

Maungatautari Reserve Committee Agenda - 1 May 2024

Kaipaki Room, Cambridge Service Centre, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge



Members

Councillor MG Montgomerie (Chairperson); Councillor RDB Gordon; Councillor PTJ Coles; Councillor DM Morgan; Hiiri Taute (Pohara Marae); Poto Davies (Maungatautari Marae); Geoff Canham (Consultant); Helen Somerville (CE Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust); Bruce Clarkson (Regional Council); Vacant (Ngāti Hauā Representative); Vacant (Department of Conservation Representative); Vacant (Adjoining landowner representatives)

01 May 2024 03:00 PM

Agenda Topic	Presenter	Page
Opening Karakia		
1. Apologies	Chairperson	2
2. Disclosure of Members' Interests	Chairperson	3
3. Late Items	Chairperson	4
4. Confirmation of Order of Meeting	Chairperson	5
5. Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Operational Report	Brad Ward	6
5.1 Appendix 1: MEIT Operating Report - Jan to Mar 2024 Quarterly SMM Report		8
6. Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Annual Work Programme	Brad Ward	15
6.1 Appendix 1: Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust 2022-2023 Annual Report		17
7. Update on approval and implementation of He Mahere Mo Maungatautari – Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan	Hannah Divehall	46
8. Maungatautari Reserve Committee – Updates on landowner negotiations	Hannah Divehall	49

Closing Karakia

Workshop

Maungatautari Reserve Committee



APOLOGIES

A member who does not have leave of absence may tender an apology should they be absent from all or part of a meeting. The Chairperson (or acting chair) must invite apologies at the beginning of each meeting, including apologies for lateness and early departure. The meeting may accept or decline any apologies.

The acceptance of a member's apology constitutes a grant of 'leave of absence' for that specific meeting.



DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Members are reminded to declare and stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected member and any private or other external interest they may have.



LATE ITEMS

Items not on the agenda for the meeting require a resolution under section 46A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 stating the reasons why the item was not on the agenda and why it cannot be dealt with at a subsequent meeting on the basis of a full agenda item. It is important to note that late items can only be dealt with when special circumstances exist and not as a means of avoiding or frustrating the requirements in the Act relating to notice, agendas, agenda format and content.



CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING

Recommendation

That the order of the meeting be confirmed.

COMMITTEE REPORT



INFORMATION ONLY

To: The Chairperson and Members of the Maungatautari Reserve Committee

From: Manager Community Services

Subject: **Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Operational Report**

Meeting Date: 1 May 2024

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

Waipā District Council has contracted Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (MEIT) to manage activities within the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and on land used by MEIT and Council for operational tasks and management of the reserve.

A Services Agreement sets out roles and responsibilities for both parties. Under the Service Agreement, the Trust has obligations to provide Council with various reports and updates. Helen Hughes, General Manager of the MEIT will be present at the meeting to provide an update on the operations at Maungatautari.

Following the 2022 local government elections, the Maungatautari Reserve Committee was established to meet as and when required.

As the proposed 18 May 2022 Committee meeting did not have a quorum to proceed, there has not been a Committee meeting since 16 February 2022.

There were also personnel changes in both Council's Community Services team and the MEIT General Manager over the last two years. Therefore, this report seeks to recommence the Operational Reports required by MEIT.

2 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Maungatautari Reserve Committee receives the report of Brad Ward Manager Community Services, Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Operational Report (document number 11211167);

3 COMMENTARY - KÖRERO

MEIT provides a progress update on operational activity on Maungatautari. Of significance since the previous Maungatautari Reserve Committee meeting is the opening of the Manu Korokii Profile Group Education Centre on 2 February 2023 and the re-introduction of kākāpō to the maungā in July 2023.

The Quarterly Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari (SMM) Operating Report from MEIT (Appendix 1), highlights the activities from the last quarter.

A key feature is the 2024 kiwi translocation season began in March. Strong population growth on the maunga is highlighted with circa 10% of the kiwis captured for translocation being founder birds.

4 APPENDIX- ĀPITITANGA

No:	Appendix Title
1	MEIT Operating Report - Jan to Mar 2024 Quarterly SMM Report (ECM 11212483)

Brad Ward
MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES

Approved by

Dawn Inglis
GROUP MANAGER SERVICE DELIVERY

APPENDIX 1

MEIT Operating Report - Jan to Mar 2024 Quarterly SMM Report (ECM 11212483)



Reserve Committee Report

Data reporting until end March 2024

GM Summary

An incredibly busy few months on the maunga with the visitor experience team seeing increases in visitor numbers and the kiwi translocation season kicking off in partnership with Save the Kiwi.

Towards the end of 2023 a health and safety audit was commissioned which has helped inform improvements that required. We are working through a process of lifting our policies and approach to how health and safety is managed across the maunga, including currently rolling out an App based sign in/out system.

Fiscal year to date there has been a total of 88 breaches. The fence continues to be monitored 24/7 and a refresh of the dialler technology is currently underway. We have funded a significant amount of vegetation trimming during the month of March which should reduce the frequency of breach notifications.

Pest work also continues, and we are aiming to extend the trail cameras out as another tool for providing confidence in the systems we have in place.

The last quarter has been a challenge with kākāpō departing the sanctuary. From the original 10 manu we are now at four. These four are seemingly settling with the workload becoming more manageable. We are in frequent conversation with the kākāpō recovery team and are trialling different options to better understand bird behaviour. We hope the technology will improve and give us an option to increase the numbers again without significantly increasing the workload.

Kiwi translocation season kicked off in March with a target of just under 300 birds to be transferred to three conservation projects in the North Island. So far only one bird has been found that has an injury and has been transferred to Massey University to hopefully recover. Roughly 10% of birds are founder birds, showing the population growth has been significant.

We have launched a new website and are focussing on attending the eXplore tradeshow in April and the Gala Dinner in June. A huge shout out to Waikato Tourism for their assistance over the last quarter, with out their help we wouldn't be connecting to revenue opportunities in the way we are.

Safety and People

1. Safety

A health and safety audit was conducted in the later part of 2023, and resulting in the following areas of improvements. We are working through all areas and will be lifting overall standards over the coming months.

Figure 1. Audit Results

Improvement Area	Proposed Action/Update
Improved policies that are easier to access and easier to read/train/embed.	A casual staff member has been brought in for up to 20 hours per week for a maximum of a 12-week period to sort through and clean up all the H&S/Operational policies. All policies will be signed off by the GM and then dispersed to staff for review/confirmation sign off.

Improvement Area	Proposed Action/Update
Improving the use of the systems that we have currently including the H&S System, comms systems	Training in the HRA system (or alternate system) will commence by the end of February. I am investigating improvements in the visibility of staff and communications on the maunga. This will require funding which we will work through over the coming weeks.
Improvement in how operational staff perceive and are supported by H&S	The Health and Safety committee is established, and the comms and reporting from this meeting will be strengthened over the coming weeks. We are currently in clean up from incidents and risks that have been loaded but not actioned over the last 2-3 years.
Improving the quality of training and assessment	Changes to the way equipment is being used are needed. I am working with the Ops team to determine a better way of managing the volunteers, such that they don't require use of quads. I will be moving the assessment programme for quads/luv's from every two years to annually and making these externally completed. Further training opportunities will be investigated as required.
Contractor prequalification and management	This is an area that needs a deep dive and I have this tabled for February before the Kiwi muster happens.
Establishing a cadence of H&S reviews/audits	This will occur as policies and procedures are updated with the intent that the start of the calendar year is focused on reviewing policies and procedures.
Health and Safety Officer either internal or external	I am underway with a organisation review and expect this role will be filled once this process has been completed.

Over the quarter there were 8 incidents involving injury and 13 near misses. There were no notifiable events.

The most common issues are slips, trips and falls. We have had both wasps and ongaonga stings which is something that we reviewing to ensure those working out in the field are aware of the issues.

Visitor and Education Experience

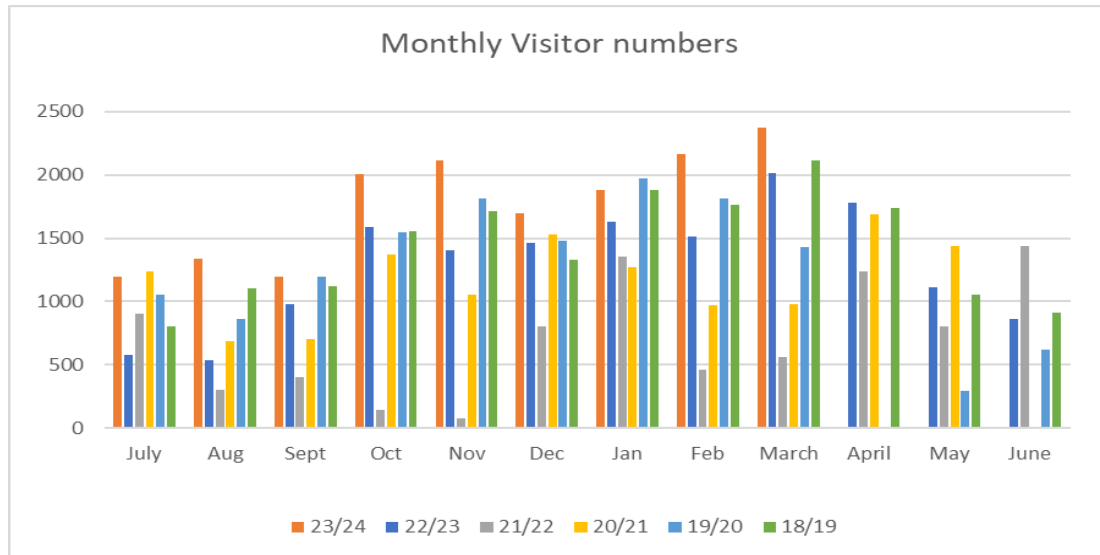
1. Visitor Experience

March was another busy month with 2374 visitors, another record high for any month. With the target of 300 visitors per day we are currently running at an average of 80, so a quarter of the way to the overall target. That being said, Easter Sunday got us closer to the mark with 202 visitors for the day.

Year to date visitor numbers sit at 15,968, being 19% ahead of the pre-COVID (2018/19) record year and 37% ahead of last year. 30% of our visitors are international, this compares to the pre-COVID level of 19%.

The education programme had another record month with 811 pupils, teachers & carers. The programme has so far hosted 3,771 pupils, teachers & carers this year, and is on track to go about the targetted 4000.

Figure 2. Visitor numbers by month



We have connected with Tomahawk www.tomahawk.co.nz who are a tourism website designer and have contracted them to commence the rebuild of the website. This was completed mid-March, and the new website is live. We have work to extend the current site to include an on-line store, increase the science and research visibility and create a portal for education.

SANCTUARY MOUNTAIN®
MAUNGATAUTARI

Gala

DINNER + AUCTION
MAURI OF THE MAUNGA

We invite you to a decadent evening of conservation and art

to further support the ongoing work Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari is doing to carry out a habitat trial for kākāpō in the protected forest on Maungatautari.

We have come a long way,
but there is still work
to be done!

Presented by...

The Gala dinner is booked for the 5th of June, and we asked everyone to share the word to ensure ticket sales occur and assist in supporting the vital work we are doing.

Volunteer Update

Year to date we have had 12,359.70 of volunteer's hours provided by 215 volunteers. We are focussing on connecting with corporate groups to deliver a day's work on the maunga as well. This effort is helping provide connection to these businesses as we seek future partnerships and funding opportunities.

Species Update

Long-Term Monitoring

Flora Ten Rimu monitoring stations were installed in November and set ready for gathering seed for December. The stations have been set up where there are small stands of Rimu to ideally get the seed from multiple trees.

Invertebrates The 40 pitfall traps set up in November had the first collection in mid-December and taken to Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research lab in Hamilton, who reported that the samples were good and clean. The traps were reset, and second collection is due in mid-January

Translocated Species Monitoring

Kākāpō Four kākāpō remain at the sanctuary. Two of these birds have escaped previously and have had some trial periods with new GPS technology that can track them in “real time”- the limitation on this tech is the battery life, requiring recapture monthly. We are trialling other initiatives over the coming months to see what improvements can be made so that more kākāpō can arrive at the sanctuary.

Mahoenui Giant Weta The survey methodology for Mahoenui Giant weta was sent through at the end of Feb and this new survey plot will be installed in April 2024 by Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari staff. Materials still need to be purchased which can be done with the use of the Department of Conservation (DoC) Community fund.

