



# OMARU RESTORATIVE ACTION

MAD AVE COMMUNITY TRUST

## KAUPAPA

The report outlines the recent activities within the Omaru Restorative Action (O.R.A) initiative managed by the Mad Ave Community Trust.

In particular this document will present a summary of activities that cover:

\* Contract Milestone 3:

Clean up and Preparation activities

\* Contract Milestone 4:

The Ko Au Te Awa phase of O.R.A.

Tamati Patuwai

# Ō.R.A REPORT

<i>Date:</i>	21-Jul-16
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## About This Report

<b><i>Title of Document</i></b>	Progress report for Ōmaru Restorative Action Initiative		
<b><i>Reporting Dates</i></b>	<b>From:</b> 24-Jun-16	<b>To:</b> 21-Jul-16	
<b><i>Author &amp; Project Role</i></b>	Tamati Patuwai – Program Coordinator		
<b><i>Date</i></b>	21-Jul-16		

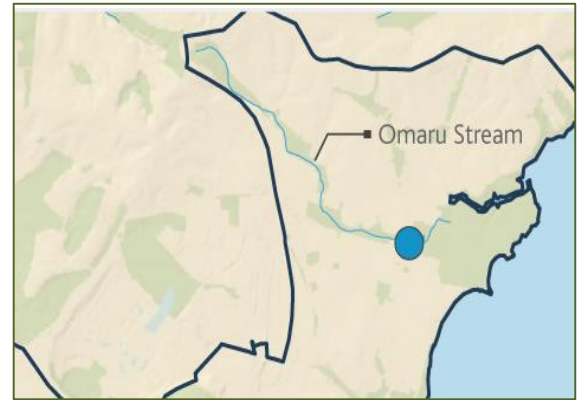
## About The Project

<b><i>Title of Project</i></b>	Ōmaru Restorative Action		
<b><i>Start Date</i></b>	01-Apr-16	<b><i>End Date</i></b>	09-Dec-16

## ŌMARU SNAP SHOT

Ōmaru springs out of the north western ridgeline capped with the St Heliers bay road, St Johns. It runs 3.2 kilometres long undulating through the centre of the Glen Innes suburb and out into the Wai o Taiki river which then connects into the Waitemata Harbour.

The following results are taken from the Auckland Council 2013 research around the Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board Ōmaru Catchment.



### OVERALL GRADE - 2013

**F** E D C B A

### WATER QUALITY

Water samples are tested for temperature, oxygen concentration, turbidity and the levels of pH, ammonia and nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus). The results of this testing are compared against guidelines for Auckland to produce a water quality index.

F **E** D C B A

### FLOW PATTERNS

This involves monitoring the hydrologic connectivity of the river to upstream and downstream reaches and the floodplain using the Stream Ecological Valuation (SEV), which is a method of assessing the ecological health of our rivers.

F E **D** C B A

### NUTRIENT CYCLING

This involves monitoring the inputs and processing of minerals, particulates and contaminants using the SEV biogeochemical functions.

**F** E D C B A

### HABITAT QUALITY

This involves monitoring the diversity and quality of habitats using the SEV habitat provision functions.

**F** E D C B A

### BIODIVERSITY

Field assessments and samples are collected to assess the type and amount of native plants and animals using the SEV biodiversity functions.

**F** E D C B A

## IMPROVEMENTS

In 2011 Stephen Moore, from Landcare Research released the following recommendations to improve the functional performance of the Ōmaru:

<b>Ecological Function:</b>	<b>Options to improve functional performance:</b>
Natural flow regime	Minimise imperviousness, piping, channelisation
Connectivity to flood-plain	Avoid "concrete canyons"
Connectivity for fish migrations	Remove artificial fish barriers
Connectivity to groundwater	Maintain natural bed material
Water temperature control	Increase to 80% shade
Dissolved oxygen maintenance	Reduce organic waste (e.g. sewage) input
Organic (leaf litter) input	Increase evergreen vegetation over stream
Instream particle (leaf) retention	Increase instream roughness (e.g. woody debris)
Decontamination of pollutants	Increase supply of leaf litter
Flood-plain particle retention	Increase floodplain vegetation thickness
Fish spawning habitat	Maintain stony bed and damp marginal grasses
Habitat for aquatic fauna	Increase habitat diversity & native riparian vegetation
Riparian vegetation intact	Maintain indigenous vegetation
Fish fauna intact	May improve due to above measures
Invertebrate fauna intact	May improve due to above measures
Aquatic biodiversity intact	May improve due to above measures

## MAD AVE RESPONSE

Since 2012 Mad Ave has partnered alongside community groups and schools, businesses, local and political leadership with Auckland Council to build what has become the Ōmaru Restorative Action (O.R.A) initiatives. O.R.A is premised as a community led movement that takes accountability for the issues in the Ōmaru and asserts the purpose to restore Mana and Beauty to the Ōmaru River.

