

# Te Mana o te Wai, Te Mana o te Tangata

Industrial Waters Conference 2023

Vaughan Payne, Chief Executive, Water Services Entity B



Te Tari Taiwhenua  
Internal Affairs

[www.waterservicesreform.govt.nz](http://www.waterservicesreform.govt.nz)

**WS** WATER SERVICES REFORM  
PROGRAMME

**Our backgrounds  
shape our world  
view and  
behaviours**





**The purpose of infrastructure is to support our total wellbeing: environmental, cultural, social and economic**



Image: Ōpōtiki wharf



An aerial photograph showing a large dam structure with multiple spillways. The reservoir behind the dam is filled with water, and the surrounding landscape includes green fields, trees, and some industrial or agricultural structures. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the center of the image.

**Infrastructure has not always achieved a balance between  
our wellbeing goals**





Photo: Tarawera River, 1980s, Vaughan Payne

**Ultimately, addressing complexity is a social issue requiring leadership**

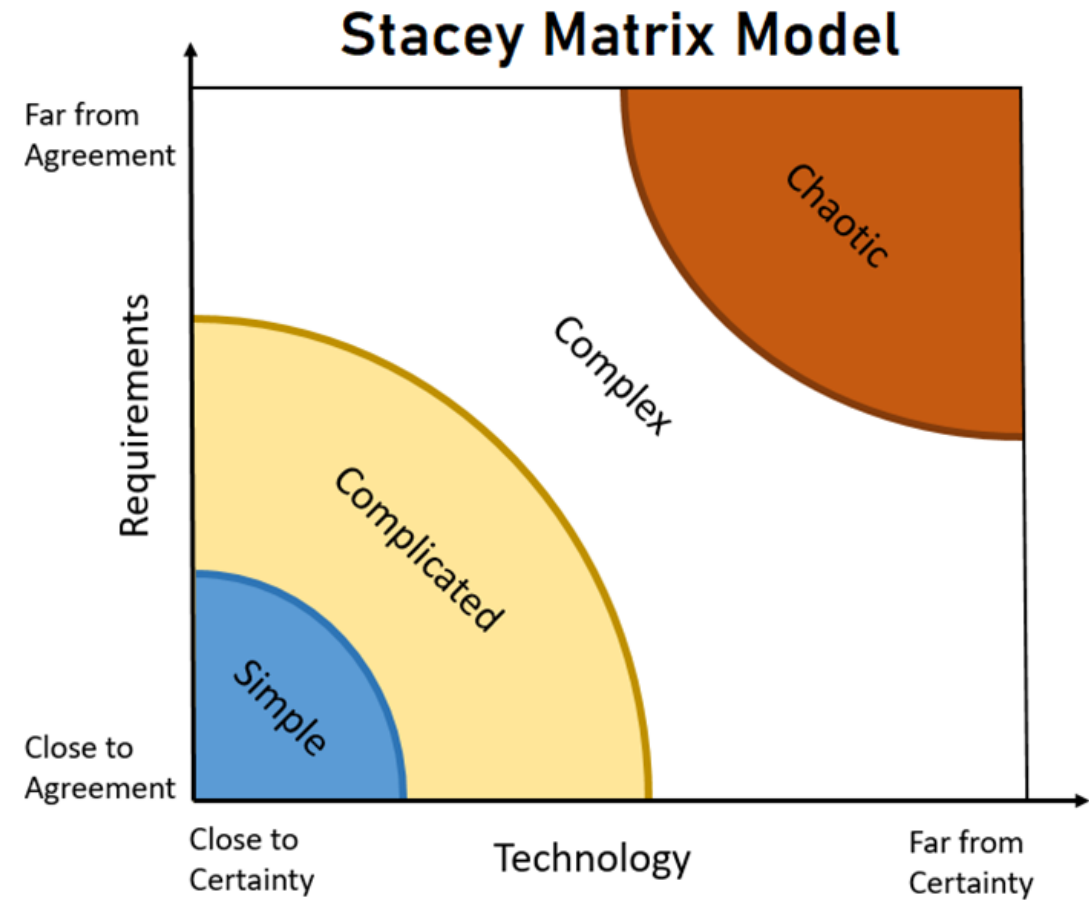


Image: The Scientific World

## EXAMPLE: OPOTIKI

### Context

- Rich history - Māori and Pākehā
- Serious Treaty breaches
- Town subject to flooding
- Extensive coastline and productive CMA
- Long-standing social-economic challenges
- Major aquaculture developments off-shore (existing and future)

Proposal: Improve river/harbour entrance (building training walls) in a highly sensitive coastal environment

