Upper Mangaokewa - Water Quality Summary 2023

Water samples were collected from 7 stream and river sites across the Upper Mangaokewa catchment. Monitoring sites were located on Mangaokewa stream, Waiteti stream and the Mangauwhauwhi stream. The below water quality dial summarises 29 individual samples collected across 7 monitoring sites, between January 2023 and December 2023.

Water clarity was poor, indicated elevated levels of suspended sediment, which impacts aquatic life. *E. coli* and nitrogen were slightly elevated. Elevated Slightly *E. coli* can is a potential risk to human health when swimming and elevated nitrogen can impact aquatic life and river health by promoting excessive growth of algae, bacteria and aquatic weeds and decreasing dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP) was low, which supports river health. Water clarity did not meet national water quality standards, while nitrate and ammonia concentrations did not meet regional (Plan Change 1) short-term targets. Dissolved reactive phosphorus, nitrate and ammonia toxicity and *E. coli* did meet national standards.

Arrows indicate an increase or decrease in values compared to the baseline. The baseline was calculated from 5 years of data collected by Waikato Regional Council at Lawrence St Bridge in Te Kūiti, between 2015 and 2019. An increase in water clarity is positive for river health, while an increase in all other attributes may impair river health.

Upper Mangaokewa - 2023 (29 samples, 7 sites)

