Comprehensive Stormwater Discharge Consent Renewals

Stormwater Management in the Waikato – An Unexpected Journey

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Stormwater 2024
15–17 May | Tākina Wellington Te Whanganui-a-Tara

Agenda

Background

Project Overview

Our Approach

- GIS Tools
- Ongoing Stormwater Management
- Iwi Consultation
- Stormwater Network Management Plan

Summary

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Background

Comprehensive Stormwater Discharge Consents

Operating for past 20+ years

Similar timing of consent renewals across the Waikato Region

Project Overview

Collaboration between Morphum Environmental, Te Miro Water, and EnviroPlanning with Waikato Regional Council and numerous District Councils in the Waikato Region.

Focus on updating comprehensive urban stormwater discharge consents that have been operational for over 20 years.

Rare opportunity to use this window to significantly change the approach to stormwater discharge consents across the Waikato region.

Renewal effort prompted by regulatory changes, including the NPS-FM 2020.

Project Overview

Issues Identified

- Limited time & budget available
- Lots of technical assessments and reports required to address application requirements
- Inconsistencies between neighbouring Councils in their approach to stormwater management
- Huge workload put on small number of Council staff to keep up with compliance requirements
- Limited iwi engagement in previous applications

Our Approach

Changes proposed from previous discharge consents:

- **GIS tools** to reduce reporting requirements, ensure easily accessible detailed data, and provide easy to interpret stormwater management solutions.
- A focus on the **implementation and management** of existing and future stormwater services.
- Stronger focus on **iwi engagement** during the consenting process.
- Development of a **stormwater network management plan** to assist Council in the ongoing communication and management of their network.