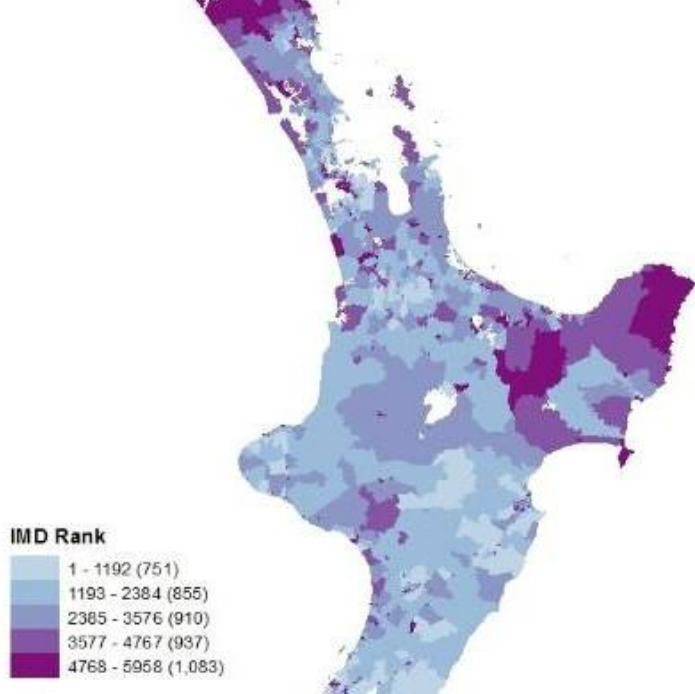


Photo: Ōpōtiki District Council





Photo: Resolve Group





Photo: Ōpōtiki District Council



A group of five diverse business professionals are seated around a conference table in a modern office setting. They are all smiling and appear to be engaged in a positive meeting. The woman in the foreground, wearing a dark blazer, is looking towards the camera with a warm smile. To her left, a man with glasses and a dark shirt is also smiling. In the background, two other women are visible, one in a light-colored top and another in a dark blazer, both smiling. The room has large windows in the background, letting in natural light.

**To achieve the necessary balance between our wellbeing goals, we need to be inclusive**





Photo: Eleanor Hughes

## EXAMPLE: WAIKATO RIVER

### Context

- A tīpuna - an ancestor
- Supports nationally significant sectors
- Provides drinking water to nearly half of NZ's population
- Declining water quality caused by:
  1. Landuse (diffuse)
  2. Natural
  3. Point source
- A Treaty settlement requiring:
  1. Effect to Te Ture Whaimana
  2. Co-governance decision making

Proposal: policy/regulatory changes to improve water quality





Photo: Waikato Regional Council



**Leadership is  
about creating  
the right  
environment to  
enable others to  
grow and be  
their best**



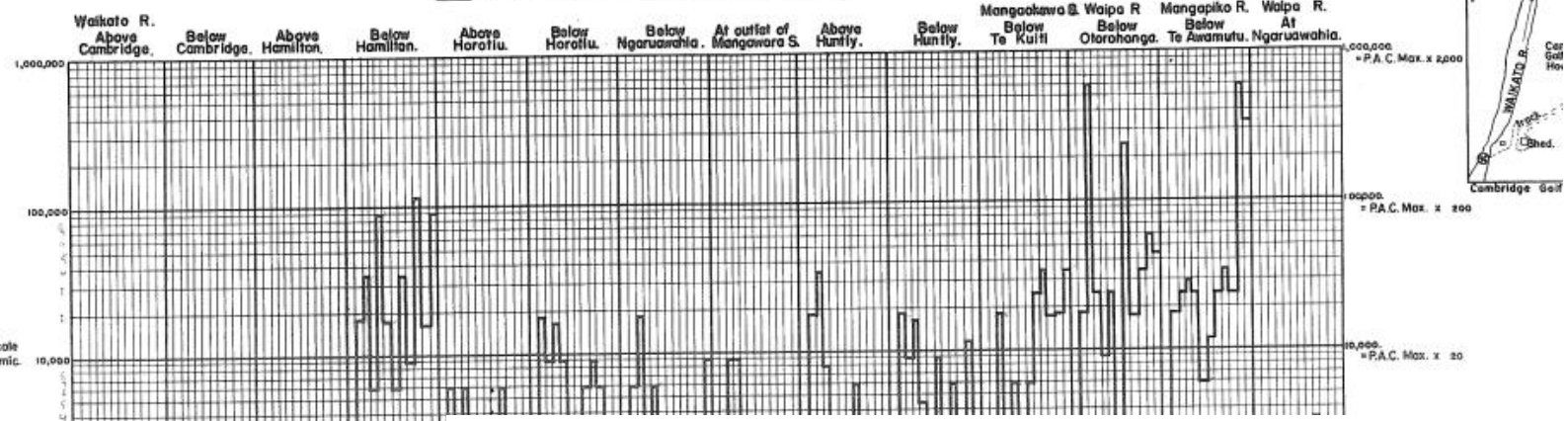
Photos: Vaughan Payne





NOTE: Samples were taken each month from Feb. '55 to Jan. '56.