Translocations

NI Kokako A top-up (reinforcement) translocation is tentatively planned for July /Aug 2024 but is still a way off from confirmation and funds will also need to be raised. Further discussions have prioritised the need for Tono process to Hunua ranges iwi (4 hapu and 5 committees and contacts), and the initial permit proposal has been approved by DoC, with the full proposal currently being worked on.

NI kaka A nest box near the clearing was repaired by Biodiversity team and immediately used this year by resident kaka Mira and partner Flash. There have been two chicks hatched and monitored over the past month, with banding due in early January.

Kiwi In partnership with Save The Kiwi, kiwi translocation season is in full swing with 156 kiwi found by kiwi conservation dogs, health checked and released to the Southern Enclosure on transmitter (Tx). Muster days involve early morning captures within the Southern Enclosure of birds on Tx with transfer to waiting vehicles and release to new sites. Translocations in March included a total of 74 birds sent to Capital Kiwi, Taranaki Maunga Project and Tongariro (via DoC). Disease screening results came



back with no concerns, but coccidia burden can be high in some individual birds. All birds are being dosed for internal and external parasites prior to transfer to the Southern Enclosure. Many people from many organisations have been involved, with lots of individuals being trained to get sign offs for kiwi skills and the experience so far has been very positive.

Active Species Management

Hihi Sugar water consumption has been increasing month, which is typical for this time of year, in line with breeding, but for the first time the consumption is higher in the over the mountain feeders rather than the Southern Enclosure feeders.

Research into population limitations and potential Hihi management options to help boost the population is being investigated.

Takahe Vaccinations and health checks of all birds was completed in March, the first vaccination completed by Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari Biodiversity staff, the second with Auckland Zoo who also took blood samples and faecal matter for diagnostics and DNA testing, with new bands completed for the three new juveniles. Last year's subadult Ururangi is due for transfer out to Burwood Bush in early April 2024.

Flora Management & Restoration

Tautari Wetland Work continued in the wetland this month by staff and volunteers including mowing, grass seed dispersal in new planted areas, Tuatarium maintenance, releasing of plantings.

Research

Ecosystem functions Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research initiated their research in Feb 2024 on litter decomposition rates in protected sanctuaries vs. unprotected forest sites utilising leaf litter bags which have been placed out in the Southern Enclosure, along with dataloggers to record rainfall and temperature. The dataloggers were collected in March by Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari staff.

NI kaka Research is continuing

Fungi Research is continuing

Phenology Research is continuing

Fence Management Update

We have attended 25 potential breaches over the last quarter three of which caused significant damage to the fence that was repaired.

The team have continued to cut back vegetation in high-risk areas identified as high-risk kākāpō escape points. Punga fronds continue to grow prolifically. Contractors commenced the shelterbelt trimming in March which has made a massive difference.

8 new diallers were installed, and we have an approved budget to upgrade 40 Diallers around the Maunga which has been secured through funding.

Planned preventative maintenance schedule deployed & completed in accordance with the fence/water gate/Pedestrian gate asset maintenance schedule from July 1st, 2023.

Inspections of fence components are ongoing each day as rangers pass by doing other ranger work. To date no large assets have required replacement of any sort however we plan to continue pedestrian gate and vehicle gate maintenance weekly.

Perimeter tracks are now being worked on by the Ops team however a better long-term plan is required that will likely include the desire to tar-seal areas outside the fence that are prone to deterioration. Securing funding for this work will be a key focus over the next twelve months and will deliver a far safer work environment when completed. To progress this concept, we will collaborate with landowners to ensure they approve the approach before we seek funding partners.

Pest Management Update

1. Pest Incursions & Breaches

Response work has taken a large amount of time over the last quarter, with each fence breach requiring a 6–8-week programme of monitoring.

2. Monitoring

Monthly fence line monitoring has continued, and trail cameras are now an added tool that helps us determine if predators are prevalent within the sanctuary.

3. Halo

Work continues on the Halo project with new traps being an effective tool in reducing predator numbers. We have also co-hosted a very successful trapping event with Bush to Burbs and Taiea te Taiao targeting landowners close to the Maunga, encouraging pest work in this area.

4. Weeds

Managing weed growth inside the fence line is going, and the summer months the best time to hit these areas due to rapid growth.

COMMITTEE REPORT



To: The Chairperson and Members of the Maungatautari Reserve Committee

From: Manager Community Services

Subject: **Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Annual Report and Workplan Update**

Meeting Date: 1 May 2024

1 PURPOSE - TAKE

The purpose of this report is to update the Maungatautari Reserve Committee (Committee) on the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (MEIT) Annual Workplan, and present the MEIT 2022/23 Annual Report.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

Waipā District Council (Council) has contracted MEIT to manage activities within the Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and on land used by MEIT and Council for operational tasks and management of the reserve.

A Service Agreement sets out roles and responsibilities for both parties. Under the Service Agreement, the Trust has obligations to provide Council with various reports and updates. He Mahere moo Maungatautari – Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan (RMP) also outlines key policies in place to monitor implementation of the RMP.

Helen Hughes, General Manager of the MEIT will be present at the meeting to provide an update on the operations at Maungatautari.

3 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Maungatautari Reserve Committee

- a) *Receives the report of Brad Ward, Manager Community Services, titled Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Annual Report (document number 11211166); and*

- b) *Notes the intention for Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust to develop their Annual Workplan and share this with the Maungatautari Reserve Committee at a future meeting.*

4 BACKGROUND – KŌRERO WHAIMĀRAMA

Both the current Service Agreement between Council and MEIT, and the RMP’s key policies, stipulate an Annual Workplan to be developed and shared with the Committee and approved by May.

With the changing leadership of the General Manager at MEIT, the Annual Workplan is still under development. The Annual Workplan will be shared with the Committee at the next meeting.

The MEIT Annual Report summarising the 2022/23 fiscal year is provided in Appendix 1.

5 APPENDIX – ĀPITITANGA

No:	Appendix Title
1	Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust 2022-2023 Annual Report (document number 11212897)

Brad Ward
MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES

Approved by Dawn Inglis
GROUP MANAGER SERVICE DELIVERY

APPENDIX 1

Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust 2022-2023 Annual Report (document number 11212897)

2022 – 2023

PRESENTED BY MAUNGATAUTARI ECOLOGICAL ISLAND TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

SHARE THE MAURI AND THE MANA OF THE MAUNGA





HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 12 MONTHS

- 15,452 visitors

Again awarded the Gold Qualmark sustainable tourism business award
- 2nd February officially opened Manu Korokii Profile Group Education Centre
- 38 kilometres of fence modified for kākāpō arrival
- Two takahē chicks, Waiti and Waitā transferred to Burwood Takahē Breeding Centre
- Biodiversity Team completed training on Anchor Island in prep for kākāpō arrival
- 43 copper skinks released into Te Tūi a Tāne, Southern Enclosure in May
- 400 volunteer hours contributed to the kākāpō fence modification
- 45 trail cameras installed to detect pests

93.7% gender diversity workplace
- Received a Plant Pass Certification for our native plant nursery
- Two biosecurity stations installed
- 111 western brown kiwi were translocated out of Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari.
- 61 kiwi transferred to Tongariro and 50 kiwi transferred to Wellington making it the largest kiwi translocation ever in New Zealand
- 96 people participated in Rongoā Rākau tours

Kākāpō proofed 1,500 traps
- 140 fungi and lichen species uploaded to iNaturalist

1,108 shrubs and trees planted

LEADERSHIP REPORT

We are very pleased to present our Annual Report for the year to 30 June 2023. It has been another year of outstanding achievements for our team of Inspired Kaitiaki at Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari, with some very exciting developments to report on.

Last year, we expressed our optimism for stronger visitor numbers in 2023 as the challenges of COVID-19 began to ease. We've certainly seen this come to fruition with visitor numbers totalling 15,452, our strongest visitor year since the beginning of the pandemic. In the year ahead, we expect to see international visitor numbers continue to recover alongside growth in our education and visitor programmes.

In February, Waipā Mayor Susan O'Regan officially opened Manu Korokii Profile Group Education Centre. At the opening ceremony, we were reminded of Sir David Attenborough's words: "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced". Manu Korokii will help over 3,500 education visitors to experience our world-class project each year – fulfilling a core element of our purpose to "Share the mana and mauri of the maunga".

Maungatautari's kiwi population has continued to boom in recent years, and it gave the Trust and mana whenua Ngāti Koroki Kahukura much pride to commence the outbound translocation of North Island brown kiwi to other predator-controlled sites around New Zealand. It was particularly special to translocate the first of these manu to Ngāti Hikairo ki Tongariro, who contributed the first founder birds to Maungatautari in 2005. In total, we translocated 111 birds this year across sites in Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Tongariro. This mahi will continue in years to come, and along with mana whenua, partner Save the Kiwi, and receiving iwi across

the North Island, we will be part of a programme that aims to eventually recover a thriving kiwi population across Te Ika a Maui.

A significant milestone in the recovery of the maunga was reached with the reintroduction of critically endangered kākāpō in July. At the time of writing, ten male kākāpō have been successfully released in the sanctuary in partnership with Ngāi Tahu, the Department of Conservation's Kākāpō Recovery programme and a broad community of supporters and contributors.

This marks the first time kākāpō have lived on mainland New Zealand for close to 40 years – a significant step forward for the recovery of this Ngāi Tahu taonga species and Maungatautari.

Of course, these achievements continue to be underpinned by our outstanding team of Inspired Kaitiaki. Our very dedicated and passionate small team of staff and a large team of volunteers worked tirelessly this year to support a busy visitor season, recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, prepare for the arrival of kākāpō and commence the outbound translocation of kiwi.

We thank Andrew Peckham (Landowner Trustee) for his time in the dual role of Trustee and part-time CEO during 2023. Andrew and the Board have worked together to redefine our leadership arrangements, and we look forward to welcoming our new full-time General Manager, Helen Somerville, in October 2023.

We welcomed three new Trustees to our Board during the year – Kate Mauriohooho (Mana Whenua Trustee), Rosanne Matheson (Community Trustee) and Gavin Williamson (Community Trustee).

We also acknowledged the contribution of retiring Trustee Mary Jensen and the passing of Nico Mouton (Landowner Trustee), who significantly contributed to Maungatautari as an advisor, friend, volunteer and Trustee over many years.

Finally, we acknowledge the ongoing support and partnership of our supporters, funders, visitors and neighbours. You've helped us to deliver another great year of achievements and continued the long-term journey to restore Maungatautari. We value and appreciate your partnership. Nou te rourou, naku te rourou ka ora ai te maunga – with your basket and our basket, the mountain will flourish.

Ngā manaakitanga



Don Scarlet, Co-Chair



Norma Taute, Co-Chair

"No one will protect what they don't care about,
and no one will care about what they have never experienced".
– Sir David Attenborough



KIWI RETURN TO THEIR WHENUA



This year was a significant milestone for kiwi at Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari and kiwi conservation in Aotearoa New Zealand. The original Kōhanga strategy was to release 500 birds, however, surveys over the past two years have revealed that our resident kiwi population is booming! With an estimated 2,000 kiwi, there was no need to introduce more. After 18 years since the first four kiwi chicks were gifted from Ngāti Hikairo ki Tongariro to Ngāti Koroki Kahukura to begin to create the founder population, 2023 was the first year of returning kiwi back to their whenua (homeland).

Over two months, the massive undertaking involved kiwi conservation dog teams, night-catching teams, volunteers, and staff. In April this year, the first kiwi to leave were released into the foothills of Tongariro, joining an established kiwi population – the same place those first four members of the

founding population originally came from. In May, another 50 kiwi were released into the hills of Mākara, southwest of Wellington. These birds are helping to create a new kiwi population in another area where kiwi were locally extinct until just a few months ago.

With 111 kiwi translocated to two sites, it was the largest kiwi translocation ever in New Zealand. With up to 300 to be translocated next year, efforts will be directed towards efficiency and improvements to the current programme. They will be led by Save the Kiwi with support from Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari staff and volunteers. In addition, Biodiversity Ranger, Craig Montgomerie, also oversaw the monitoring of more than 50 kiwi on transmitters that were awaiting translocation and the careful transfer of 17 eggs to Wairakei for hatching at the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow with 16 of those successfully hatched and released back to Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari.

In April this year, the first kiwi to leave were released into the foothills of Tongariro, joining an established kiwi population – the same place those first four members of the founding population originally came from.