Mad Ave has coordinated the Ko Au Te Awa Matariki riparian planting events in 8 different sites alongside the Ōmaru to contribute to the above mentioned recommendations. A few of the following outcomes have come from this planting initiative:

- 8 sites planted
- 13000 native tree's planted
- 700 volunteers
- Local and Non-local Corporate supporters
- Local Government Support
- 6 Local schools directly contributing

## O.R.A TARGETS ACHIEVED IN LAST 8 WEEKS

### SITE PREPARATIONS

- In preparation for the July Riparian planting phase Mad Ave, with volunteers and sub-contractors undertook a full scale weeding program.
- Youth leaders – Kōrihi Patuwai and Nisyola Fifita are two of a few of young people who have committed their energies and time to working for the ORA kaupapa. This year in the site prep phase they were able to call on their own youth networks to support the mahi.
- Youi Insurance – Youi have committed to an ongoing support to the Omaru and to Mad Ave to develop initiatives that restore mana to the ecology. Youi have sent employee volunteers to two different sites on the Omaru to help plant trees and to weed.
- The local Glen Innes Seventh Day Adventist congregation have committed to their portion of the Omaru which is behind their building on 118 Apirana Ave pictured above.



### EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH AND PROMOTIONS

- Workshopping with Kura Kaupapa around history of the Ōmaru and surrounding waterways.
- Particular focus has been afforded to the local waterway Taniwha, Mokoikaahikuwaru.
- A Mōteatea was co-created between Tamati Patuwai and the Kura students.
- A hīkoi was made around Te Waimokoikaahikuwaru bringing engagement to the place and the Taniwha home and hunting grounds.
- Ongoing supports to Kura around learning about local Waterways and designing a way forward for the school to build engagement around environment and Ōmaru awa.
- Planning a Matariki day specifically for the Kura, inviting other local school participation.

### **RIPARIAN PLANTING at 118 Apirana Ave site of the Omaru JULY 2**

- Matariki plan with Waicare advanced and confirmed.
- Community Matariki planting Day Implemented – July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Event elements follow:
  - ❖ 80 volunteers + children
  - ❖ Music
  - ❖ Food
  - ❖ Bahai Community
  - ❖ Local Residents
  - ❖ Youi Insurance Volunteers
  - ❖ Sustainable Coastlines Volunteers
  - ❖ Waicare support
  - ❖ 1000 Native species planted

### **SCHOOL PLANTING – Implemented July 6<sup>th</sup> at Paddington Reserve site of Ōmaru tributary**

- Kura Kaupapa School – 200 + students
- Glendowie College environmental group
- WORKSHOPS through the School planting day
  - ❖ Waicare Water testing
  - ❖ Waste Recycling
  - ❖ Iwi stories and History
- 500 Native Trees planted by the students
- Maintenance plan initiated for children to “look after their trees”.

## **OUTPUTS OF PROJECT**

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### **Milestone 3 - To implement site clean-up and preparation to the Ōmaru.**

Over the course of late May and June 2016 Mad Ave has coordinated specific preparations for the Ōmaru in order to clear sites to plant in Matariki.

#### **Background**

In 2014 and 2015 Mad Ave worked alongside Waicare of Auckland Council and approximately 100 volunteers from groups and families in and around Glen Innes to plant 900 native tree's at this particular Maybury section of the Ōmaru.

Mad Ave, with support from local residents, requested to Auckland Council that Mad Ave coordinate a spray free maintenance approach for some of the planted sites that Mad Ave has influenced. This approach is in line with the O.R.A principles:

- ❖ Restoring Mana and Beauty to the Ōmaru
- ❖ To restore the health of the waterway and surrounding environment

This spray free assertion and request is positioned to begin to build a movement that hopes to bring about changes around the predominant Glyphosate use from Council to maintain weeds around the Ōmaru.

Council has allowed for Mad Ave to maintain the Maybury Site and the Eastview Reserve site with a mechanical and hand release approach.

Therefore two sites in have been worked on:

- ❖ Maybury Reserve
- ❖ Eastview Reserve

The Maybury Reserve site is on the Elstree side of the reserve.

The clean ups and weeding is the hands on mahi and give the community an opportunity to connect with the Awa and to learn new skills.