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The Council of
Hauraki
Pūkorokoro
Miranda
Shorebird Centre
The Council of
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Te Aroha
Mountain
The Council of
Waitomo
The Caves of
Glittering Wyrms
The House
of Kiwi
The Council of
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Hobbiton
Maungatautari
The Council of
Otorohanga
Blue Spring
The Council of
South Waikato
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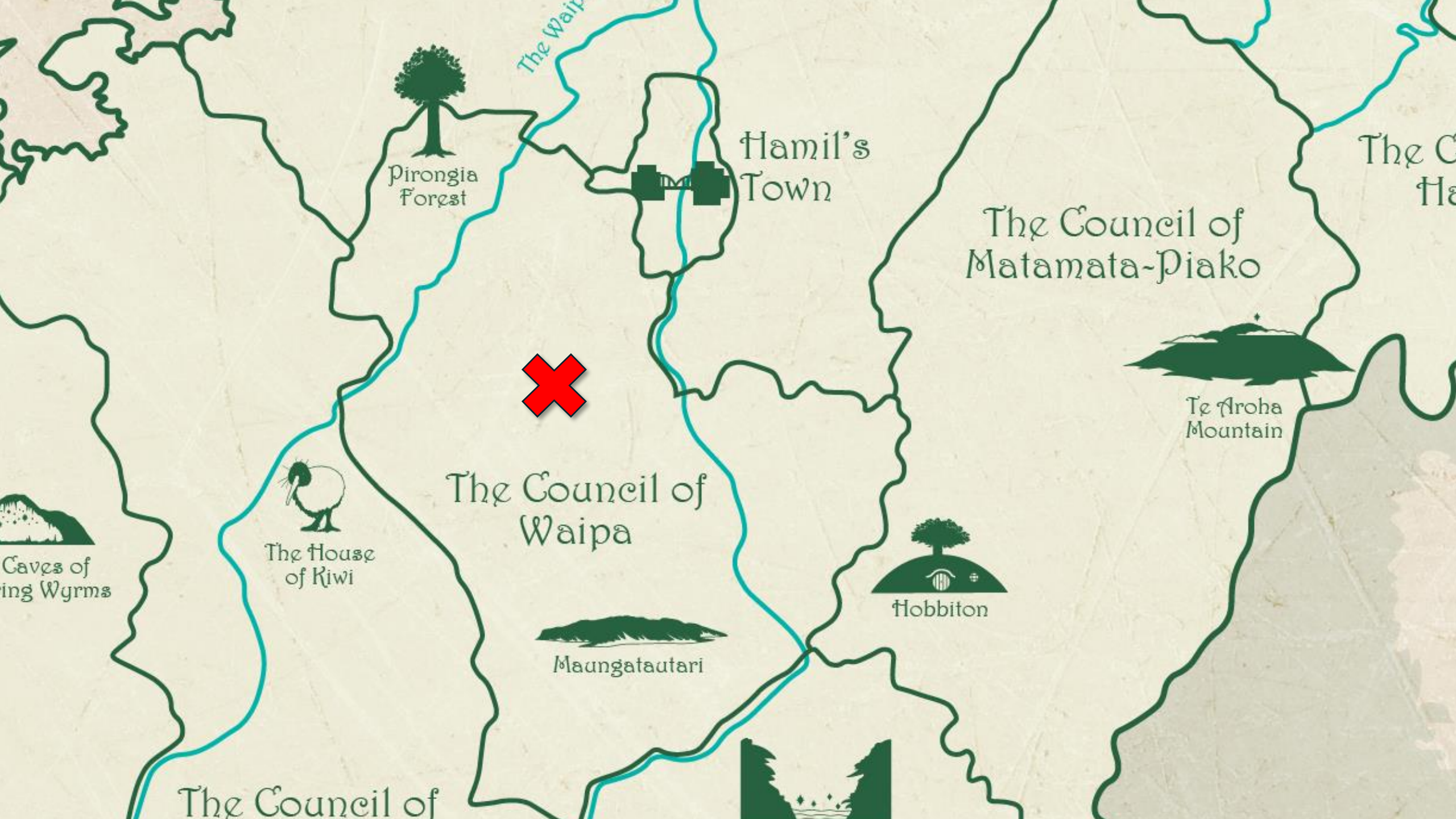
Wells
The land of
Waikato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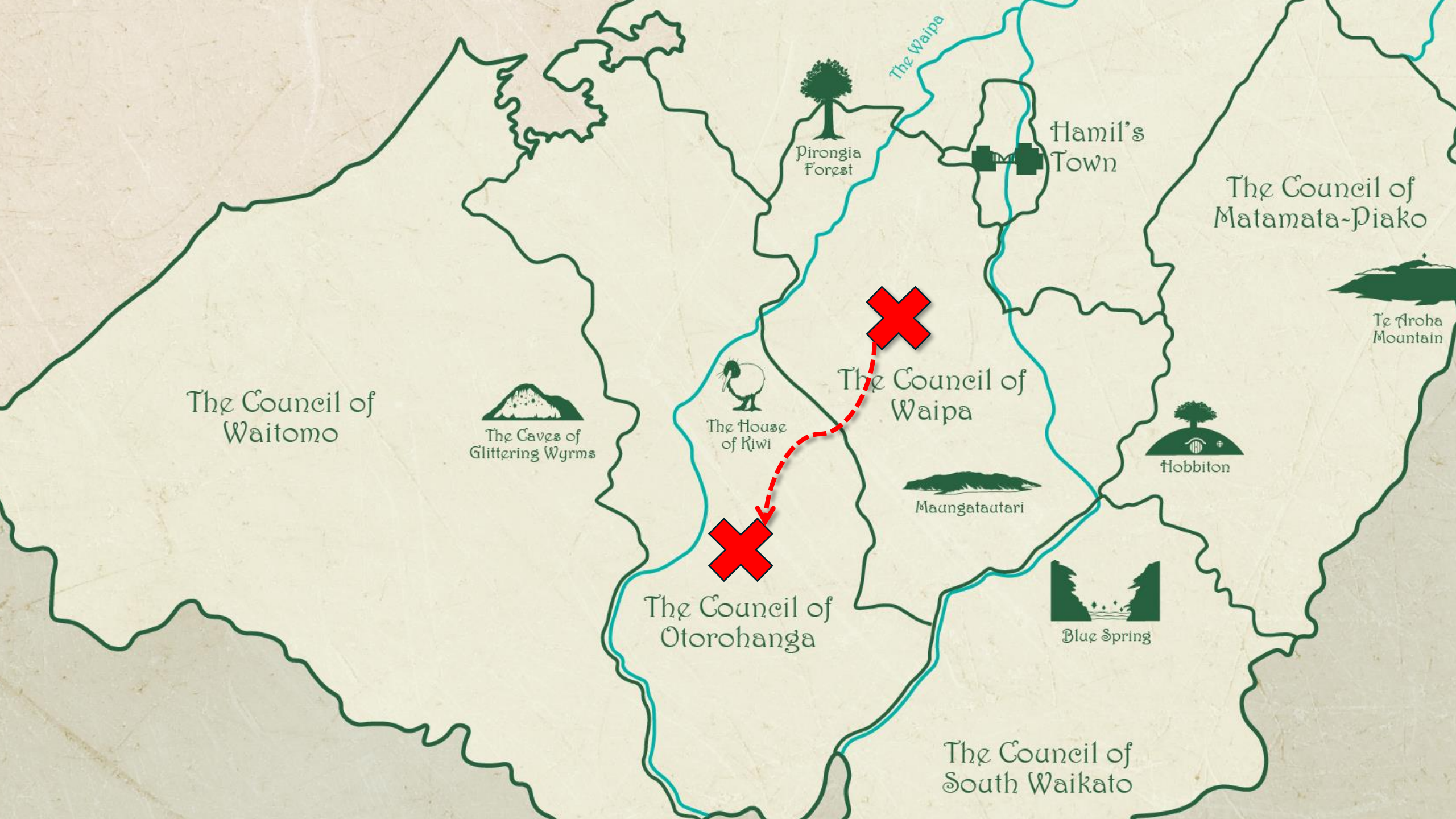
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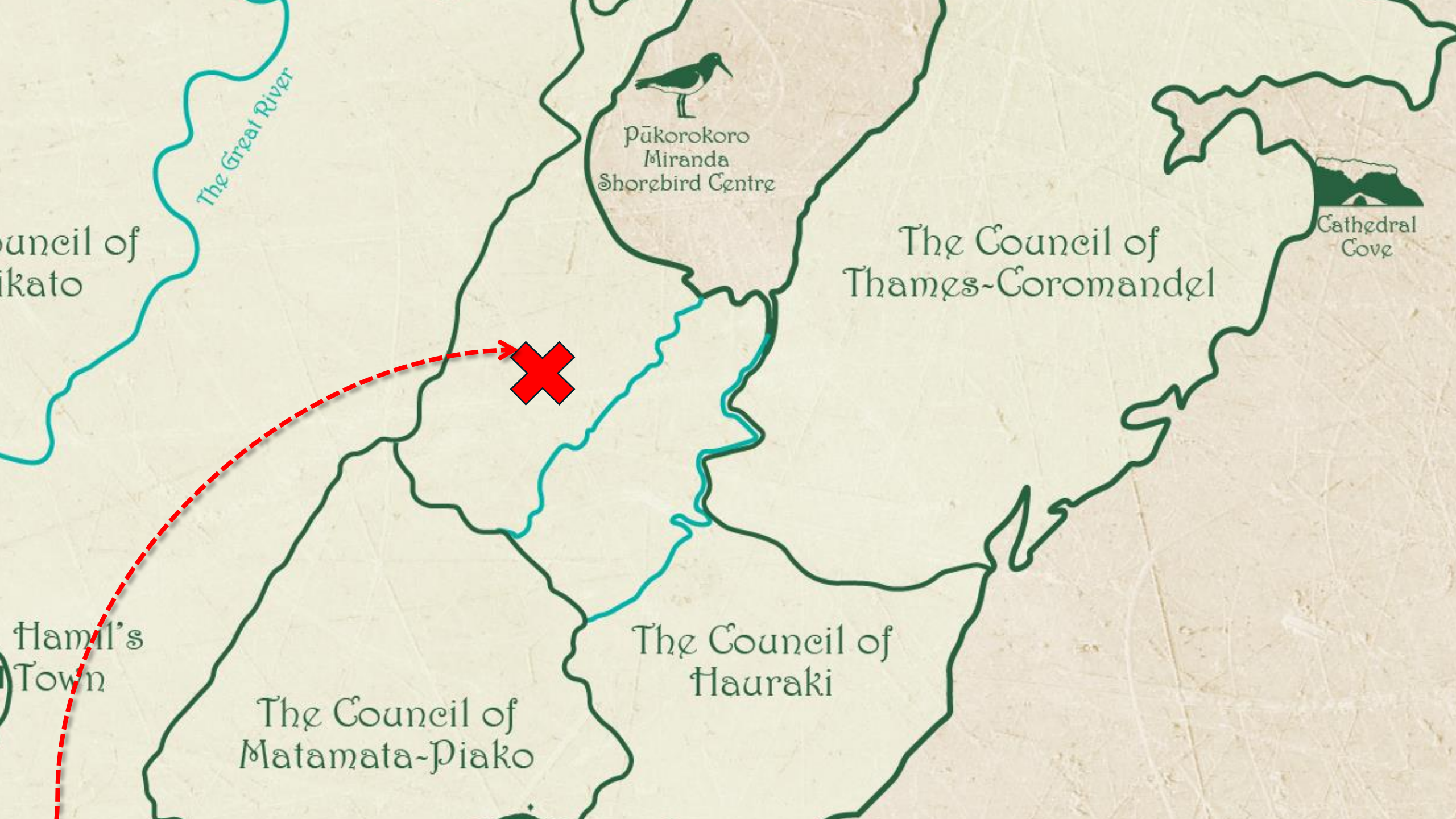