MANU KOROKII PROFILE GROUP EDUCATION CENTRE OPENING

On Thursday 2 February, a kawanga whare (opening ceremony) was held to bless Manu Korokii Profile Group Education Centre with the rising sun. Close to 100 supporters, sponsors and iwi marked the occasion, with the building blessed by mana whenua led by Ngāti Koroki Kahukura Trust co-chair Karaitiana Tamatea and blessed by Tahau Thompson and Maihi Bennett of Ngāti Hauā. The ceremony was also marked by Waipā District Council Mayor Susan O'Regan cutting the ribbon with Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari Co-chairs Don Scarlet and Norma Taute.

The name Manu Korokii was gifted by Ngāti Koroki Kahukura, reflecting the flight of a songbird and the mātauranga (knowledge) that is imparted through our education facilitators, not to mention the manu that sing their songs across the maunga. After a year of construction and more than five years of planning, it is great to see this extraordinary vision finally become a reality.

Shortly after the opening of the new building we experienced a record number of education visitors in March, totalling 741. Now, nearly 1,500 people have experienced an education programme in the new building. The space has also been utilised for staff and volunteer training and inductions, and we have hosted three science presentation events for community groups within it. Thank you to the incredible support of sponsors and the community who have contributed to the project. We would also like to thank and acknowledge Pukeatua School for hosting our education programme in the Matapihi classroom on their school grounds for many years prior to this.

The Profile Group Education Centre was designed by Cambridge's Antanas Procuta of Paua Architects and built by Wes Cooper and his team from ASAP Contracting Limited.

"The education centre is a warm, modern and a calm place to learn. We enjoyed hearing local stories about New Zealand and our wildlife, going up the tower and learning about the structure, smelling the lures, feeling the furs and seeing the taxidermy animals."
– Matamata Christian School



Tēnā Koutou to our generous manu Korokii Education Centre sponsors...

ASAP Contracting Limited • APL (Profile Group Ltd) • APL (Whyte) • Aerial Scaffolding Ltd • Autex Industries • BCD Group Ltd • Bowers & Son Concrete • ColorCote Steel • David William Steele Trust • Dimond Roofing Ltd • Duffield Murray Consultants Ltd • Flow Consulting Ltd • Harrison Grierson • Innerscape Consulting Ltd • Interface Carpet Floor Tiles • Jacobsen's Vinyl • Kaimai School • Keyland Ltd • Kings School Auckland • Macdonald Industries Ltd • Milestone Foundation Ltd • Morrinsville Intermediate School • Mother Earth (Profile Foods Ltd) • Newton Consulting Ltd • Ngāti Koroki Kahukura • NZ Lotteries Commission • PAUA Architects Ltd • Pub Charity Ltd • Pukeatua School • Sage Consulting • Star Safety Ltd • Strathmore School • Trust Waikato • Valder Conservation • Waikite Valley School •

KĀKĀPŌ PROJECT



Fence modification

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari is very excited to be welcoming kākāpō in the second half of 2023, a significant milestone of returning kākāpō to the mainland for the first time in close to 40 years. Trials of a barrier to stop kākāpō from climbing out of the pest-proof fence started in 2010. With the support of iwi, our community, and generous funders, Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari secured the funding needed to modify the fence. Twelve years after trials began and after eight months of hard work, the final version has been installed around the mountain. Led by Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari Assets and Operations Team, over 30 people have assisted in completing this project.

The modification required over 10,000 steel brackets, custom making over 10,000 steel shrouds to go around fence posts and fitting a heavy load lifter to two utes. The final task involved individually measuring each section of fence to the nearest 5mm and then cutting and fixing a 380mm high colour steel sheet to it. Over 50 pedestrian and vehicle, gates have also had sheet steel added to them to make them kākāpō-proof. Up to four teams of rangers working simultaneously and over 400 volunteer hours have led to the completion of this installation work in one of the wettest summers.

Congratulations to everyone involved in bringing this kākāpō fence modification project to fruition. Preparing the maunga for kākāpō is another outstanding example of what can be accomplished through collaboration between iwi, Department of Conservation, Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari staff, landowners, volunteers, donors, and our supporters.



Anchor Island and Whenua Hou kākāpō training

In preparation for kākāpō arriving, staff participated in training with the Department of Conservation's Kākāpō Recovery team and volunteers from Auckland Zoo. Training involved locating kākāpō and conducting health checks including transmitter changes. This essential time spent training in the field enabled hands-on learning of protocols for handling kākāpō, fitting transmitters, and tracking the bird's using telemetry. This also enabled the building of essential relationships between iwi, Department of Conservation, the Kākāpō Recovery team and our biodiversity team. Sanctuary Manager, Bodie Taylor, visited Whenua Hou, and both Biodiversity Team Leader Janelle Ward and Biodiversity Ranger Dan Howie visited Anchor Island.

Traps and bait stations

The Biosecurity Team modified the existing pest control methods and tools to ensure they are safe around kākāpō, including kākāpō proofing 1,500 traps.

Twelve years after trials began and after eight months of hard work, the final version has been installed around the mountain.



2016 – 2026

OUR VISION Share the mauri and the mana of the maunga

VISION & STRATEGIC GOALS

1

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari is widely recognised as a world class conservation project.

By 2026 we will have:

- Improved our ability to keep the fenced reserve essentially free of pest mammals.
- Re-established breeding populations of native species historically present.
- Consistently monitored changes and facilitated research to improve our understanding of the maunga.
- Shared the 'lessons from the maunga' so others may benefit from our experiences.
- Contributed to the 'halo' of inter-connected habitat across the Waikato landscape.
- Maintained a motivated and diversely skilled group of volunteers.

2

Maungatautari is an internationally recognised eco-tourism destination.

By 2026 we will have:

- Developed a set of guided and interpreted tours that evocatively weave the ancient story of Maungatautari.
- Encouraged and supported our hosts and guides in telling Maungatautari stories to consistently high standards so that they will be enjoyed and remembered long after visitors have departed.
- Facilitated and contributed to a Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari education programme to bring about an awareness in conservation and ecological restoration.
- Encouraged and facilitated regular visitation by local residents, ensuring their continued engagement in, and support for our project.
- Created necessary infrastructure and maintained it at a very high standard enabling visitors to get the best possible experiences, be safe, and leave having been entertained and well informed.
- Promoted Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari as a premier destination in the itineraries of in-bound tourism operators.

3

Productive partnerships are a feature of our success.

By 2026 we will have:

- Consolidated Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari as a model of effective co-governance in which kawa and tikanga of mana whenua is reflected in all that we do.
- Maintained strong relationships with our neighbouring landowners, based on mutual understandings of shared interests.
- Nurtured skills and confidence of our volunteers as conservation professionals, recognising they are the lifeblood of our organisation and underpin the on-going success of Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari.
- Continued to encourage and facilitate inputs and support from our partners, ensuring that their interests are appropriately reflected in our directions and activities. Our family of partners and donors will have grown, reflecting recognition of the opportunities provided by Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari, and the perceived value in partnering.

4

Sound financial management by the Trust and continued donor support, underpins increasing economic viability of the Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari project.

By 2026 we will have:

- Improved the financial viability of the project through continuing to meet the requirements of our current donors and encouraging further organisations to join our family of donors, contributing to our strategic goals.
- Grown the diversity of our revenue streams to support our sustainable, viable enterprise.
- Secured additional funds for key capital investments and maintenance, visitor facility development, education facility development, upgrading of tracks and other vital infrastructure.
- Consistently applied appropriate business practices and demonstrated transparency and accountability to our partners and stakeholders.

VALUES / UARA

INSPIRED GUARDIAN

KAITIAKI WHAKAMIIHARO

ADVOCATE OF THE MOUNTAIN

HEI KANOHI MAUNGA

WHO IS A CARING TEAM PLAYER

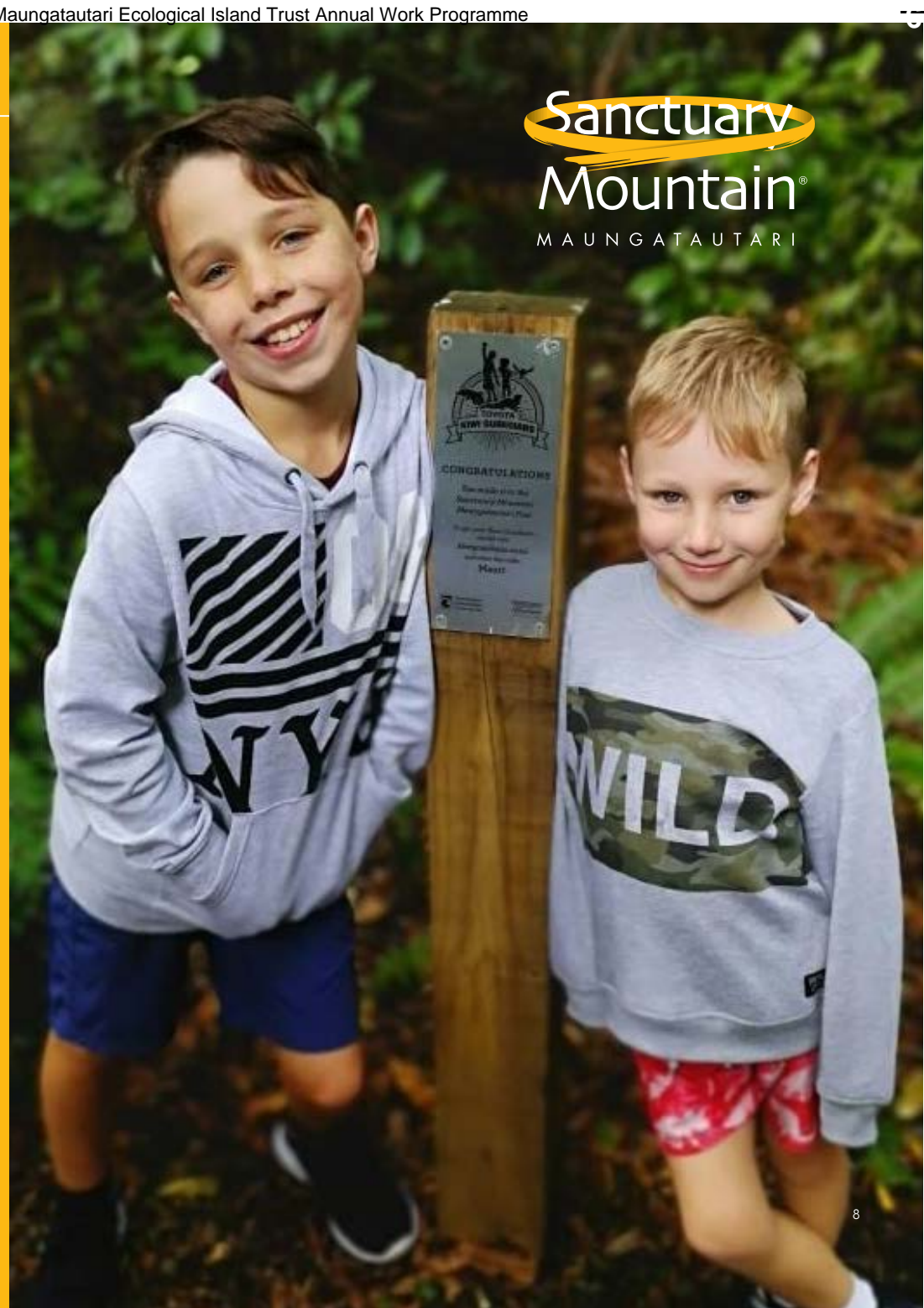
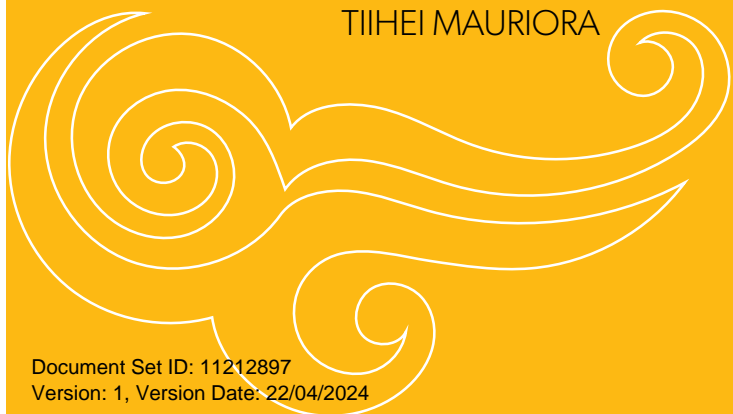
HEI RINGA WHAAOMOOMO,
HE RINGA RANGITAAMIRO