Maybury Reserve site

**RUBBISH**

The degree of waste material inside the water is significant so careful attention to safety is important. The types of material found:

- ❖ Trolleys
- ❖ Computers and e waste
- ❖ Glass
- ❖ Plastic bottles and bags
- ❖ Hygiene and nappy waste
- ❖ Metal debris (household appliances)
- ❖ Food packaging



Kōrihi – Mad Ave Youth Leader

As stated in the O.R.A project brief the degree of debris material is significant. A long term strategy of prevention and waste cleaning must continue. It is not advisable for public clean ups to be the primary move in this area given the toxicity prevalent in and around the waterway environment.



Waste pile collected from Omaru



Volunteers from the Youi Insurance company and the Seventh Day Adventist Church work with Mad Ave workers to weed and prepare the Eastview site for the Matariki planting. This is evidence of the growing support and commitment for the O.R.A movement.





**Milestone 4 – Matariki riparian planting initiatives with community and schools**

Mad Ave partnered with Waicare to coordinate a Matariki planting series in the Eastview and Paddington Reserves in Glen Innes.

Waicare underwent a two month long restructure which limited the capacity to take on too much activity. Mad Ave had the capacity to carry the management of the planting projects with guidance from Waicare.

Mad Ave coordinated the following:

- Site planting plan – in partnership with Waicare, Whenuanui LTD and Parks department in Council.
- Health and Safety plans for the planting days
- Full scale promotional and marketing activities:
  - ❖ *Print media,*
  - ❖ *Facebook*
  - ❖ *Website coverage*
  - ❖ *Engagement with schools*
  - ❖ *Local Event and Street promotions*
- Volunteer coordination
- Planting event management

The outcomes of the JULY Matariki planting event have been outlined earlier in this document. Some of the key elements have been:

- ❖ 80 volunteers
- ❖ Corporate support
- ❖ 1000 native tree's planted
- ❖ Waterway clean up
- ❖ Growing engagement and cohesion in community
- ❖ Wider promotion of the O.R.A project

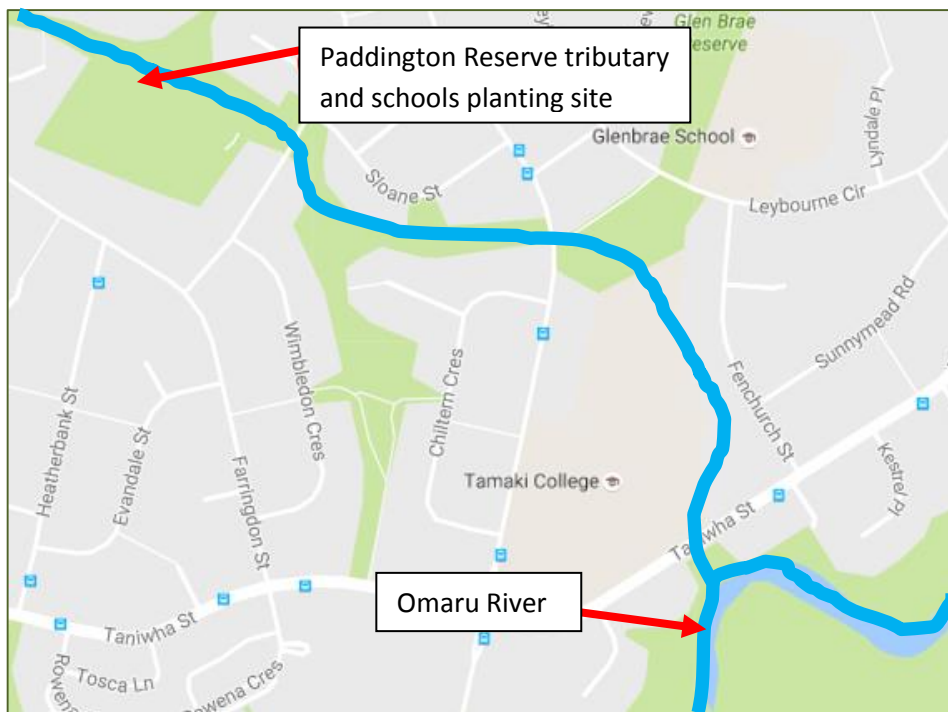


A second planting event was coordinated directly with the Kura Kaupapa o Puau Te Moananui a Kiwa. This occurred in JULY 6<sup>th</sup> following the community planting day.

