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**Our field trip...**

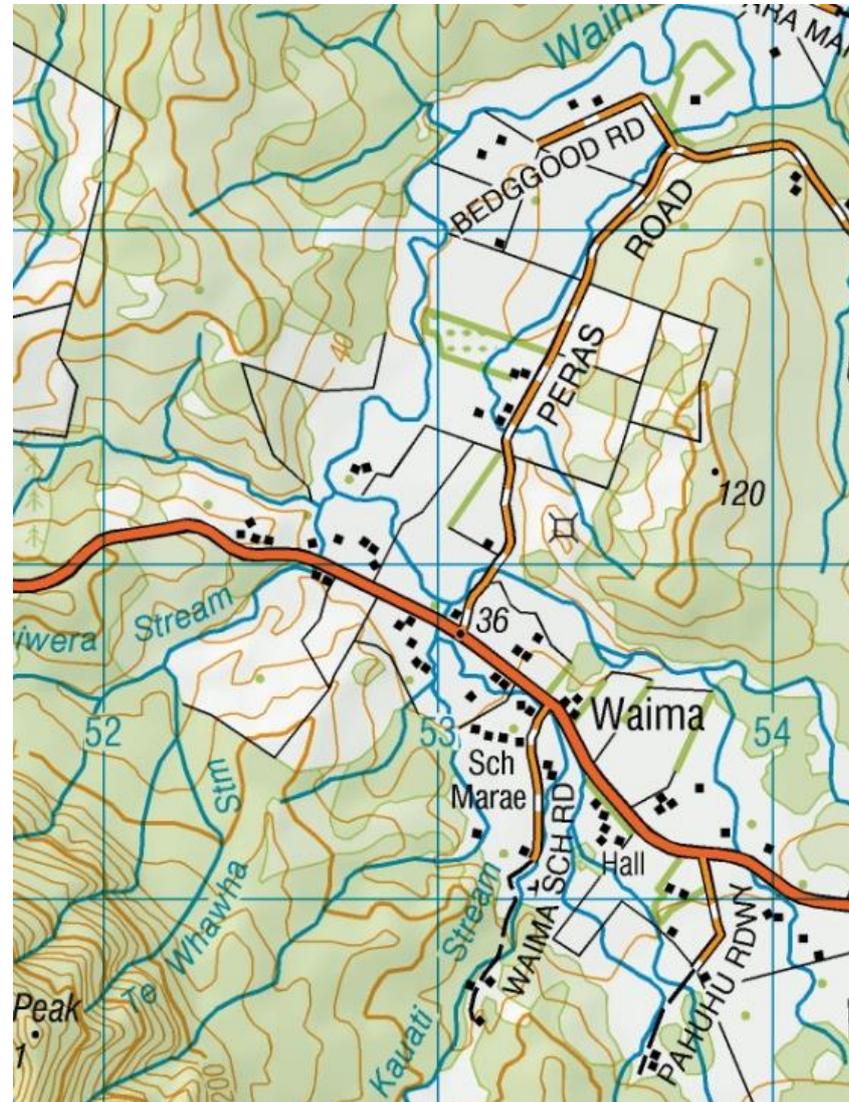
**Waima School**

**Stream**

**Investigation**

**Finding the treasure!**

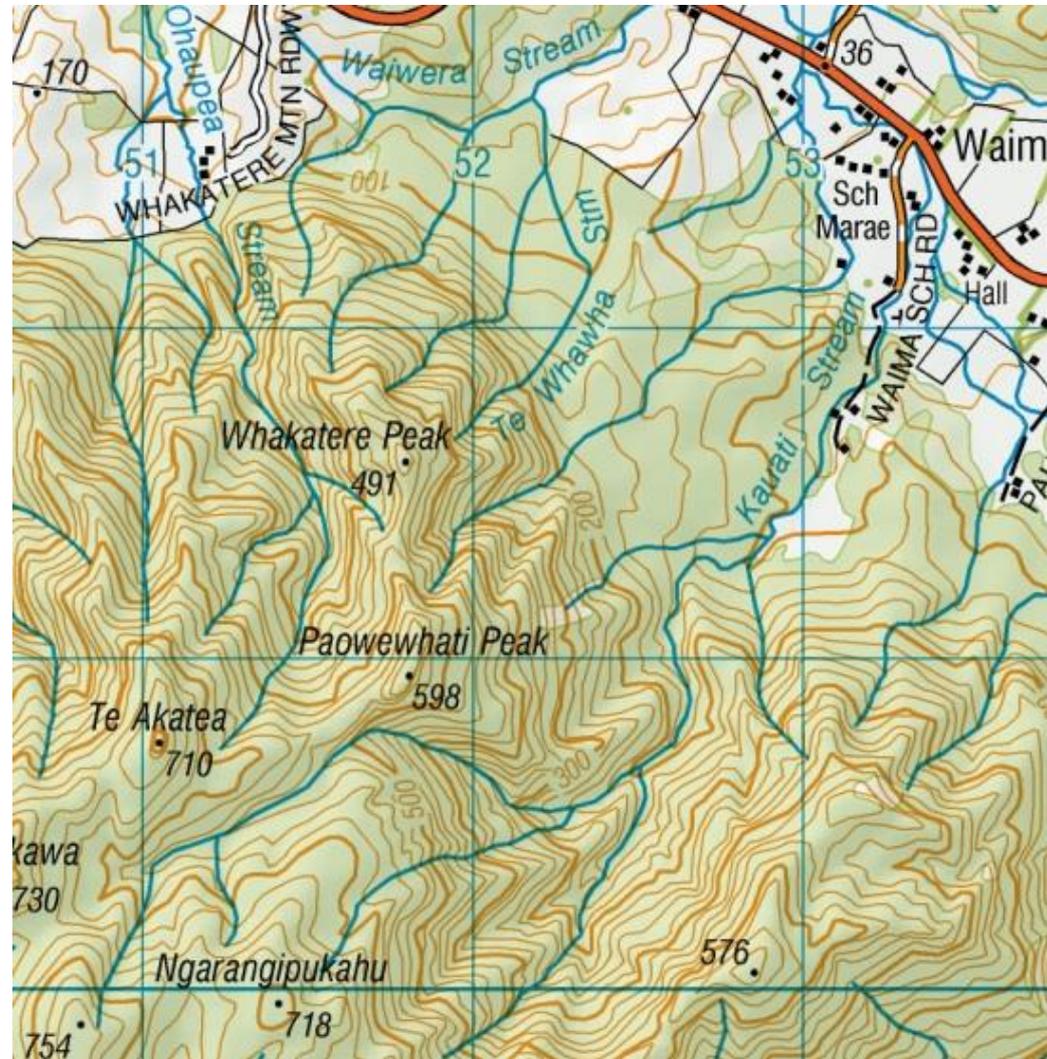
Can you find  
the waterway  
that we  
investigated?