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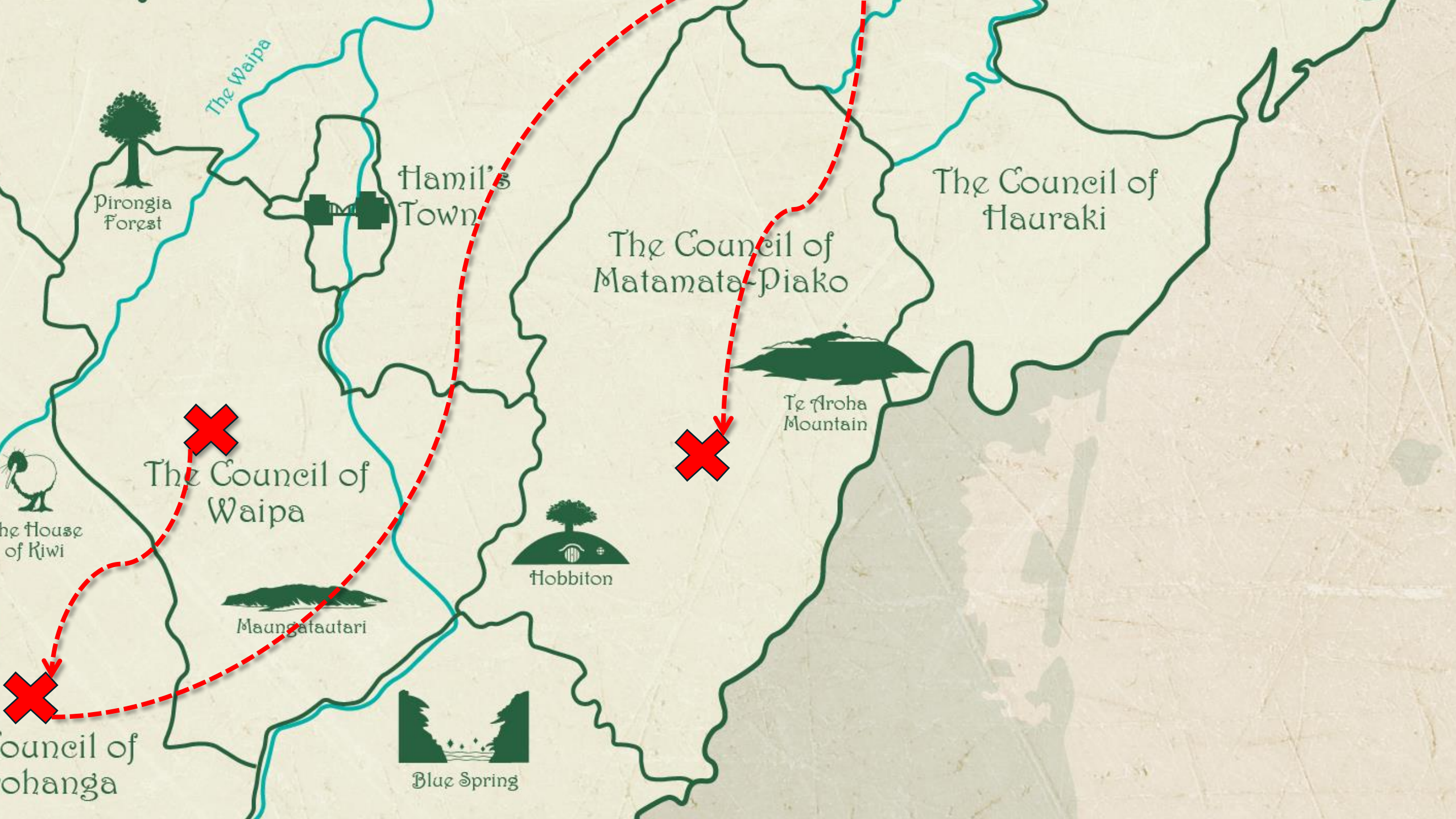
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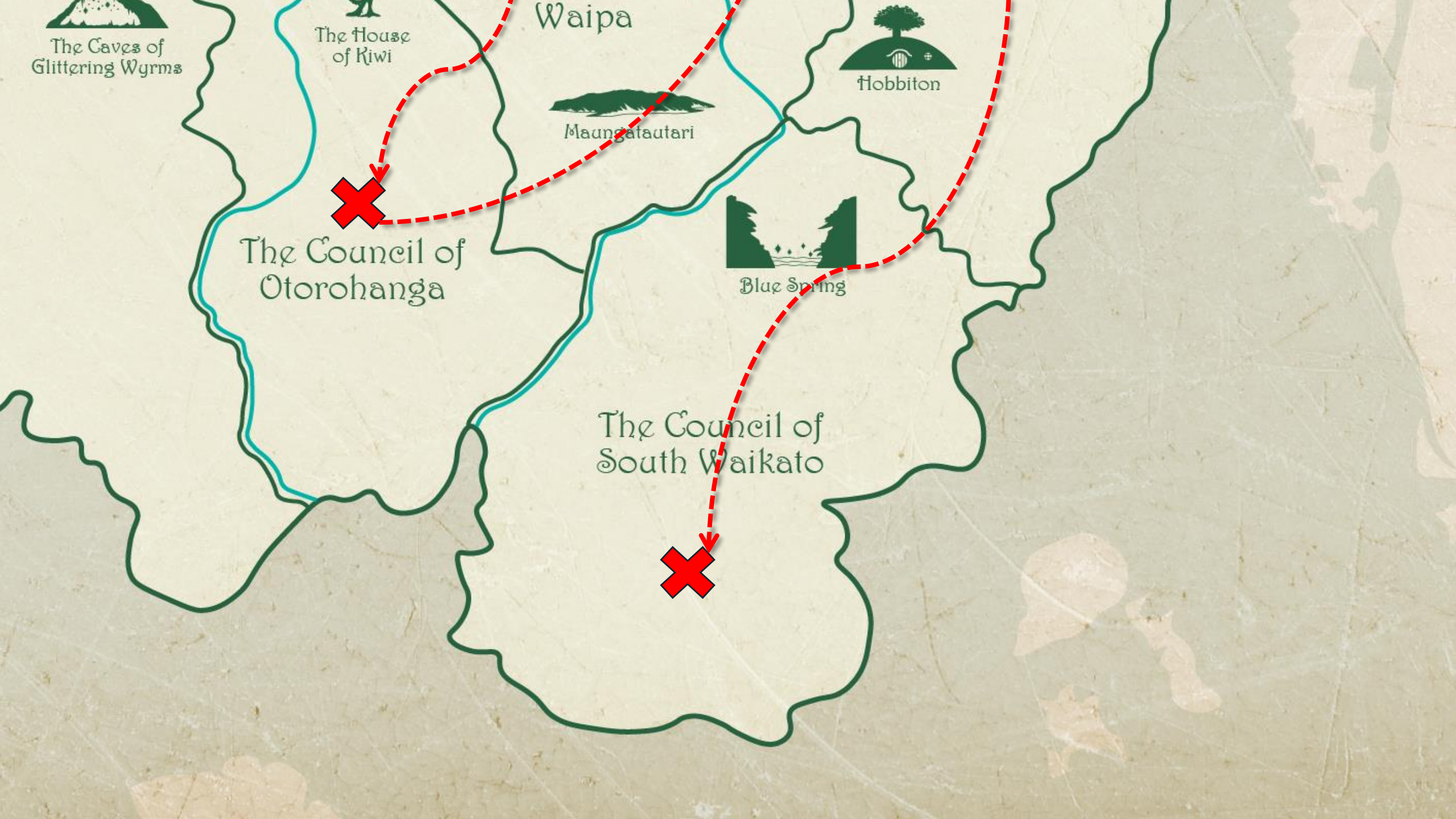
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The Council of Waitomo
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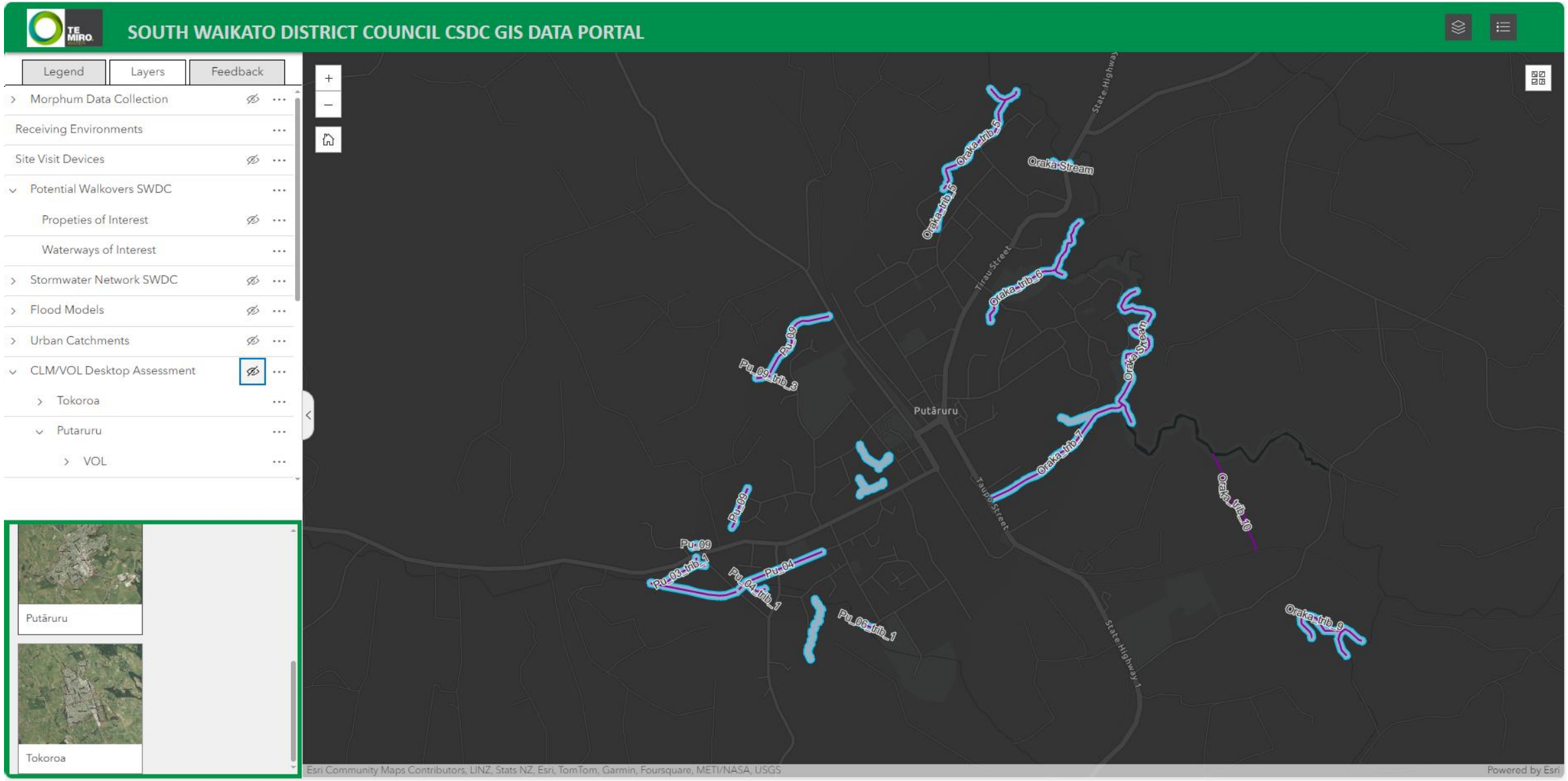
GIS Tools


