

A close-up photograph of a kiwi bird's head, showing its long, straight, yellowish-brown beak and dark, textured feathers. The bird is looking slightly to the left. The background is blurred, showing other people and possibly other kiwi birds.

TARANAKI KIWI TRUST  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

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**2023**

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“Kiwi from rare to everywhere”



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## Image Credits

FRONT COVER: Jenny Feaver Photography, Ohia prior to being released in Omoana, named by Jess Fancy, meaning to long for, desire, dream of, set one's heart on, wish or yearn for.

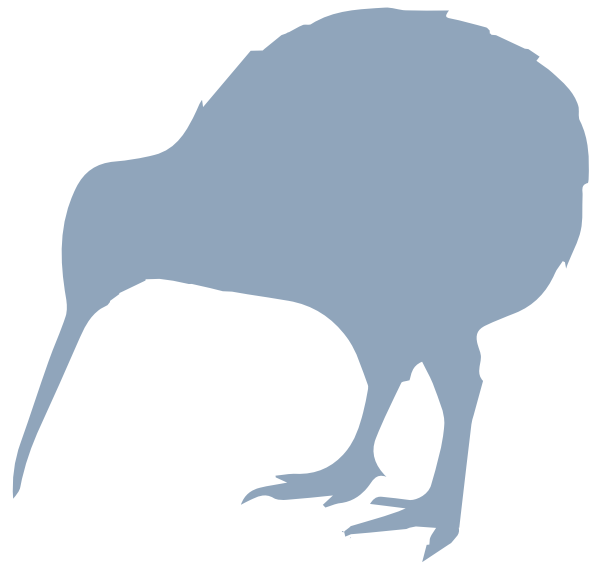
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# ABOUT THE TARANAKI KIWI TRUST

The Taranaki Kiwi Trust is a registered charitable trust (CC22851) which has been dedicated to protecting and preserving the Western Brown Kiwi population throughout Taranaki since 2001. The Trust was formed in response to growing concerns about the plight of these endangered birds.

At that time, kiwi faced the threat of national vulnerability, risking extinction in the wild within two generations. We have been instrumental in contributing to the North Island brown kiwi being reclassified from “At risk – declining” to “No longer threatened” in the species list 2022, arresting the alarming statistics of an annual decline of 2% in unmanaged kiwi populations.

In view of this progress, we remain committed, fuelled by a passion for Taranaki’s natural heritage, to making a positive impact on kiwi conservation and securing a thriving future for our iconic national bird.



Nadine Paterson, Tim & Sue Hardwick-Smith, Celine Filbee and Angela & Drew Castle celebrate at the TSB Taranaki Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards



# CHAIR'S REPORT

**The Trust has now been established for almost 22 years and it is certainly firing on all cylinders. Jobs for Nature funding received in 2021 has resulted in a real shifting of gears, and our projects are now all very well-established and resourced. Our projects all hinge on strong partnerships with a wide variety of organisations, agencies, business and funders. We have taken the time to detail these partnerships in this report as they are the backbone of the Trust's work. What we have achieved could not be done on our own.**

We were pleased to welcome two new trustees this year. Existing trustees Sam Hopkirk, Gloria Campbell, Mat Vujcich, Drew Castle and Bayley Sprott were joined by Rawiri Walsh and Tāne Manukonga. We also were fortunate to participate in the Bishops Action Foundation trainee board member initiative and Tharma Santhrasergaran attended our board meetings for much of the year, hopefully picking up valuable insights into the running of a board.

Normally, the highlights for the year all involve kiwi, but in November we were the very proud recipients of a TSB Bank sponsored Taranaki Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence award, winning the Toi Foundation Not-for-Profit Excellence category. This is testament to the work our Manager Céline Filbee has done over recent years with support from Administration Leader Nadine Paterson to

implement and use excellent systems. The judges delved deeply into the processes for organisation, staff and board management, record keeping, policies, finance, and culture.

Earlier in the year, the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare, our partnership project with Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, won a Taranaki Regional Council Environmental award, sponsored by one of our partners Contact Energy. To top it all off, Jono Walter, our Kiwi Habitat Protection Ranger, was a recipient of a Kiwibank Local Hero award. It is a pleasure and a privilege to lead an organisation that performs highly in all aspects of its work. This success is due to the dedication of our trustees, staff, volunteers, contractors and partners, backed by incredible supporters and sponsors, with funders committed to resourcing the organisation year after year.

The people at the famed Wilkinson's Castle in Pukearuhe, North Taranaki were kind enough to give us a discounted rate for a couple of nights while the Save the Kiwi National Kiwi Hui was on. This was an opportunity to give some of our stellar volunteers, trustees, and staff a bit of a thank you for their work. Earlier in the year, Garry Wycherley provided his beautiful venue, the Awakino River Lodge, at no cost for our annual Trust function.

**Sue Hardwick-Smith**



## Trustees

**Our trustees are the driving force of the organisation, setting strategic direction, approving budgets, annual plans and projects, and employing the Trust Manager. They meet monthly, attend Trust and other functions, and meet with the Rotokare Scenic Reserve trustees several times a year to discuss and plan the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare project partnership. Many of them are allocated portfolios and take an active interest in the varied projects of the organisation. Many of them also are accredited kiwi handlers and contribute significant volunteer hours to this work.**

### **Sue Hardwick-Smith – Chair**

Sue lives, breathes and sleeps kiwi, and is our longest standing trustee and volunteer. Her involvement stretches back to 2008. She has acted as both Treasurer and Chair over that time. Her job when not helping the Trust is a sheep and beef farmer on her and husband Tim's farm at Mangamingi in eastern Taranaki. They are owners of the Tōtara Block, the first release site for kiwi from the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare, and



have three adult children. Sue has a Bachelor of Science majoring in Botany & Microbiology. As well as being an accredited kiwi handler and trainer for recreation, she is also part owner of a cafe near her home town Geraldine.

### **Sam Hopkirk – Deputy Chair**

Sam grew up with her family travelling around the Middle East and Africa and developed her love of wildlife and adventure then. She studied Biology with an emphasis on Zoology and Ecology and always thought she would work with animals in Africa. She then went on to study Physiotherapy and travelled to New Zealand. She met a human kiwi, had plenty of adventures and mishaps, set up home and had three children. Friends introduced her to kiwi through an egg lift and she was hooked. After volunteering and helping a kiwi handler, she was invited to become a trustee of the Taranaki Kiwi Trust and eventually became an accredited kiwi handler. The adventure of searching for kiwi in rugged terrain and being involved with wildlife has brought her the full circle.



