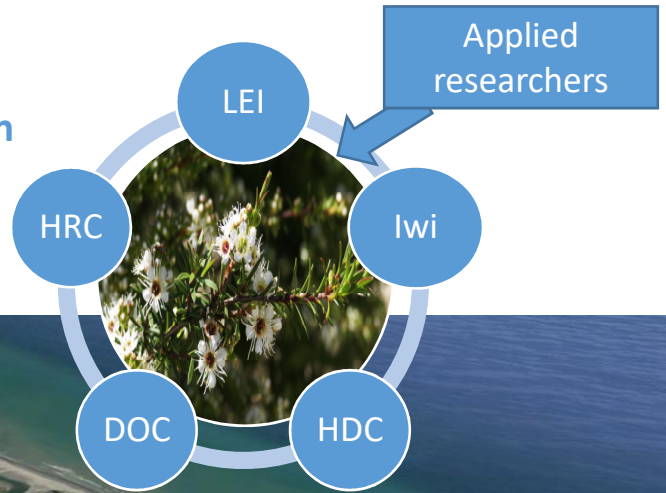


Water quality improvement in the Waiwiri catchment through strategic establishment of native ecosystems with bioactive properties used at a land treatment site.



The pine plantation surrounding “the Pot” receives treated effluent from the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant. This discharge results in elevated contaminant levels in the Waiwiri stream. Replacement with native ecosystems will mitigate potential movement of contaminants into ground and surface water, enhance biodiversity, protect vulnerable soils and improve water quality in the Waiwiri catchment.

Waiwiri stream

The Pot

Recent research has shown that bioactive/antimicrobial compounds produced by native plants, especially mānuka and kānuka, can inhibit the conversion of ammonia into nitrate and nitrous oxide, and also enhance the die-off of pathogenic organisms in the wastes that pass through their root systems:

Reductions in nitrate and E. coli leaching