SOUTH WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL CSDC GIS DATA PORTAL
Legend
Layers
Feedback
Morphum Data Collection
Receiving Environments
Site Visit Devices
Potential Walkovers SWDC
Propeties of Interest
Waterways of Interest
Stormwater Network SWDC
Flood Models
Urban Catchments
CLM/VOL Desktop Assessment
Tokoroa
Putaruru
VOL
Putāruru
Tokoroa
Oraka_trib_5
Oraka Stream
Oraka_trib_6
Oraka_trib_7
Oraka_trib_10
Oraka_trib_9
Pu_09
Pu_09_trib_3
Pu_03_trib_4
Pu_04
Pu_04_trib_1
Pu_06_trib_1
State Highway
Tirau Street
Taupo Street
State Highway 1
Esri Community Maps Contributors, LINZ, Stats NZ, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS
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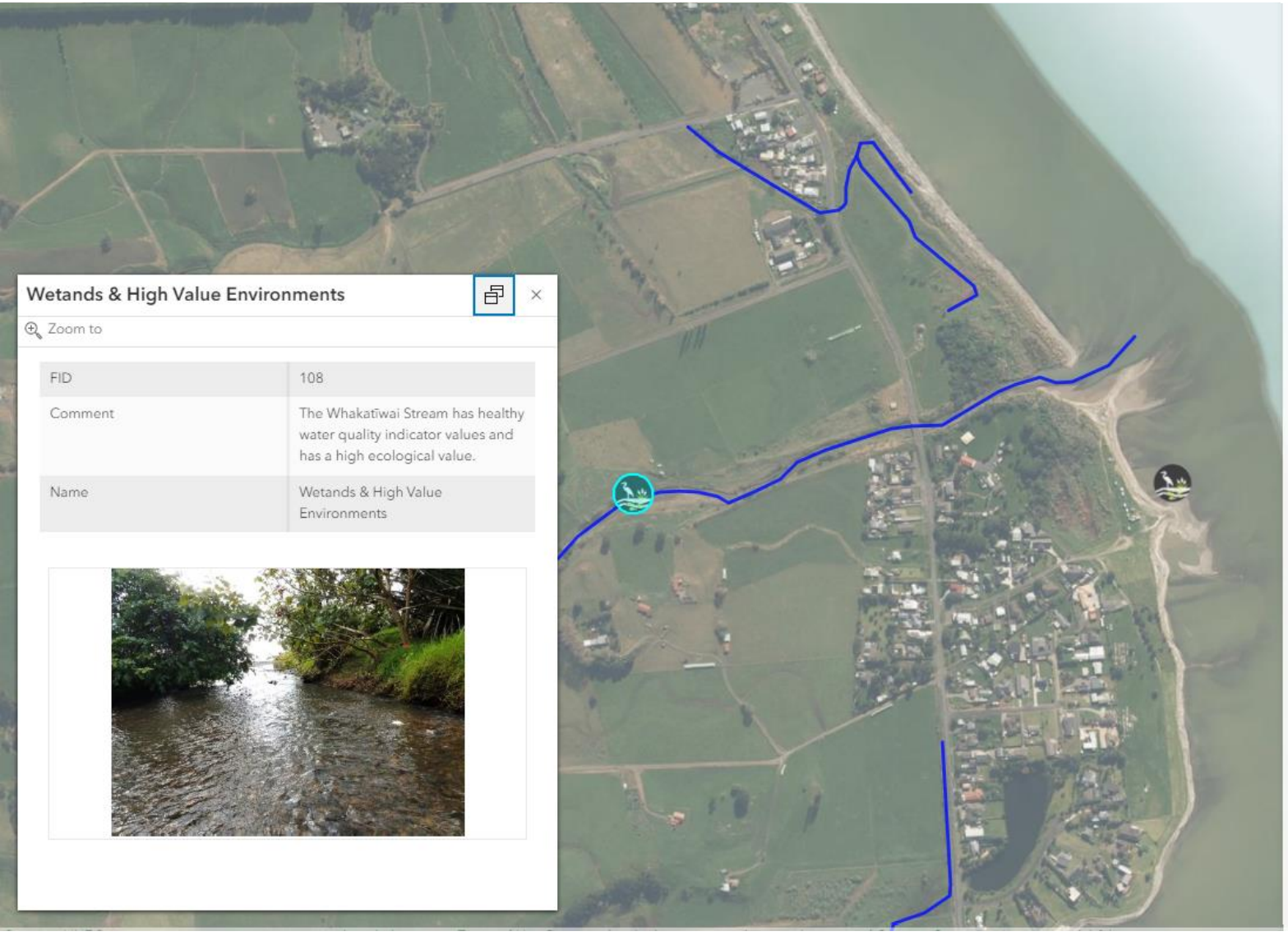
GIS Tools