### Gloria Campbell

Gloria has been involved with the Taranaki Kiwi Trust since 2014 with trap lines on family-owned forestry blocks at Puniwhakau and Matau. She has held various senior management jobs within the public service for more than 42 years. She is currently the Regional Commissioner for the Ministry of Social Development. This role involves the leadership of over 200 staff across Taranaki, King Country, and Whanganui to achieve the purpose of supporting New Zealanders to be safe, strong and independent. A key pillar in this purpose revolves around the alignment of the economy and labour market with individuals seeking employment. So, she has a history of caring for kiwi in her paid job as well as in the weekends.



### Mat Vujcich

Mathew and his wife own a beef farm adjacent to the National Park near Inglewood. He has been a resident of Taranaki for several years having shifted into the region from north of Auckland. Mat has extensive operational experience as a park ranger in pest eradication and reintroducing species to protected habitats. He regards kiwi as one of several special bird species that require human help to thrive in our current heavily modified natural environment. He believes that the answer lies with everyone in the community doing what they can as individuals in combination with landowners, volunteers and community groups. Mat has a passion for restoring native habitat through tree planting. He and his wife have retired a third of their farm through QEII covenants to provide corridors along waterways linking to the National Park.



### Rawiri Walsh

Rawiri (Ngā Rauru Kītahi, Ngāti Raukawa ki Tonga, Taranaki Whānui, Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpārangī), joined the Trust at the beginning of year. Previously a winemaker, he was often left shocked and disheartened at the ecological loss caused by monocultures and human interference. He has since switched to employment in conservation and is motivated by a strong desire to leave a legacy greater than just a bottle of red. Rawiri takes a very active interest in kiwi work. He is an accredited kiwi handler contracted to the Capital Kiwi project in Wellington and travels to Taranaki to participate in a variety of conservation projects.



### Tāne Manukonga

Tāne (Ngā Mahanga a Tairi), our newest trustee, works as the Kaiwhakahaere a rohe for Te Ara Taiao Conservation Education project and is a tutor of Matauranga Māori for Conservation at Te Pukenga/WITT. He has a varied background including engineering and construction, and running the family clothing business. Tāne is heavily involved in environmental work for hapū Ngā Mahanga a Tairi, is trustee for Pūniho Pā, and has taught rangatahi/youth at both WITT and Te Wananga o Aotearoa. More recently, he delivered the Kai Oranga program alongside his wife at Ōkorotua Marae, Oakura Pa. With a deep passion for the environment, Tāne's drive comes from his whakapapa connections to the Maunga, Whenua and Awa from within the Taranaki rohe/region and he seeks to reconnect our future leaders of tomorrow to the environment through building resilient relationships that aspire to the protection of the environment.



### Bayley Sprott

After eight years studying and then working in Wellington, Bayley returned to New Plymouth as she was keen to work in and contribute back to the community in her home region. One part of this was joining the Trust as a trainee board member through the Taranaki Young Professionals Get on Board programme. Having learnt more about the vital work needed in Taranaki to protect our national bird, Bayley jumped at the opportunity to formally join the Trust's board in September 2020 and contribute to these efforts in a way best suited to her professional skills. Outside of the Trust, Bayley works as a lawyer at Connect Legal Taranaki and is the co-author of several published articles, including a legal overview of intergenerational trust fund models such as that for the Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust. Bayley is also involved in local musical theatre productions.



### Drew Castle

Drew has been involved with the Trust for many years. His family sponsored the Operation Nest Egg for both Silver and Marshmallow and have been actively involved in the kiwi programme on Te Papakura o Taranaki, spending many a weekend on the Maunga monitoring birds and assisting with transmitter changes and health checks. He joined the board in 2019 and brings strong information technology skills and previous trustee experience. He is also the Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Board Chair and assists with keeping the Trust's website up-to-date.







# Get on Board

The Trust is part of the Get on Board programme. The programme was developed by The Bishop's Action Foundation in partnership with Taranaki Young Professionals and The Wheelhouse. The purpose of the Get on Board programme is to support the development of new board members across Taranaki in the community and not-for-profit sector. Each year, trainees are placed onto a local board within Taranaki, where they gain practical experience and contribute their fresh ideas and perspectives. The programme offers trainees the opportunity to learn from well-functioning, supportive boards who provide positive learning experiences, while developing the trainee's confidence to become an active

board member in the community. Participants receive training support via The Wheelhouse workshops on topics including Governance, Planning and Financial Management.

The Trust, as a participating board, gains a new member with ideas, networks, skills and the potential to be a future board member. This is also a very positive way for our Trust to support the wider community sector. The Bishop's Action Foundation thanks the Taranaki Kiwi Trust as one of the community partners that enable the Get on Board programme to be the success that it is in our Taranaki community.



## Manager's Report

This year, we have really consolidated what we started last year with the employment of several new staff, and what excellent staff they are. I was devastated to lose the services of Sian Potier right at the beginning of the year. Sian's knowledge, experience and mana in the kiwi fraternity was a significant asset and she was a very trusted advisor to someone who knows very little about conservation. It turns out my fears were unfounded as the rest of the team have more than stepped up to fill the gap. Early this year, Emma Moffitt ceased being an employee and now contracts to the Trust so that she can be the .5 of husband Sam's team on the farm. They have spent some time travelling but Emma has maintained strong connections to the Trust and the landowners she has been working with and will continue to do so. Her bright personality and off the scale level of enthusiasm will continue to add value to the organisation and has proven to be useful in delivering education and advocacy events. We engaged Harmony Kupe to help fill this gap on the trapping team. She has thrown herself not only into the trapping but into being a volunteer helping with kiwi work like call count surveying and acoustic monitoring. Harmony has a huge capacity for learning and giving anything a crack, so is picking up the skills required very quickly. Jono Walter continues to be the guy that dodges the limelight and gets on with the job to hand. Nothing is too much trouble for Jono although we did run close when asking him to shake a bucket on the WOMAD NZ gate! Our new kiwi release sites are all moving steadily towards being ready to receive kiwi and the release at Omoana was just reward for the hundreds of hours Jono has committed to the project. Māia Gibbs has turned into a conservation machine, having passed her Level 3 Pest Operations course and taken on the volunteer co-ordination of our Taranaki Maunga traplines as well as getting herself accredited as a kiwi handler and signed up to a Rongoā course (Māori medicine) in her spare time.

She, like the others, has made a valuable contribution to all aspects of our business and is wise beyond her years.

