

STEPS Vision for Meola Creek

- Meola Creek headwaters contain clean water
- its associated springs and aquifers are also clean
- aquifer is recharged and creek has a consistently higher average flow throughout the year
- creek does not have frequent wet and dry weather peak flows due to channeled runoff/ sewer outfalls
- natural ecological processes in the catchment help to sustain health of creek
- minimal delivery of sediment, sewage and runoff to Waitemata Harbour

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Meola Catchment

- Largest catchment on the Auckland Isthmus
- Largest single source of silt, sewage and runoff into Waitemata Harbour
- Very low base flows
- Several piped sections – especially Haverstock Rd
- Combined sewers are a root cause of pollution
- Serious weed / biosecurity problems



Publicly owned by Auckland Council – its health is in our hands

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Flooding October 2010



Outlet from 96 Haverstock Rd
Largest sewer outfall in Auckland

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Flooded Boardwalk June 2010



1m high flooded land and boardwalk near Megacentre and St Lukes Garden Apartments









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STEPS Major projects

- STEPS built a program of projects late in 2008 including

Project	Current Status
Designate a route for a mountain to sea walkway – along Meola Creek from Owairaka Mt Albert to Meola Reef.	No progress 
Upgrade the Watercare services interceptor , increase Metrowater sewer capacity, and stop using the creek as an overflow for sewage and street runoff	Dates set for "Supertunnel" 2021-2025 
Plant Kerr Taylor Reserve	Completed 
City Planning to score Meola Creek/ aquifer/ Owairaka ("creeks, springs and cones") and give heritage protection in District Plan	Several submissions but no Progress – Unitary plans 
STEPS replanting wetland in MAGS grounds	Completed 
Co-ordinate all activities	No progress 
Maintain Roy Clements Treeway as ecological area	Not achieved. Some traps and monitoring. 
Daylight (reinstate) the creek above (south of) Mt Albert Grammar School	No progress 

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MAGS Farm Tributary Protection



- Before and after fencing by MAGS in 2010
- Native plants now growing



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Maintenance of Creek and Plantings

- Weeds and Biosecurity are a major issue
 - Noxious weeds – in Roy Clements and creek up to 96 Haverstock Rd
 - Hundreds of hours of volunteer work
 - Council contractors not coordinated
 - Storm water
 - Parks
 - Skills gaps – no awareness of ecological areas
- Solution: Maintain as an ecological area

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Wetland planting Site – Kerr Taylor Park



No mowing – Bog approx 6 months of the year!

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Upper Meola Creek - to be daylighted

April 2009

Nov 2011
- no maintenance

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Water Losses from Meola Catchment

- Winstones have rights until about 2030 to take significant amounts of water from the top of the catchment
- In 2010-2011 we worked with other community groups on The Three Kings Quarry "Clean Fill " proposal by Winstones
- We became aware that approx 2500 cubic meters of clean water is being pumped daily over the hill by Auckland Council/ Watercare and straight into Manukau Harbour

STEPS Plans

- To claim the water rights back in order to boost base flows
- Meanwhile request Council to reroute clean water back into Meola Catchment

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Immediate Requests to AELB and Auckland Council

Activity	Who	When
Project Management Grant	AELB	December 2011
Upgrade creek protection in the Unitary Plan	??	
Provide skilled maintenance of plantings as an ecological area	Council	2012
Re route Meola Headwater back into Meola Catchment	??	
Organise for Mayor to meet with Business Community to help raise Awareness	AELB	Q1 2012
Plant fringe wetland in lower Kerr Taylor Park	Council and STEPS	Winter 2013

Meola Creek health is in our hands

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Joint Actions with Auckland Council and Albert Eden Local Board

Activity	Who	When
Monitor and support Central interceptor progress		
Designate a route for a mountain to sea walkway – along Meola Creek from Owairaka Mt Albert to Meola Reef		
Review and action planting plans as per "Te Ngahere plan"		
Daylight the creek above MAGS	AELB and Council	
Joint strategy for bio-security		

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