

OceanaGold UPDATE

May 2023



WATER TREATMENT AT WAIHI

Unlike many mines around the world, which are often operated in dry climates, the Waihi site operates with a net surplus of water due to both operational dewatering activity and rainfall on site. Because of this net water surplus, water management is an integral part of operations. Our water treatment plant exists to treat this surplus water prior to discharge to the Ohinemuri River.

We use water in our refining processes, taking 40 m³ of water on average a day from the Ohinemuri River. However, we also discharge 9,500 m³ of water to the Ohinemuri on average a day; over 230 times what we draw.

Our water quality discharge limits are designed to protect both the aquatic biology of the river and downstream users, with these limits based on the USEPA guidelines for the protection of aquatic life (in-stream) where such appropriate limits exist, and other guidelines where appropriate. Compliance limits for the treated water quality parameters are set based on a dilution factor.

Our consents currently allow up to 52,000 m³ per day to be discharged from the Water Treatment Plant, or up to 60% of the river flow, depending on which is the lesser. For this reason, flow meters exist to record the treated water discharge volumes. The river flows are monitored using a river level recorder. Regular river gauging is carried out to ensure that the river level provides an accurate indication of the river flow.

Baseline studies of the water quality and aquatic biology of the Ohinemuri River and

its tributaries originally commenced in 1981, several years before modern mining began, and this work continues today. At present, we maintain nine biomonitoring sites around the Waihi area: both upstream and downstream of the discharge locations of our operation. Sites include the Ratarua, Mataura, and Waitete streams, as well as in the Ohinemuri itself. In addition, ten river sites are regularly monitored for water quality. An independent 'Annual Biomonitoring Report' is conducted for site, comprising analysis of water state, habitat, and aquatic flora and fauna. Results are reported to Waikato Regional Council for independent review and the report is also published on our website (www.waihigold.co.nz/reports-and-plans/reports).

The latest report concludes that "In general, the data indicates the adverse effects from OGNZL's mining operations during the 2021/22 monitoring period have been less than minor."

Multiple years of data, in-house monitoring, and external verification and study of the local waterways has helped contribute towards the Ohinemuri River being one of the most comprehensively studied and understood river ecosystems in New Zealand.

OCEANAGOLD WAIHI IS ONCE AGAIN PROUD TO SUPPORT THE NUGGET MULTISPORT FESTIVAL

There are race options for all ages and abilities, and all of the five Nugget events feature the beautiful scenery of Waihi or Waihi Beach.

Each course finishes with a cold drink at the amazing event base / finish line alongside Waihi's iconic Cornish Pumphouse.

There are also lots of great spot prizes, including seven nights at the Bularangi Villa in Fiji, a Ruahine kayak, Salming trail shoes, sports watches, and much, much more...

Entries are open until Friday 12th May. www.thenugget.co.nz



The OceanaGold Water Treatment Plant at Baxter Road.

INVESTING IN OUR HOST COMMUNITY

SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS APPROVED IN MARCH

Bowtown Boating Club - Junior fishing tournament	\$500.00
Waihi Floral Art Club - Thames Valley Area Day hall hire	\$300.00
Waihi Kahui Ako - Costs for guest speaker at event	\$1,616.00
Waihi Tennis Club - Junior coaching	\$2,475.00
Waihi Volunteer Fire Brigade - Accommodation & tickets to Sky Tower Challenge charity event	\$1,500.00
Whangamata RSA - Reconstruction of RSA Memorial at venue entrance	\$1,500.00
TOTAL	\$7,891.00



SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION FORM
www.waihigold.co.nz/sponsorship-donations



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

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