



Waikato Biodiversity Forum Newsletter May 2014

Number 43

Kia Ora/Greetings

Forum work over the past three months has included:

- Assisted with the Youth and Biodiversity Forum planning organization and event
- Organised and attended the Field workshop in Coroglen
- Wrote submission points on Thames Coromandel proposed District Plan for Forum members to submit
- Organised and attended Field workshop in Taupo
- Wrote a Forum submission on Thames Coromandel proposed District Plan
- Attended GIS workshop in Thames with DOC Geospatial Information Analyst
- Attended Coromandel Kiwi Taxon presentation at WRC
- Provided feedback to the Coromandel Kauri Dieback management team
- Wrote and sent two articles on biodiversity related projects (Forest and Bird and EnviroSchools) to the TCDC for their website
- Met with Ruth Seabright the new Waikato Environment Centre manager to brief her on the Forum's work
- Attended teleconference with the Nature Space management team
- Attended WRC funding workshop in Thames
- Presented on the Forum at the Auckland conservation community and agency "Green Drinks" event
- Assisted eight groups align NZ Biodiversity Strategy priorities with their project outcomes for the DOC's Community Conservation Partnership Fund
- Organised and facilitated the kauri dieback meeting in Thames to set up a management team and review strategic plan
- Wrote article on the Youth Biodiversity Forum for the Hamilton Press



**South
Waikato
District
Council**

The South Waikato District Council works with landowners and other agencies, such as the Waikato Regional Council and Raukawa to assist in projects that enhance biodiversity in our district. Council funds projects that will enhance and maintain wetlands and bush remnants, however we do not always have the means to fund all and larger projects. Instead Council assists landowners through compiling applications to funding agencies such as Waikato River Authority - which is the sole trustee of the Waikato River Cleanup Trust (WRCT), and the South Waikato Environment Initiatives (SWEI), on

their behalf. The South Waikato District Council is fortunate to have sole access to the SWEI fund and provides the support role of administrating this fund. We currently have four main riparian management and wetland planting projects underway in our district at the following locations; Moorehouse Road wetland, Ngaroto Marae Wetland, Lake Whakamaru Remnants, and Lake Okoroiri. The South Waikato District Council also put forward an application on behalf of six land owners for funding riparian management and wetland planting projects that was successful, to the amount of \$23,425.00, which is being funded by the WRA and SWEI.

James Piddock



**Pukawa Wildlife
Management Trust**

Robins have been seen once again on the walking track to the store near Pukawa Bay on the edge of Lake Taupo. Their call is quite harsh compared with other birds, and this call

has been heard in other parts of the bush. Sitting still for five minutes will often bring the reward of their appearance - with a quick flight they are not always easy to see. Thanks to our volunteers the very necessary work of checking traps, replacing lures, clearing trap lines etc is maintained; the comments from property owners and visitors about the health of the bush and the bird numbers gives us encouragement. Without the financial support we receive the entire project would falter. Here is an example of what the group does with donations. Each box has one DoC 200 trap; stainless-steel now cost \$43.00 plus GST & freight, non-steel cost \$27.00. It is the non-steel traps that we are currently trying to replace, those that have rusted badly. Once a predator is caught its body starts to breakdown quickly - especially in the heat - and this causes the non-steel plate to rust. We are very fortunate to have

found a source of boxes including the traps for \$47.00 each. We have purchased twelve to replace rusty traps on Pukawa Rd, and as finance allows we will replace other lines. Jean Stanley

Funding Advice

The Forum's website has a comprehensive list of funders. Moira is available for funding advice.

Forum's Facebook page

The Forum has a facebook page. I encourage you to use it to communicate with each other and post biodiversity related comments and events on the page and also LIKE us so our profile is spread.

Resource person register

The Forum has set up a Resource Person register. The aim of the database is to "link" and share information and best practice amongst us as Forum members through a recorded process rather than relying on the coordinators' knowledge. We are developing a list of those Forum members willing to contribute their knowledge and skill on file. **Please contact me to obtain a brief form which will provide us with details about what type of advice you are able to offer.**

Nature Space website and the Forum

I will be in touch with community groups shortly to talk about Nature Space hosting the community group data that the Forum manages. They have much more functionality on their website than the Forum has and it seems best not to duplicate. The Waikato region's community group map will be present on the Forum's website but the detail of each group with a page of their own will be on Nature Space website. I'll be contacting you to talk about it and get your permission to transfer data. In the meantime check out the Nature Space website www.naturespace.org.nz and you can register your group yourself to increase your profile and the conservation work being carried out in the Waikato region. There are about 10 Waikato groups already on the site.



