

***He honore, he kororia ki te Atua
He maungarongo ki te whenua
He whakaaro pai ki nga tangata katoa
Kia tau iho ai te manaakitanga o te runga rawa ki
runga ki a Kingi Tuheitia me te whare o te Kahui
Ariki nui tonu. Paimarire***

Tena koutou katoa

On behalf of the Aramiro Ahu Whenua Trust I am pleased to present the first half year update report for 2021.

The purpose of this report is to keep our whanau owners updated on the mahi and opportunities underway on Our Whenua

This year the trust have continued to work on infrastructure, regulatory compliance and have also been busy proactively building relationships with senior government officials and various government agencies who can support Our Whenua and Our People through water/land restoration projects, agricultural opportunities, training and employment

On Thursday 29th of April 2021 we were fortunate to spend some time with Hon MP Meka Whitiri - Minister NZ Customs, Associate Minister Agriculture and Andrew McConnell – Director Maori Agribusiness MPI Ministry for Primary Industries both Meka and Andrew were keen to understand the challenges and opportunities on Our Whenua.



Left to Right: Kaumatua Ray Rakena, Aramiro students - Jordan Calai, Matariki Edwards, Freedom Tawha, Chairperson - Mariu Tai-Rakena, Aramiro tutor - Liz Lawson, MP - Meka Whitiri, MPI - Andrew McConnell, Trustee - Lena Edwards

Aramiro Taiao – Fencing and Planting project

As communicated at our 2020 owners AGM, Aramiro Ahu Whenua Trust was successful in securing \$699,000.00 from MBIE provincial growth fund to complete 22kms of fencing and planting to protect Our Wai, restore Our Whenua and provide employment opportunities for Our people



Work began in January 2021 with weed spraying, site clearance and fencing. To date our kaimahi taiao team have completed 7.5 kms of a combination of 7 wire post batten and 3 wire electric fencing and 12 km of site weed clearance and preparing areas for planting.

Acknowledgement and thanks to our Kaimahi Taiao Team particularly Lesley Kereopa who is employed fulltime to complete this two year project. Lesley supported by Mehaka Smith previous graduate of VMI course, Liz Lawson, VETEL course tutor, Brett Te Whare, Luke Hartnell of Hartnell Services, Tonkin & Taylor ecology team and our current Agriculture level 2 students make up the current Taiao team. The trust is actively working towards more employment/training opportunities for our whanau.



Left to Right: Lesley Kereopa, Liz Lawson, Mehaka Smith



Whanau Planting Days July 2021 – Nau mai haere mai whanau

To further support whanau engagement on Our Whenua and with our Taiao team.

The below dates are open to our landowner whanau to come along and help protect our waterways by planting natives and sharing korero and kai. Kai will be provided on the day

Please bring your spade and share a day with whanau on Our Whenua

DATES	TIME	MEETING POINT	COMMENTS
Saturday 24 th July	10.00am	Shearing quarters – Orongo Road entrance/ Not through the farm please as roadworks are still underway	Site and planting plan will be provided on the day Leaders: Brett Te Whare & Lesley Kereopa
Sunday 25 th July	10.00am	Shearing quarters – Orongo Road entrance/ Not through the farm please as roadworks are still underway	Site and planting plan will be provided on the day Leaders: Brett Te Whare & Lesley Kereopa
Saturday 31 st July	10.00am	Shearing quarters – Orongo Road entrance/ Not through the farm please as roadworks are still underway	Site and planting plan will be provided on the day Leaders: Brett Te Whare & Lesley Kereopa
Sunday 01 August	10.00am	Shearing quarters – Orongo Road entrance/ Not through the farm please as roadworks are still underway	Site and planting plan will be provided on the day Leaders: Brett Te Whare & Lesley Kereopa

If you have any questions please email the trust: admin@aramiro.nz

Aramiro Rawa Taiao - Feasibility Studies

It is a pleasure to announce that on the 22nd of February 2021 we were also successful in securing \$188,900.00 from Te Puni Kōkiri Whenua Māori Fund to complete feasibility studies that will help the Trust and Our Whanau Owners decide the best use of Our Whenua going forward.