Our Kiwi Ranger who was shared with Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, Chris Dodd, took on a new job for Department of Conservation Te Anau. Jess Fancy was subsequently appointed in the role sharing her time between the Trust and the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare. Jess was the first ever employee of the partnership so has come a full circle. Jess' intimate knowledge of the project meant she hit the ground running in August and kiwi catching week and subsequent translocations went like a breeze under her guidance. Toby Shanley, also pretty committed to staying out of the spotlight, has done an incredible job keeping track of what is now 40 kiwi in Te Papakura o Taranaki (Egmont National Park). He has an excellent relationship with the volunteers who do a large chunk of the monitoring. This leaves Toby free to go on wild kiwi chases for birds dashing off on a big adventure to look for a mate. The terrain on the Maunga is no stroll in the park once you get off the tracks and Toby's advanced bush skills have paid off time and time again. As experienced kiwi handlers, both Toby and Jess also get to do their fair share of advocacy, training and education events with a variety of participants.

The person that has really kept the wheels oiled this year is Nadine Paterson. As a former manager of an insurance branch office, Nadine is organised, meticulous and diligent. It turns out she has a black belt in customer relations and has played a big role in helping the trapping team fulfil a contract for the audit and roll out of some of the Taranaki Regional Council's Towards Predator Free 2050 programme. She has kept across all the everyday administration, which has meant it gets done properly and on time and has freed me up to work on other projects and partnerships, many of which are detailed in this report.

There are many “rocking in the corner” moments as a manager of a not-for-profit reliant on funding, so I must thank our supporters, sponsors and funders. From national corporations like Contact Energy and Ballance Agri-Nutrients to locals building small businesses like Blake Marston from Grounded Kiwi and Nick Jones from Rewild, the support has been outstanding. Primo Wireless, Rent-a-Mac, MG Taranaki, Fertile Fields, Timberco and Jenny Feaver Photography continue to provide essential services that we otherwise would have to find cash to pay for. The businesses that look after traplines on Taranaki Maunga BECA, Firstgas, Craigs Investment Partners and SGS along with the Egmont Alpine Club are saving thousands in contractor fees. And it was nice to finally be a recipient of Z Energy’s Good in the Hood. Notably, they supported several organisations working with kiwi. Good on you Z!

The funders led by Jobs for Nature, Toi Foundation and Predator Free NZ are still the main source of income for the Trust. The varied funders all contribute in an important way to the finances and we could not be without them. I am very grateful for the relationship we have with them all. I have spent much time this year trying to secure additional and diverse funding streams for the Trust. This has resulted in us delivering contracted services to a host of agencies, organisations, businesses

and partners. This significant increase in income will help us in the transition next year when the Jobs for Nature fund runs dry.

It takes a whole village to raise a kiwi and our village includes some very special volunteers. It would be impossible for us to resource our projects without them so here are some of the people who have made a significant contribution to helping the Trust out this year. We reckon you are the best volunteers in NZ!

**Celine Filbee**



- **Aimee Mason**

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- **Andrea Shepherd**

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- **Castle Family**

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- **Barry Greenbrook**

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- **Bayley Sprott**

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- **Tāne Houston**

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- **Cat Neale**

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- **Derek Andrews**

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- **Don Fields**

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- **Hardwick Smith Family**

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- **Duncan Fairweather**

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- **Gail Geange**

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- **Gloria Campbell**

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- **Grant Meddings**

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- **Guy Oakley**

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- **Hamish McCook**

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- **Hanni Schubert**

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- **Harmony Kupe**

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- **Jarod Beasley**

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- **Jeanne Veitch**

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- **Jenny Kerrisk**

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- **Jenny Oakley**

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- **Jim Finer**

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- **John Cooper**

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- **Keith Coughtrey**

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- **Kelly Brider**

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- **Kevin Stokes**

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- **Kevin Young**

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- **Kristen Thomas**

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- **Louise McKenna**

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- **Mat Vujcich**

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- **Murray Fisher**

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- **Rawiri Walsh**

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- **Ryan Anker**

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- **Rebecca Martin**

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- **Sam Hopkirk**

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- **Sian Potier**

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- **Stephen Boot**

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- **Tharma Santhrasergaran**

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- **Perrett Family**

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- **Tanya Winter**

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- **Nick Jones**

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- **Marama Walter**

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- **Judy Schroder**

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- **Julie Larcom**

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- **Jan Dunlop**

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- **Maxine Wood**

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- **Sarah Jones**

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- **Jeanie Attrill**

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- **Greg & Lynda Banks**

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- **Wayne Butt**

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- **Trevor Harrison**

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- **Don Fields**

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- **Chris Carrick**

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- **Sharryn & Don Sait**

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- **Angie Brightman**

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- **Harry Hall**

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- **Doug Timanus**

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- **Dave Millar**

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- **Jen Roberts**

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- **Matt Kyle**

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- **Lance Moseley**

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- **Christine Eggar**

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- **Lorallee Garlick**

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- **Sarah Campbell**

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- **Moon Cameron**

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- **Aimee O’Sullivan**

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IMAGE ABOVE: Toby and volunteer Maxine Wood with Deirdre who was named after Rebecca Martins' mother at the Camphouse prior to being released on Taranaki Maunga; BELOW: Kiwi at the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare

# COMMUNITY TRAPPING PROJECT

**Project Leader** – Emma Moffit

**Funders** – Jobs for Nature, Toi Foundation, Aotearoa Gaming Trust, South Taranaki District Council, Taranaki Electricity Trust

The Community Trapping Project (CTP) was established in 2006. It encourages the protection of kiwi populations by landowners on private property. Once it has been established that kiwi are present on a property, we loan the landowner traps on a long-term basis. It then becomes the landowner's responsibility to regularly check their traps and provide trap catch data. Our staff provide ongoing support to landowners involved in the CTP, oversee and participate in annual trap audits and maintenance and work with new landowners to establish trapping plans.

As our biggest project, CTP has thrived under the stewardship of Emma Moffit and the trapping team has flourished. Māia Gibbs is in the final furlong to complete her apprenticeship through Predator Free New Zealand and graduated from WITT with a Level 3 Certificate in Pest Operations. Māia's natural ability to apply the theories she has learnt in her course to real-life trapping, combined with her determination, bush-savviness and positive attitude, makes her an excellent trapper and team mate. She also is now halfway through a Level 4 Certificate in Conservation Operations. We are incredibly lucky to have Māia on the CTP team. Jono Walter also has continued to consistently deliver quality pest control and be the role model for our team. At his main focus, the kiwi release site at Omoana, his leadership and many, many hours on the ground has seen the site's trap network catch a whopping 545 critters, 70 of which were stoats! It goes without saying that our newly released kiwi are much safer thanks to Jono's efforts. While he would probably rather we did not say anything, with a preference for going about his work quietly and without fuss, Jono got a bit of a surprise earlier in the year when his hard-work saw him receive a Local Hero award as part of the Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year. It is a recognition that is much deserved and highlights how fortunate we also are to have him on the team.

