant funding opportunities.

The October 2022 Local Government elections brought with them a change in appointed members to the Joint Committee from both Councils. Acknowledging other evolution in membership of the Joint Committee, an induction to KMR was held in December 2022 for all Joint Committee members. This offered a chance to reflect on the establishment phase of KMR (the period from the Deed of Funding coming into effect in February 2021 to February 2022, when the full complement of Kaipara Maurikura staff came on board) and subsequent progress in operationalising the

KMR programme. As part of this induction, the Joint Committee undertook a field trip to visit KMR projects on the whenua and meet with landowners taking action with KMR's support.

Throughout the year, KMR continued to engage regularly with the primary investor, the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), on programme progress. The Minister for the Environment and senior officials from the Ministry joined the Joint Committee induction field trip to see first-hand the impact of the Jobs for Nature investment and KMR programme delivery. KMR also continued to engage directly with senior leaders of partner entities to provide regular updates on KMR progress, share information about programme direction and signal forthcoming opportunities.

During the year, MfE and KMR undertook a joint review (validation) of KMR performance against the Annual Work Plan. This verified KMR programme performance delivery and reporting against key performance indicators. KMR also received a clean audit report as part of the regular annual audit process.

As KMR is a voluntary programme, individual landowner willingness to engage and contribute time and resources is critical to the delivery of sediment reduction projects. A landowner's location, whether they wish to do the project work themselves or outsource it, and the timing of project work on the land directly affects supplier, contractor and nursery demand and supply requirements, as well as how KMR manages workflows relating to the administration of grants and associated contracts. In response,

KMR's project planning and programme management processes were refined and improved during the year to better reflect the realities of a seasonal programme that is highly dependent on weather conditions. KMR's digital tools underpinned these improvements in programme oversight and monitoring.

The Joint Committee represents the KMR MOU signatories:

- **Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara** (2 members)
- **Te Uri o Hau** (2 members)
- **Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua** (2 members)
- **Northland Regional Council** (3 members)
- **Auckland Council** (3 members)

The Joint Committee appoints a chair from the Kaipara Uri members (Tame Te Rangi) and a deputy chair from the council members (Penny Smart followed by Amy Macdonald in Year 3).

Members across the 2022/2023 year also included Cherie Povey, Daniel Newman, Danielle Hancock, Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Greg Sayers, Jack Craw, Jane Sherard, Joce Yeoman, John Blackwell, Kerrin Leoni, Malcolm Welsh, Michelle Carmichael, Taiāwhio Wati and Virginia Warriner.

In Year 3, the Joint Committee held five formal meetings and five workshops in the period to 30 June 2023.



Tukunga Kaupapa Programme Delivery

Accelerating sediment reduction

To support the scale of KMR's work across 6,000 km² and two diverse regions, a growing number of partnerships underpin KMR's programme delivery. KMR's ongoing strategic partnerships with Fonterra, The Forest Bridge Trust and Environs Te Uri o Hau (on behalf of Kaipara Uri) have been key to ensuring effective outreach to the diverse and often remote communities whom KMR supports. Our partners draw on their existing relationships, networks and forums to engage landowners, communities and iwi/hapū groups to develop sediment reduction plans and work with them to oversee delivery of the associated projects.

In December 2022, KMR put out a call for flagship project sites across the Kaipara Moana catchment from landowners keen to lead larger-scale or innovative sediment reduction projects. An important element of these 'Navigator projects' is that project leaders will share their experiences and learnings with others in their community, iwi/hapū or sector. KMR received 24 proposals, with 13 Navigator projects now at various stages of delivery, and two further Navigator projects in development at the time of writing.

Our 'Winter Planting' campaign in 2023 was central to significantly boost sediment reduction projects to protect waterways. With a focus on engaging primary sector landowners across the catchment, KMR implemented a more streamlined process to support winter planting, as well as planting targets to better support our accredited nurseries. In winter 2023, KMR also shifted to support native planting on steep, erodible hill country where sediment loss to waterways was able to be directly demonstrated.

Our partnership with Fonterra continues to go from strength to strength. Since its inception, the KMR / Fonterra Partnership has delivered 284 Tiaki (Farm Environment) Plans and associated projects (136 in 2022/23) and committed landowners to 176 kilometres of new and additional fencing (79 km in 2022/23) and more than 68,000 native plants near waterways (41,000 in 2022/23).

New delivery partners joined the KMR team this year, including an on-farm extension pilot with Kaipara Agri Solutions and Kaipara Farm Vets operating across Dargaville, Ruawai, Te Kōpuru and nearby areas in the Kaipara District. This collaboration draws on the trusted relationships between vets and landowners, and the technical expertise of Kaipara Agri Solutions to support drystock farmers to retire and plant up waterways and erosion-prone hillsides.

Supporting our landowners

Throughout the year, ongoing adverse weather – particularly high levels of rainfall and resulting boggy and slippery on-farm conditions and localised flooding – delayed many of our landowners in undertaking projects. These delays were compounded by the impacts of extreme weather events such as the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, which led to major landslides, slips, roading and access-way washouts and damage to fencing and planting.

In line with our values, KMR offered support through the New Zealand Rural Support Trust to landowners affected by localised weather events. With support from the Ministry for the Environment, we rapidly designed and rolled out a KMR Cyclone Recovery Fund to support the restoration and/or relocation of affected projects. KMR also supported landowners who needed to defer project works to the following season, offering a streamlined contract variation process.

This year saw the evolution of KMR's Whenua Whānui Fund (WWF) which supports collectives such as iwi/hapū, marae, kaitiaki, community and landcare groups, trusts and reserve boards to participate in sediment reduction projects. Following feedback from groups across the catchment, WWF grants now support up to 70% of estimated project costs, including an initial upfront payment which can be made once a Sediment Reduction Plan and contract are in place to enable the project to start.