ADAPTABLE, ENCOURAGING DIVERSITY

KIA TAUTOKO NGAA URUTAUNGA,
KIA HAPAHAAPAI TE MIRO-RANGARANGA
ME TE AKONGA-KUMEROA

AND LIFELONG LEARNER

TIIHEI MAURIORA

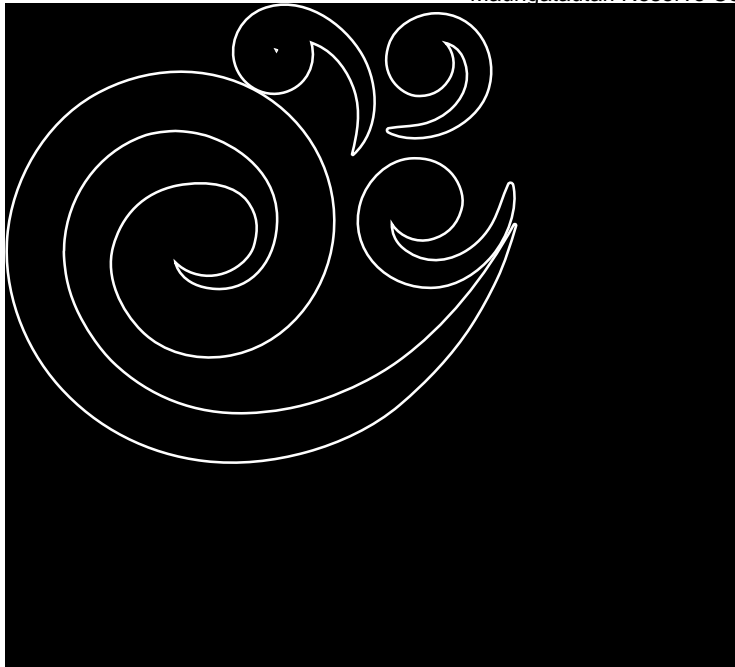


Sanctuary
Mountain®
MAUNGATAUTARI

INSPIRED GUARDIAN KAITIAKI WHAKAMIHARO

We are all guardians of the taonga species that call Maungatautari home. The sanctuary is an outstanding example of restoration and one of the most biodiverse forest areas on mainland New Zealand. We are proud of our work that significantly increases the viability for rare flora and fauna to become self-sustaining populations.





Document Set ID: 11212897
Version: 1, Version Date: 22/04/2024

CARING FOR THE SANCTUARY'S SPECIES

Some of the notable species translocations, monitoring and survey work conducted this year included:

Translocations

Copper skink, *Oligosoma aeneum*

43 copper skinks *Oligosoma aeneum* were released into Te Tūi a Tāne southern enclosure in late May 2023. This was a multi-agency salvage translocation from a housing development in Hamilton and involved collaborating with Hamilton Zoo, which held the skinks for a month for quarantine and disease testing. The skinks were released within the vicinity of permanent lizard survey transects, so hopefully, they will be picked up in future surveys. They are not a new species to Maungatautari, with repeat Copper skink sightings in many locations, including the Tuatarium, in the Tautari wetland.

North Island kākā, *Nestor meridionalis*

Two North Island kākā *Nestor meridionalis* were transferred from Waiheke Island Native Bird Rescue to recover in our aviaries before being soft released to the southern enclosure. This involved setting up a new dedicated rehab volunteer team, which worked very well.

Species monitoring

Hihi, *Notiomystis cincta*

The annual hihi survey was conducted by Hihi Conservation Officer Mhairi McCreedy from July to October 2022 over 40 days. The sightings and banding information are used for the mark and recapture survey. Mhairi sighted 35 birds, of which eight un-banded birds were captured and fitted with unique leg colour bands. Hihi continue to be elusive at Maungatautari and the latest survey results put our population at 57 (35-99) birds, a continued decline in the past few years. It is possible that a good year of breeding could turn this around. The next two years will see a concerted effort to discover more about what is inhibiting the expansion of hihi at Maungatautari and explore management options to help bolster the precious population.

Titipounamu, *Acanthisitta chloris*

Titipounamu are challenging to monitor as these tiny birds feed high up in the canopy and have distinctive high-pitched calls that can be difficult to hear. They also have started to disperse more widely from original release sites. For this reason, experienced contractors were engaged to assist with the 2022 pre-breeding survey. They found at least twenty pairs of birds, with at least another three single birds. Similarly, the staff and volunteer survey in March 2023 detected approximately 44 birds in total, but the survey was affected by poor weather and only weeks after Cyclone Gabrielle. To date, data from several surveys shows that 25 of the original 80 birds have been resighted. With a short life span, higher numbers of un-banded (Maungatautari hatched) birds are showing up in the surveys, which will quickly outnumber the marked birds. As such, the next pre-breeding survey is likely our last time to spot banded birds, and we have engaged species experts for this survey in September – October 2023.





Hochstetter’s Frog, *Leiopelma hochstetteri*

Due to various complexities, EcoQuest was unable to complete the second part of the triennial frog survey in November 2022. It was decided to repeat this survey in 2023. The first half of the survey was completed in April, and the second part is due in November 2023. Biodiversity staff visited the EcoQuest campus this year and were really impressed by their programme and the willingness to engage with Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari to support our frog surveys, potentially helping to initiate or support other biota monitoring in the future.

Mahoenui Giant Wētā, *Deinacrida mahoenui*

The arboreal Mahoenui giant wētā continues to be detected annually around the southern enclosure and usually not too far from their original release sites. Sightings are reported to the biodiversity team leader who keeps records and sends these to the Department of Conservation and Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research. A new permanent survey plot will be initiated in late 2023 to formalise the monitoring of this unique species.

Bat research

Bat colonies

This year, Otago University summer research intern Fiona Collie initiated a new bat survey. With twenty-one recorders placed out over the summer for several weeks, we were delighted with Fiona’s results, which had over 14,000 passes by long-tailed bats (*Chalinolobus tuberculatus*). Whilst there were no detections of lesser short-tailed bats (*Mystacina tuberculata*), that result was not unexpected and gives us further data to explore reintroduction of short-tailed bats in the future.

Fiona’s research also generated heat maps of likely (general) locations of roosts, which we can further investigate, providing us with the framework for regular repeat surveys in future to monitor our long-tailed bat population.

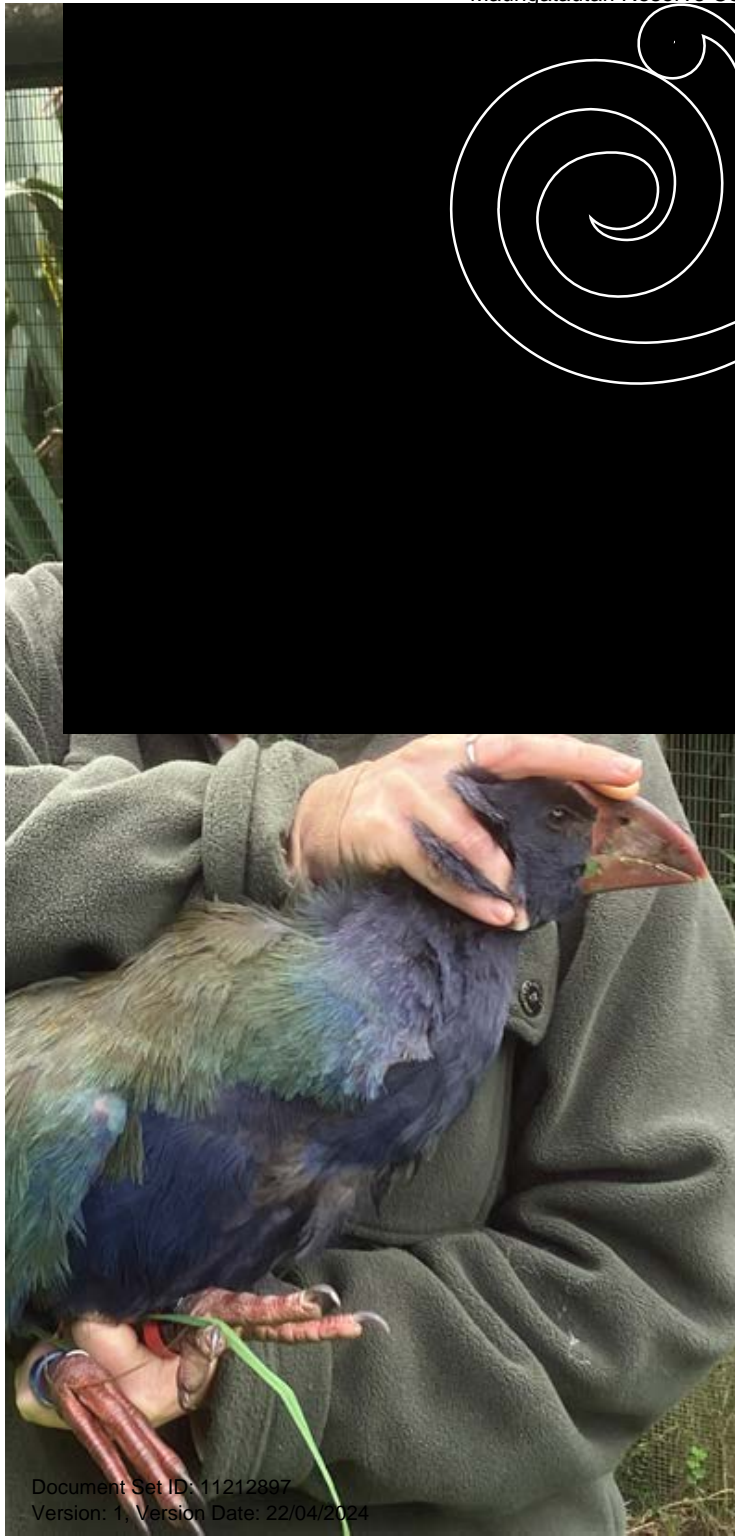


Lizards

A permanent lizard survey in the northern enclosure was initiated, targeting likely gecko sites. This is an ongoing tracking card survey with the hopes of detecting rare species such as the Duvaucel’s gecko, though, to date, no gecko prints have been found.

Fungal foray

This year Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari hosted the Fungal Network of NZ (FUNNZ) for their annual fungal foray. The group goes to different sites each year, and this is the first time that we have had dozens of dedicated mycologists gathering a large amount of species information in a short space of time. Results are being uploaded to iNaturalist and institutional databases - with over 140 fungi and lichen species uploaded to iNaturalist, this is more than double what was reported two years ago. Visit iNaturalist and search Maungatautari Ecological District to view some of the amazingly diverse fungi found at Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari.



Active Species Management

Sugar water continues to be provided three times a week, rain or shine, to our beautiful resident hihi population. There are six current feeders and funding has been sought to install a seventh feeder. Three feeders are in the southern enclosure and three on the Over the Mountain/Quad track at the PAB, BND and Mangahoi intersections. Cameras on some of the feeders help gather sightings information as well as volunteer and visitor sightings in the southern enclosure.

Takahē continue to delight our visitors, staff, and volunteers. We still have our two resident breeding pairs. Both pairs hatched a chick successfully this year, but only the Tautari wetland chick survived. The Coopers chick likely had exposure to the significant rain events we experienced in January 2023. The Tautari wetland juvenile is male, bringing our total number of juveniles raised to 21. We are hopeful for a great breeding year in 2023.

The Tuatarium has had a lot of maintenance work to reduce over-abundant tree cover and provide lovely, dappled sunlight for the tuatara and helps to improve visitor experience. Ongoing vegetation maintenance and weekly water supply to the ponds and pools in the enclosure continue to be provided via our dedicated Wetland Custodian volunteers.

Maintaining the maunga

It was exceptionally wet for the North Island over the spring and summer period, delaying maintenance on tracks within the sanctuary and the surrounding 47-kilometre fence line. Only basic maintenance was able to be achieved this year, due to costly repairs being over and above our annual budget.

Call-outs

Staff attended 110 call-outs, a decrease from last year's 129 call-outs. Maintenance such as vegetation clearing, arborists removing trees before they fall, annual shelterbelt trimming and

volunteer and Department of Conservation staff assisting with vegetation trimming have contributed to the reduction in call-outs.

During Cyclone Gabrielle, four sections of Xcluder® pest-proof fencing were damaged, totalling 25 metres, requiring full replacement.

