

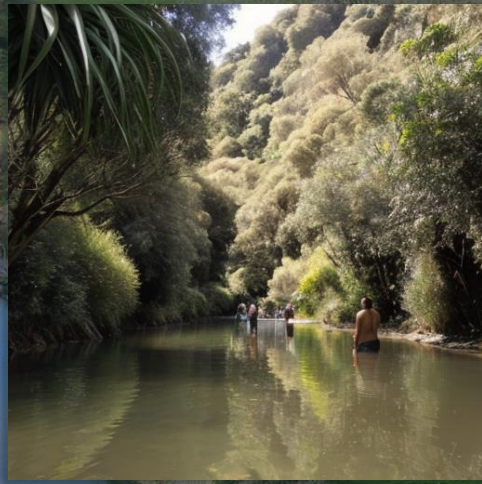


PŪNIU RIVER CARE INC.

A REGISTERED CHARITY

A Success Story of Pūniu River Care Incorporated





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SAFE PLACES, HEALTHY WATERS, HEALTHY PEOPLE

Introduction

- Cultural Significance of the Pūniu River
- The Current of Pūniu and the Journey to Waipā
- Pūniu River Care Incorporated (PRC), the Kaupapa then the Business



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Overview of Pūniu River Care Incorporated

- Our Mission is to Enhance the Waters and Replenish the Taonga within the Catchment
- We focus on Better Water, more Taonga Species, Creating Jobs for Māori, and advocating Kaitiakitanga
- Significance of the funding we receive from the WRA
- Collaboration with Marae, Iwi, WRC and Stakeholders



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Challenges and Opportunities

- Challenges and Pressures on Pūniu
- Opportunities Enabled by the WRA to address these challenges
- Importance of Community Engagement and working together



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Restoration and Protection Initiatives

- Waikato and Waipā Restoration Strategy
- Riparian planting and fencing programs to reduce sediment
- Wetland restoration projects to enhance biodiversity and provide habitat for Taonga species
- Education and awareness campaigns to promote Kaitiakitanga
- Monitoring and research initiatives to assess the effectiveness of restoration efforts



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Achievements and Outcomes

- **Established 142 ha native** to reduce sedimentation and improve water quality (203 rugby fields)
- **Planted 1.3 million** seedlings which provide habitat to Replenish Taonga species
- **Grown 3.6 million native** seedlings from seed we collected within Waipā catchment
- Enabled **90 jobs** for Māori, showcasing a significant impact on economic growth and empowerment
- Advocated Kaitiakitanga at **23 events**



Lessons Learned and Best Practice

- Te Aukaiao – Certificate in introductory River Enhancement (Applied)
- Importance of collaboration and landowner engagement for successful river restoration projects
- Communication strategies when engaging landowners



Future Plans and Sustainability

- Ongoing restoration with a focus on afforestation in hill country and critical source areas in dairy country
- WRA funding support is crucial for our people/projects
- Financial sustainability
- Adopt monitoring approaches to highlight areas that are making Pūniu un-swimmable
- Minimise waste generation



Conclusion

- Achievements and outcomes with funding from the Waikato River Authority
- The significance of the Pūniu River
- Continued collaboration and support in restoring and protecting the Pūniu River