Mangapu River Planting Days

The Maniapoto Maori Trust Board and Waikato Regional Council invite you to a planting just north of Te Kuiti.

Saturday 28 June 2014 9am to 12pm Site 1 2,000 plants

Saturday 12 July 2014 9am to 12pm Site 2 2,000 plants

Meet opposite Te Wharekura o Maniapoto on 306 Oparure Road for karakia and briefing at 9am

Sausage sizzle @ 12pm

Please RSVP for planning purposes by 25 June to:

Paul Smith | Waikato Regional Council | 0800 800 401 |

paul.smith@waikatoregion.govt.nz

Ngahuia Herangi | Maniapoto Maori Trust Board | 0800 668 285 |

ngahuia@maniapoto.co.nz

www.facebook.com/Maniapotomaoritrustboard

Useful websites for Trapping and Pest Control Research

DOC skillable Youtube clips

<http://www.youtube.com/user/DOCskillable>

- Possum traps:
- How to install a sentinel possum trap
- How to install a warrior possum trap

Stoat traps:

- How to install a DOC200 kill trap
- Servicing the DOC200-bonus tips
- How to properly calibrate the spring off weight of a DOC200

Rat traps:

- How to install a rat tunnel
- How to set and service a victor trap

NPCA "A Series best practice publications" <http://www.npca.org.nz/index.php/publications/a-best-practice/157-a-series>

Publications include:

- Private landowners guide to possum control tools and techniques
- Leghold traps
- Kill traps
- Pest mustelids
- Feral and stray cats

Landcare Research Vertebrate Pest Control Decision Support System. Best Practice Guides

<http://pestdss.landcareresearch.co.nz/Home/BestPractice>

Best practice control documents for:

- Feral cats: Cage trapping, Kill trapping; Leghold trapping
- Ferret: Kill trapping
- Possums: Lots of pesticide methods
- Rats: 1st generation anticoagulants' 2nd generation anticoagulants; 1080 bait in bait stations; kill trapping
- Stoats: Kill trapping

Predator traps-the official website of the DOC series trapping systems

<http://www.predatortraps.com/about.htm>

- Stockists of traps and tunnels
- Trap specifications
- Tunnel set specifications

New Zealand Landcare Trust

NZ Landcare Trust has published 'Waikato River Restoration: A Bi-lingual Guide' which highlights some of the excellent restoration



work being carried out on and around the river. In a new era of co-governance and co-management, local iwi will play an increasingly important role in the future of the river. Communications Manager for NZ Landcare Trust James Barnett said " *The book will be of interest to anyone who wants to know more about the range of biodiversity restoration work taking place, while also increasing their understanding of the relationship between Maori people and the River.*" "We worked with local iwi including members of Waikato-Tainui during the development of this innovative book... we could not have put it together without this essential contribution" James added. For more information about 'Waikato River Restoration: A Bi-lingual Guide' contact James Barnett - james.barnett@landcare.org.nz

Research: Community groups and environmental restoration

My PhD research at Waikato University is well underway. With questionnaire responses from nearly 300 groups nationwide, analysing the results is keeping me busy. The first set of results cover group and project characteristics e.g., how long groups have been established for, objectives, activities and how they are being supported, project scale and ecosystems being restored. The second set of results from the same questionnaire will go towards an article that zeroes in on the "measuring restoration success" side of groups' activities. Being a PhD, articles are destined for peer-reviewed science journals. However, to make sure that groups keep up to date with how I'm using their data, I'll shortly post another Research Snapshot (#3) on my blog -

www.monicalogues.com The fortnightly posts on my blog also relate to my research - you are all very welcome to add your comments/feedback as this ensures that I'm on the right track!. Monica Peters

DOC Field based Course in Thames

DOC are providing some field based courses. Here are some dates.

Thames 12-15 August Animal pest control methods

Go to <http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/get-trained/field-based-courses/calendar/>

and click on [Check the course dates and enrol on the NMIT website \(external site\)](#) for more information. Please note some of the courses require pre-requisites such as Field Skills and Introduction to Natural Heritage Modules 1 – 3 which can be obtained by studying online courses.

The newsletters are all placed on www.waikatobiodiversity.org.nz for easy access. Cheers Moira