The trust has partnered with Tonkin & Taylor to undertake the below 5 feasibility studies

1. Native ecology/repository – To better understand our natural resources, identify and locate taonga species within the Aramiro Native Forest (900ha)
2. Future proofing for Climate change – Assessing water storage options to supply existing & future growth needs e.g. horticulture, native nursery, papakainga housing and drought management
3. Feasibility of establishing a native plant nursery onsite
4. Post-harvest options for our 600ha pine forest once de-harvested by 2026
5. Horticultural crop production opportunities on Aramiro Whenua

The trust has completed SLA and contracts with our funders and service providers. Nga mihi nui Te Puni Kōkiri for the support.

Whanau engagement and participation through wananga and hui will be posted to the website

Please keep an eye on the website www.aramiro.co.nz for upcoming wananga dates.

We also acknowledge our whanau owners from further away and overseas, therefore, we will also explore online hui opportunities

Again, nau mai haere mai whanau.

Aramiro Forestry Update June 2021

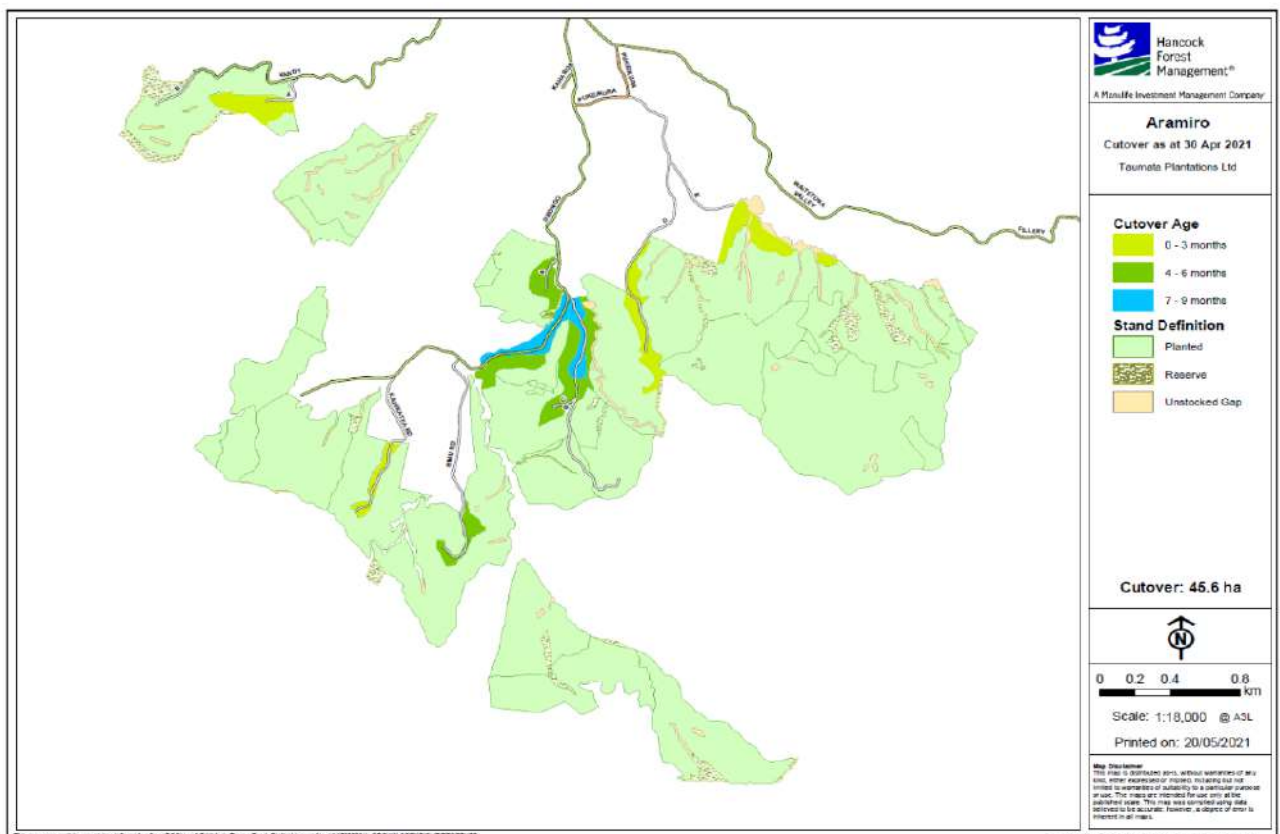
Based on actual and planned harvest rates, it is estimated that the harvest of Aramiro Forest will take approximately 5 years

