



# THRIVING SOUTHLAND

*Tōnui ana te whenua. Tōnui ana te takata.  
A thriving, prosperous land. A thriving, prosperous people.*

## Thriving Southland: Inspiring Community Action An Independent Evaluation 2022-2023

**Access to science supports solution-based conversations** and collective action among Catchment Group members.

**There will be a continued need for Thriving Southland** as the culture, climate and environment change to support farmers work through the different trade-offs and implement change.

Following the Catchment Group events, farmers say they are hopeful about the future and excited about positive opportunities.



**33 new projects** worth \$271,897 started between May 2022 and May 2023.

There are value-based synergies where **farmers and iwi can connect** the two worldviews to further positive change.

**Farmers feel proud** of their efforts and associate them with a positive sense of self-esteem and self-worth.

**The Thriving Southland team are motivating** and inspire farmers to engage.

**In 2022-2023 there is clear evidence of farmers' increased confidence with the science.**

"We can see individual farms – they're starting to be able to see the accumulative impact of doing smaller things together in different places, for the **benefit of everyone.** And then it doesn't become a blame game."

*Farmer quote*

"If we didn't ...[have] access to regional funding like we do through Thriving, I don't know that we would be as advanced as we are as a group today."

*Farmer quote*

Through the Catchment Groups, Thriving Southland is uniquely **supporting cross-sectoral dialogue**

**"I now have more understanding...** about our environmental impacts [of] the stream that runs through our farm ... and more understanding of regulations that are coming in and where to look for information and support."

*Farmer quote*

**Access to science is a game changer for farmers.**



### Thriving Southland...

contributes to farmers' **improved sense of wellbeing**

works in partnership with the **35 Catchment Groups**

is in a unique position to **bring together farmers from the different sectors**

**enables farmers to lead and respond** to their challenges with a better understanding of the science and what will work

**fills the gaps** that other organisations do not cater for.