Identified Effects

Key Areas or Issues

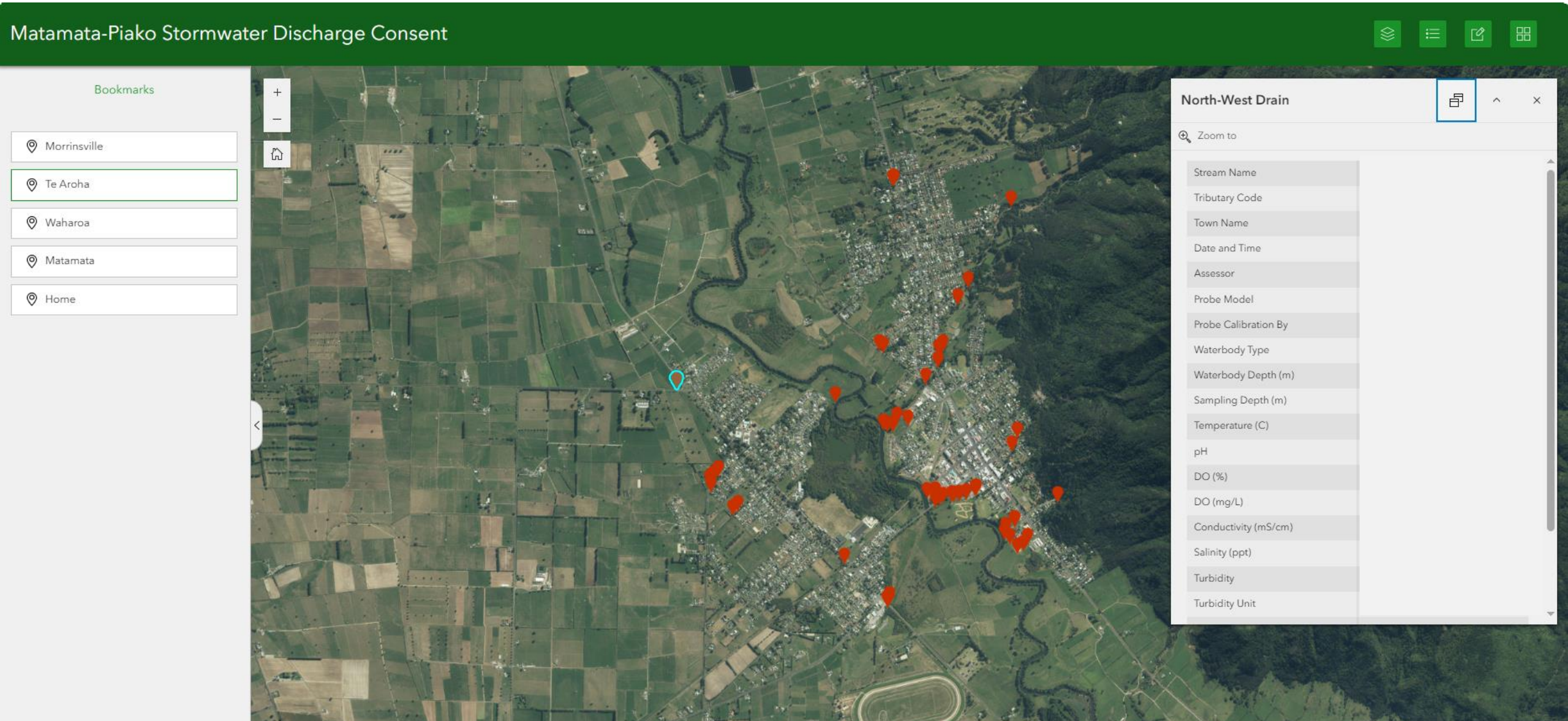
- It is noted that ⊕ council land is present through parks and coastal areas.
- The community have indicated that they would like a ⊕ stopbank upgrade.
- There is an ⊕ artificial pond maintained by residents

Specific Effects

- ⊗ Wetlands and High Value Environments- The river and the coast are high value environments.
- ⊕ Level of Service- There is evidence that these stopbanks may be eroded, and the level of service is unknown.
- ⊕ Flooding- Much of the coastal plain, is at or below mean sea level. Sea level rise will restrict the capacity of the coastal river systems and therefore is projected to increase the frequency of overbank river flooding events, particularly on low-lying coastal plains