Volume/areas harvested to date:

Total area (ha)	564.5
Total area harvested (ha)	45.6
Log volume (t)	31743
Area remaining (ha)	518.9

Operations completed to date:

- 10.5km new road construction
- 2 new bridges
- 2 large diameter single culvert crossings & 1 low level box culvert crossing
- Dust suppressant applied to neighbouring council roads
- All new construction hydroseeded or hay mulched to control soil erosion & runoff
- NO staff injuries



Harvest plan next 12 months May 2021 – June 2022:

Harvest Type	Tonnes
Salvage	35,000
Hauler	35,000



Based on the above works underway and planned for 2021 the trust is not permitting hunting at this time. The safety of all our whanau including those working onsite is paramount

Aramiro Stream Monitoring – Wai Maori

Ensuring the preservation of our taonga species and the health and wellbeing of our waterways is a priority for the Trust and Our Owners

In December 2020 The trust working alongside HFM developed quarterly stream monitoring reports and scorecards using the Rapid Habitat Assessment protocol to monitor 8 sites

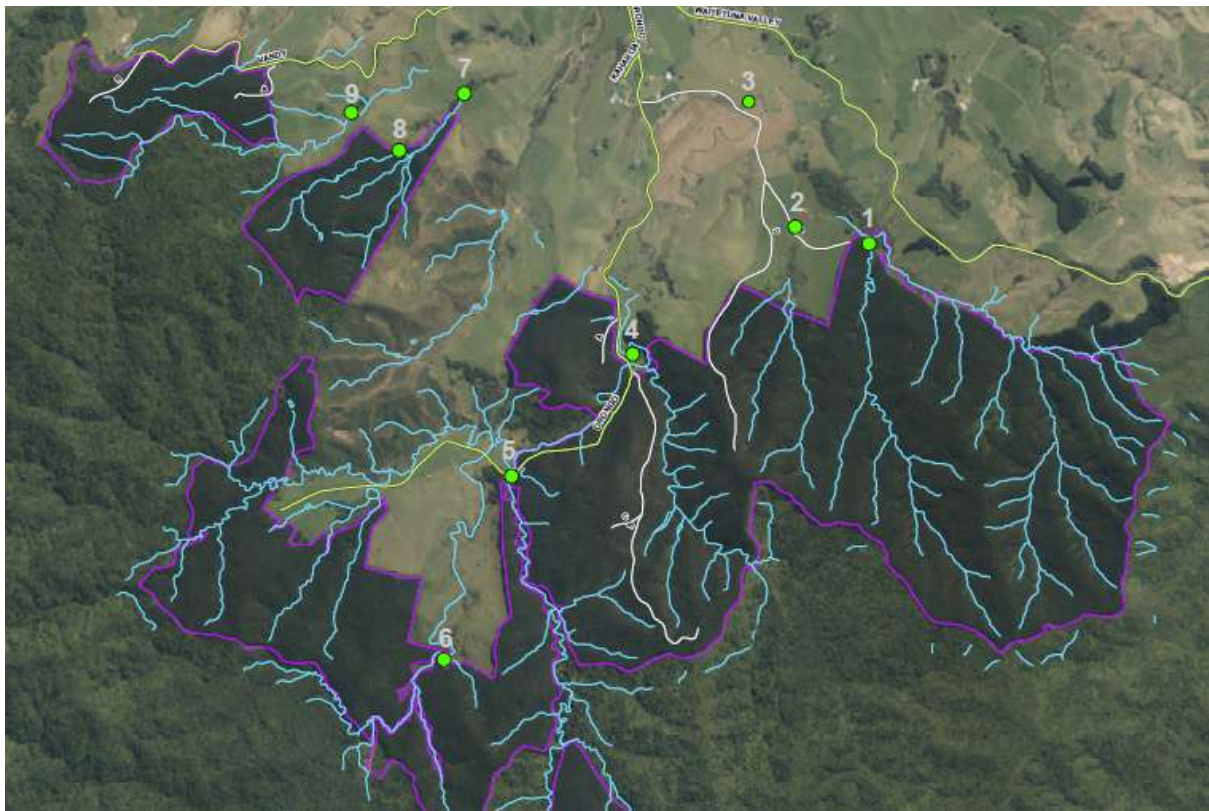
We have also begun eDNA monitoring to record species present and or not present. These samples will be taken annually