Growing people

As a Jobs for Nature investment, KMR has a dual focus on both supporting people into jobs and providing upskilling. By 30 June 2023, 18 months into operational delivery, 28 local businesses and 21 nurseries were accredited as KMR suppliers, resulting in over 190,000 hours of employment in local communities and tangible economic benefits in rural and often remote areas of the catchment. At that date, a further 65,000 hours of work was committed under contract, bringing the total new work generated or contracted by the programme to 255,000 hours by 30 June 2023.

In 2023, KMR trained a further 18 local Field Advisors to work with landowners and develop sediment reduction plans, bringing the total number of Field Advisors to 56, including people from local iwi/hapū, women and career changers, and young people.

KMR's contracted Field Advisors are actively mentored and supported through a Community of Practice, with significant investment in training and development, including on KMR's new digital tools. With our younger Field Advisors naturally geared to navigate digital ways of working, we anticipate that KMR's digital tools can act as an important gateway to developing greater technical skills and employment pathways for interested rangatahi.

In November 2022, KMR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the New Zealand Association of Resource Management (NZARM) to strengthen training and employment outcomes in the Kaipara Moana catchment. Through this collaboration, KMR piloted the development and roll-out of two national training courses to support our Field Advisors to obtain qualifications as Freshwater Farm Planners in future. Both courses integrated Te Ao Māori and Western science approaches to demonstrate complementary ways of understanding erosion risk in the landscape and potential pathways for mitigation.

KMR's commitment to workforce development is shared with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), with whom KMR signed a Memorandum of Understanding in December 2021. Through this partnership, KMR and MSD have jointly funded a Kaitiaki Employment Advisor based within the Kaipara Uri, to engage with rangatahi and facilitate entry into nature-facing employment.



Ngā Mahi Rauora, Ngā Whiwhinga

Year 3 results at a glance

In Year 3,
KMR worked with

368

landowners across the
catchment to deliver:

\$5.4 m

worth of sediment
reduction project support

347km

of fencing completed or contracted

242

Sediment
Reduction Plans and

49

second-year
project plans

Over
160 ha

of land planted or
contracted to plant

Over
74,000

hours of new work

Over

48,000 ha

of land covered by Sediment Reduction Plans

Over

800,000

plants in the ground or contracted to plant

KMR has delivered these results in the programme to date (30 June 2023):



Over

530

landowners taking action or scoping projects through KMR



Over

440

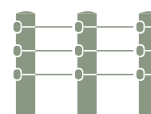
Sediment Reduction Plans contracted with landowners



Nearly

100,000

hectares of land managed under Sediment Reduction Plan



Over

480 km

of fencing completed or contracted



Over

950,000

native plants in the ground or contracted to plant

*Full KPI results can be found on page 34.

Pārongo me ngā Hononga

Communications & Engagement

To deliver on our objectives, KMR must first reach agreement with landowners, or a group that has the landowner's permission, in order to support sediment reduction activity on their land. Landowner engagement and participation is therefore critical to the success of KMR. As a voluntary programme, KMR has worked hard to build awareness of the funding support available to landowners in a variety of ways.

Sharing our stories

This year, KMR continued to develop and share a range of KMR stories which profiled the aspirations and journeys of landowners, staff, suppliers and nurseries. These personal stories highlight the diversity of projects KMR can support, and are intended to inspire others to take action by showcasing the passion and commitment of those already involved. Throughout the year, KMR stories featured on various media platforms, including Newshub, Stuff and national newspapers, as well as via television coverage. Locally, KMR focused on having local people tell local stories, particularly in newspapers and newsletters that are widely read in rural areas.

Traditional media campaigns were also run to raise awareness of winter planting and a social media presence was established to create more inclusive avenues for communication, particularly among younger members of the community. Growth on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn is continuing to rise, creating a network of people nationally and globally who are following our mahi with interest.

Six digital pānui (updates) were produced during the year, and sent to our growing stakeholder database, covering a variety of stories from on-the-ground projects by famers, local champions, iwi/hapū and schools, to funding opportunities and technical updates on KMR's evolving policy settings.

Outreach and engagement

KMR is founded on the notion of landowners taking action across the catchment to protect and restore the mauri of the Kaipara Moana. Mana whenua participation is central to KMR's outcomes and recognises the unique perspectives and kaitiakitanga contributions that iwi/hapū can offer to reduce sediment flows into the Moana, both as landowners as well as tangata whenua.

Led by our Mana Whenua Relations leader and Community and Hapū Engagement Advisor, KMR has engaged with 53 Kaipara Uri, governance entities, iwi, hapū, marae, whānau and mana whenua groups across the catchment. Much of this engagement has focused on the various freshwater projects that are in train or development, supported by KMR's Whenua Whānui Fund scheme.

To date, the KMR team has worked with 35 groups to understand their aspirations for the whenua, awa and the moana. Together, proposed projects were scoped in order to develop sediment reduction plans and unlock KMR funding. The projects are diverse, and include collaborative projects on public land, private land, whenua Māori land and other land with multiple ownership. Such projects are important to empower mana whenua to achieve their vision.

KMR continues to progress a sub-catchment model to enable engagement and participation of mana whenua, working closely with local landowners to assist in community-led mitigation of sedimentation to their awa and ultimately reducing sediment flow to the Kaipara Moana.

Through programme accreditation for both nurseries and suppliers, and through our investments in workforce as part of the Cyclone Recovery Fund, KMR has also supported significant mana whenua employment.

This year saw a focus on engaging with primary sector-facing organisations and groups in the catchment as KMR scaled up from waterways to include eroding hill country. KMR worked with a number of sectoral agencies to share information through their networks and communications channels, including in-person events. As part of the Collaboration Tai Tokerau project, KMR was featured on a podcast which highlighted the opportunities for landowners to increase sustainability on farm. Our Field Advisors also played a key role in engaging landowners – 'over the fence' word of mouth has always been an important communication channel in rural communities.