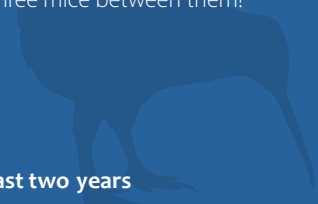
With 2,783 of our traps deployed on 46 properties and covering an impressive 31,000 hectares, we saw a total of 6,860 pests caught in the last 12 months. This represents an increase of almost 50%, 3387 more pests, than in the previous year. While this incredible increase can be attributed partly to extra trap numbers (we have installed another 173 traps since June 2022), the team's dedication to simply getting out in the field, checking traps and working with our CTP landowners has been instrumental in this success. These results also would not be possible without the huge efforts of our volunteers who collectively spend about 100 hours a



Emma Moffit with an Omoana stoat

month getting out in the field, checking traps and gathering data. We are so grateful for their consistent commitment, hard-work and support.

Of course, as with any project, we have had our fair share of challenges, battling rough weather which has seen our quad bikes off-roading capabilities tested to the max. There have been injuries and illnesses, and perhaps most surprisingly, the team having to adapt often being down to only two members as our staff each had our turns participating in conservation efforts outside of Taranaki. Earlier in the year, Māia was lucky enough to spend a week carrying out pest plant control on Aotea Great Barrier Island as part of her apprenticeship. Jono and Emma went to the other end of the country and each spent a week volunteering with Pure Salt down in Fiordland National Park on Resolution Island. As the seventh largest island in New Zealand and the country's oldest sanctuary (started in 1891 by Richard Henry who foresaw the issues mustelids were going to pose to our native species), it was an incredibly rewarding experience for them which saw them both spend seven days completely isolated, hike many kilometres, service hundreds of traps and trail cameras, and ultimately catch three mice between them!



## Key species caught over the last two years

Species	Number Caught 2021 - 2022	Number Caught 2022 - 2023
Feral Cat	67	94
Rat	2951	5940
Ferret	10	28
Stoat	386	709
Weasel	59	89
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3473</b>	<b>6860</b>



# ACOUSTIC RECORDER SURVEY DATA

A crucial part of our work is undertaking annual kiwi surveys to ascertain population numbers in different areas. There are two main types of kiwi surveys – kiwi call count surveys and acoustic recorder surveys. Over time, results for these surveys can be compared and trends of kiwi numbers can be determined. This gives us an idea of whether kiwi populations are recovering with the predator control undertaken in the area.

## Acoustic Recorder Surveys

Acoustic recorder surveys are a more hands-off method of surveying as they involve deploying recording devices throughout the bush, leaving them for at least five nights of good weather, and then collecting and analysing the data. This is a great way to get lots of data at once. However, it is more difficult to determine how many individual birds you are hearing as you cannot establish the direction the calls are coming from. Since 2020, every Community Trapping Project (CTP) property has been surveyed once every three years, to acquire data and therefore ascertain population trends. Five-yearly surveys are also undertaken on Taranaki Maunga. See Table 2 for a summary of the CTP recorder data collected since 2020.

## Taranaki Regional Council

**Biodiversity Programme Lead, Biodiversity - Leigh Honnor**

**Biodiversity Officers - Dean Caskey, David Munro**

The Taranaki Regional Council works in partnership with the Taranaki Kiwi Trust in the eastern hill country where Western Brown Kiwi are present. This partnership allows us to collectively achieve the objectives of the Council's Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) Programme and our Community Trapping Programme (CTP) as well as develop locations for the future release of Kiwi. The Council appreciates the long-term partnership with the Taranaki Kiwi Trust and looks forward to continuing an ongoing positive working relationship.

Collaborative work under the partnership involves implementation and servicing of predator trap networks, kiwi surveys and long-term monitoring of kiwi. This occurs at sites with biodiversity plans which are included within

Site name	Average calls/hour			
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Milne	2.23	-	-	3.23
Moki Road/Radcliffe	0.92	-	-	1.5
Mt Hiwi	0.75	-	-	0.86
Hardwick-Smith Farm	0	-	-	0
Tarawai Road	0.37	-	-	0.8
Putts Road/Howe	0.28	-	-	0.74
Maikakatea	1.23	-	-	1.68
Moeawatea	0.88	-	-	1.35
Mangapuni	1.25	-	-	2.05
Carrick/Omahina Road	-	-	-	1.36
McColl	-	-	-	1.18
Cool Acres	-	-	-	0
Murphy	-	-	-	0.22
Masters	-	0.05	-	-
Jensen	-	0.63	-	-
Campbell Matau	-	0.15	-	-
Bryant	-	0.63	-	-
Uruti	-	0.57	-	-
Pryce/Stanton	-	1.48	-	-
Campbell Puniwakau	-	-	0.17	-
NFRT Patui	-	-	0.43	-
800 Trust	-	-	0.7	-
NFRT Omoana Bush	-	-	1.2	-
Eltham Forest	-	-	0.25	-
Glen Nui	-	-	0.8	-
Okau Kiwi Road	-	-	1.8	-
Horwell	-	-	0.95	-
Lovell	-	-	1.58	-
Darling	-	-	1.7	-

Table 2: Summary of the CTP recorder data collected since 2020.

our CTP or are kiwi release locations. There is collaborative design, sharing of data and regular communication to ensure consistent best practice, avoid duplication and achieve efficiencies for both organisations.

The work of the Council and the Taranaki Kiwi Trust complement each other. Both organisations provide in-kind support and the Council provides letters of support to the Trust for permit and funding applications.

Examples of partnership in 2022/2023 include the release of kiwi into the Tōtara Block KNE where management is supported with a biodiversity plan, and the Omoana area where there are three adjacent biodiversity plans. The Council is working with landowners in the Pātea River Catchment Community and Omahina area to assess ecosystem remnants to add to KNE inventory and develop biodiversity plans to support management as we have identified these areas as future release sites for kiwi.



