

SUPER CHARGE your data collection

when participating in
**COMMUNITY-BASED MONITORING (CBM)
OF FRESHWATER ENVIRONMENTS**



All across Aotearoa New Zealand, community and catchment groups are monitoring the health of their local freshwater environments. Many groups are monitoring to detect changes – or trends – over time.

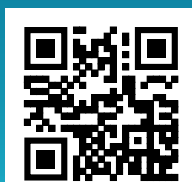
HELP YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

The data your members collect can help detect changes in freshwater quality – but only if the monitoring is done systematically, over a long period of time, and the results and other critical information (e.g., monitoring sites and methods) are made available for others to access.

Consider the following to maximise your group's efforts:

- **Establish a clear monitoring purpose**, e.g., nutrient reduction, sediment control, sharing with others (e.g., NZ Landcare Trust, Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust, local authorities). Make sure you gather data that helps achieve your group's aim. It's never too late to define your direction!
- **Collect robust data**. Undertaking consistent, accurate data collection over time is key.
- **Safely storing and sharing your data** (e.g., via social media/online maps/website) inspires others and can help fill knowledge gaps.

For help defining your group's monitoring purpose, selecting appropriate methods & improving the quality of your data collection, [download this comprehensive guidance manual:](#)



HELP AOTEAROA!

Currently, there is no nationally coordinated system that records key information such as:

- **where** CBM group monitoring sites are located
- **how long** groups have been monitoring
- **what indicators** are being monitored
- **what methods** are being used to collect the data
- **what training** and quality checks are in place.

This means that your group's efforts might not achieve their full potential. Addressing this could not only benefit your group, but also help improve regional and national environmental reporting and modelling.

If your group:

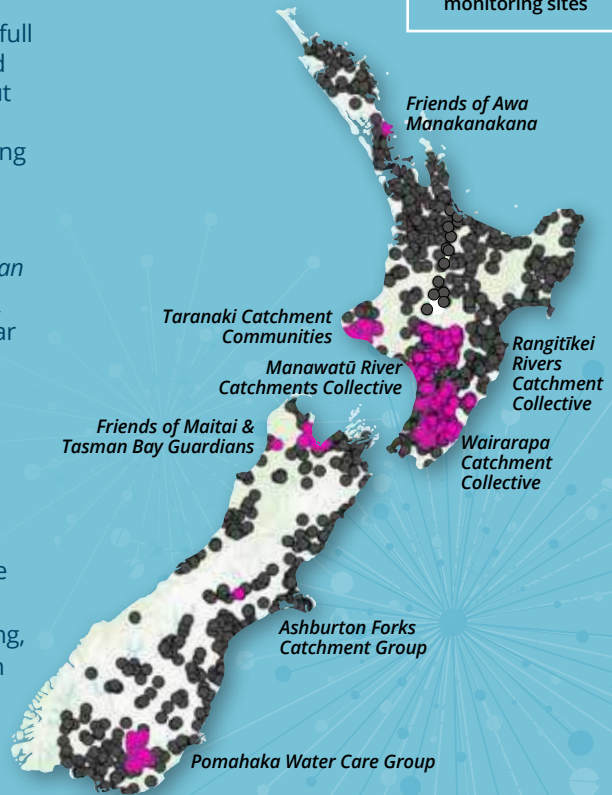
1. has a *Monitoring & Quality Plan* in place ([template available online](#)) which contains a clear monitoring purpose, which answers to the bullet points above, and
2. shares that plan along with your monitoring data,

then your group could significantly boost the collective efforts across the country. This will ensure better understanding, and improvement to the health of freshwater environments for future generations.

Map from Cawthron report about CBM in Aotearoa, find out more over the page.

● CBM sites

● Council State of the Environment monitoring sites



FOR MORE INFORMATION. SEE...

- **Cawthron report**

Quantifying catchment and community-based stream monitoring in Aotearoa New Zealand can be found on the 'Wai Connection' website by using the QR code on page 2, or go to www.waiconnection.nz/pages/resources

We thank these groups for their participation in the initial research to quantify CBM efforts across the country – Friends of Maitai, Tasman Bay Guardians, Pomahaka Water Care Group, Friends of Awa Matakanakana, Taranaki Catchment Communities, Rangitikei Rivers Catchment Collective, Wairarapa Catchment Collective, Manawātū River Catchments Collective, and Ashburton Forks Catchment Group.

- **www.waiconnection.nz**

'Wai Connection – Tatai Ki Te Wai' empowers community catchment groups by providing knowledge, tools and expert support to help identify issues in their local catchment area. There's a range of materials available to all in the Resources section.



If you want to know more about the CBM QA framework, or other info, email info@waiconnection.nz or engagement@eosecology.co.nz

Help us learn more about your community catchment group by filling out this [online survey](http://www.waiconnection.nz/pages/surveys)

Use this QR code, or go to www.waiconnection.nz/pages/surveys