Events Centre lighting upgrade

The lighting within the southern enclosure's Event Centre, was requiring renewal and a full switchboard upgrade. The upgrade will allow the facility to be used more effectively for wellness workshops and Nature & Nosh tours.

Pest incursions and monitoring

Over the last 12 months, pest control has been front of mind for our biosecurity team. Ensuring we maintain our pest-free status is critical for the impending arrival of kākākō and the wider sanctuary strategy. The team and volunteers have worked closely to keep the ngāhere's pest-free status while steadily making improvements to pest detection and removal systems.

A significant piece of work involved installing 50 new trail cameras into the pest monitoring network thanks to funding from The Mazda Foundation and The Stout Charitable Trust. Despite not trapping pests, they indicate the location and identify pest movements for more efficient trapping. In addition, the team have modified pest control equipment to ensure the sanctuary is safe for kākākō.

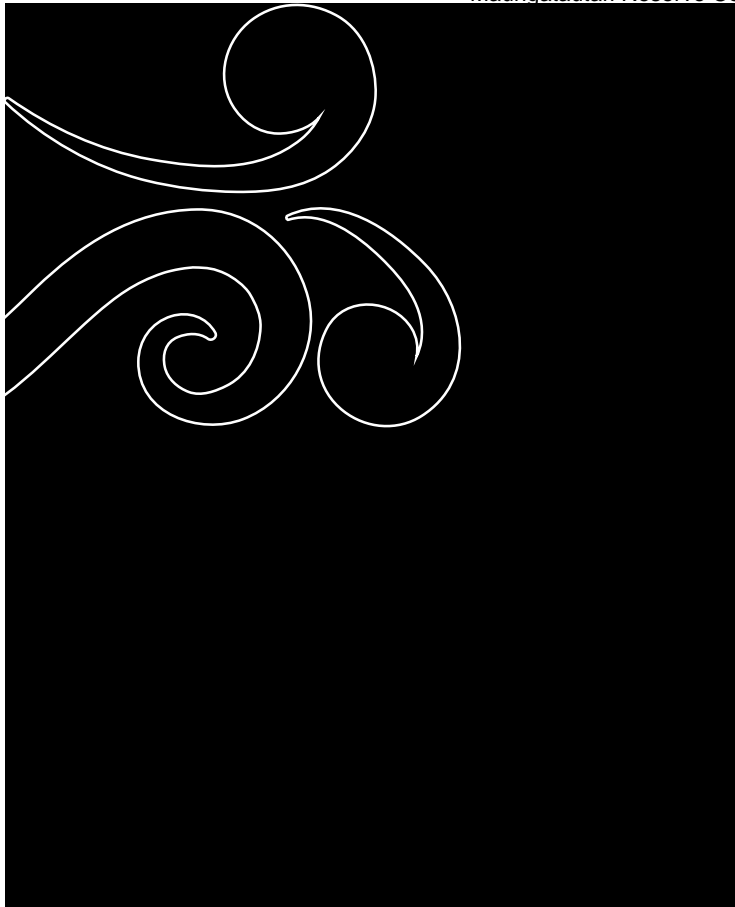
Breaches and incursions

The sanctuary's staff and volunteers have diligently monitored for pests, responded to incursions and fence breaches, and made numerous improvements to the processes and systems for managing biosecurity. Over the year, 17 fence breaches and 22 pest incursions were successfully resolved.

ADVOCATE OF THE MOUNTAIN HEI KANOHI MAUNGA

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari connects with local communities and visitors from afar, who are equally encouraged to visit, participate, and enjoy the rich natural heritage of this mighty Waikato maunga. Advocacy of the maunga and the conservation of our unique biodiversity is at the core of our role through our visitor services and experiences.





Connecting our visitors

Connecting people with nature drives our visitor services team at Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari. We aim to create positive, authentic, and direct experiences in the environment on Maungatautari that enable visitors to discover more and encourage them to become advocates for nature too.

Visitor numbers

In the first quarter of the financial year, we continued to feel the effects of COVID-19 on visitation numbers. However, it was comforting to see international travellers return and visitor numbers increase over the summer period, especially given it was a very wet summer. We were thrilled to see 15,452 visitors, of which 27% were international travellers and achieving our target of 12,000 visitors. February recorded a record income from visitors of \$38,431.

Guiding programmes

We are pleased to see guided tour numbers have lifted from 1,771 in 2018/19 to 2,754 in 2022/23. The return of international travellers also meant the return of Inbound Tour Operators (ITO) seeking guided tours, contributing to this figure. The strength of our guiding team is their ability to share their kōrero authentically. There are themes that they all cover, but each guide has their own experiences they interweave into the tours they deliver.

Engagement online

We focused on creating regular social media content on our channels, sharing species knowledge, sanctuary updates and profiling tours and visitor experiences. Social media allows us to connect with audiences locally and globally. Our follower numbers are steadily growing.

Retail

Our retail shop sales continued building, and we introduced new product ranges. We had some great results, including our largest retail month in April, with sales of \$5,058.

Signage

New directional signage for the southern enclosure included integrating te reo Māori. The directional signage helps visitors find their way to the entrance to the southern enclosure from the visitor centre. Three road signs were also installed between Cambridge and Pukeatua to help visitors navigate to the sanctuary from Cambridge through Roto-o-Rangi.

Reviews and rating

We have maintained our TripAdvisor five-star rating, accumulated from a total of 249 reviews. We also received feedback from visitors through Rezdy (booking system), showing 95.57% are very satisfied to extremely satisfied with their visit. The survey also asks how likely people are to recommend Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari to a friend or colleague. The results from provides us with our Net Promoter Score (NPS). The NPS measures customer experience and can predict business growth.

The score for Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari for the calendar year of 2022/2023 is 82. Based on global NPS standards, above 70 is considered world-class.

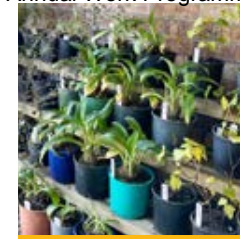
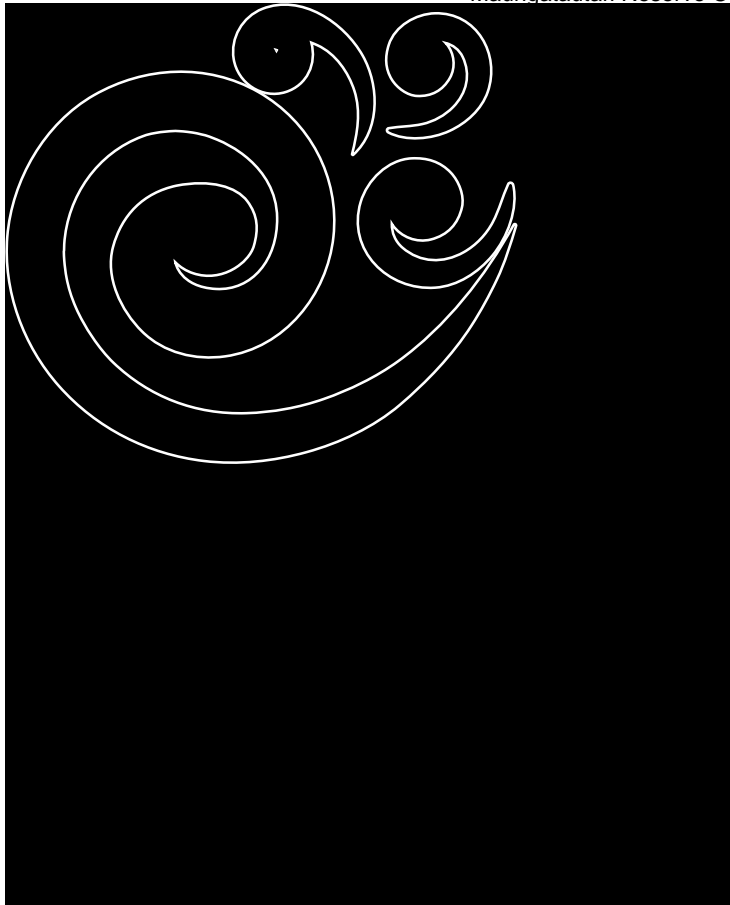
Recognised for our work

We were thrilled to again be awarded the Qualmark Gold award. A Gold Sustainable Tourism Accreditation identifies those businesses leading the way in making the New Zealand tourism industry a world-class sustainable visitor destination.



Inspired Kaitiaki

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our Inspired Kaitiaki members, who contribute regularly to support our ongoing conservation work.



Initiatives for environmental sustainability

Green team

Launched this year, the sanctuary's Green Team comprises motivated staff members and volunteers focused on making Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari more environmentally sustainable. They met several times to create actions on ways to reduce waste and carbon dioxide emissions. Projects included using cotton hand towels instead of paper towels in staff bathrooms and kitchen areas, running a sustainable lunch box competition and further education on composting food scraps and staff room bins. Purpose-designed waste bins were also purchased for the new education centre.

Cardboard tracking cards

Tracking cards on the main mountain monitoring lines comprise nearly 160 litres (70 kg) of landfill waste annually. We received \$3,000 from Waipa District Council's Waste Minimisation Fund to contribute towards purchasing seven trail cameras. The trail cameras will replace tracking card use on some of the main mountain monitoring lines, reducing the overall waste. This initiative also saves staff and volunteer time and captures key data over a more extended period, not only of potential pests but also of taonga species. A permanent camera network covering the fence line was completed in November 2022. Cameras are also used to investigate pest presence in connection with fence breaches and pest incursions.

Scrap metal recycling

A nine cubic metre scrap metal bin is on permanent loan from Central Metals and is located at the operations depot for metal recycling. Central Metals generously picked this up and swapped

it out with a new bin at no cost. We have sent away 18 cubic metres of scrap metal this year.

Rain sensor

A rain sensor was installed in the native plant nursery to regulate the watering of plants, and this has reduced electricity use by 78%.

Ditch the four walls for an outdoor boardroom

Launched in 2020, the Bush Boardroom is a collaboration between Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari and Kylie Rae of Nature & Nosh Tours. Offering a range of unique and unplugged corporate experiences, the Bush Boardroom packages include guided mindful hikes and ancient forest highlights tours, culminating in a workshop or planning session at an undisclosed location on the maunga with a large table under an open native canopy.

"The Bush Boardroom has hosted companies like Fonterra, Gallagher, Sentinel Homes, Convex and Cheal Consultants".

Plant Pass accreditation

We have received a Plant Pass certification for our native plant nursery in February. Plant Pass is a voluntary biosecurity certification scheme to help plant producers identify, control, manage and avoid biosecurity risks. Our nursery raises eco-sourced natives and undertakes plantings around the maunga to help vulnerable trees, birds, insects, and fish flourish. We also provide native plants for sale, to our community as well. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who have put in the mahi to make this possible and Daltons of Matamata, who annually supply us with compost.

How often do we take the opportunity to be mindful before racing off to the next meeting? In our world it's unheard of, so to spend the day in the pristine environment of Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari was an absolute privilege. Nestled amongst the trees with the (at times very loud!) sound of native birds all around us, talking about the finances didn't really compare! Kylie is a great host and passionate about her work and the food was amazing. We can't recommend this highly enough.

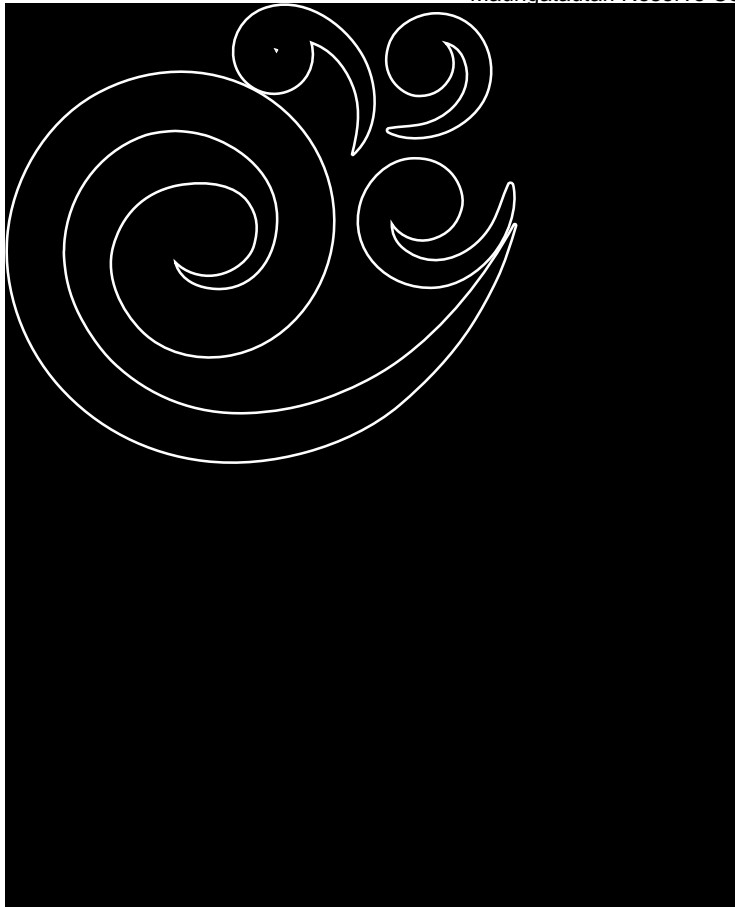
– Rebecca Hawke, Cheal Consultants CEO.