# NEW TRAPLINES & KIWI RELEASE SITE DEVELOPMENT

**Project Leader** - Jono Walter

**Funders** – Jobs for Nature, Toi Foundation, South Taranaki District Council, Worley Global



Jono Walter with his Kiwibank Local Hero medal

We recognise that collaboration is key to ensuring that expertise is shared amongst those with similar goals, available resources are used as efficiently as possible, and the long-term capabilities of the conservation community are grown. This is why we are committed to working with other groups and people for the benefit of kiwi conservation. One area where this is most apparent is our work with several organisations on traplines and kiwi release site development.

The year kicked off being quite wet through the winter months, although there must have been some good weather too because the team got a lot of stuff done. The wet weather meant quite a bit of time was spent at volunteer Don Field's shed in Bell Block cutting timber and building traps which was quite fortuitous as we also deployed a number of new traplines during the year. Several of these traplines were on the 800 Trust property, a couple for Pātea River Catchment Group, a north Taranaki property and Native Forest Restoration Trust's newly acquired Patui block. This is not to mention the

biggest deployment (about 400 traps) for East Taranaki Environment Collective at Te Wera with thankfully plenty of help from the Taranaki Mounga Project Taiao team. The highlight of these new traplines was the day using the Forgotten World railcars to put traps along the old railway line through Te Wera, which ended with trundling the carts through to Whangamōmona and a convivial dinner at the pub there.

The other thing that is notable for the year is securing work to assist Taranaki Regional Council with their Towards Predator Free Project fixups around Okato and new deployments around Inglewood. The new deployments were more enjoyable than the fixups as we have been making the initial contact, sign up and deployment with keen farmers/landowners, rather than trying to find and restore traps that have not been serviced for quite a while in some cases. It was a very good opportunity for us to engage with the farmers on the ring plan and share with them the importance of good trapping. Several highlights from Jono's year have been the time spent volunteering on Resolution Island in deepest Fiordland, taking part in kiwi catching week at Rotokare which involved seeing kiwi dogs in action, and learning to handle and put transmitters on kiwi. It has been great to see kiwi released back out at Omoana, just reward for the time spent over the last two years is seeing kiwi footprints in the mud whilst checking traps several times.



Kiwi tracks at Omoana

# Mt Hiwi Charitable Trust

**Chair** – Phil Hancock

The Mount Hiwi Charitable Trust was formed in 2001 to allow access to and preserve indigenous virgin forests and ecosystems in perpetuity at their site inland from Waverley. The Trust owns 411 hectares and manages both it and an adjacent 200 hectares of Department of Conservation (DOC) land. Their block is almost all completely virgin bush, identified by DOC as a key native ecosystem (KNE) and therefore, worthwhile protecting. The area is home to a decent kiwi population and many other native New Zealand species of bird, bats and vegetation. In 2016, Save the Kiwi used the property for Operation Nest Egg and our very own Popokotea was removed as a three-week-old chick. Popokotea spent some time at the National Kiwi Hatchery in Rotorua then relocated to Rotokare Sanctuary after a few weeks. He now lives on Taranaki Maunga. Many other eggs have contributed to the founder population at Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari in the Waikato.



Jared Baker & Ian Gavin from 800 Trust and Jayden Martinson & Harry Higham from Envirokiwi Aotea/Great Barrier Island getting stuck into a trapline deployment in Omoana with Māia.

We have been working with the Trust for several years now in a coordinated approach to trapping, advocacy and education with a view to the site receiving translocation kiwi in the future. The first milestone was passed this year with a translocation outline submitted to DOC.

# Pātea River Catchment Group

**Farmer Lead** – Jo Gibbs

**Coordinator** – Tessa Tate

The Pātea River Catchment Group (PRCG) was formed in 2020 under the umbrella of Taranaki Catchment Communities. After initial community consultation, it was decided that the group would focus on creating a trapping network with the goal of reintroducing kiwi into the Tarere Conservation Area.



A large team from PRCG, 800 Trust, Envirokiwi and Taranaki Kiwi Trust about to set out on a trap deployment day.

PRCG are working in conjunction with us to set up a trapping network around and adjacent to the Tarere Extension part of the Conservation Area. The trapping network is currently in its first phase with six traplines now set on bordering farmland and the next traplines will be within the conservation area itself and nearby roads and farmland. We have two other traplines in immediate proximity that are part of our Community Trapping Project.

Jo Gibbs the farmer lead for the group said, “TKT has held a pivotal role in getting us to where we are today. The team has supported us in many ways over the last 18 months: Celine by joining our committee and helping to steer us in the right direction (and answer our many

questions), Toby with creating our trapping plan and map, Jono and the team helping with deploying traplines and instilling the knowledge in others in our team so we have been able to do this ourselves, supporting us with Trap NZ, organising one of their volunteers Don Fields to teach us and a team of local volunteers how to build traps. Celine helping us apply for funding from the South Taranaki District Council, all of which has meant that this ‘dream’ became a reality a lot quicker, as we could purchase the 250 traps that were still needed. We have an exciting few years ahead of us with this project and we are very grateful for the guidance, knowledge, and support that TKT offer us”.



# TARANAKI KŌHANGA KIWI AT ROTOKARE

**Kiwi Ranger** – Jess Fancy



Jess and a kiwi chick

In 2012, we partnered with the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust (RSRT) to form the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare (TKKR). The goal was to establish a genetically diverse breeding population of kiwi to repopulate Taranaki and the wider natural range of Western Brown Kiwi. By joining forces, we were able to pool our kiwi handlers and wildlife management skills to great effect. Our rich knowledge of kiwi in Taranaki meant we brought expertise and experience to the project while Rotokare Sanctuary became the home for the TKKR kiwi population. The pest-proof fence surrounding the 230 hectare sanctuary ensured the population would be safe from predators and the forested hill-country a perfect habitat for kiwi.

Thirteen years later, our partnership’s kiwi Kōhanga, nursery and breeding site is well established. The success of the breeding programme is evident. Kiwi are abundant within the Kōhanga, so great, in fact, that the estimated population is now thought to be well over 200, and the goal to export kiwi out of the Kōhanga is a reality.

This year, our partnership welcomed a new Kiwi Ranger, our very own Jess Fancy. Under her stewardship, we have had another remarkably successful year, most notably with the release of the 40<sup>th</sup> founder into the Kōhanga.

‘Toa’ was welcomed to the reserve 10 years after the first founder was released in 2012, completing the goal set of 40 founders. It was pleasing for Jess to be able to share the success of the project along with Fiona Gordon, Rotokare Sanctuary Conservation Manager, at the Save the Kiwi National Kiwi Hui this year.

