



# THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

## **MEDIA RELEASE – 5 July 2020**

### **Karamea Clean Streams granted \$520,000**

The West Coast Regional Council has been successful in gaining funding of \$520,000 on behalf of Clean Streams Karamea.

Clean Streams Karamea is a not-for-profit organisation, located in Karamea, which was founded earlier this year by Craig Stenhouse. The nursery and planting business provides services to farmers and community projects. Mr Stenhouse started the organisation with a small amount of government funding pre-Covid, modelling it on the successful Whaingaroa Harbour Care project in Raglan.

The project target will see 315,000 trees raised and planted along 80km of riparian margins to create a 5-metre setback for farm stock from waterways. The project will take 3-5 years and provide an opportunity for farmers in Karamea to advance riparian planting activities that will help future proof their farming operations.

Hadley Mills, Planning, Science and Innovation Manager at the West Coast Regional Council, said that the project is dedicated to protecting and enhancing waterways, while restoring native ecosystem functions and habitats around Karamea.

“The funding for Clean Streams Karamea will help boost the local economy, increase land values and deliver positive and enduring environmental outcomes for waterways around the area.”

Clean Streams Karamea is the only organisation offering a nursery and planting service in the wider Karamea area.

“The project has the support of the local community with a number of farmers already keen to begin planting on their farms,” said Mr Mills, “creating at least five full time jobs.”

Clean Streams Karamea provides a full riparian planting service including planning advice, eco-sourced plant propagation and planting out. Specialising in the distinct geographic region they can offer informed site specific advice, and plants.

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Seed from native plants is eco-sourced in Karamea to ensure plants grown are suited to the local conditions. Seed is collected and processed by staff and stored for sowing in spring. Seedlings are raised in trays in a shadehouse before being re-potted into root trainers and then planter bags and stored outdoors at the nursery. Growing these plants outdoors is essential to ensure they are hardy and acclimatised to the local conditions. Planting out occurs in winter.