WHO IS A CARING TEAM PLAYER

HEI RINGA WHAAOMOMO
HE RINGA RANGITAAMIRO

Governed by a Trust made up of members from the community, landowners and local iwi representatives, Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari requires many team players to ensure the long-term sustainability and financial viability of the project is possible.





Strengthening relationships with DOC

In April the installation of the kākāpō barrier was completed, with the objective of keeping these precious manu within the sanctuary. However, there was still work to be done. In places vegetation had grown against the fence line interior, so that it could form a bridge, and possibly allow kākāpō to bypass the barrier.

In response, Department of Conservation teams from both the Waikato and Maniapoto offices arrived at the maunga in June, providing vehicles, tools, and plenty of people power to clear back vegetation along a stretch of fence line in the sanctuary’s northeast. The enthusiasm, professionalism and speed of these teams was remarkable, and much more mahi than expected was completed.

Volunteers are the ultimate team players

Through their generous efforts, volunteers embody the core values that define our organisation. Each volunteer plays a vital role in preserving and enhancing the sanctity of Maungatautari, and their dedication is truly commendable.

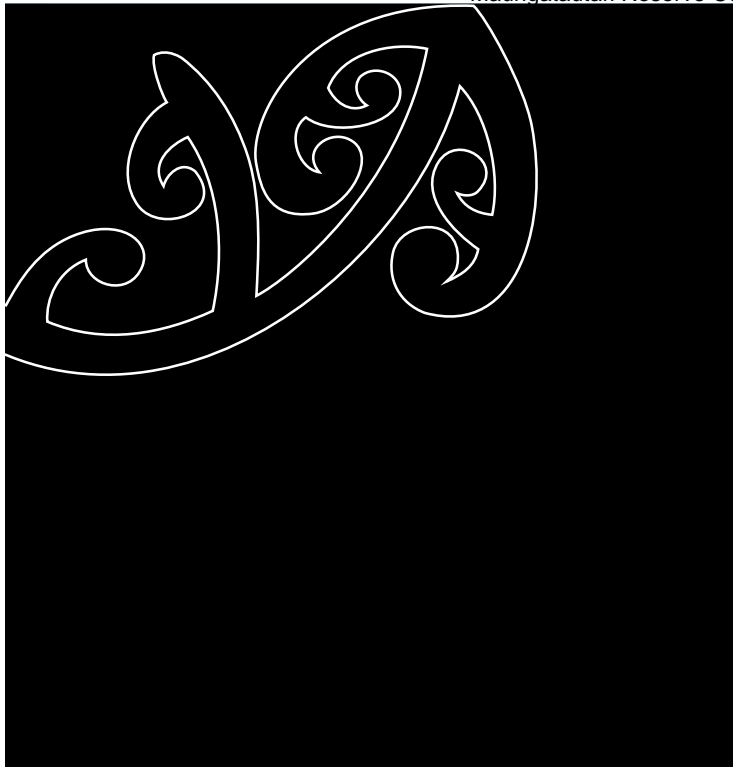
We have a total of 192 volunteers who contributed 14,749 volunteer hours supporting staff with day-to-day activities, including pest control and monitoring, planting and releasing nursery work, maintenance of our visitor areas, species surveys and visitor engagement.

During the year, work included:

- Refined onboarding procedures empowered new volunteers for meaningful engagement
- Collaborative workdays with Te Awamutu College cultivated future environmental stewards
- Continued to foster unity among volunteers with communication platforms
- The Wetlands Custodian team bolstered vital wetland preservation
- National recognition through Volunteering New Zealand shoutouts celebrating our contributions
- Volunteers transitioning to staff roles exemplified our dynamic community’s growth. New roles included canister filler/ monitoring cupboard, traps and canisters, kākāpō fencing and custodians of the wetland.

“Their collective efforts not only enrich the sanctuary but also enhance our community’s understanding and connection to the environment. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these dedicated individuals who give their time, passion, and skills to preserve and protect Maungatautari for generations to come.”

Volunteer Coordinator – Lian Buckett.



Mana whenua led partnerships

*“ka tangi te titi, ka tangi te kaka, ka tangi te kākāpō,
ka tangi te kiwi Tīhei Mauriora!”*

Translocation of taonga species

The translocation of kiwi this year has been a significant partnership between Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari, Save the Kiwi and mana whenua. Translocating kiwi from the sanctuary requires the appropriate processes. Tikanga and iwi-to-iwi relationships are met with ritual, protocol and respect for an ancient process of tākoha (gifting).

Led by Ngāti Koroki Kahukura (NKK) in partnership with Ngāti Hikairo ki Tongariro, staff, volunteers and Save the Kiwi were part of translocating 61 kiwi out of the sanctuary back to Tongariro. In May, another 50 kiwi were released into the hills of Mākara, southwest of Wellington, in partnership with Capital Kiwi and Taranaki iwi.

During the year, two more iwi have visited Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari to tono (apply) from Maungatautari again NKK was there to respond to the cultural reciprocation on pōwhiri.

Tono Process

The tono process is a reciprocal mana-to-mana agreement between NKK and other iwi. Over the past 12 months, significant work has been undertaken to start the process of tono with Ngāi Tahu, creating a consistent presence in the decision-making process in the arrival of kākāpō. This has required face-to-face and verbal discussions that carry the cultural and holistic aspects of the translocation.

*“Kotahi te kakaho, ka whati, ka pūia ngā kakaho e kore e whati.”
“One reed will snap under the pressure, but together united,
can never be broken.”*

Ongoing work

Along with all our supporters NKK continue to contribute across the organisation in all areas of the Maungatautari vision. Such efforts cannot be named individually as there are too many to mention and it would not be right mention one without the other. The saying that best embodies these sentiments not just for Mana Whenua, but for all is a whakatauāki from Te Puea Herangi (Princess Te Puea).

Tikanga practices

With the guidance and support of mana whenua and Sanctuary Manager Bodie Taylor, the team continued to work hard to integrate tikanga practices and values from mātauranga into all areas of business.





Employing rangatahi on the maunga

Jobs for Nature – Mahi mō te Taiao

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari was the recipient of a \$589,416 three-year funding package through Jobs for Nature in 2021. Now, two years into the funding period, our four full-time rangers are well on their way to receiving full training in becoming experienced rangers in pest and species management and infrastructure maintenance as part of the scheme.

Over the past year, we have completed the following outcomes that contribute to our funding goals:

- **61 km fence maintenance (target 47 km).** This involved fence inspections, replacing O-rings on the surveillance wire, cleaning the hood of lichen, building two new up and overs and replacing pop rivets on the hood.
- **690 m fence upgrade (target 1040 m).** This included replacing whole sections of fence that were damaged due to tree fall and upgrading the fence, particularly around the Southern Enclosure. We fell short of the milestone due to Cyclone Gabrielle and the reprioritising of resources on upgrading the fence to make it kākāpō proof.
- **100 km track maintenance (target 98 km).** Our rangers maintained existing tracks including the internal fence, quad bike and many monitoring tracks on the main mountain.

The four rangers were trained in Light Utility Vehicle (LUV), Grow Safe and first aid. Two rangers also learnt telemetry and kiwi handling skills, mostly done as volunteers. These skills helped locate and catch kiwi for translocation to Tongariro and Wellington.

Working in the outdoors

Helping Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari meet its conservation goals is a rewarding role for Ranger Caitlin Stoyel-Wiggens who is part of the Jobs for Nature scheme.

The variety of her job is a real drawcard, where no two days are the same. “A lot of my role is working with both the Biosecurity and Operations and Assets teams. We get stuck in and do anything from fence building and weeding to trap-setting and even track maintenance.” says Caitlin.

Before joining Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari, Caitlin was studying a Certificate in Conservation Operations with Toi Ohomai. Her studies were hands-on, providing her a great range of skills including how to drive quad bikes and light utility vehicles, operate and maintain a chainsaw, use agrichemicals and manage pest control, and build and maintain tracks, fences and other conservation facilities.

She loves working outdoors and sees a future for herself in some sort of conservation fieldwork. “I love doing a job that makes a difference. I’m aiming to work more in species conservation in the future,” says Caitlin.

Caitlin was also one of two rangers who received telemetry and kiwi handling training this year. Caitlin uses this skill while walking on the maunga to help locate kiwi and kākāpō. This is invaluable in keeping our taonga species safe and a skill she can use as a future leader and kaitiaki (guardian).

Caitlin says one of the best things about the sanctuary and working in the team is getting to work with such passionate people.

“All four of our Jobs for Nature rangers are still with us.

This is a result of a good whakawhauaungatanga, ongoing training and support, opportunities to specialise and a great place to work.”

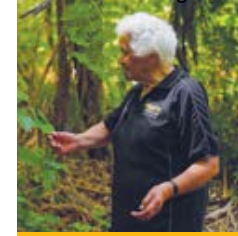
– Warwick Prewer, Ranger and Reporting Analyst

ADAPTABLE, ENCOURAGING DIVERSITY

KIA TAUTOKO NGAA URUTAUNGA,
KIA HAPAHAAPAI TE MIRO-RANGARANGA
ME TE AKONGA-KUMEROA



By encouraging diversity across all aspects of our organisation, we can strive to connect as many people as possible with the maunga. We embrace diversity and inclusivity in our programmes and activities that contribute to enhancing the social, physical, mental and spiritual well-being of our visitors and community.



Health and well-being

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari’s well-being programme is aimed at individuals and companies to support their overall well-being needs. Whether that is seeking to address stress and mental fatigue, feeling grounded in nature, building a team, or exploring creativity, there are many ways our programmes help address the stresses of everyday life.

National Hauora Coalition

We hosted 20 staff from the National Hauora Coalition in December, where they participated in our Living Connections experience. The session interwove learning of the healing properties of plants, an immersive wellbeing experience focusing on the senses to explore the ngahere, and a gentle movement practice to relieve stress. The workshop finished with a joyous rendition of Tutira Mai Ngā Iwi. The group expressed how enjoyable and healing the experience had been and a follow-up session was delivered to their colleagues in February 2023.

Diversity of health and well-being programmes

Joyce works part-time as a visitor centre coordinator and a guide alongside Wellness and Guiding Programme Coordinator Rosie Cahalane. Together, they have developed several programmes, including the new Living Connections experience,

“I saw a call for visitor hosts in Maunga Matters ngahere at a time when I needed something new in my life, and I began volunteering one day a month. That turned into one voluntary day a week on the reception desk, and I joined the visitor centre staff in 2016,” says Joyce.

Joyce is a professionally trained Eco therapist who promotes mental and emotional well-being by guiding clients into an increased awareness of themselves and the natural world.

“I work with groups to give them a new experience of the forest that reduces stress and revitalises the body and mind. I encourage them to slow down and use all their senses, allowing them to

experience being in nature in a truly health-giving way,” says Joyce. Rongoā Rākau is another programme that has continued to develop this year. The popular tours started in 2022 by collaborating with Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari and mana whenua. This year, we welcome Jamie Hiriaki as a guide. Jamie had been supporting whaea Ringi Morgan-Fifield, who leads our monthly Friday tours, and the addition of Jamie to the team now allows us to offer Saturday tour dates.

“From a child, my grandmother, nana and great-aunts would use rongoā for healing and after becoming a mother and being influenced by my work in a kindergarten that followed a Rudolf Steiner holistic approach to education and living, my passion for rongoā was reignited”, says Jamie.

Over the last 12 months, 96 people have participated in these intimate tours. Visitors have enjoyed the tikanga aspects of the tour and its positioning in Te Ao Māori.