The 11 monitored males in the reserve had another good breeding season, with nine birds sitting on nests and an estimated 10 eggs hatching. This is a great sign that our population is still growing. Our fourth translocation season was a streamlined affair, moving 32 birds out of the Kōhanga and into wild sites around Taranaki. Eleven more birds went to the Kaitake Range, 10 to Taranaki Maunga, and 11 to a new site at Omoana.

None of the work we achieve through TKKR would be possible without the help of our amazing volunteers. Both RSRT and Taranaki Kiwi Trust people band together to do monthly monitoring of the transmitted males, help the kiwi conservation dog teams with their annual catching week and then re-catch the birds for translocation. A big thank you to everyone who helped this past season, most of them do their absolute best to sail under the radar so we try not to single them out!



Kiwi catching girl power!

## Call Count Survey Data

An annual survey is carried out in the reserve and, while there was a slight drop in calls/hour at the Kōhanga in 2020 after the first translocation out of the site, the numbers have started increasing again despite 140 birds being removed in the past four years.

Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Average calls/hour	7.65	7.22	10.3	10.25	18	9.9	12	13	14.8





# Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust

**General Manager** – Bradley Schroder

**Conservation Manager** – Fiona Gordon

**Chair** – Mike Weren

Rotokare Sanctuary is a stunning 230 hectare forested hill-country catchment, surrounded by a pest proof fence, with extensive wetlands and a 17.8 hectare natural lake. The mature tawa, rewarewa, and mahoe-dominated forest is home to kiwi, ruru/morepork, kārearea/NZ falcon, tūi, korimako/bellbird, kereru/wood pigeon, riroriro/grey warbler, miromiro/tomtit, plus a variety of other native bird species. The lake edge habitat consists of raupō, flax, and pukatea/kahikatea swamp forest – home to notable avian fauna such as mātātā/fernbird, pūweto/spotless crane, and piscine fauna like tuna/eels and banded kōkopu in the streams and lake. Many native species have flourished in the absence of introduced mammalian predators and pests. Other native wildlife has been actively translocated to Rotokare, either supplementing existing populations or returning species long absent from the Taranaki region, including Hihi/Stitchbird, Tieke/Saddleback, Toutouwai/North Island Robin, Titipounamu/Rifleman, Popokatea/Whitehead, and Pāteke/Brown Teal.

A variety of environmental education programmes are offered at the sanctuary with supporting resource packs



Deborah Clough, Bradley Schroder and Tāne Houston from Rotokare Sanctuary share a laugh with Celine Filbee

that provide a strong curriculum-linked, hands-on, and inspirational experience for early childhood through to senior secondary school students. They run regular public night tours over the winter months, where venturing through the forest is a totally different experience at night, with so many nocturnal creatures to view including kiwi, these tours are extremely popular. Rotokare Sanctuary is the perfect site for a kiwi kōhanga and the organisation’s commitment to the excellent management of this taonga site means the future of kiwi in Taranaki will remain in safe hands. The RSRT has a large pool of volunteers many of whom are key participants in the TKKR project, bringing kiwi handling and conservation skills, plus a wealth of knowledge from their staff Fiona Gordon, Kane Bretherton and Sophie Herlihy.

## DOC Conservation Dogs

**Project Leader** – James Fraser

Every year since March 2020, the Conservation Dogs Programme (CDP) (Department of Conservation with support from Kiwibank until 2022) and the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare have come together to run an event we call “catching week”. This is an event that has huge benefits for both organisations.

Catching week involves a group of fully certified kiwi detection dog-handler teams working to locate kiwi for translocation. It provides many of RSRT and TKT staff and volunteers with training opportunities in kiwi handling proficiencies. The annual catching week also allows valuable information to be gathered about the general health of the population as well as obtaining an estimate of the current population within the sanctuary. Because of the reserve’s relatively small size and the excellent system of tracks maintained, the CDP uses this event to run close-order paired mentoring. This mentoring involves each handler critiquing each other’s performance to provide advice, resulting in more effective, efficient and



DOC Conservation Dog Team at Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare: Richard Johnstone, Natasha Coad (with Bella), James Fraser (with Duke), Pete Kirkman (with See), Tamsin Ward-Smith (with Spur).

safer dog-handler teams. Since the first event, the CDP has had nine dog handlers participate in the catching week and learn from each other. This is a unique and valuable relationship for the CDP where dog search work is coupled by the opportunity to learn in a collegial environment, contribute to the upskilling of TKKR’s dedicated staff and volunteers and contribute to the goal of returning kiwi to the wider Taranaki area.

# TE PAPA KURA O TARANAKI KIWI MONITORING PROJECT

**Project Leader** – Toby Shanley

**Project Partners** – Taranaki Mounnga Project, DOC, Kaitake Range Conservation Trust, Te Ara Taiao



TOP IMAGE: Keith Coughtrey with Craig; BELOW LEFT: Kiwi footprints in the snow on the Ram Track captured by Steve Frances; BELOW RIGHT: Kiwi.

We have had direct involvement in the release of 170 kiwi into Te Papakura o Taranaki (2005-2023) to join the small remnant existing population. Every five years, listening surveys are conducted to monitor kiwi population trends over time. Kiwi numbers on the mountain have remained steady since the mid-1990s and efforts to increase the population size and genetic diversity are ongoing. Initially, Taranaki Mounnga Project engaged us to monitor 26 kiwi fitted with radio transmitters over a three-year period to determine the survival rates and dispersal patterns of kiwi post-release. We now monitor 41 birds in Te Papakura o Taranaki, 20 on Taranaki Maunga and 21 in the Kaitake Range.

It has been another largely successful year for the monitoring programme as kiwi are now dispersed across the northern side of the Maunga, and Pouakai and Kaitake Ranges.

Birds released on Taranaki Maunga this year are well dispersed and are currently as far north as the Waiwhakaiho River and as far south as Pembroke Road. Monitored kiwi include four that were released in 2017, three released from TKKR in 2021, four in 2022 and a further nine released this year. Of those last nine, two came from the Save the Kiwi creche at Wairakei and the rest from the TKKR project. Not unusually, two birds lost their transmitters. The process for attaching the transmitters ensures if they get snagged on anything they will break so that the bird is not trapped. Additionally, four kiwi have died and two transmitters appear to have failed. Waihaha, who was named by the Dingle family when released, unfortunately died in August 2022 due to suspected ferret predation. His body was found before the transmitter switched to mortality mode so he was sent to the pathology department at Massey University and the cause of death was confirmed as 'likely mustelid predation'. A ferret was subsequently caught in this area. Of the other two deaths, one was due to illness. Sadly, kiwi can be somewhat clumsy and the last death was due to misadventure, falling off a bluff. During the past year, three additional kiwi were released from the TKKR project without transmitters.

