



Kanorau Koiora Taketake- Indigenous Biodiversity Community Grant

Project Summary 2021/22

Front Cover Photo
Horizons Regional Council

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SERVICE CENTRES	Kairanga Cnr Rongotea and Kairanga-Bunnythorpe Roads Palmerston North	REGIONAL HOUSES	Palmerston North 11-15 Victoria Avenue	DEPOTS	Taihape 243 Wairanu Road Taihape
	Marton 19 Hammon Street		Whanganui 181 Guyton Street		Woodville 116 Vogel Street
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1 Bushy Park Tarapuruhi Trust – Whanganui

Bushy Park Tarapuruhi Revegetation Project – Awarded \$13,740 Titipounamu/rifleman translocation – Awarded \$20,289

Bushy Park Tarapuruhi Trust cares for Bushy Park Tarapuruhi Sanctuary in partnership with Forest & Bird, and works closely with Ngā Rauru Kīahi, to protect and restore the lowland forest. In 2021/22 they had two funded projects. The first was replanting 4ha of land in native trees within the fenced sanctuary. This is part of a 3-5 year project to increase habitat for more rare species and carbon sequestration. To successfully progress this project and ensure the number of plants required for replanting the existing nursery needed extending with a shadehouse and benches. Two thousand plants have been grown and are ready to plant this season thanks to the funding provided.

The second project was to reintroduce titipounamu (rifleman), which are at risk and are not found in the Whanganui region. Translocated birds will come from the closest robust population from the Project Mouna in Taranaki. Due to challenges with Covid-19 the translocation has been delayed and is now scheduled to be completed by April 2023.



2 Castlecliff Coast Care – Whanganui

Castlecliff Coastal Restoration Project – Awarded \$5,217

The Castlecliff Coast Care Group have been working to re-establish the dunes on the northern beach area of Castlecliff since 2005, whilst providing education to the community about the history, significance and restoration process of the dunes.

Funding has supported community engagement in the removal of invasive species, mulching and planting days with a number of community groups, local business and schools now involved on a regular basis. Pingao and Spinifex seeds have been harvested this year to provide eco sourced plants for winter planting in 2023.



3 David and Harriet Eade - Whanganui

Matter Farm – Bio Diversity Project – Awarded \$5,183

Matter Farm has some of the largest pockets of native bush in close proximity to the eastern side of Whanganui as well as natural springs that flow into the Whangaehu. The landowners' vision is to reduce the number of predators, regenerate the 17ha of native forest, increase native biodiversity and provide an area for education providers to access. They have achieved implementation of a trapping programme in 2022 with trap lines set and monitored monthly. Bird activity has been recorded to gain a better understanding of the existing biodiversity. All data collected will be displayed online. Future plans include riparian planting, water quality monitoring and community education with access to the forest provided to schools.

4 Friends of Taihape – Rangitīkei

Taihape Reserves fencing and willow removal – Awarded \$20,000

The Hautapu River Parks project area located in Taihape consists of a group of volunteers with the vision to restore the river and its banks. The area is rife with willows trees. Stage one of the project involved removal of willows and preventative measures for regrowth. The funding allocated has helped this community group achieve stage one of their plan. Future plans involve replanting of native trees, further pest weed control, fencing, a potential bridge across the river, a BMX mountain biking track and more walking tracks.



5 Ihaia Taueki Trust – Horowhenua

Ihaia Taueki A6B Wetlands and Dunes Project – Awarded \$5,000

The moemoeā (vision) for the Ihaia Taueki Trust’s wetland and dune restoration project is to bring the iwi, hapū, whānau and community together to create something that will benefit everyone – past, present and future. Restoring the mauri of the whenua and tangata go hand-in-hand with this project. The project site is just over 8 ha of wetlands and sand dunes that was fenced off in 2020 with support from the farm lessee. Dune forests in our Region have suffered even greater loss (less than 0.2% remaining) than wetlands and the Trust is committed to restoring some of this critically endangered ecosystem. Funding has allowed the Trust to purchase and put in 1000 wetland plants this year and to keep them free of competition from weeds. The planting day, the first of many to come and was one of the first steps in reconnecting the whānau to the whenua.



6 Kaiwhaiki Pā Trust – Whanganui

Ngaa Paerangi Taiao Project – Awarded \$6,000

Kaiwhaiki is a marae settlement 18 kilometers up-river of the Whanganui township on the left bank. The riverbank directly below the marae has been eroding away over the years. This project aims to restore and protect this area to improve the stability of the land and increase biodiversity. Funding has meant preparation of the riverbank and planting could be started. The Trust planted 1350 native plants this year. The area will continue to be monitored and maintained while the Trust look to plan the next stage further up the river with a vision to create walking tracks, a picnic area and a pontoon for riverboats to access the river.



