



Kaikōura Plains Recovery Project

Mahinga Kai

On farm, in Kaikōura

Mahinga kai is within your farms ‘big picture’ and day to day operations.

Mahinga kai is simply something that:

- Can complement existing methods - blended in, rather than a separate thing
- if you have healthy land, healthy stock, and a diversity of productive areas combined with vegetated areas and waterways, then you’re well on track for having healthy mahinga kai values on farm. It all goes hand in hand.

Another way to think of it:

- Mahinga kai is about healthy water and healthy habitats. A healthy habitat means a healthy home for all the plants, animals, invertebrates and fish living in that area
- just like it is important for us to have healthy homes that are well ventilated and insulated, our biodiversity needs the same.

Whose responsibility is it to protect mahinga kai?

- Yours. Ours. Everyone’s.

Mahinga kai on your farm

WHAT?

- Mahinga kai = ‘to work the food’
- the ability to sustainably harvest kai/food
- healthy farm systems & all the critters that live in them
- environmental ‘services’
- habitats that support the environment - in the water, beside the water, in the air.

WHY?

- Supplies food, resources, medicine & tools to live, be well & survive
- for your/our future generations
- farming over years has evolved, but the need to farm for survival hasn’t.

WHERE?

- Waterways, creeks, drains, springs, wetlands, ponds, reverting wet areas
- areas of native vegetation/bush
- restoration areas
- tree lines, hedges.

HOW?

- Keeping up with Good Management Practices
- farm actions, identify sediment hot spots, consider stock access, restoration projects
- altering how we think about farming practices - blend it in
- continue being good guardians.