NOTE: Vertical Scale is Logarithmic.



# Waikato River 1955

## THE POLLUTED STATE OF THE WAIKATO RIVER BASIN.

Source: B Vant (2023)



Waikato R @ Mercer, median faecal coliforms, 1970-2021

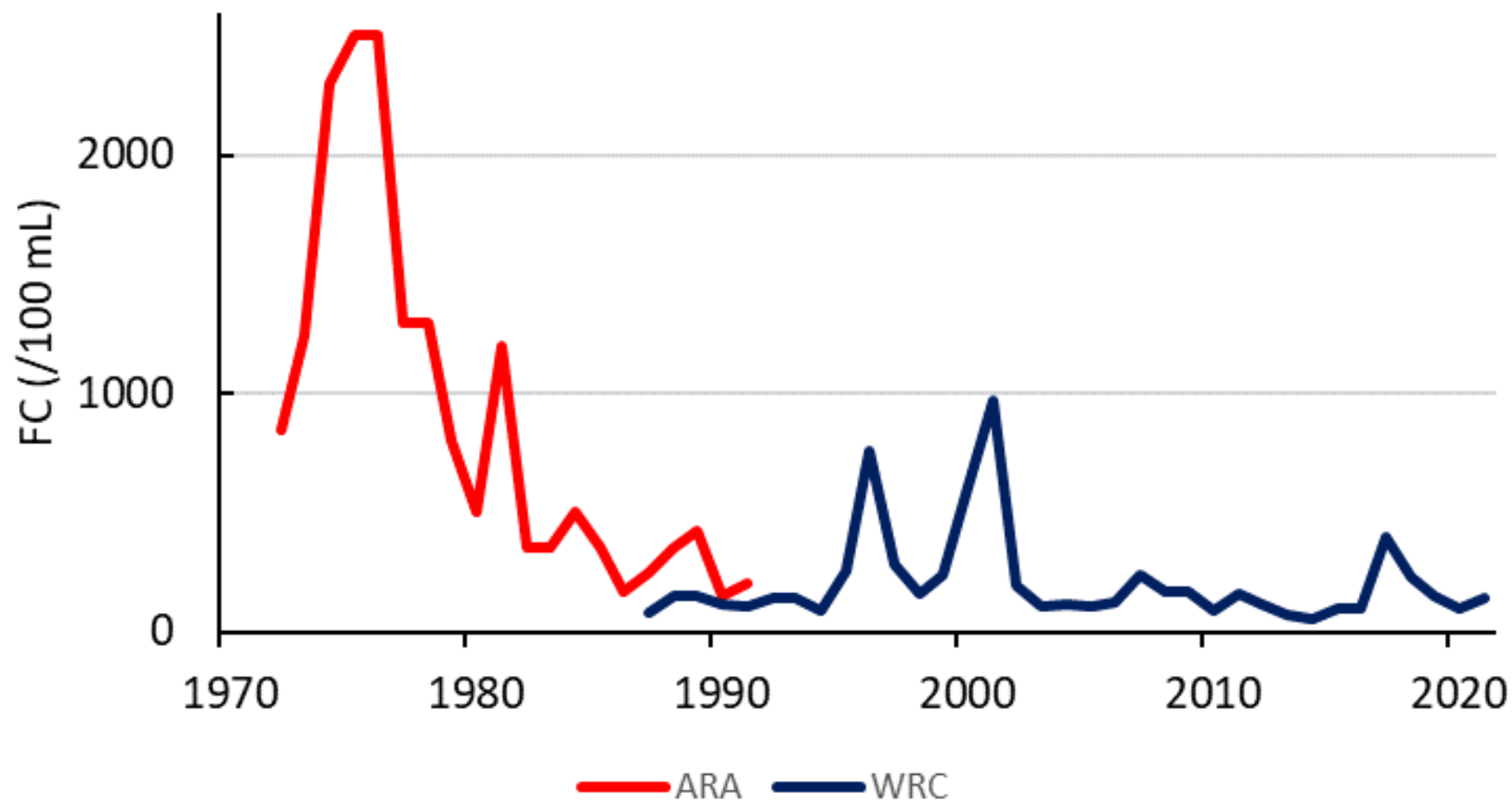






Photo: Jay Farnworth

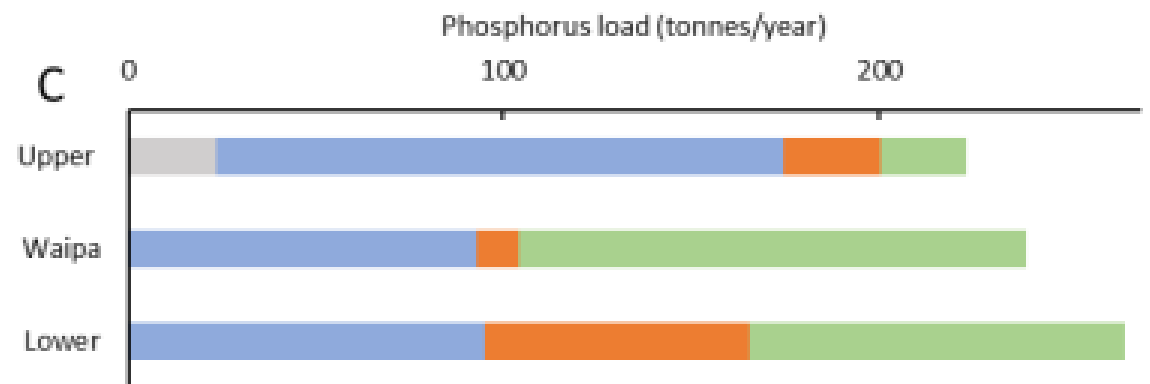
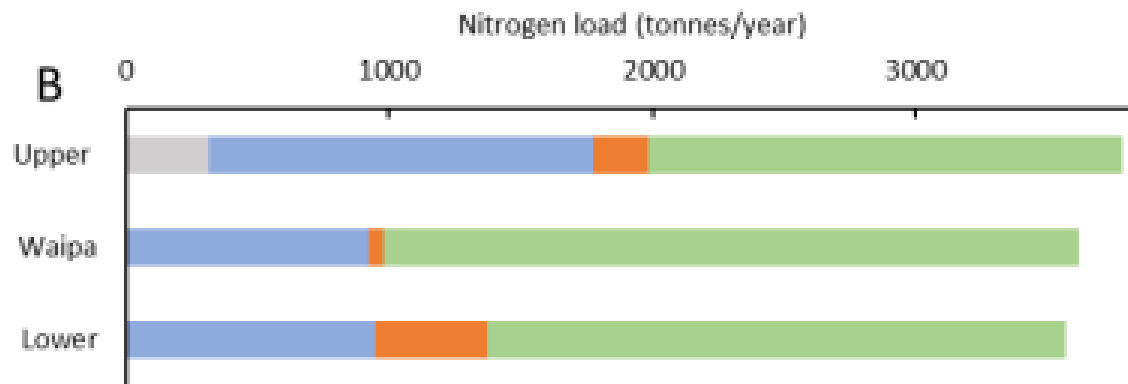
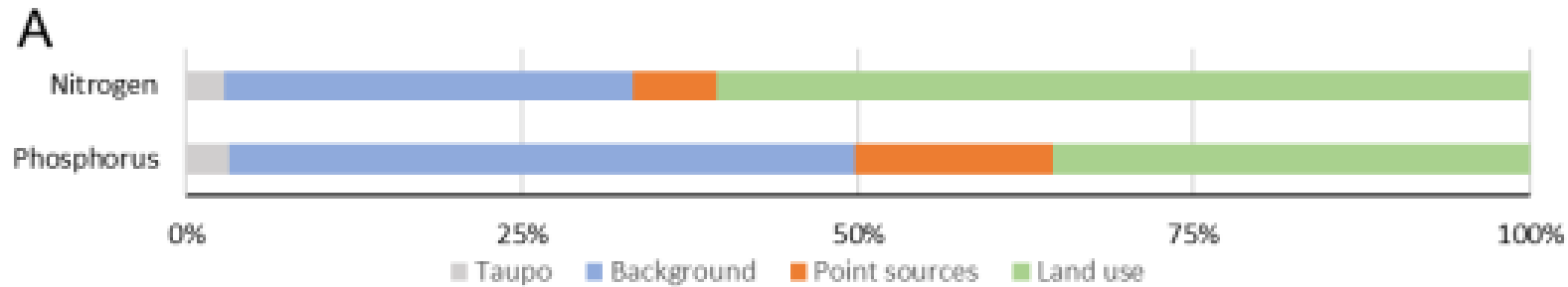


Photo: Greenhill Park, Hamilton

# Thank you for your leadership



# Waikato River 2011-2020



Ref: Sources of nitrogen and phosphorus in two major catchments in the Waikato region, 2011-20 | Waikato Regional Council TR 2022/05 Author: B Vant



**We need a  
conversation  
about how to  
get the best  
return on  
investment**



Images: Waikato and Waipā Rivers Restoration Strategy



**Te Mana o te Wai, Te Mana o te Tangata**



**Pātai? | Questions?**