7 Koitiata Wetlands Restoration Group – Rangitīkei

Koitiata Wetland Restoration Project – Awarded \$6,500

The Koitiata community had a desire to improve and preserve the wetland area at the Koitiata Domain Recreation Reserve working in conjunction with Rangitīkei Council, Ngāti Apa and Earnslaw (Santoft Forest). The projects main focus is on pest weed control in front of the village including the removal of willows, poplars, gorse, coastal wattle, agapanthus and pampas. The next stage of the project will begin working on the wetland area south of the village. The group have hosted a number of community working bee events undertaking weed control, releasing of plants and planting more natives. Future plans include working through a spatial plan with stakeholders and continuation of weed control and planting. The group are also working with Massey University researchers to identify and propagate the beautiful endemic sand iris found at this site.



8 Kōpūtara Trust – Horowhenua

Lake Kōpūtara Restoration – Awarded \$18,000

Ruakawa wetlands surround Lake Kōpūtara. The Kōpūtara Trust began restoration of the wetland in 2014 by volunteers with the vision to regenerate the wetland to increase biodiversity and improve ecosystem health. The allocated funding was used to purchase supplies to spray and clear the gorse in preparation for the planting of nearly 3000 native plants. The Trust plans to expand the area planted and would like to pass on mātauranga māori knowledge to rangitahi.



9 Lone Pine Property Trust – Ruapehu

Maunga Tia Kiwi Restoration Project – Awarded \$10,240

Maunga Tia is located in a very special place in the Ruapehu district surrounded by blocks of native bush. The area is home to a thriving kiwi population. The funds from Kanorau Koiara Taketake have contributed towards predator traps to protect our native fauna from introduced predators. The Trust also engages with two local schools where students learn about trapping methods including checking their own traps and recording data. Future goals involve engaging with more schools and continuing the trapping programme to reduce predators and increase populations of kiwi, bats and other native fauna.



10 Manaaki Ruahine Trust – Manawatū – Tararua

Mākāretu Restoration project – Ngamoko / Norsewood trapline section – Awarded \$12,882

Manaaki Ruahine Trust's mission is to remove invasive flora and fauna in the Ruahine Ranges and return the biodiversity back to resemble its pre colonisation state. The Ngamoko/Norsewood trapline project is approximately 10km long and will compliment existing projects in the area. The funds provided through Kanorau Koiora Taketake have been used to purchase a variety of traps to target stoats, weasels, hedgehogs, rats and possums. The initial stages of this long term project identified possums as a larger problem than first anticipated. This will be the focus in their future plans along with ongoing data collection.



11 McReynolds Trust – Horowhenua

Te Arahiwi Farm to Forest Project – Awarded \$1,455

Te Arahiwi is an 884ha former sheep farm being progressively reforested in native bush. Much of the reverting land forms the headwaters of the Mangaore Stream, a habitat for a number of native fish. It also forms part of a species management area for *Powelliphanta traversai*. The trust aims to support biodiversity with a trapping programme to target stoats, feral cats and hedgehogs. Funding has aided the setup of traps, but with limited success. Assistance with a rebaiting programme through Horizons has seen a better success rate. Due to the rough terrain self-resetting traps will be considered in future plans.

12 Not Even Ltd – Ruapehu

Te Uru Hīnau Project – Awarded \$20,000

There is limited knowledge regarding the traditional use of hīnau (*Elaeocarpus dentatus*) within the Whanganui catcment. The project’s goal is to obtain and collate traditional practices using the current knowledge held by the elders living in the area. The outcomes of the project involve protecting the traditional nursey in Pipiriki, harvesting the fruit, celebrating puanga with the fruits gathered and excluding all ungulates from the nursery area. The funding provided has assisted the purchasing and installation of predator traps. The project is ongoing with a plan to maintain predator control, investigate and understand the use of hīnau and record mātauranga māori about these groves.



13 Otiranui Guardians – Ruapehu

Otiranui Guardians Expansion project – Awarded \$15,805

Otiranui Guardians is a group of local landowners from Ohakune that have privately funded predator control on over 43ha of podocarp forest since the early 1990s. Their vision includes the expansion of the current area and provision of a wildlife corridor connecting Tongariro and Whanganui National Parks.

Funding has contributed to bait, traps and cameras for the project to reduce predators and to increase populations of kiwi, bat and other native fauna. The camera traps have captured images and video of kiwi and pests which will allow the group to target possums and cats in specific sites. New trap lines continue to be cut and the group has recruited and trained 6 new trapping volunteers from the local community. Future goals involve monitoring of kiwi burrows for intensive trapping in these areas to increase chick survival in the wild, and increasing awareness in the local community about the existing Puketawa Track.