This year, Dale, Silver, Torokaha and Ngaruru had successful nesting attempts on the Maunga. Dale and Silver both had two clutches, but we do not know the outcome of Silver's second nest as his transmitter failed while he was incubating. Koko and Popokotea both started incubating, but subsequently abandoned their nests.

Health checks and transmitter changes give us an opportunity to check the bird's overall condition as well as taking key measurements such as weight and bill length. It is pleasing that the birds are doing well on the as all are in moderate to very good condition. There are now 21 kiwi being monitored in the Kaitake Range after three years of releases. This year, we released birds on the northern side of the range for the first time. All kiwi pairs have remained in their territories and successfully bred, with most pairs having two clutches. Two of the second-year kiwi were set on a big OE and travelled well out of the Kaitake Range and up on to the Pouakai Range. The female Nikau dropped her transmitter and Toby finally caught up with Craig, who is sponsored by Craigs Investment Partners, with the help of intrepid volunteer Keith Coughtrey near Paul Falls. They removed Craig's transmitter. In total on the Kaitake Range, two transmitters were dropped and two transmitters appear to have failed.

All eleven birds released in 2023 have transmitters attached and will be monitored along with the existing ten. These birds have all come from the TKKR project and are monitored for at least a year after release. All eight birds released in 2021 bred and three pairs of the ten released in 2022 got together and nested.

## Taranaki Maunga Heath Checks and Breeding Outcomes

\* Nest outcome and hatch date are based on transmitter readings

Kiwi Name	Health Check Date	2022 Weight (g)	2023 Weight (g)	Bill Length (mm)	Body Condition	Female Kiwi (if known)	Incubation Start Date	Nest Outcome*	Hatch Date*	Approximate Nest Area
Popokotea	20/02/23	1850	1770	95	Moderate Good					
Ngana	9/03/23	2400	2390	130	Good					
Raka	23/03/23	2620	2320	130	Moderate Good					
Torokaha	23/03/23	1510	1690	97	Moderate	Raka	20/11/22	Successful	25/01/23	Near Rahiri cottage
Ngaruru	24/03/23	1720	1790	99.1	Moderate	Ngawai kaukau	15/08/22	Successful	2/11/22	York Road Loop track
Ngawai Kaukau	24/03/23	2200	2600	132	Good					
Aperire	17/04/23	2560	2950	147.2	Good					
Chirp	20/04/23	2850	3210	133.5	Very Good					
Koko	26/04/23	2100	2050	92	Moderate Good					
Erendhil	29/04/23	2950	2950	122	Very Good					
Dale	28/05/23	1770	2170	105	Good	Erendhil	20/08/22	Successful	14/11/22	Denbeigh Below Curtis Falls
Dale Clutch 2						Erendhil	23/12/22	Successful	18/03/23	"
Silver						Ngana	26/07/22	Successful	10/10/22	Mid Ngatoro Track
Silver (clutch 2)						Ngana	26/07/22	Successful	10/10/22	"

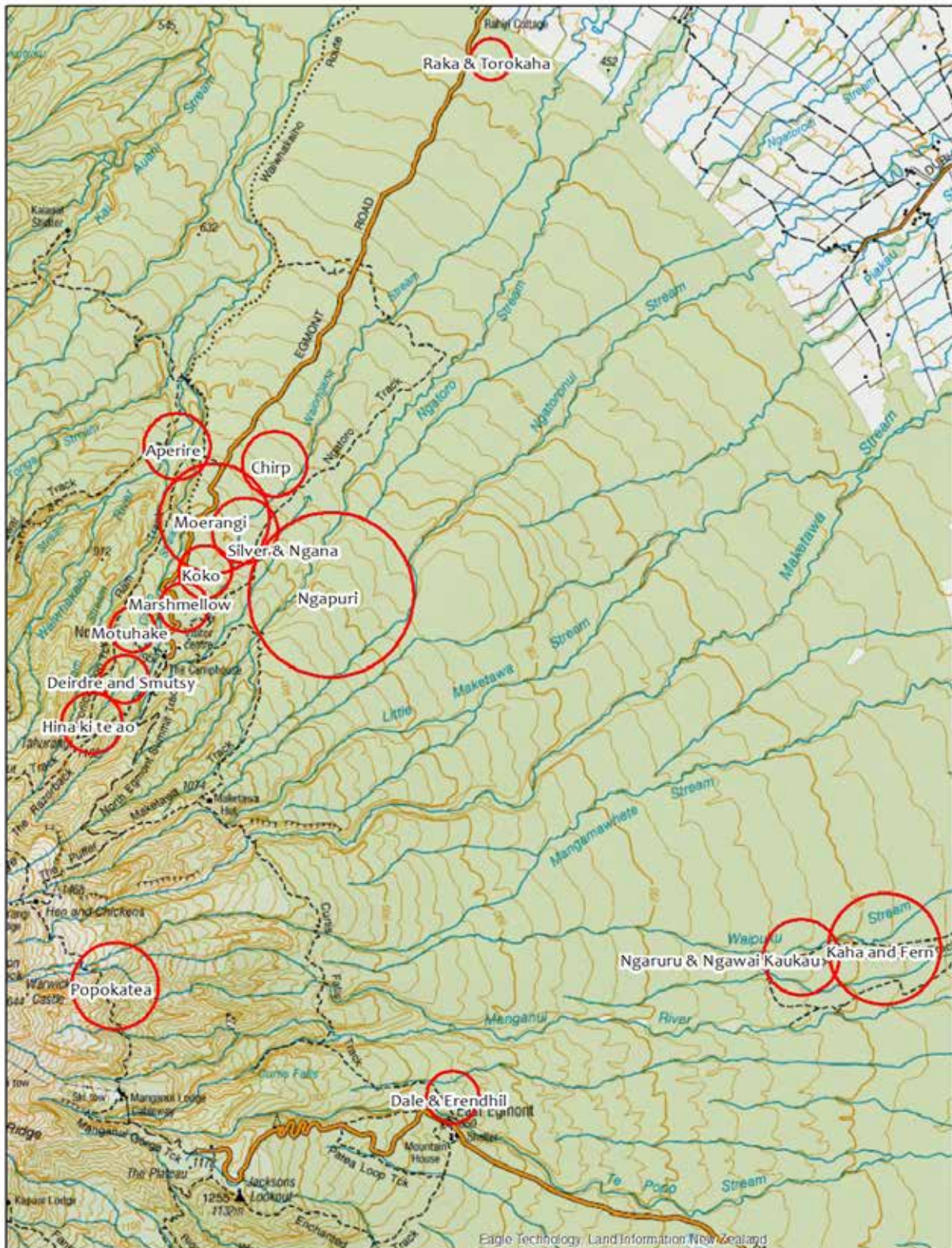
## Kaitake Range Heath Checks and Breeding Outcomes