Our objective is to measure and monitor the impacts of harvesting on our stream health at Aramiro

We look forward to sharing the full report at this years AGM meeting.

Our next assessment is scheduled for September 2021 – Again, we welcome whanau interest in joining the team monitoring programme. It is a full day process as most areas are covered on foot so decent footwear and some fitness required. Please make contact with the trust via email

admin@aramiro.nz



Aramiro Farm Update



Farm report

Stock policies are continuing to develop as the farm allows for more sustained management to be applied.

Return on investment for our fertiliser spend is allowing us to have flexibility to market our stock rather than having only one opportunity to sell, e.g. Weaners.

We have achieved sales of weaners and finishing cattle ahead of last years figures, with favourable comments and feedback from stock agents and leading processor companies.

Supplementary feed (1100 silage bales) has been made over a bigger area. This also allows us to feed animals more consistently through times of low grass growth in summer/autumn and winter.

This together with a targeted fertiliser programme is making for a more sustained approach to our livestock business.

Maize silage was grown this year which allows for earlier harvest and fits better our farm feed supply needs.

We achieved yields around 20 tonne of dry matter/ha which was more than satisfactory.

Returns on this met our expectation and will be grown again in the 2021/22 season.

With regard our fertiliser strategy, we are currently reviewing our latest soil test results taken in late June and considering our further understanding of how we both increase return on investment but also a future move to more Biological/Regenerative farm system.

Lots more work to be done here as markets and consumers recognise the value of products supplied from these types of Holistic approach systems.

The change in farm systems is gradual as we have to start from a low fertility and high weed burden farm.

As we finish off fencing the forestry roads, this too is making for easier shifting of stock as we “Share the Roads” with the forestry harvest and roading teams. At times this has been challenging.





Agriculture Level 2 – Aramiro Whenua Based Training

On 22nd of March 2021 Aramiro and Valley education took in its second intake of students with a particular focus on our rangatahi

It is an entry level programme that runs for 26 weeks and includes most of the farm vehicle, machinery and infrastructure aspects but also includes animal handling. This programme also gives our rangatahi an opportunity to work towards their NCEA level 2.

Our students are currently in their 17th week and have embraced the hands on whenua based training with ease, they are busy working on farm fencing repairs, shifting/handling our stock, feeding out and working on taiao projects. The course also includes introductory to motorbikes and quadbikes, safe handling and healthcare of cattle and weed control

Poipoia te kakano kia puawai Nuture the seed and it will blossom

Get in touch via email admin@aramiro.nz if you would like to join the course or know of rangatahi that would be interested.



June 2021 Student Trip to Mystery Creek Field day Left to Right: Jojo Maniapoto, Jordan Calai, Matariki Edwards, Liz Lawson, Brett Te Whare

We hope you have enjoyed the above updates and look forward to sharing more at our 2021 AGM.

Ma te atua e manaaki, e tiaki Tena koutou katoa