14 Okoia School – Whanganui

Okoia School Native Bush Regeneration Project – Awarded \$5,000

Okoia School began a project to turn a 1ha paddock that is currently been grazed back into native bush. The school has created a pathway, outdoor learning area and a plan to plant out the paddock over a 3 year period with native plants. The project will help to regenerate the Okoia Valley to increase the biodiversity and support native birds throughout the valley and beyond. Funding has contributed to fencing to ensure the plants are protected from stock, and 166 native plants have been planted in zone one of the paddock. Students will be responsible for weeding and the fence will be shifted later in the year to include zone two, which is due to be planted next.



15 Pauro Marion Trust – Ruapehu

Pae Mahara Fencing and Restoration Project – Awarded \$20,000

The Trust plans to protect a block of tawhai (beech) forest and enhance the biodiversity of the ngahere. Funding allocated has contributed to a fence around the ngahere to exclude stock and start weed control. Tamariki from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngati Rangi had the opportunity to do some research on the ngahere and what species they might find or potentially hope to find. Future plans include setting up a trapping network, expanding the area of weed control, a replanting programme and creating an outdoor classroom.



16 Project Tongariro – Ruapehu

Rongokaupo Wetland Biodiversity & Restoration Project – Awarded \$18,684

Project Tongariro aims to restore, renovate and work towards protection of the Rongokaupo Wetland which is located adjacent to Tongariro National Park near Ohakune. The wetland features two forest types, kahikatea and matai/tōtara forest, which offer valuable food sources and habitats for native biodiversity. Funding has allowed a fenced section to be built to limit access to stock and road users, weed removal on the wetland margins, installation of a trap line and preparation and planting of the site. Monthly bird counts were also carried out and these will continue to monitor the changes in bird biodiversity over time. Future plans will see the area of weed and pest control expanded. A boardwalk, pathways and picnic area are planned which will enhance the overall area.



17 Ruahine Whio Protection Trust – Rangitīkei

Te Potae O Awarua and the Pohangina River Projects – Awarded \$12,000 annually (3 year project)

The Te Potae O Awarua Projects was set up in 2007 in the North Western Ruahines on land managed by both DOC and Aorangi Awarua Trust. The aim of the project is to increase numbers of whio and kiwi while providing opportunities for volunteers and iwi to be involved in a unique landscape. The Pohangina Rivers project is located in the Southern Ruahines where 170 traps over 15km of the river have been installed since 2012. Both of these projects are located in remote locations and funding supports checking and rebaiting of the traps by flying members of the local community in by helicopter. The Te Potae O Awarua project aims to have 7 trap checks per season and the Pohangina River traps are required to be serviced a minimum of twice per year. Both of the long term projects are ongoing and rely on funding to support volunteers to access the remote areas. The volunteers have also deployed acoustic recorders on 3 of the 4 trips to search for kiwi with the data waiting to be analysed.



18 Sally Pearce – Rangitīkiei

Rangitīkiei Remnant Weed Buster Blitz Project – Awarded \$4,221

Rangitīkiei Remnant Weed Busting Blitz is part of a 23 year community restoration programme with various stakeholders. The overall goal is to improve the health of the remnant ecosystems by reducing the number of pest plants. There is a high number of wasp nests present which poses a risk to volunteers and causes an ecological impact. The funding was used to map out and control weeds in an area of the block, tackle wasp control and purchase a GPS. Future plans include ongoing weed and wasp control and utilising the GPS for future management of weeds.



19 Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tūpoho – Whanganui

Native planting for biodiversity habitat and rongoā project – Awarded \$11,334

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Tūpoho commissioned a permaculture plan for their site in September 2020 to guide the intergration of the environment into the teaching curriculum by developing areas of native planting for rongoā and mara kai. With additional funding from the Ministry of Primary Industries under the One Billion Trees programme they were funded for 600 native trees. Funding from Horizons has been used to to purchase tools for community planting days, training and event planning. They have held numerous community days to plant the trees and provided learning opporutunities. Future plans involve signage for plant identification, seating, and ongoing education for students.



20 Te Kura o Te Wainui-ā-Rua – Whanganui

Tiaki Taiao o Te Awa Tupua Project – Awarded \$6,026

Te Kura o Te Wainui-ā-Rua had a desire to teach students predator trapping techniques and how to evaluate a predator control programme. Students are wide spread throughout the rohe from Parikino to Pipiriki. The funding was used to purchase traps and provide training so students can take those skills and implement other programmes around the region. Future plans include continuing to trap and monitor, and expansion of the boundaries to include the surrounding blocks of land with the hope of increasing native biodiversity of the area.





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