Supporting our networks

During the year, KMR hosted two public Partnership Forums, with a third cancelled by adverse weather. The first updated participants on the completed Te Paiaka (native root strength) project, opportunities for KMR to support kaitiakitanga, and the Kaipara Pest Free project. The second forum showcased opportunities for landowners to generate revenue by working with KMR partners such as Tāmata Hauhā and Toha. A case study from Wai Kōkopu (Bay of Plenty) was shared of a landowner retiring and planting eroding hillsides to reduce input costs and increase on-farm profitability. Farming with Native Biodiversity also presented on their free e-learning resources for landowners and kaitiaki. In the last year, 83 agencies participated in a KMR Partnership Forum.

KMR staff participated in various webinars and forums, including with NorthTec and the University of Auckland, to highlight the opportunities available through nature-based employment. Staff attended a number of Field Days, A&P shows, and networking events hosted by programme partners and sector groups.

Throughout the year, KMR continued to share best practice with other groups and programmes, in line with our role as a system leader and innovator. We presented at various national conferences and regional forums, shared knowledge at local events, and engaged with two early-stage harbour restoration projects.



Ngā Huarahi Whiwhinga Opportunities

Various strategic and commercial opportunities were progressed over the year, including the strategic partnerships discussed earlier in this report. Examples this year include KMR's ongoing partnership with Trees That Count to secure 24,983 trees donated to the programme, with 25,000 planned for planting in winter 2024, and development of a further commercial arrangement to supply free trees to landowners.

KMR continues to partner with local providers to offer supplier discounts for KMR projects, with a focus on supporting New Zealand companies and products and removing plastics from use near waterways. This year, through a partnership with EmGuards, KMR was able to support schools and other groups in the community by supplying free plant guards, to reduce the threat of browsing pests to waterway planting projects. The plant guards provided a vehicle to grow community and tamariki awareness of KMR and highlight the support available to community groups through the programme.

We continued a pilot project with QEII National Trust to lock in the biodiversity gains from KMR projects that were near to remnant forests with conservation values, as well as support The Nature Conservancy and Auckland Council to progress potential future opportunities from 'blue carbon' sequestration in saltmarsh areas.

KMR supported the *Coastal People Southern Skies* National Centre of Research Excellence to scope research focused on the Kaipara Moana, and develop Ngā Puanga Pūtaiao Fellowships for early- and mid-career Māori and Pacific researchers, some of whom are expected to focus their research in the catchment.

We also collaborated with local company Phathom which donated a next-generation continuous water monitoring device to measure real-time turbidity and total suspended solids as a way of better understanding sedimentation in one of the major river systems flowing into the Kaipara Moana.

Through a partnership with the Ministry for the Environment, the Ākina Foundation and Beca, we completed a project to review medium-term impact investment opportunities. As an example, revenue from carbon and biodiversity markets can reduce costs for landowners wanting to take action through KMR and help our investments 'go further' in support of new (and additional) sediment reduction projects. As third-party contributions are part of the \$80 million in matched funding contributions required under the KMR Deed of Funding, this revenue could help reduce barriers to landowners taking action.

KMR will return to exploring opportunities once work has been completed in the soil conservation, freshwater farm plan and digital tools areas (see the *Looking Ahead* section). In the immediate future, we will prioritise new partnerships that deepen community action in the catchment.

As an example, this year, we progressed early-stage discussions with Mountains to Sea to understand the mutual opportunity to establish and support new catchment groups in the Kaipara Moana catchment through the new *Wai Connection* programme.

Mana Tātaki Tūraru Risk Management

Through standard risk register and project management processes, risks to KMR delivery are actively reviewed and mitigated. These include risks that co-funding obligations are a barrier to landowner participation, risks relating to managing expectations that KMR can invest in, or support needs, beyond sediment reduction, and the risk that programme modelling assumptions are inaccurate – for example, planting activity is less than anticipated at this stage of the programme as landowners focus on regulatory compliance (fencing).

Other significant risks that are more difficult to mitigate include economic headwinds which affect landowner participation, significant weather events that impede landowners from participating in the programme and delay or damage remediation works, and ongoing labour force impacts on project timeframes, all of which can affect the timing and cost of projects.



Ō tātou Tāngata

People of KMR

This mahi is bigger than just the team delivering it and in the last year we have worked hard to capture the stories of the ‘people of KMR’. Everyone we connect with has a story about the Kaipara, whether they be kaitiaki, landowners or tamariki. With every individual, there is a connection to the Moana, be it through whakapapa, going back generations, or a more recent connection with those inspired to live near and on the Kaipara Moana.

Our work is focused on restoring the mauri of the Kaipara Moana and that includes acknowledging the connections people have with the Moana. We also acknowledge the incredible work that began many years before this project, and which continues, as people strengthen their ties to the Kaipara Moana and the whenua.

Schools in Action

Working with Enviroschools, Whitebait Connection and local hapū, KMR continues to support a growing number of Auckland and Northland schools to play a part in protecting the Kaipara Moana by planting native trees.



As part of community-led work to restore the Puapua wetland on the Tinopai Peninsula, keen locals and tamariki helped plant locally-sourced wetland and riparian species. Tamariki from Tinopai School decorated KMR plant guards to protect the trees and shrubs from browsing pests such as rabbits and pūkeko, and help ensure the trees thrive for years to come. Recent planting days also involved students from Paparoa and Maungatūroto Primary Schools, planting hundreds of native trees and grasses on the banks of Paparoa Stream.



More recently, Parakai School and Parakai Kindergarten children worked together to plant hundreds of native grasses and trees on the banks of a nearby waterway in the West Auckland township. According to Auckland Regional Coordinator for the Whitebait Connection, Briar Broad, “hands-on experience in nature is the key to inspiring and engaging our tamariki to become kaitiaki of the environment they live in”.