Safety-conscious culture

Health and safety is an organisation-wide priority that is embedded in our working culture.

Safe Work Register (SWR)

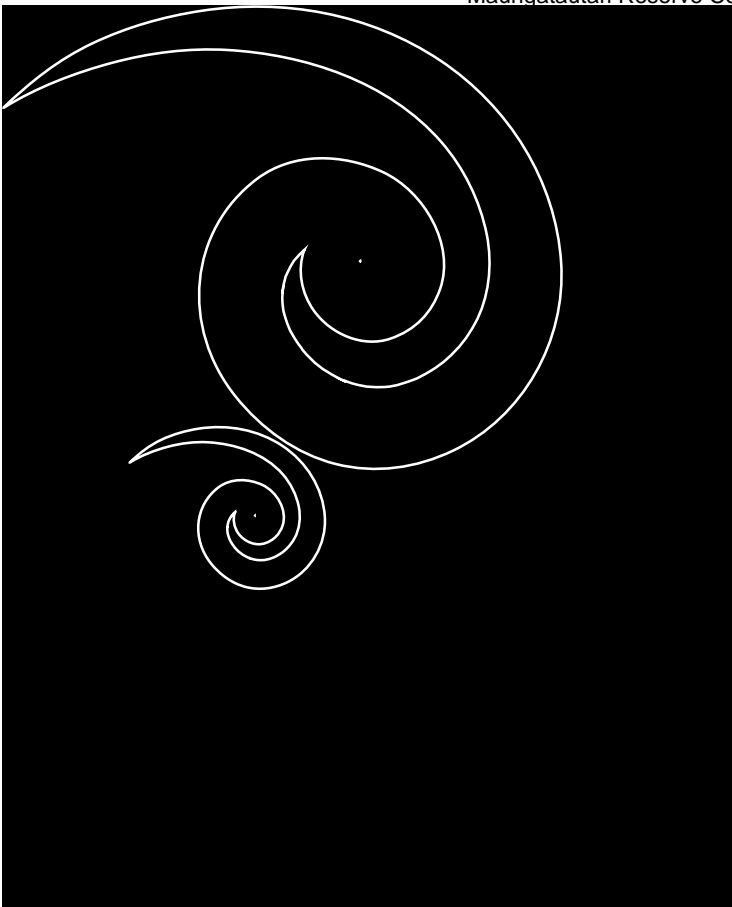
Our SWR reporting system has been in place for a full year. Over the past 12 months, 1,416 staff, volunteers and contractors have checked in using SWR.

Toolbox Sessions

Safety Toolbox sessions were more important than ever with the addition of the kākāpō fence rangers joining the team. Daily fence toolbox meetings were held at the Operations Depot detailing the section of fence they were modifying. Weekly toolbox meetings continued, along with weekly team lead and monthly full team health and safety hui’s.

LIFELONG LEARNER TIIHEI MAURIORA

Education is one of Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari’s key priorities. We offer facilitated education and learning programmes for early childhood, primary school, secondary school, kura, tertiary and teacher professional development. Personal development is also a priority, and we try to find ways to offer staff and volunteers opportunities to learn.



Learning opportunities

Mother Earth education programme

Despite cancellations of schools (totalling 240 students) who had been scheduled to visit, mainly because of weather and teacher strikes, the education programme interacted with 2,894 students, and 805 adults, totalling 3,699 education visitors to the maunga. The education programme was responsible for around a quarter of the visitation to the mountain. In addition, some school groups have donated time, money and/or resources to the mountain after experiencing an education programme. A total of 132 school sessions were presented, and more students engaged in education programme activities at events such as Kids Greening Taupo and the Te Awamutu Museum’s Tui & Tama Club Eco Expo as well as via online education. Including all events where the education team interacted with people, 5,390 people had the opportunity to experience our education programme last year.

Rototuna Junior High School visit

A highlight this year was a visit from Rototuna Junior High School in May. Teachers Haylee and Katie co-teach a Year 10 group of students, and they created a unit of learning that combined concepts of conservation genetics with the skills involved in smartphone and DSLR photography. They introduced their unit of work to students by taking them to the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at the Waikato Museum. Then, they visited Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari to learn about the conservation genetics involved in species recovery work. Their visit also included exploring the forest to enable students to practice the photography skills they’d learned at school. Their unit of work culminated in a written report, and photography collections were created around their chosen theme. Lead Educator Tali and educator Anne Devlin then attended their school arts evening to view the photography boards on display and help congratulate the photography competition winners. A talent show was also part of this evening, and donations were collected on the night that were kindly donated to Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari.

Educational tours

This year has seen international student tour groups begin to return through New Zealand ISA, Haka Educational Tours and international university groups. We have continued providing field trip opportunities for the Bay Conservation Alliance Cadet and BLAKE Inspire programmes.

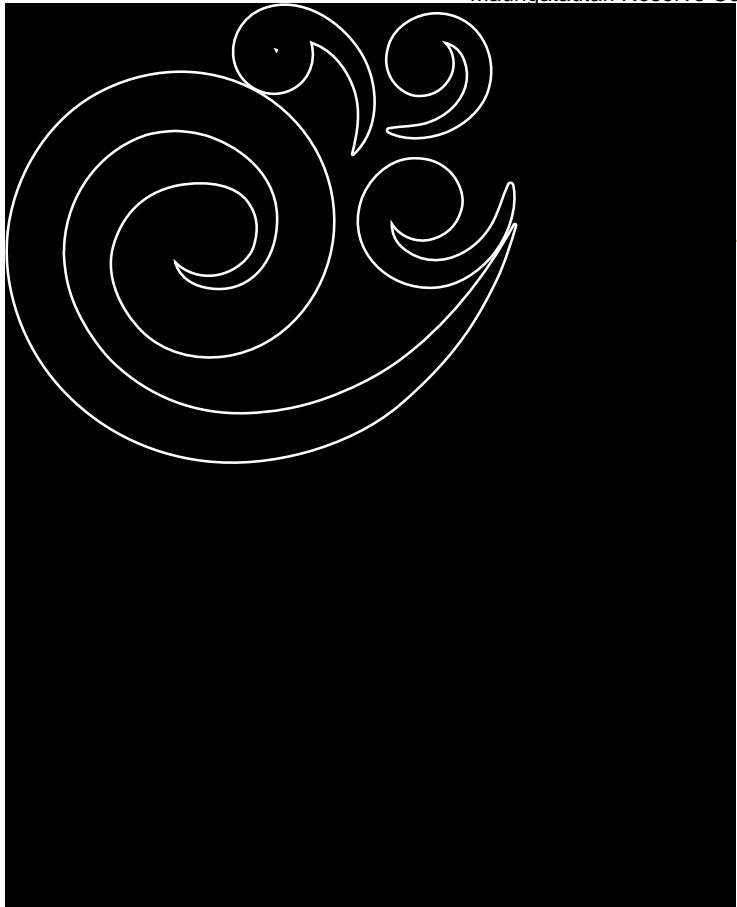
Professional days

Two fully subscribed teacher professional development days were held in partnership with the Department of Conservation, sharing the unique ecology and biodiversity of Maungatautari and conservation resources available for teachers to use. One in September – Conservation Education and Biodiversity and one in May – Conservation Education and Wellbeing.

We contributed a field trip experience exploring the biodiversity of the maunga and rongoā rākau to the inaugural Science Wānanga ki Parawera Marae. The University of Otago Division of Sciences, in partnership with Parawera Marae and others, brought rangatahi together from four local schools/ kura and whānau and rangatahi from Parawera Marae. The wānanga explored the strengths of western science and mātauranga Māori around themes of wai and kai.

We also provided a field trip for the SciCon 2023 Science Teacher’s conference for 34 teachers nationwide.

“We just wanted to say another massive thank you to you and your team. We had the best time last week! It was really nice talking to the kids today about it. They all loved it. Not only the photography aspect but just taking the time to be out in nature and enjoy it all at a slower pace. It’s something that lots of them don’t get to do regularly”.



Research projects

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari works with universities and other partners to collaborate on research projects, supporting researchers to contribute to global conservation goals and outcomes.

Invertebrates

Kelly Greig, an Auckland University PhD candidate, has been studying beetles from the Zopheridae family to observe the diverse cuticle structures of these beetles and better understand their camouflage capabilities.

Tuatara

Cam Hoffbeck, a University of Auckland PhD student, is studying the microbiome of captive vs. wild tuatara and took cloacal samples of 30 tuatara from two sites at the end of January 2023. This was also a good chance to health check our tuatara and all those captured were looking in great health!

North Island kākā

Neil Fitzgerald from Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research is conducting a long-term study, 'Where do kākā go?' and included the capture of a Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari juvenile in early 2023 that has a GPS tracking device monitoring the young bird's movements. Results from his study are likely to be published in 2024, but interim results have shown kākā are regularly flying significant distances around the North Island.

Flora

University of Waikato graduate Margaret Dickinson has a concession permit for native tree phenology studies that continue in the northern aspects of Maungatautari. Margaret gave an excellent talk at our research seminars this year, highlighting some of her findings – many of them previously unknown, such as the timing of fruiting and flowering of Mangeao and Tawa and the impacts of invasive mammals, using Maungatautari as a comparison site.

Fungi

Mycologist Dr. Ian Hood continues his fungal community research titled: Wood colonizing polypore fungi in podocarp hardwood forest on Maungatautari reserve. Ian has recorded many new species (to Maungatautari) and produced some fantastic bound copies of his research findings that are available to view at the Visitor Centre.

Staff and volunteer development

Training

Staff and volunteers have also continued to receive training to ensure they hold quad, 4WD, LUV, chainsaw and first aid certifications. During the year, where appropriate, staff and volunteers also underwent advanced chainsaw, advanced first aid in the bush, winching, dog training, and communications training. Volunteers have been trained onsite in diverse areas, from pest monitoring to kiwi tracking, handling and transmitter changes, track cutting, kākāpō fence modification, species surveys and wild bird captive care and rehabilitation.

Staff have also attended relevant industry group meetings including hihi recovery group hui, national kiwi hui, kōkako specialist group and conservation dog's hui, to name just a few!

Developing rangers

Over the last 12 months, there have been several opportunities for our new rangers to grow and develop their leadership skills. The kākāpō project has enabled team members to step up and manage smaller groups of fence rangers and volunteers working on the fence modification. Rangers have also had opportunities to attend industry events such as the national kiwi hui and Sanctuaries of New Zealand annual conference.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Principal Funder



Key strategic partnerships:

Department of Conservation
 Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research
 Mother Earth
 Ngāti Koroki Kahukura
 Profile Group
 Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology
 Waikato Regional Council
 Waikato River Authority.

Key Funders:

Grassroots
 Milestone Foundation
 One Foundation
 Pub Charity
 Rodmor Trust
 Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga
 Ministry of Education
 Trillian Trust
 Trust Waikato
 Wel Energy Trust

Iwi Partners:

Ngāti Koroki Kahukura
 Ngāti Hauā
 Raukawa
 Waikato
 Ngāti Hikairo ki Tongariro
 Ngāi Tahu

We also wish to thank the following funders, businesses and groups:

Alexander Harold Watson Charitable Trust
 Bluesky Community Trust
 Fresh Choice
 Jumble Around
 Lions Club - Morrinsville
 Mazda Foundation
 One Foundation
 Ron Greenwood Environmental Trust
 Stout Charitable Trust
 Transpower
 Valder Conservation Grant
 WDC - Waste Minimisation Community Fund
 WDC – Heritage Fund
 Z Good in the Hood

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari simply could not do what we do without the support of our committed whānau of sponsors and supporters. These wonderful partners and sponsors have supported Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari in the last financial year, contributing to the many projects outlined in this report.

FINANCIAL REPORT – YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE 2023

Graham Parker, MEIT Trustee

The Trust recorded a nett surplus of \$155k for the year ending 30th June 2023. This was achieved during a year where two major capital projects were completed, The Manu Korokii Profile Group Education Centre (\$862K) and the addition to the perimeter pest-proof fence to enable kākāpō to be reintroduced to Maungatautari (\$608K).

Revenue for the year was \$3,063K. Revenue in 2022 was \$2,170K

- 2023 revenue included \$1,087K of capital grants carried through from 2022.
- Visitor and Education Programme income of \$354K was up \$101K on the 2022, a Covid impacted year.
- Operating grant receipts from community funders were lower – the impact of the current recessionary environment. This impact will also likely flow into the current years' income.

