

Site HM1 – Waipa at Otewa

First draft May 2008: revised January 2009.

Hydrometric site number: 43481

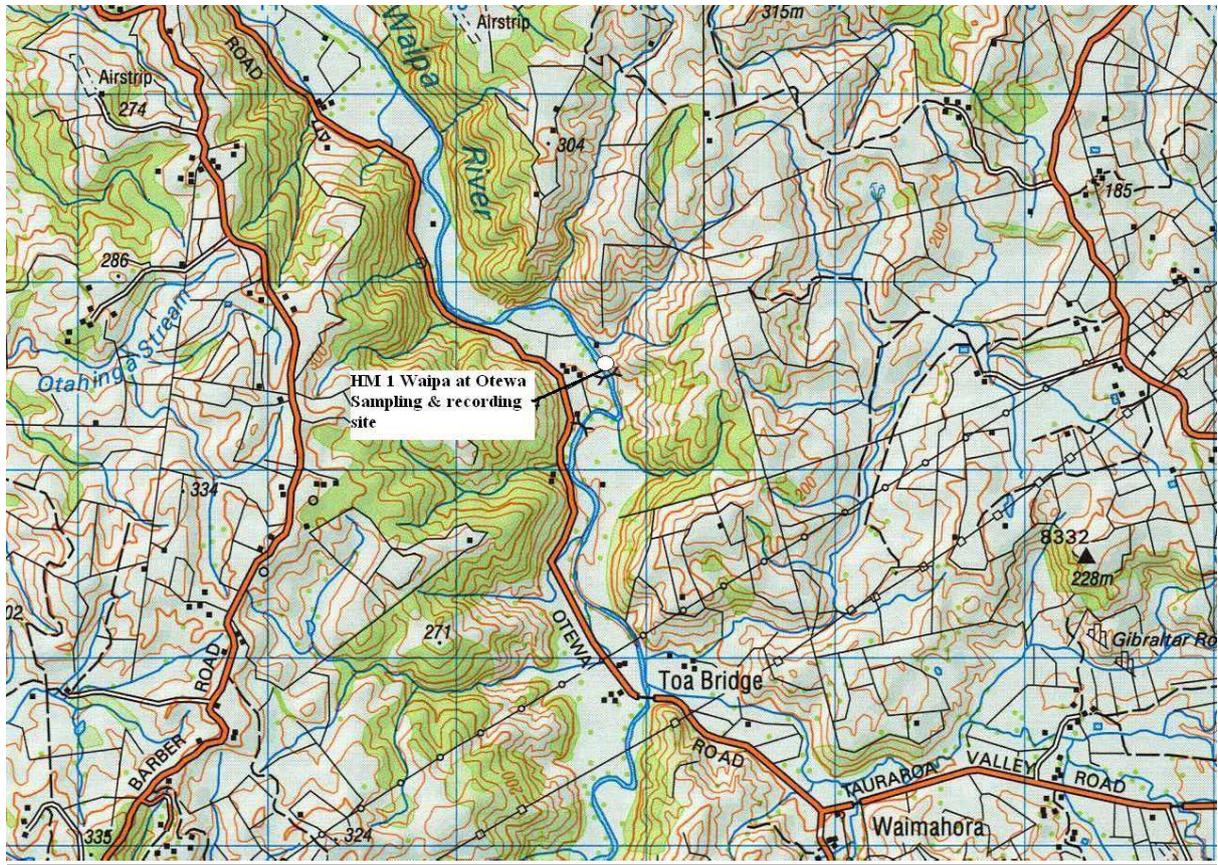
Sampling Location: NZMS 260 S16: 157 235

Flow measurements: Flow is measured about 100m above the current sampling site; the flow site is operated by Waikato Regional Council. The site is relatively stable; the average number of rating per year is 0.9. The data reliability is estimated to be very good. Flow records began in May 1985. The initial flow recorder site was a stilling well and shaft encoder, logging every 15 minutes and it was located about 50m upstream of the swing bridge. The site was moved due to erosion problems, to the swing bridge in April 1996. Water level recorders have since consisted of an ultrasonic sensor (April 1996 to January 1999), VegaPuls radar (January 1999 to June 2007) and the present recorder is a Gas Bubbler pressure sensor; data are logged at 5 minute intervals.

Sampling site: Between 1989 and 1996 was from or beneath the swing bridge. The present site is 100m downstream; this site was selected for its better year round access. Invertebrates are collected downstream (~40m) of the current water quality sampling site. From 13 November 2008, the DO meter changed from the original YSI model 58 to the HACH Model HQ40d. The new meter employs a luminescent probe technology and stirring of the sample is not required to get a final, stable reading.

Catchment: There have been some changes to the catchment's land use since the start of the NRWQN. The catchment is predominantly farmland, dairying and dry stock. In 2005 the left bank (above and below the sampling site) was fenced to keep stock from grazing the bank. During 2006 a small hydro power scheme was built in the headwaters of the catchment, land was cleared and a significant land slip occurred following a rain event.

Site location



Site photo and sampling/assessment details



Photo taken September 2007.