Community Action

Over the past year, KMR supported a number of community planting events, through our Whenua Whānui Fund or directly working with local councils, iwi/hapū, schools, partners and commercial suppliers. One such event was a community planting day on the Kaiwaka riverbanks. The river is a taonga for Te Uri o Hau, and was once full of eels and baby mullet, with nearby trees full of kingfishers and other birds who fed on the local insect life.

Planting the river margins will help protect and restore the river for future generations, and also reduce the impacts of future floods and storms by slowing the water flow, and holding the soil on the riverbanks, preventing it from washing into the river.

The community came together to plant around 1,100 plants on Mother's Day, with families planting trees in honour of their mothers, and the locally designed and manufactured cardboard plant guards providing a 'canvas' for children's drawings and messages.





Cyclone Recovery

Auckland's Kaipara Flats and Kaipara Hills areas were significantly affected by the extreme weather events of early 2023.

Among those facing severe damage to their property were Geoff and Hayley Clayton, who have worked with KMR and our programme partner, The Forest Bridge Trust, since they began farming their 135 ha farm. The Claytons are passionate about restoring their land's ecological values and improving the on-farm waterways which flow into the Lower Hōteu River. Through an ecological restoration plan, the Claytons are taking action to exclude stock from the rivers and streams, retire some of the farm's steepest land, and undertake restoration planting to reduce sediment losses into the Kaipara Moana.

When Cyclone Gabrielle damaged large parts of the farm including KMR project areas, KMR stepped in to help through our Flood and Cyclone Recovery Fund. The Fund supported affected landowners to replace or relocate damaged planting and fencing. Given the severity of the damage, KMR supported the Claytons to fence off areas of pasture beyond what was originally planned to ensure sensible management units for farming and reduce risk from future adverse weather events. With the support of a third-party commercial co-investor, KMR also supplied 2,000 free mānuka to plant over the worst affected slip faces and help stabilise the land.

Hayley Clayton spoke on behalf of the family when she said, "KMR has been fundamental in helping us to work towards achieving our goal of nurturing our land back into an ecologically diverse farm. Post-Cyclone Gabrielle, which was an incredibly stressful and devastating event, KMR were there to not only reinstate fencing that we'd lost but provide support and funding for how we could address and remedy the massive number of land slips we'd suffered. We are incredibly grateful for our partnership with KMR and The Forest Bridge Trust".

Whānau Leadership

The Connelly whānau has a family-owned land block in Ōruawharo Peninsula that has been used for farming and as a source of kai for three generations. The neighbouring land is the start of the Kōareare Creek, which runs through the Connelly whenua, where it connects with the Ōruawharo River. Liz Connelly, who is a Rongoā practitioner, is focused on using permaculture with a whole farm outlook. The whānau is at its early stages of creating a market garden, providing kai for the local marae, while also growing a flourishing block of taonga rongoā species.

Being part of the local community, kura and marae means there is a steady stream of helping hands to work across the whenua and help achieve the shared vision. KMR is supporting restoration work around the creek through plant species advice and some workforce support. In 2023, just over 6,000 trees went into the ground, with the next step being to talk with neighbours about a plan for restoring the entire length of the creek.



NZARM and KMR pilot national training courses

Living our values as a Jobs for Nature programme, KMR hosted a two-day wānanga at Te Ātiu Creek. Around 25 KMR Field Advisors and a number of partners came together for practical training on wetlands and soil erosion risk management, interwoven with mātauranga Māori approaches.

The training was developed through KMR's partnership with the New Zealand Association of Resource Management (NZARM) which is leading the development of a programme to build national capability and capacity across the Freshwater Farm Plan system.

CEO of NZARM, Matt Highway, said it was a great event to be a part of and to see the partnership start to deliver on-the-ground results. "Everyone was positive, excited to learn, and it's great to see people beginning to understand the real work that goes into land management. We look forward to scaling such events across the country."

The pilot courses are being reviewed and further developed for wider application and roll-out around the country. Those participating in the training will be invited to join the national register of freshwater farm planners, being developed by NZARM to support access to personalised learning and training support.







Navigators charting the way

KMR 'Navigator projects' are flagship projects that aim to demonstrate and champion best practice in reducing sediment losses from the land, and share learnings with others in their community, iwi/hapū or sector.

Navigators Penny Smart and Hal Harding run a 480-hectare dairy farm on a mix of rolling Te Kōpuru sand hills and Kaipara flats, in the Northern Wairoa sub-catchment of the Kaipara Moana catchment.

Over the years, on the property's steeper areas and wetlands, Penny and Hal have worked to exclude stock and undertake planting. Their KMR Navigator project will significantly extend protection and restoration of the wetlands across the property, also supporting rare

and hard-to-spot matuku hūrepo (bittern) as well as a native orchid. In winter 2023 alone, Penny and Hal planted 47,000 native flax, shrubs and trees to protect and restore their wetlands.

Another Navigator, the Tangowāhine Catchment Group, has a very different focus, providing coordination and advisory services in the Tangowāhine sub-catchment. The group aims to bring the community together behind a common purpose of everyone playing their part in reducing erosion into the Kaipara Moana. This Navigator project is in its early stages and aims to work with individual landowners, primary sector agencies and levy bodies, the Department of Conservation and forestry companies, all of whom are active in the sub-catchment.

Manukapua Restoration

The Ōkahukura Conservation Area sits at the end of the Tāporapora Peninsula, acting as the gateway to Manukapua, also known as Big Sand Island. Situated on the western side of the peninsula, Manukapua stretches out into the entrance of the Kaipara Moana. Both Manukapua and the Ōkahukura Reserve hold great spiritual, historical and cultural significance to Ngāti Whātua.

In 2013, a significant scrub fire seriously damaged vegetation in the area. This year, KMR supported a second year of restoration activity, working with the Tapora Land and Coast Care Group and programme partner Trees That Count. In 2023, the project focused on weed removal to enable planting of over 23,000 plants, including 11,500 specialty sand kānuka which were locally sourced and grown and specifically chosen because they can flourish at sea level. The remaining 11,500 are a mix of harakeke and tī kōuka.

