



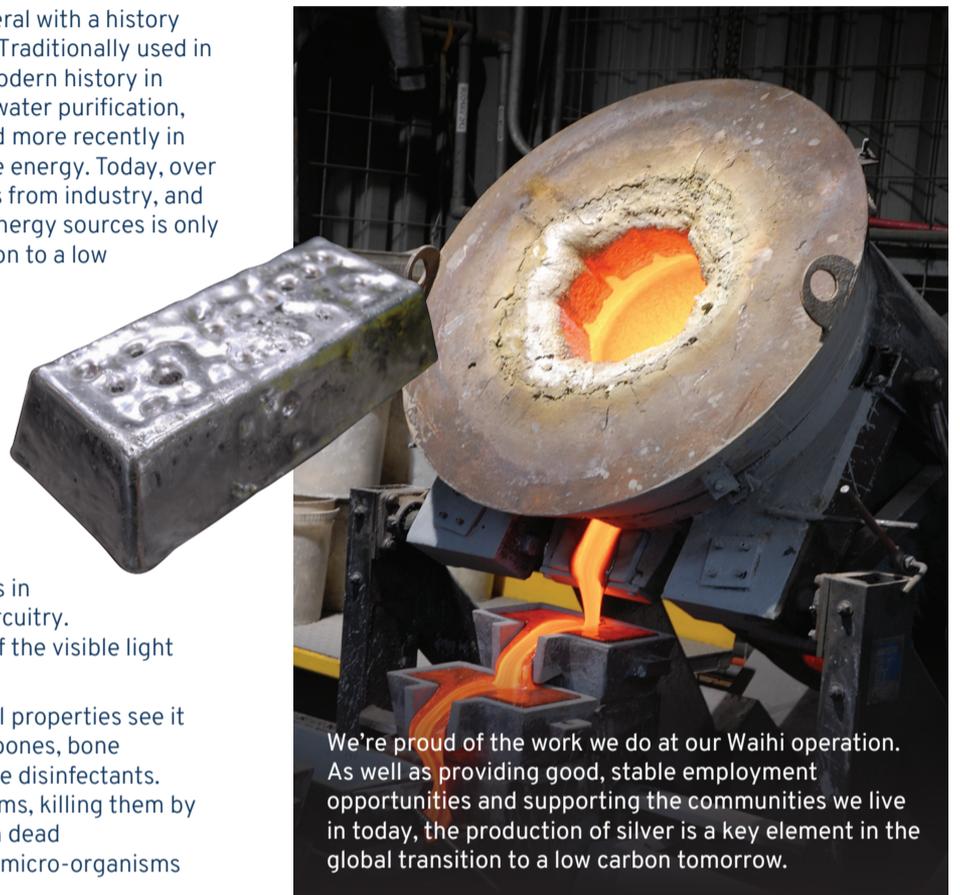
The many uses of Silver

While gold is our main business at Waihi, we are also a significant silver producer as well. Our Waihi operation currently accounts for over 96% of New Zealand's entire silver output. Globally, about 85% of the total silver supply comes from mining, with around 15% from recycling metal that has been used before.

Silver is a soft, white, lustrous mineral with a history that dates back to at least 600BC. Traditionally used in coins, silver has found a place in modern history in photography, medicine, jewellery, water purification, mirrors, industrial applications, and more recently in complex technology and renewable energy. Today, over half of the demand for silver comes from industry, and the future demand for renewable energy sources is only expected to increase as we transition to a low carbon future.

Silver's application in advancing technology includes its use as a critical component in solar panels, circuit boards, smartphones and 5G technology, electric vehicles, batteries, and even space technologies. Silver exhibits the highest electrical and thermal conductivity of any element. These properties allow for the smallest losses in power and the least heat released in circuitry. Silver also has the highest reflectivity of the visible light spectrum of any metal.

The precious metal's natural antibacterial properties see it used in medical devices such as artificial bones, bone scaffolding, catheters, ointments, and some disinfectants. Silver is readily absorbed by micro-organisms, killing them by disrupting their basic functions. The silver in dead micro-organisms is then consumed by living micro-organisms and the antibacterial cycle is repeated.



We're proud of the work we do at our Waihi operation. As well as providing good, stable employment opportunities and supporting the communities we live in today, the production of silver is a key element in the global transition to a low carbon tomorrow.

Biocontrol of Tradescantia at Waihi

Tradescantia (commonly known as "wandering willie") is an invasive weed that smothers native vegetation and can cause dermatitis in dogs and other animals.

Originally introduced to New Zealand in 1916, it spreads rampantly and is now found commonly across the North Island as well as in parts of the South Island.

Working with the Environmental Protection Authority and Landcare Research, in 2019 the Waihi Environmental Team released an approved biocontrol agent called the "Tradescantia yellow spot fungus". The fungus was originally released in an area near the Baxter Road Gatehouse to help control infestations of the weed on-site.

It is a 'host specific' fungus, so it cannot spread to non-target species. The fungus works by damaging the leaves of the host plant, eventually causing them to shrivel and die. During the lifecycle of the fungus, it also spreads via spores to infect nearby tradescantia plants, meaning large areas of infestation can be controlled easily.

The first release has seen great results, with the entire infestation almost completely disappearing within two years.

Next, the cleared area will be replanted with native species and the fungus can be introduced to other locations around site to further control the weed.

LEFT-TOP: The infested area before yellow spot fungus release.

LEFT: The area after yellow spot fungus release.



Due to the current COVID-19 climate, we have postponed our planned Correnso and Project Martha Community meeting originally scheduled for Thursday the 3rd of March at 5:30 pm. We will confirm a new date and time when possible through our regular channels. Apologies for the inconvenience and we look forward to catching up with the local community when it is safe to do so.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT US.

Community Engagement Line: 0800 924 444 | Project Information Office: 86 Seddon St., Waihi.
Email us via our website: www.waihigold.co.nz

NOTE: WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY BLASTING IN THE MARTHA OPEN PIT. CHANGES TO THIS WILL BE NOTIFIED.