Further details can be found here

GIS Tools


Matamata-Piako Stormwater Discharge Consent
Bookmarks
Morrinsville
Te Aroha
Waharoa
Matamata
Home
North-West Drain
Zoom to
Stream Name
Tributary Code
Town Name
Date and Time
Assessor
Probe Model
Probe Calibration By
Waterbody Type
Waterbody Depth (m)
Sampling Depth (m)
Temperature (C)
pH
DO (%)
DO (mg/L)
Conductivity (mS/cm)
Salinity (ppt)
Turbidity
Turbidity Unit

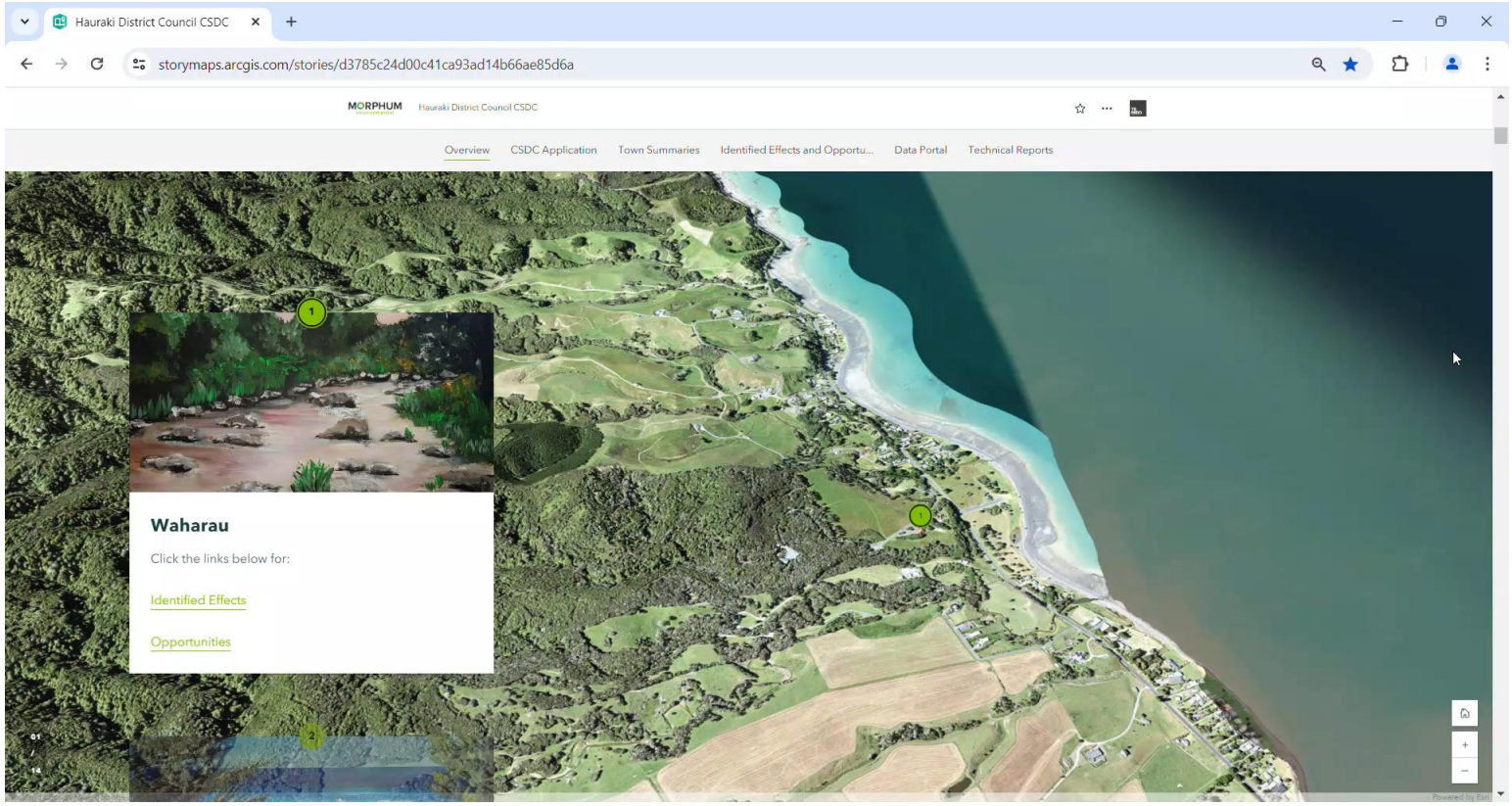
GIS Tools

What worked well?

- Excellent tools for storytelling and consolidating large quantities of data
- Once built, the tools can be easily adapted to suit each Council
- Significant reduction in the amount of report writing required
- Very beneficial having a single source of truth for all the project data

What didn't?

- Can be time consuming to build some elements
- Councils all have different GIS capabilities and systems
- Variance in end users being familiar and comfortable with GIS



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On-going SW management

- Significant time and costs invested
- Important to address regulatory requirements
- Critical to ensure it continues into the future

HOW DO WE KEEP IT ALIVE?