The Tapora Land and Coast Care Group has hosted a number of community planting days this year and is working with KMR to scope future projects to restore the wetlands at the end of the peninsula, with the goal of bringing back taonga species and restoring the mana of the whenua.



Ngā Arotahi Anamata

Looking Ahead

During the year, significant effort went into developing the policy settings to expand KMR's focus from sediment reduction projects near waterways to include larger-scale projects across the landscape, and particularly on erosion-prone hillsides.

Taking a whole-of-landscape approach to reducing sediment is key to scaling up KMR as planned. A Soil Conservation Reference Group was established, bringing together subject matter experts, iwi/hapū, landowners and industry representatives.

Soil conservation investments

As a result of KMR's soil conservation policy work, KMR is now able to invest in a wider range of projects for landowners and groups taking action to reduce sediment, as follows:

- Co-fund through **on-demand applications** (due any time, but planting Expressions of Interest (EOIs) preferably by **13 November 2023**):
 - Fencing to protect waterways
 - Native planting near waterways and/or on erosion-prone hillsides
 - Assisted native forest regeneration on erosion-prone hillsides
- Co-fund through a **deadline call** (EOIs due by **13 November 2023**):
 - Planting of (non-weedy, non-pine) exotic species (e.g., to support continuous cover forestry) on erosion-prone hillsides
- Co-fund through a **deadline call** (EOIs due by **31 March 2024**):
 - Space planting of poplars while maintaining some grazing on erodible hillsides

Steep land with bare earth or signs of active movement and erosion will be prioritised for treatment, in particular if this land drains directly into a waterway or the Kaipara Moana itself. This can include land affected by recent flooding, storms and Cyclone Gabrielle.

On flatter land, the minimum KMR project size for planting is 0.25 ha, and in the hill country, we are generally seeking projects involving more than 1 ha of highly erodible land.

Kōrero Tuku Iho

The Kōrero Tuku Iho (mātauranga Māori) project seeks to gather stories, memories, histories, values, and a deeper understanding of the whenua, awa and moana. Kōrero Tuku Iho is expected to also bring to the surface aspirations for retirement of land, seed bank opportunities, targeted planting of taonga species (in the right place), growing species for food and medicinal purposes, along with alternative land uses that protect the waterways while also generating new revenue.

During the year, a reference group of Kaipara Uri members, pūkenga (specialists) and others with expertise in cultural understanding and practice was convened and a project methodology agreed to develop Kōrero Tuku Iho, including the development of whakatauirā (case studies). As one of the two foundational strategies that underpin KMR, Kōrero Tuku Iho will ultimately inform KMR's sediment reduction plans (SRPs) and support KMR investments to reduce erosion risks to the Moana.

Freshwater Farm Planning

Sediment is a key contaminant of freshwater, coastal and marine environments in the Kaipara Moana catchment and harbour and will be a critical part of the Kaipara catchment context under freshwater farm plan regulations.

The sediment reduction planning and actions farmers are undertaking through KMR are already well aligned to these regulations, which require farms to prepare Freshwater Farm Plans once the regulations are 'turned on' in their Freshwater Management Unit.

KMR currently offers free planning support and on-farm advice and faces a strategic decision about when and how to best align with this regulatory requirement to encourage uptake of on-farm action to reduce sediment losses into the Kaipara Moana.

Leveraging KMR's digital tools

Currently, KMR operates on a 'first in, first out' and 'on demand' model of investment, working with willing landowners and groups within a voluntary programme. There is no explicit competition for funding through set funding rounds, with all projects meeting KMR criteria approved for funding. This is an appropriate setting for now, given that the KMR programme is still relatively young, and the focus is on building broad engagement, providing support and rapidly scaling up the programme. Other similar large-scale programmes, like the Waikato River Authority, also started this way.

However, once KMR's full set of digital tools is available, and Kōrero Tuku Iho has surfaced iwi and hapū values and aspirations for the programme, KMR will likely require a more mature investment strategy that supports locally-driven projects that meet KMR criteria and also targets projects in high-risk areas. An outcomes-led, spatially-targeted investment approach will ensure KMR investment delivers timely and cost-effective sediment reduction, consistent with wider values embedded in the programme's founding MOU.



Te Hangarau

Digital Tools

As KMR continues to scale up across the catchment, innovation to enhance efficiency and maintain accuracy will become an important focus.

KMR's Digital Tools programme has progressed as planned across five inter-dependent areas of development: improved identification and mapping of highly erodible land; improved identification and mapping of wetlands; grants management; farm planning; and freshwater accounting.

When finalised, two new KMR digital tools – the Mātai Onekura whenua planning tool and Tātaki Wai freshwater management tool – will deliver a range of benefits. They will help landowners and communities, alongside KMR Field Advisors and Kaitiaki, to understand their local context and identify and prioritise sediment reduction projects. This will enable KMR to target our engagement and investment.

The digital tools will also assist KMR to both capture and generate insights at a catchment and sub-catchment scale, and to model the impact that investment is achieving.

▼ Indicative sediment risk layers identified using Mātai Onekura





Mātai Onekura Whenua Planning Tool

Mātai Onekura is a tool that enables digital sediment reduction planning. KMR worked with MadeCurious to map out the information needs of the programme and clarify the requirements for new business processes. Through this discovery, prototyping and testing, the tool took shape.

KMR staff and Field Advisors now use Mātai Onekura to manage the sediment reduction plan process from end-to-end. A major outcome has been to reduce the manual work of both KMR staff and Field Advisors by enabling them to easily capture the proposed sediment reduction project activities spatially, and support efficient project management and monitoring of works.

The rich spatial tooling, which includes LiDAR-derived datasets to help identify areas of high sediment risk (see above), means Field Advisors can seamlessly view features of a property before going onsite and automatically estimate the cost of proposed sediment reduction activities. Not only does this allow Field Advisors to identify priorities for sediment reduction projects and focus their conversations with landowners, but the spatial capture of remediation projects can also be used in future by the Tātaki Wai freshwater management tool to inform and optimise decision-making on the ground.





