

## Welcome to Auckland's Watershed Story Map

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Auckland's waterways are a taonga, a treasure vital to the region's cultural, ecological and economic well-being. They are an essential part of what makes living Tāmaki Makaurau so special.

However, due to urbanisation and poor land management practices, the state of Auckland's waters is poor in many places. Recognising this, Aucklanders have made it clear that improving waterways is a top priority for the region<sup>(1)</sup>. Auckland Council and its Council Controlled Organisations, including Auckland Transport and Watercare, also have obligations to improve water outcomes.<sup>(2)</sup>

The purpose of this Story Map is to promote further conversation on what needs to be done to improve Auckland's waters. To help this discussion, the information in this Story Map is presented geographically around 'watersheds,' which reflect the region's major harbours and coastlines.

Watersheds comprise the land from which all the natural rain run-off discharges to a particular waterbody, such as the Manukau and Waitematā Harbours. Focusing on watersheds gives an integrated catchment approach that combines how land characteristics and activities affect water outcomes. This approach is consistent with iwi and hapū roles as kaitiaki of wai. Click [here](#) to view the Auckland's ten watersheds.

This watershed approach also recognises that improving water outcomes is complex. The map viewers in this Story Map aim to break down that complexity.

<https://aucklandcouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=976f94e03731473e9b9bc5e0e8d31858>

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