Can you find the maunga at the top of the **catchment** where the Kauati stream starts?

What are the names of the peaks?

How high are they?





A little further down the catchment, the Kauati stream joins the Waima River. Can you find the Waima river on the map and follow its path to the Hokianga Harbour?



It's Friday June the 7<sup>th</sup> and we're getting into groups – ready to go on our field trip to investigate the Kauati Stream. Each group has some of the stream gear to carry.



It doesn't take long to walk to the first site.



Mr Wilcox helped to set some fish traps the evening before our field trip so he comes with us to help retrieve them. The first site is by a bridge that has quite deep channels with swift water running under it. The banks are steep and grassy. We could see that the stream comes from the forest and runs through farmland before it passes by the school.





One of the traps had a freshwater shrimp in it and a tiny pointy snail.



The next site, just downstream of the bridge, is our main investigation site. Here the water runs over pebbles and small rocks and some of them are a bit slippery.

We measure the flow rate by timing a plastic scoop as it floats 10 metres down the stream. It takes 12 seconds, so by dividing 10 by 12 we get a flow rate of 0.83 metres/second. It's a lively little stream and a good habitat for many stream critters!



One of the traps has an eel – tuna – in it but when Whaea Soozee tips it into the basin to look at it, the tuna wriggles out and makes its way back towards the stream

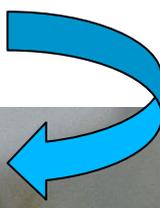
Eels can smell water and will move across land to find it – but they like to stay wet!.



We also measure the temperature of the water and checked its clarity. We can see about 60 cm through the tube when it's filled with stream water. 70 cm is considered really good for stream life so that's not bad as it was raining during the last few days which would have caused some run-off from the land to the stream.



By searching with our scoop nets and looking carefully under rocks, we also found



*Can you name these critters and find their sensitivity score?*



Freshwater shrimp or kouraura.  
Sensitivity score **5**



Woody cased caddisfly **5**



Common  
bully fish



Freshwater crayfish or koura.  
**5**

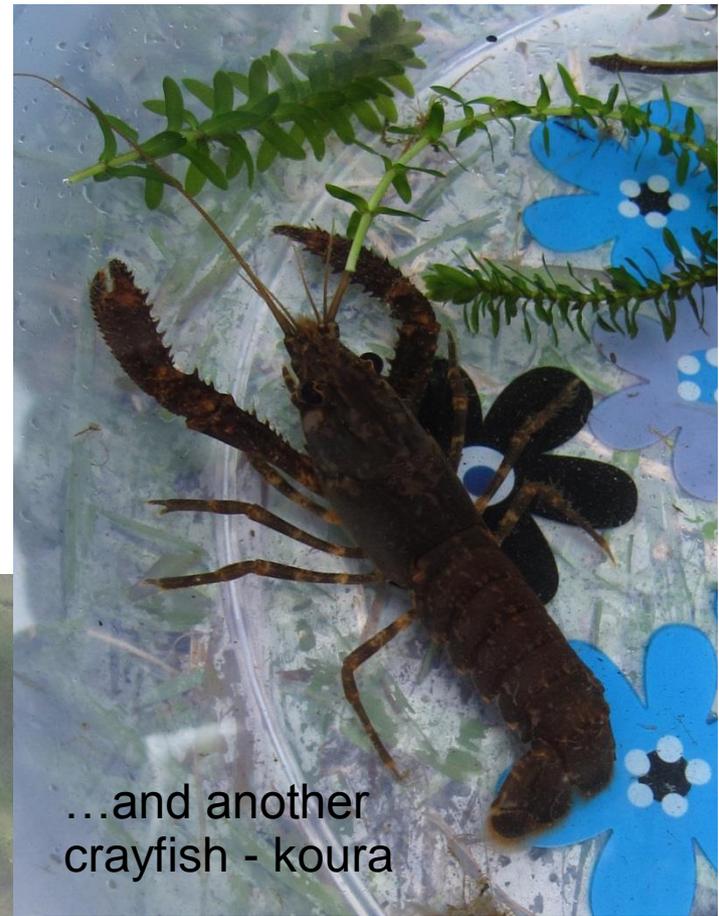


Snails. **3**





Another tuna – this one is about the size of a large earthworm. A young eel is called an elver.



...and another crayfish - koura



This critter is so tiny it's hard to see properly but looks like a free-living caddisfly. It's a **5**







At the end of our stream investigation all the critters go back in the water.  
Now we know there are some cool critters in our awa and we can think about how to keep  
the water healthy for them!