Mahere Mahi ā Tau Annual Work Plan (Year 3)

K2022-001 Remediation grants and partnerships

This year, landowners of all types worked with KMR, enabling a significant amount of KMR grant funding for sediment remediation projects to be contracted and disbursed across the Kaipara Moana catchment.

KMR-trained Field Advisors continued to work with landowners and groups to develop Sediment Reduction Plans that identified remediation priorities and unlocked co-funding support to assist with implementation of associated projects. The co-funding is typically equivalent to 50% of the estimated market value of the project.

Governance decisions this year enabled greater uptake of remediation projects:

- Since December 2022, KMR has been able to support native planting on erodible hillsides, in addition to waterway-adjacent projects.
- Since February 2023, KMR has been able to cover up to 70% of the estimated cost of projects led by marae, iwi/hapū, community groups and other collectives, reflecting that these groups often face greater cost barriers to action.

Central to KMR's model is working with - and through - others in the catchment. Kaipara Uri (via Environs Te Uri o Hau) and The Forest Bridge Trust are key delivery partners, employing KMR Field Advisors to work with local landowners and groups.

Two new partnerships were developed (in the Tangowāhine catchment, and a pilot with Kaipara Agri Solutions), with both employing Field Advisors to work with drystock farmers. A partnership with Fonterra supported co-funding of Tiaki Plans and work with dairy farmers to develop sediment reduction projects, and additional Field Advisors are directly employed or contracted by KMR.

Outputs from this investment are summarised in the table of Year 3 results. Budget for committed works will carry over into 2023-24 for payment once these works are confirmed as completed.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$4,608,814.24	\$445,616.32	\$4,219,658.48	\$9,274,089.04	\$2,592,739.20	\$352,007.34	\$2,063,142.50	\$5,007,889.04



K2022-002 Capability and Workforce Development

This year saw ongoing engagement with, and support for, KMR's 21 accredited native plant nurseries across the catchment. This included the technical review of planting plans and coordination with nurseries to ensure native planting projects are matched with high quality, eco-sourced, site-appropriate plants. The KMR planting guide and plant lists were reviewed to align with KMR co-funding of activity in erodible hill country. Advice was also provided on good practice in treating highly erodible land.

A partnership with Te Ārai Native Nursery continued to develop the concept for a KMR seed library and support the identification of taonga species for KMR use.

In addition, a small satellite nursery on Poutō Peninsula was scoped for development with KMR supporting some project engagement and management costs. The satellite nursery is located in a sensitive eco-district in the catchment, for which seed and nursery supplies are currently very limited and for which specific (and in many cases unique) plant types are required.

By year-end, KMR had 16 Field Advisors working to develop Sediment Reduction Plans alongside landowners, and 9 Field Advisors being inducted. Throughout the year, KMR Field Advisors were supported through an active KMR Field Advisor Community of Practice.

Through KMR's Memorandum of Understanding with NZARM, two training programmes were delivered, to provide professional development for KMR Field Advisors, and pilot modules to inform a future national training programme.

A Kaitiaki Employment Coordinator with Kaipara Uri, co-funded by KMR and the Ministry of Social Development, was supported to work directly to connect local rangatahi and job seekers with employment and training in the kaitiaki economy.

Given the impacts of the Auckland Anniversary weekend floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, KMR stood up a Flood and Cyclone Recovery Fund that enabled landowners to repair or replace KMR-funded project works. The package supported associated workforce costs to assist 10 landowners to replace or relocate works damaged by adverse weather, allowing them to continue to undertake planned sediment remediation works.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$567,250.00	\$264,999.92	\$-	\$832,249.92	\$244,519.24	\$138,604.86	\$-	\$383,124.10

K2022-007 Community Outreach and Partnership

A myriad of engagements with groups have occurred through KMR's community-facing staff, including outreach about the Whenua Whānui Fund, with multiple engagements with a variety of groups, including via our collaborations with Enviroschools and Mountains to Sea. KMR's Mana Whenua Relations lead has engaged systematically on marae and in hui with a wide number of iwi/hapū groups, marae, Settlement Trust and other Māori representatives.

Through the year, KMR held numerous online forums and two catchment-wide KMR Partnership Forums. The first of these in late 2022 focused on opportunities for remediation and science, and the second focused on opportunities for landowners. The Partnership Forums were attended by landowners in the community and representatives from 73 entities/organisations spanning a variety of perspectives, including iwi/hapū, NGOs, the rural sector, conservation and volunteering, and delivery partner organisations.

We held a number of dedicated events at marae and in the community to talk about KMR's work. KMR attended the Paparoa, Arapohue, Helensville and Warkworth A&P Shows, the Northland Field Days, and we were represented by partners at the National Field Days.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$69,999.96	\$70,000.08	\$-	\$140,000.04	\$66,786.86	\$65,328.09	\$-	\$132,114.95

K2022-006 Communications and Engagement

The communications and engagement emphasis over the year was on raising landowner awareness of the KMR programme, including what it is and does, as well as communicating the advice and (evolving) co-funding opportunities available through KMR.

Numerous articles were published in local community papers (e.g. Kaipara Lifestyler, Paparoa Press, Rodney Times, Whangārei Leader) and specialty magazines (Fonterra's Hot Wire, Farmer's Weekly, NZ Farmer, Northern Farming Lifestyles).

KMR also produced content for distribution through our partner organisation communication channels and networks to reach new landowners. There was also excellent coverage of our mahi within the school networks.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$-	\$100,000.00	\$82,478.62	\$80,420.35	\$-	\$162,898.97

K2021-005 Kaipara Maurikura

The Kaipara Maurikura is led by a Pou Tātaki and 13.05 full-time equivalent staff were employed last year, including part-time secondees from both partner Councils and Te Uri o Hau. A new staff member was hired in March and one vacancy remains.

