

**IECA Environmental Excellence Awards 2020
 Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Joint Venture Entry**

Project Name: Huntly Section, Waikato Expressway

Marketing Statement

The Huntly Section of the Waikato Expressway was one of Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency’s most technically challenging greenfield projects in terms of the terrain overcome, environmental and ecological complexities and cultural agreements implemented. It has set new standards for the delivery of major infrastructure projects, ensuring significant cultural, ecological and environmental values are protected and enhanced.

The area within and around the project site goes back to the earliest settlement period of inland Waikato and has strong connections to tangata whenua. This rich history and strong cultural connection set the scene for significant engagement, mutual respect, and shared learnings between Waka Kotahi, the project team and iwi.

The project team applied extensive erosion and sediment controls (ESC) across the worksite within diverse ecosystems ranging from rolling to steep pastoral hill country, wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams, and native forests. In total 250 individual ESC elements were installed to protect the receiving environments.

The project team’s work alongside iwi in a guardianship role protected ecologically and culturally significant waterways, wetlands and open spaces while major earthworks and structures operations were delivered. The permanent waterways, planting, and ESC elements have resulted in a significantly healthier environment surrounding the new expressway corridor.