Total expenses were \$2,908 -up from \$2,245K in 2022

- Administration and operating costs were held stable at \$448,550 -a commendable achievement in the current inflationary climate.
- Wages and employment costs at \$1,344k were up \$105K. This included additional wages as visitor activity increased post Covid.
- Depreciation of \$989K included a one-off impairment loss of \$632K as audit advise was to totally write off the capital "poison drop" expense which had been depreciated on an annual basis since 2006.

The 30 June 2023 cash position shows \$376K available cash. This includes \$95K of tagged funding.

Debt liabilities comprise \$66K of vehicle financing and a \$250K ASB loan drawn down to finance the capital project.



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Revenue	Year ended 30/06/23	Year ended 30/06/22
Funding/grants	2,479,149	1,583,344
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	218,163	321,758
Revenue from providing goods or services	353,908	253,084
Interest revenue	11,462	2,434
Other income	955	10,224
Total revenue	3,063,637	2,170,844
Expenditure		
Administration costs	89,278	84,947
Costs relating to providing goods and services	4,050	63,045
Depreciation and amortisation	989,514	372,356
Interest expense	18,792	14,219
Operating expenses	359,272	375,425
Volunteer and employee related expenses	1,344,315	1,239,594
Repairs and maintenance	103,104	96,250
Total expenses	2,908,325	2,245,836
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	155,312	(74,992.00)

BALANCE SHEET

Revenue	Year ended 30/06/23	Year ended 30/06/22
Current assets		
Debitors and prepayments	17,061	24,853
Bank accounts	376,504	1,234,779
Inventory	52,935	22,787
Other current assets	14,654	0.00
Total current assets	461,154	1,282,419
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	9,181,959	8,881,715
Other non-current assets	0.00	227,400
Total assets	9,643,113	10,391,534
Current liabilities		
Creditors and accrued expenses	126,678	219,858
Income received in advance	47,021	1,087,634
Other current liabilities	0.00	276
Total current liabilities	173,699	1,307,768
Hire purchase	66,499	86,163
Term loans	250,000	0.00
Total liabilities	490,198	1,393,931
Net assets	9,152,915	8,997,603
Accumulated funds		
Capital contributed by members	50	50
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expenses	9,152,865	8,997,553
Total accumulated funds	9,152,915	8,997,603

Physical Address

99 Tari Road, RD1, Pukeatua 3880, New Zealand

Postal Address

PO Box 476, Cambridge 3450, New Zealand

+64 7 870 5180

info@sanctuarymountain.co.nz

www.sanctuarymountain.co.nz

We would like to acknowledge our current
And retired trustees for the year 2022-2023

Current Trustees

Norma Taute (Co-chair)

Don Scarlet (Co-chair)

Andrew Peckham

Gavin Williamson

Graham Parker

Kate Mauriohoo

Rosanne Matheson

Retired Trustees

Nico Mouton

Mary Jensen



KA TŪ TE MANAWA RANGI
KA TŪ TE MANAWA WHENUA
HEI ĀKINA KUMU MŌ HINETAPU I TE PAPA,
ĀWHITIA, PŪPURUTIA, HOU!
TE WĀNANGA O PŌTATAU TE WHEROWHERO

Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari is a registered
trademark of Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

Photo Credits: Sue Dela Rue, John Parker (Maddox
Photography), Sheree Kershaw Photography, Phil Brown,
Kseniia, Debs Smith, Freeman Ehu, Rickie-Lee and
Dan Scanlon, Dr. Janelle Ward, Ramon Balderas, James
Matthews, Shaun Jeffers, Department of Conservation,
G. Shirley, Tom Lynch, Geoff Churchill, Rohan Clarke,
Debs Smith, Monique Webb, Kiwis for kiwi and
Sanctuary Mountain® Maungatautari.



COMMITTEE REPORT



INFORMATION ONLY

To: The Chairperson and Members of the Maungatautari Reserve Committee

From: Reserves Planning Team Leader

Subject: **Update on approval and implementation of He Mahere moo Maungatautari – Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan**

Meeting Date: 1 May 2024

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the actions of He Mahere moo Maungatautari – Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan ('the RMP'). The RMP was approved by Waipā District Council (Council) under delegation from the Minister of Conservation on 31 August 2021.

The RMP provides the vision for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve and outlines policies which ensure this will be achieved. This report provides an outline of the key policies that are in place to monitor implementation of the RMP, as a means to guiding future reporting requirements to this Committee.

2 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Maungatautari Reserve Committee receives the report of Hannah Divehall – Reserves Planning Team Leader, titled Update on approval and implementation of He Mahere moo Maungatautari – Maungatautari Reserve Management Plan (document number 11212437).

3 COMMENTARY - KŌRERO

The RMP provides policies which guide day to day management and decisions around future management. Page 32 of the Plan 'Te Whakamahi i te Mahere - Implementation of the Plan', contains policies which enable overall monitoring of the implementation of the Plan. A summary of progress against these implementation actions is provided in the table over the page:

Te Whakamahi i te Mahere - Implementation of the Plan (Page 32)		
1	Whaainga - Objective: The vision for Maungatautari Scenic Reserve is achieved through Council’s active involvement, alongside mana whenua and Te Hapori o Maungatautari, in the implementation of this Plan.	
	Kaupapa here - Policies:	Progress/Compliance
1	Manage and administer Maungatautari Scenic Reserve in a way that recognises Council’s ongoing commitment to Maungatautari, gives effect to this RMP and meets legislative obligations and responsibilities.	Ongoing – management and administration has occurred in this manner.
2	Provide an appropriate and consistent level of resourcing that facilitates the implementation of this RMP and recognises the significance of the maunga to mana whenua and our wider community in terms of biodiversity, cultural and recreational values.	Ongoing – Council support of MEIT and co-ordination of concessions for the maunga.
3	Actively encourage partners to provide an appropriate and consistent level of resourcing that facilitates the implementation of this RMP.	Ongoing from all parties involved in management.
4	Identify, investigate and pursue opportunities to increase revenue streams over the long term to support the Maungatautari ecological restoration project.	Ongoing work programme for MEIT in collaboration with Council.
5	Develop an annual operations plan outlining the day-to-day operations of the reserve including, but not limited to, the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Activities to manage and maintain the pest-proof fence b) Monitoring of mammalian and weed pests c) Maintaining assets and recreational infrastructure d) Engagement activities with the communities of Maungatautari e) Maintaining the biodiversity advisory committee f) Reporting to Waipā District Council g) Any planned new activities 	Under development by MEIT.
6	Develop an annual report outlining the following matters: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The number of pest mammals, other than mice, detected and trapped inside the pest-proof fence b) The area (hectares) in the reserve dominated by adventive plant species 	Refer to the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust Annual Workplan report presented at this meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) The number of pest plant species in the reserve d) The proportion of species present as self-sustaining populations relative to a hypothetically fully-occupied ecosystem e) The number of species translocated into the reserve and the number of these species that have achieved self-sustaining populations f) The number of visitors to the maunga annually g) The number of volunteers h) The number of students that visit the maunga for educational purposes i) The number and nature of concessions applied for and granted 	
--	--	--

Hannah Divehall
RESERVES PLANNING TEAM LEADER

Reviewed by Brad Ward
MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES

Approved by Dawn Inglis
GROUP MANAGER – SERVICE DELIVERY

COMMITTEE REPORT



INFORMATION ONLY

To: The Chairperson and Members of the Maungatautari Reserve Committee

From: Reserves Planning Team Leader

Subject: **Update on landowner negotiations**

Meeting Date: 1 May 2024

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

The purpose of this report is to provide the Maungatautari Reserve Committee (Committee) with an update on the status of landowner negotiations in relation to any required access agreement or deed of covenant relating to each holding, and outlines Waipā District Council’s intended next steps in relation to outstanding negotiations.

In total, there are 41 land holdings which adjoin and/or are comprised partially or wholly of land encompassed by the fence forming Maungatautari Ecological Island. These 41 land holdings are comprised of both general freehold land and Māori land holdings.

2 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That the Maungatautari Reserve Committee receives the report of Hannah Divehall – Reserves Planning Team Leader, titled ‘Update on landowner negotiations’ (document number 11212436).

3 COMMENTARY - KŌRERO

Greg Martin (Land and Natural Heritage Consultant) has provided an update on the current status for landowner negotiations in relation to those properties that adjoin Maungatautari Ecological Island, since the last Committee meeting on 16 February 2022. That update is as follows:

Note: the land holding reference numbers below, refer to a holding reference number referred to in the Waipā District Plan.

Remaining freehold landholdings requiring Access Agreements and Deeds of Covenant

The two general freehold land holdings still requiring Access Agreements and Deeds of Covenant are:

1. Waipa DC Holding Numbers 30 and 32.
2. Waipa DC Holding Number 10.

There has been no formal meeting with the owners of land holding numbers 30 and 32 in regard to an Access Agreement and Deed of Covenant. This farm property comprises some Māori Leasehold Land and General Freehold land.

The landowners of land holding number 10 were visited a number of years ago and some discussions took place, but the Agreements/Deed of Covenants were unable to be progressed further at that time.

Further investigation is also required to be undertaken to understand the status of Access Agreements/Deed of Covenants in relation to land holding number 41.

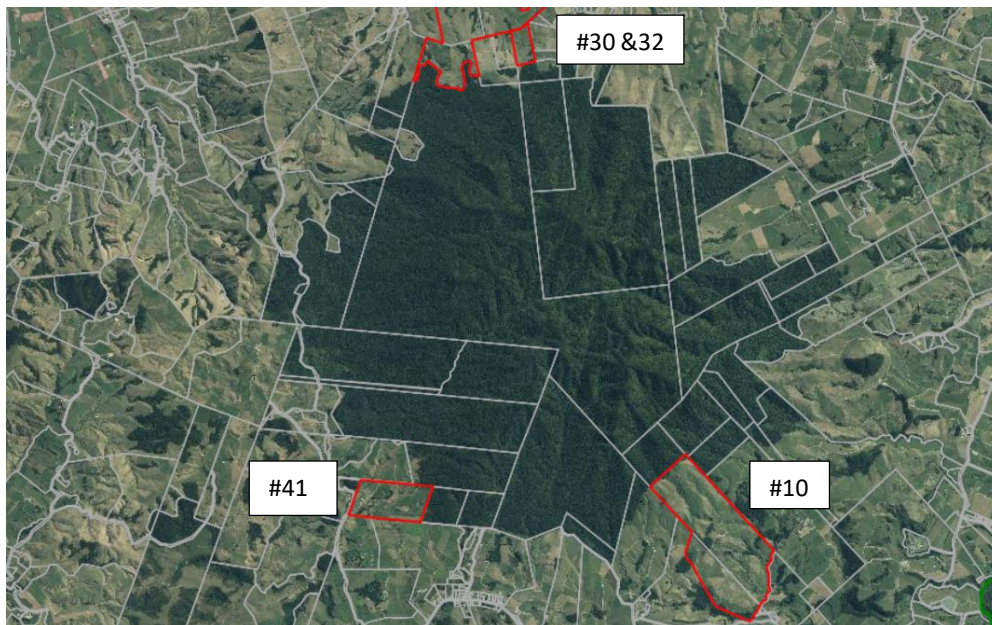


Figure 1: Aerial photograph showing location of remaining freehold landholdings where access agreements/deed of covenants are not yet in place or status requires further investigation.

Māori land blocks within the Maungatautari Ecological Island project area

There are a number of Māori land blocks within the Maungatautari Ecological Island project which require formal negotiations to be undertaken. Council has a number of past and active negotiations in place for some of these blocks, however there is no further update to provide in respect of these blocks since the last Committee meeting.

Next steps

It is acknowledged that no significant progress has occurred in this space since the last committee meeting in February 2022 – this is largely due to a changeover of Council Staff during this period and Mr Martin (Consultant) moving out of the District. Council staff have confirmation from Mr Martin he can recommence work to further discussions with the remaining two freehold land holdings (#30, 32 and 10) noted above. It is anticipated this work will commence within the next two months and an update will be provided at the next meeting. Council staff will undertake further investigation to understand the status of land holding #41.

In terms of agreements relating to the Māori land holdings; this is a separate piece of work that should be engaged in the near future. Budget will need to be identified and the extent of work further scoped before further steps and an anticipated timeframe can be developed.



Hannah Divehall
RESERVES PLANNING TEAM LEADER



Reviewed by Brad Ward
MANAGER COMMUNITY SERVICES



Approved by Dawn Inglis
GROUP MANAGER SERVICE DELIVERY