Business, administration and other systems continue to be refined to deliver at scale, and ensure that the governance needs of the Joint Committee are effectively serviced.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$163,899.96	\$1,802,035.44	\$-	\$1,965,935.40	\$149,799.85	\$1,539,605.85	\$-	\$1,689,405.70

K2021-006 Governance

Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee held five hui (business meetings) and three workshops in this 12-month period. We also provided an induction for new governors in December 2022, after local government elections.

We returned to in-person Joint Committee hui in December 2022, to support and encourage local community engagement with hosting marae and hapū groups.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$-	\$200,000.00	\$-	\$200,000.00	\$-	\$82,654.27	\$-	\$82,654.27

K2022-003 Programme Monitoring and Evaluation

All requirements for programme reporting have been met. Both audit and external review (validation) exercises were successfully completed and demonstrated satisfactory programme delivery.

Early-stage work was progressed to understand baseline monitoring of ecological condition across the catchment and ensure Councils were working together to scope future monitoring.

Work to develop a long-term framework for KMR monitoring and evaluation was not progressed during the year, given the timing of the arrival of the new staff member in the last quarter of the year. Work in this area is programmed for 2023-2024.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$150,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$-	\$180,000.00	\$-	\$52.95	\$-	\$52.95

K2022-004 Digital Tools – System Development and Maintenance

Mātai Onekura, KMR's newly developed digital farm planning and grant funding tool, was released to KMR Field Advisors for use in May. The digital tool replaces previous paper-based methods, and integrates mapping layers that are used to support on-land assessment of erosion risk and delivery of sediment to waterways.

Mātai Onekura is now being used to develop sediment reduction plans, and scope and track the progress of associated sediment remediation projects. It has delivered important efficiency and assurance benefits, particularly as KMR works with an increasing number of landowners on an increasingly diverse set of sediment remediation project types.

A water quality accounting framework, Tātaki Wai, is in development and tracking against project timeframes to deliver by early 2024.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$1,588,878.25	\$360,100.08	\$-	\$1,948,978.33	\$1,184,547.73	\$284,845.53	\$-	\$1,469,393.26

K2022-005 Digital Tools - System Governance and Improvements

The Eroding Land Features project was delivered and the resulting indicative sediment risk layer is being used in KMR's digital tool to inform on-farm prioritisation of sediment remediation projects, in consultation with landowners.

The Wetland Features project is progressing, albeit more slowly than initially planned due to technical challenges with data analysis. A final milestone payment has been carried over into FY2023-2024. When finalised, this data layer will be integrated and used in Mātai Onekura, KMR's newly developed digital whenua planning and grant funding tool.

A Digital Reference Group meets to ensure a strategic, technically robust and coordinated approach to the development of KMR's digital tools and datasets.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$203,800.00	\$110,000.00	\$-	\$313,800.00	\$169,030.00	\$77,373.50	\$-	\$246,403.50

K2022-008 Kōrero Tuku Iho (Mātauranga Māori) Strategy Development and Implementation

A Kōrero Tuku Iho project manager was appointed and a Reference Rōpū established to provide leadership and oversight to the project. The Rōpū comprises mana whenua from across the Kaipara Moana catchment, and a strategic advisor for the Reference Rōpū was also appointed to the project team.

A 'Kaitiaki in Action' approach was initiated to use place-based whakatauirā (case studies) to trial Kōrero Tuku Iho. The Reference Rōpū has identified three potential whakatauirā which are currently being scoped and/or for which endorsement is being sought from local tangata whenua.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$141,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$-	\$206,000.00	\$81,068.92	\$-	\$-	\$81,068.92

K2021-008 Soil Conservation Strategy

KMR has completed a process to develop fund settings for erodible hill country. The programme worked with a Soil Conservation Reference Group with members providing diverse perspectives into the process to ensure settings will meet the needs of landowners within the catchment and are practical and implementable.

Direction was received from the Joint Committee on an initial suite of changes to settings for winter 2023 planting. Further decisions were made in May 2023 and are currently being implemented.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$115,000.04	\$60,000.00	\$-	\$175,000.04	\$106,899.11	\$60,000.00	\$-	\$166,899.11

K2022-009 New Partnerships and Opportunities

Several strategic partnerships were launched to widen benefit from KMR investment and reduce costs to KMR and landowners, as well as various supplier discounts. Current partners include Ministry for Social Development, Trees That Count, QEII National Trust, EmGuards, the NZ Association of Resource Management (NZARM) and Phathom Sensors.

KMR piloted a collaboration with Auckland Council, The Nature Conservancy and landowners to identify areas suitable for blue carbon restoration projects.

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$35,000.00	\$-	\$-	\$35,000.00	\$4,637.19	\$-	\$-	\$4,637.19

Year 3 Total

Budget				Actual			
Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total	Crown	Council	Landowner / Other	Total
\$7,693,642.45	\$3,457,751.84	\$4,219,658.48	\$15,371,052.77	\$4,682,506.72	\$2,680,892.74	\$2,063,142.50	\$9,426,541.96

Key Performance Indicators

The table below provides more information about the Year 3 results compared to the Key Performance Indicators in the Year 3 Annual Work Plan:

KMR Activity	Year 2 Actuals	Year 3 Actuals	Year 3 KPI target	Comment
Farm Environment Plans completed	205 Plans	242 new Sediment Reduction Plans , remediation funding agreements and Farm Environment Plans (by Fonterra) were created in Year 3. Additionally, we undertook return projects with 49 landowners who we had worked with in Year 1 or Year 2.	300 Plans	KMR Sediment Reduction Plans (SRPs) and remediation funding agreements are focused on sediment reduction outcomes. KMR is expected to transition to providing plans that are compliant with Freshwater Farm Plan regulations in time. Under the Fonterra partnership, full Tiaki Farm Environment Plans are developed for dairy landowners.
Area covered by Plans (Hectares)	40,526 Ha	48,212 ha of land was newly covered by a KMR Sediment Reduction Plan (or equivalent) at the end of Year 3.	62,114 Ha	In total, 100,151 ha were covered by a KMR SRPs at the end of Year 3. On average, properties newly covered by a plan are 199 hectares in size.
Fencing (kms)	238.43 km (82.48 km completed, 155.96 km committed)	347.73 km of fencing was completed or committed in Year 3. This is more than the distance from Whangārei to Auckland and back. Of this, 234.66 km were committed (not yet signed off) and 113.07 km were completed.	250 km	Fencing activity has been higher than expected. Landowners need to fence before they can plant and so this result is not unexpected. In addition, regulatory requirements are likely to have contributed to high levels of landowner fencing.
Planting (Stem numbers)	380,466 plants were planted or committed in for planting in Year 2. (174,085 committed, 206,408 completed)	801,467 plants were planted or committed for planting in Year 3. Of this, 605,723 plants were committed for planting (not yet signed off) and 195,744 were completed (and signed off). Of the plants committed this year and not yet signed off, 167,131 are in erodible hill country and 438,410 are riparian areas. All the plants signed off as complete were in riparian areas.	512,853 plants	Planting activity has been higher than expected. Over KMR's life to date, 402,152 plants have been planted (signed off as complete) and an additional 629,936 plants have been committed for planting and not yet signed off. KMR has worked to address financial barriers to planting, including by developing partnerships with third parties. For example, Trees that Count made ~25,000 trees available free of charge to KMR landowners, while KMR contributed to the planting and maintenance costs.
Jobs As a Jobs for Nature programme, KMR creates new, nature-based employment	61,602 hours of work (~39 FTE) were completed in Year 2	74,663 hours of work (~48 FTE) were completed in Year 3. Remediation projects equivalent to a further 65,000+ hours of work (~41 FTE) were committed in Year 3 Plans, some of which will have taken place over the winter planting season (but not yet confirmed by KMR as completed).	105,995 hours of work (~67.9 FTE)	Over KMR's life to date, over 190,865 hours of new work have been completed.
Training	KMR trained 38 Field Advisors in Year 2.	KMR trained 18 Field Advisors in Year 3.	30 people undertaking training	A further 18 Field Advisors were trained in Year 3, which brings the total number of Field Advisors to 56. A Partnership with NZARM has supported further training for KMR Field Advisors in Year 3 and beyond.

Rāpotopoto Ahupūtea

Financial Summary

	Cash contributions				In kind contributions			Totals	
	MfE	MfE Other*	Councils	Landowners / Other	Total cash contributions	Council	Landowners / Other	Total in kind expenditure	Total expenditure
Funding									
Total funding	7,638,630.56	100,000.00	1,236,767.02	160,032.19	9,135,429.77				
Workstream expenditure									
Programme Delivery - Remediation Grants and Partnerships	2,837,258.44	-	403,278.00	-	3,305,953.11	87,334.20	2,063,142.50	2,150,476.70	5,456,429.81
Engagement and Partnership	149,265.48	-	145,000.00	-	294,265.48	748.44	-	748.44	295,013.92
Kaipara Maurikura	149,799.85	-	270,000.00	-	419,799.85	1,269,605.85	-	1,269,605.85	1,689,405.70
Governance, Planning and Reporting	-	-	39,617.24	-	39,617.24	42,170.38	-	42,170.38	81,787.62
Digital Tools System Development & Maintenance	1,353,577.73	-	294,331.58	-	1,647,909.31	68,807.05	-	68,807.05	1,716,716.36
Strategy and Opportunities	192,605.22	50,000.00	60,000.00	-	237,188.55	-	-	-	237,188.55
Total expenditure	4,682,506.72	50,000.00	1,212,226.82	-	5,944,733.54	1,468,665.92	2,063,142.50	3,531,808.42	9,476,541.96
Funding carried over to 2022/23	2,956,123.84	50,000.00	24,540.20	160,032.19	3,190,696.23				

NOTES: Funding represents any cash contributions from Councils, MfE cash and interest on cash held in the bank.

*Funding to scope impact investment opportunities and map adverse weather impacts (no co-funding required).

Tātari Agreed Procedures Report

In order to comply with the relevant clauses of the KMR Deed of Funding, Deloitte Limited was engaged to undertake an agreed procedures engagement in relation to particular aspects of the project's funding sources and expenditure. This report was adopted by the Joint Committee on 30 October 2023 and has been provided to the Ministry for the Environment as required by the Deed.

MOU signatories



Partnerships



Ngā Tūtohu Acknowledgments

The KMR team would like to thank everyone who has supported and contributed to our work this year.

In particular, we would like to acknowledge the many landowners and whānau, iwi and hapū around the catchment who have worked with us to take action, the many individuals who have been a part of the Kōrero Tuku Iho project, and all of the KMR accredited nursery partners, contractors, suppliers, Kaipara Uri Kaitiaki, Field Advisors and Sustainable Dairy Advisors. KMR also recognises the work of a number of previous programmes and initiatives across the catchment – we build on your mahi.

The KMR team would like to acknowledge the ongoing support and wise guidance from our KMR governors in Year 3. Our thanks to Chair Tame Te Rangi, Deputy Chair Amy Macdonald, Cherie Povey, Georgina Curtis-Connelly, Greg Sayers, Jack Craw, Jane Sherard, John Blackwell, Kerrin Leoni, Michelle Carmichael, Taiāwhio Wati and Virginia Warriner. KMR would also like to thank our past governors Daniel Newman, Danielle Hancock, Joce Yeoman, Malcolm Welsh and Penny Smart for their contribution to the programme.

In closing, we recognise the Ministry for the Environment and the Jobs for Nature programme as KMR's primary funder.



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

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FOR NATURE | MŌ TE TAIAO

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