

On-Farm Freshwater Support Programme

January 2025

The Whakamana te Waituna Charitable Trust was established in 2018 to restore the mana of Waituna Lagoon and catchment and is continuing to support the Waituna community to achieve outcomes for freshwater.

As part of this, the Trust has established an on-farm freshwater support programme, where the Trust will provide up to 50% funding support for on-farm projects that are looking to improve freshwater in the Waituna catchment.

There are many benefits to improving freshwater and the Trust is looking to obtain the widest range of water quality and biodiversity benefits from projects that it supports.

Projects that will be prioritised for funding include:

- Projects identified within a Farm Environment Plan, or other projects, that will have a direct positive impact for freshwater
- Native plantings on-farm that connect to already existing wetlands, waterways or native bush areas
- Native planting of riparian margins (especially if 5 metres or wider)

What you need to contribute

- 50% of the cost of the project
- Be actively involved in the project and commit to preparation (e.g. for planting - being prepared to complete fencing/move fences, remove weeds, prepare the ground area)

What we will provide

- 50% of the cost of the project
- Project oversight



What we will fund

Projects will be considered on a case-by-case basis for a funding contribution.

Native planting projects - what we will fund

- Preparing planting plans/costings (a planting plan is required for each project so we can gain an understanding of the scope of your project and the associated costs)
- Project management
- Provision of plants*
- Planting (including some plant replacement or blanking)
- Site preparation (i.e. weed control)
- Maintenance of plantings (3 years)
- Combi-Guards (or equivalent)
- Fertiliser

* We want your plants to have the best chance of survival, therefore plant species must be suitable for the Waituna area. Generally funding will only be provided if plants are suitable for coastal Southland as specified in the latest version of the Riparian Plants for Southland Guide (Land and Water 2020 and Beyond) and ecosourced.

<https://www.es.govt.nz/environment/land-and-soil/land-management/riparian-management>

Plantings that qualify

- Riparian areas
- Wetlands

Plantings that don't qualify

- Amenity planting
- Shelterbelt planting
- Exotic plantings

How to apply

If you are a landowner in the Waituna catchment and have an environmental project you would like to complete to improve freshwater or increase biodiversity on-farm send an email to projectmanager@waituna.org.nz and we will be in touch to discuss your proposal.