In 2014 classes from the Kura attended Mad Ave' River Talks event. There they pledged their support for the kaupapa to bring restorative action to the Omaru and to continue to learn about and to whakatinana the principle of Kaitiakitanga.

Tamati Patuwai of Mad Ave has been working closely with Teachers and students of the Kura to plan for opportunities to grow engagement and education around the awa and environmental issues.

Mad Ave partnered again with Waicare to coordinate this event. It was requested by the Kura to plant in a waterway that runs alongside the Kura itself. Although it is not Ōmaru itself it is still a tributary that runs into the Ōmaru and is seen as whanaunga to the Ōmaru.



Outcomes of the Kura planting day:

- ❖ 200 Kura students planting trees and participating in water testing and Mauri korero
- ❖ 500 Native tree's planted
- ❖ Glendowie College Enviro group partners with Kura
- ❖ History and Iwi storytelling workshops held
- ❖ A site that gives the students tangible opportunity to grow Kaitiaki skills



## PROJECT RELATED ISSUES

### ❖ WAICARE RESTRUCTURE

Waicare have been going through a restructure for the last year. They manage research, maintenance implementation and community awareness. The restructure has portioned out aspects of this work to other departments of the Council and Waicare is focused mainly on Educational outreach.

Through this restructure communications were limited between Mad Ave as there was undertainty as to how much Waicare could deliver.

#### MITIGATION

An MOU will be implemented in the future to ensure roles and responsibilities are clear and that accountabilities are transparent and managed effectively.

### ❖ WAICARE COMMUNICATION CONFUSION

Waicare had been in contact with the Kura prior to Mad Ave engagements. The Kura was unsure as to who would be the key contact for the ongoing work around the Awa.

Because of the inception of the project being from the Mad Ave River Talks in 2013 added to the Kaitiaki qualities held within Mad Ave, the Kura made it clear that it wanted to continue to work alongside Mad Ave.

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**MITIGATION**

A communication will be drawn up with the Kura to ensure they are not overwhelmed by excessive or duplicated engagements.

To ensure that the Kura is positioned as a lead to the ongoing work within O.R.A and Mad Ave. Waicare will be guided through the relational activities so that we all complement each other and can add value to distinct institutional accountabilities.

❖ **WHENUANUI LTD LIMITATIONS**

Whenuanui LTD is a locally led Native plant and landscaping supplier. The owners are Ngati Whatua and have a long term commitment to the local environment and community. Unfortunately given some of the seasonal supply limitations Whenuanui LTD was not able to be the key supplier.

**MITIGATION**

To give Whenuanui LTD more time with supply requests i.e this side of the year, to enable them to prepare to deliver.

❖ **WASTE RUBBISH COLLECTION**

The degree of waste and rubbish toxicity is high in the Omaru. In the future it will be important to bring in a very comprehensive waste management system and supplier to deal with the level of rubbish and pollutants in the Omaru.

**MITIGATION**

Create very low level waste clean ups with public and lobby to have the Local Board play a bigger role in assisting with large scale clean ups.

❖ **TIMING FOR SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT**

The primary school focus this year was the local Kura Kaupapa. This came about due to their specific requests to engage into the KATA and ORA project at a higher level. They have committed a lot of time and curriculum based activity to the work which is a huge success for the project.

In order for the project to really ground itself further into the community more schools must play the same kind of role as Kaitiaki for the environment and the Kaitiakitanga kaupapa.

**MITIGATION**

Lead up times will need to be integrated to give schools, both Junior and Upper schools, ample opportunity to organize their schedules and resources to meet the projects timelines.

❖ **CLASHING TIMETABLE WITH ŌRĀKEI PANTING PROJECT**

Ngati Whatua ki Orakei also run a July planting project. Therefore Orakei presence was not as strong this year as it has been in previous years. Ngati Whatua and other Iwi are pivotal in providing guidance to the interest of the project as a whole.

**MITIGATION**

Communications will be strengthened with Iwi leaders. A shared schedule will be created between the ORA project and Orakei movements in the Matariki period.

**NEXT 4 WEEKS**

- ❖ Maintenance plan for the next 6 months  
*Working monthly weeding visits to Maybury and Eastview Reserves*
- ❖ Community groups enlisted  
*To give time to assist with weeding and other planting opportunities*
- ❖ Evaluation begun  
*To pull together work to date*
- ❖ Editing of video footage from the Conference  
*This will be a significant part of the end of project evaluation report for Ohu Kaimoana*
- ❖ Meeting with Te Ohu Kaimoana directors  
*To meet and to share the project findings to date*



*Tamati*

O.R.A Coordinator  
Tamati Patuwai