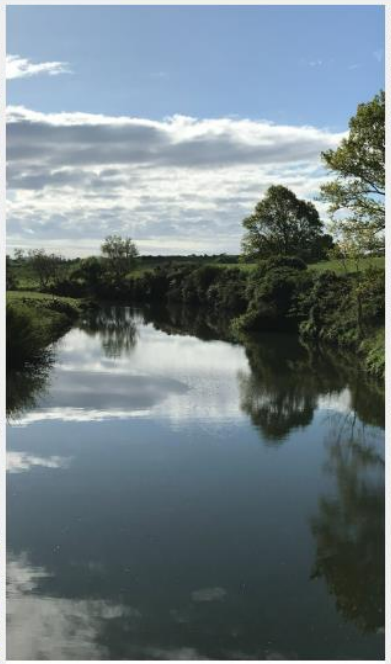
On-going SW management

- Engaged with Waikato Regional Council early and regularly
- Worked with Council(s) and stakeholders to seek and improve based on feedback
- Shared ideas across the Districts i.e. monitoring applications

On-going SW management

Hauraki District Council Stormwater Management

Technical Assessments



Stormwater and Receiving Environment Monitoring Plan

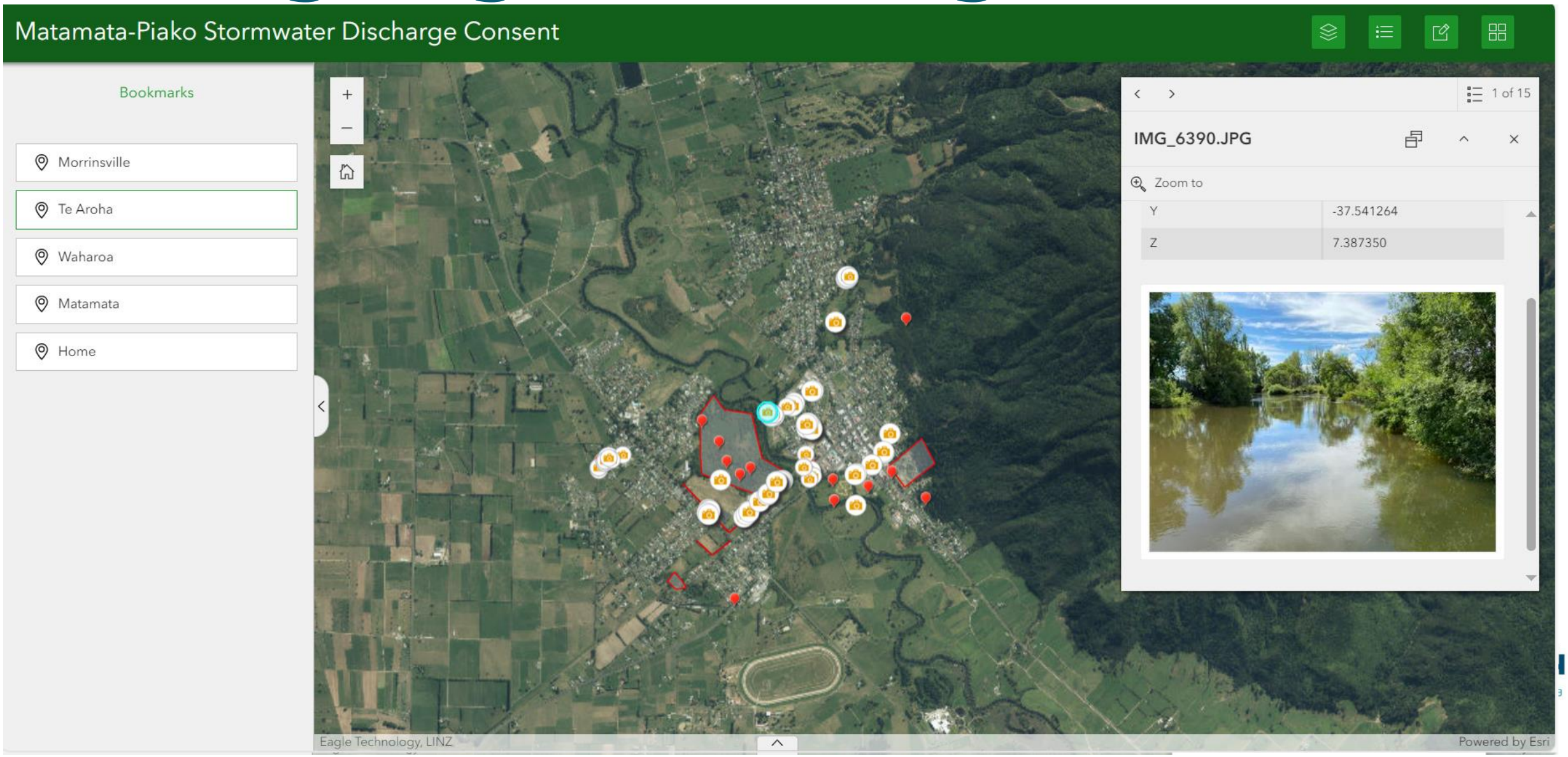
Final Report

GIS Data Portal

Participatory Mapping

Water Quality Monitoring

On-going SW management



On-going SW management

What worked well?

- Good engagement with stakeholders early
- High energy in seeing what can be done
- Great sharing of ideas and feedback
- Important to keep developing

What didn't?

- Lower use of some tools later in the project when engagement reduces
- Emails with numerous links

Iwi Engagement

What worked well?

- Terms of engagement – payment
- kanohi ki te kanohi (face-to-face) communication / hui
- Early and continued engagement

What didn't?

- Competing priorities for mana whenua i.e. treaty settlements taking precedence
- "Rushing" - need to manage RMA timeframes with meaningful engagement

Stormwater Network Management Plan

What worked well?

- Engagement with wider Council teams i.e. parks, roading, planning, building consents
- Workshops

What didn't?

- Getting collective by-in often difficult
- Assuming someone else is responsible internally

Summary

- Rare opportunity to overhaul the approach to stormwater discharge consents in the Waikato region.
- Acknowledged the limited value and infrequent use of 20-year-old consent applications.
- Substantial technical assessments, time, and costs involved in meeting CSDC regulatory requirements.
- Increased focus on iwi engagement, incorporating cultural values and indigenous storytelling alongside scientific insights.
- Prioritised leveraging data, processes, and outputs from the CSDC application process for ongoing use by District Councils.
- Aimed to enhance understanding and management of stormwater networks for improved efficiency and effectiveness beyond the application phase.

Thank you!
Questions? Patai?

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