

**TARANAKI KIWI TRUST**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2005 TO 30 JUNE 2006**

This financial year has seen significant progress and success for the Taranaki Kiwi Trust (TKT), in part a result of the dedication and effort from the previous four years of work by the Trust. Trapping of 6000 Ha of Egmont National Park continues to bring predator numbers down, the Operation Nest Egg Programme has exceeded our hopes and expectations, a new project – the Community Kiwi Programme, is underway and awareness of the aims and work of TKT is increasing in the public mind through good media coverage.

Considerable time and effort has been volunteered by the Trustees of TKT. Over this year an additional trustee has been welcomed, Jenny Steven. Trustees at the end of this financial year are:

Jan Fogg, chairperson,  
Brian Milham- treasurer,  
Elise Smith – secretary, Barry Hartley –Kiwi call records,  
Murray Sulzberger – Community Kiwi Programme,  
Jenny Steven – funding coordinator.

This year we have encouraged participation by volunteers to a greater extent. Wendy Bailey has taken up the task of producing the quarterly newsletter, a vital part of the Trust's education and communication role. Carolyn Brough and Rene Duncan have contributed in the Education in schools section of the Trusts work. Others are volunteering to help with administrative tasks. Thank you to all of you.

Without funds the Trust would be helpless. We wish to acknowledge the generosity of our Funders, big and small. Thank you to the many "Friends" of TKT who contribute for general running of the Trust, for new trap boxes and for the maintenance of those trap boxes.

Over this year of 2005/2006, we have continued to receive a grant from the **Taranaki Electricity Trust** which enables TKT to contract for technical advise, field work and administration. Over this time our contractor has been Cees Bevers – thank you Cees for the work and effort you have put into

TKT. This has been the second year that TET has funded our Trust, with a third year also committed. The Trust is extremely grateful for this commitment by TET to our ongoing work..

**BNZKRT** has again generously given funds for the ONE programme, operated in conjunction with the Department of Conservation.

The **Taranaki Savings Bank Trust** has donated generously to fund our new project: the Community Kiwi Programme.

**New Plymouth District Council** has assisted us to meet commitments for the ongoing trapping in ENP.

The Trust expresses its appreciation for the trust and belief in our work that these our Funders are expressing when they so generously provide grants to enable the work to continue.

We express our thanks also to an Australian fund, the Koala Trust, whose donation enabled us to meet a shortfall for our work on the mountain. In the latter part of this financial year, thanks to the dedicated work of Jenny Steven in submitting Funding applications, we have been fortunate to secure grants from the Lotteries Environment and Heritage Fund, the Pacific Development Fund, the Biodiversity Fund, as well as continuing funding from the BNZ Save the Kiwi Trust and TET.

Trapping in Egmont National Park has been a priority for the Trust since late in 2002, working in conjunction with DOC. Currently 921 traps cover 6000 ha of the park. With new funding now promised this area will be extended in the next financial year. Since trapping began over 4,500 pests have been killed. Without this activity it would not be possible to be active in the ONE programme because released kiwi chicks would be too vulnerable. As part of the ONE programme we acknowledge the skilled and careful work done by Sid Marsh in lifting kiwi eggs in East Taranaki to go to Rainbow Springs Kiwi Encounter for incubating and raising. **25 eggs** were lifted in this financial year, and **14 hatched and released** onto the mountain. Chick releases began in early January and continued through to June. The releases were well supported and included participation by local iwi who received and blessed the chicks.

In October 2005 a dog aversion training day was held, to train hunting dogs especially, to be averse to kiwi. This is in recognition of the high kill rate of kiwi that has been found by DOC in east coast Hawkes Bay. Now we have good funding from the Biodiversity Fund and further days are planned for later in 2006.

In April a kiwi call survey was carried out by members of the TKT and volunteers with DOC staff, mainly in the trapped area of the mountain. Through this a baseline will be established with which to compare calls as the number of kiwi chicks released on the mountain builds up.

The Community Kiwi Programme is slowly taking shape with the first beneficiaries of trap boxes being the South Taranaki Forest and Bird group. Up to 90 boxes will go to supplement areas this group is already trapping in. At least two further private landowners are in the process of being brought into this programme.

The Trust wishes to acknowledge the good relations that it has with the Stratford area DOC people. It has been excellent having your attendance at every second Trust meeting; through this we are building up a good working partnership for the work we share in.

In the administration side of the Trust's work, we have worked to produce a new business plan for 06/07, we have read and discussed the McLennan report "Western North Island Brown Kiwi: pathways to conservation and recovery" and we have discussed the possibility of working with Bushy Park to provide a crèche for our chicks. For the future, we are beginning to look beyond our district to how we may contribute to the bigger picture of western North Island Brown kiwi conservation.

Jan Fogg (Chairperson)  
9.10.06