\* Nest outcome and hatch date are based on transmitter readings

Kiwi Name	Health Check Date	2022 Weight (g)	2023 Weight (g)	Bill Length (mm)	Body Condition	Female Kiwi (if known)	Incubation Start Date	Nest Outcome*	Hatch Date*	Approximate Nest Area
Ngapikitanga	7/02/23	2950	2720	135	Moderate Good					
Aroha	8/02/23	2450	2400	121	Good					
Kowhai	3/04/23	2200	2240	127	Good					
Pourewa	1/03/23	2360	2270	128	Moderate Good					
Spencer	31/03/23	1900	1800	94	Moderate Good	Pourewa	10/07/22	Successful	20/09/22	Kaitake Flats
Spencer Clutch 2						Pourewa	26/11/22	Successful	9/02/23	"
Miyagi	29/03/23	2160	2050	99.5	Moderate Good	Ngapikitanga	1/07/22	Successful	17/09/22	Patuha Track Area
Miyagi Clutch 2						Ngapikitanga	1/10/22	Abandoned	-	"
Puanga	24/04/23	1960	2040	102	Moderate	Aroha	19/08/22	Successful	2/11/22	Kaitake Track Area
Ash	8/03/23	1950	1780	100.1	Moderate	Kowhai	8/07/22	Successful	15/09/22	Lewis Loop
Ash Clutch 2						Kowhai	1/12/22	Unknown	-	"
Puriri	6/04/23	1650	2050	103.2	Good	Awhina	1/11/22	Successful	1/02/23	Saxton Track Area
Awhina	6/04/23	2600	2700	149	Very Good					
Lewis	8/04/23	1920	1840	88	Moderate	Whiwhia	15/08/22	Successful	25/10/22	Pirongiha Valley
Lewis Clutch 2						Whiwhia	27/12/22	Successful	12/03/23	"
Craig	31/05/23	1850	2360	88	Very Good					



Locations of Monitored Kiwi on Taranaki Maunga





# Taranaki Mounga Project

**Co-Directors** – Sera Gibson, Sean Zieltjes

Taranaki Mounga Project (TMP) is an ambitious landscape restoration project, partnering with iwi of Taranaki, agencies, and the community to get rid of predators and pests from the mountain, ranges and islands of Taranaki. Now in its seventh year, the project aims to transform the ecological resilience of the area to reflect the importance of the Maunga long into the future, and uplift and improve the wellbeing of the communities around it. TMP is funded by the Next Foundation, and founding sponsors Shell New Zealand, Toi Foundation, Jasmine Social Investments and Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research. We have been partnered with TMP on the Te Papakura o Taranaki Kiwi Monitoring project since 2017.

## Vision

**He Kawa Ora: Sustaining the health and wellbeing of Te Kāhui Tupua and their people.**

**Restoring the ecological vitality of Taranaki Maunga in partnership with iwi, agencies, and community.**

## Outcomes

The ecological resilience of Taranaki Maunga is restored. Supported by local and regional government, Taranaki iwi chairs and the community, embrace and sustain the transformation of Taranaki Maunga to an ecologically resilient state.

**Aspire:** Iwi and communities are leading and owning the successful restoration of Te Kāhui Tupua.

**Share:** The innovative practices adopted for Te Kāhui Tupua inspires future NZ large-scale restoration projects.

**Enrich:** The people of Taranaki have the ability to self-sustain Te Kāhui Tupua now and in the future.

**Revitalise:** Improving the ecological resilience of Te Kāhui Tupua so that native species flourish.

**Treasure:** People adore Te Kāhui Tupua not only for his health and wellbeing benefits, but for a sense of regional identity and belonging.

## Stronger together

TMP are proud of their strong working relationships across multiple organisations helping kiwi to thrive on Taranaki Maunga, in particular the Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Rotokare Sanctuary, Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare, and Te Ara Taiao. It is no simple undertaking working across multiple organisations involving complex logistics and kiwi that like to do their own thing. TMP are guided by their values: Mana Motuhake/Authority, Te Tirohangaroa/Forward Looking, Manaakitanga/Reciprocity and Kotahitanga/Collaboration. Those values essentially mean they are committed to working together in a spirit of generosity, care and respect, without duplicating



Traplines across Taranaki Maunga, totalling 7,504 traps as of July 2023. Traps numbers have increased by 1,500 since 2020, with the extension of traplines on the southern side of the mountain.

efforts, to achieve a bold transformational shift in the Taranaki taiao. Staff and volunteers also get on with the job, helped by being professional, genuine respect for each other, and a good dose of humour.

Taranaki Kiwi Trust leads the kiwi monitoring programme. This season, 41 birds are being monitored on Taranaki Maunga and Kaitake, following a series of successful kiwi releases with 23 kiwi being rehomed from Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare and the Save the Kiwi ONE programme. Te Papakura o Taranaki now has had 170 kiwi released over the years. A fantastic group of volunteers are involved in monitoring and translocation, which took 896 hours this year. Of the nine volunteers helping monitor kiwi on Taranaki Maunga, most have been helping since 2018. This year about 410 hours have been devoted to tracking kiwi on the main mountain. The Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust has played a huge part in keeping tabs on kiwi on Kaitake as well as checking and rebaiting traplines. A rough estimate of volunteer time spent on tracking kiwi in the Kaitake Range is 486 hours. Te Ara Taiao has also helped with kiwi tracking and played a vital role in co-ordinating the kiwi release events alongside Taranaki Kiwi Trust, which means tamariki from a range of schools get to see a kiwi up close.



TMP and TKT Level 3 Certificate in Pest Control graduates receiving their certificates at Te Pūkenga/WITT

# Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust

Chair – Peter Morgan

The Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust, led by Chair Peter Morgan, has had another busy year. They operate with very little funding, with the strength of the Trust instead revolving around a great team of volunteers willing to give up their time for a common cause. The Trust has 128 users/ members on their TrapNZ site and 769 registered traps which are checked fortnightly. The members this season have done 12,272 trap checks and re-baits, catching 2,094 predators with 17% success rate. They also have a dedicated team monitoring the released kiwi, with most kiwi being searched for weekly or fortnightly. The data collected gives information on feeding patterns, activity levels and whether the kiwi are sitting on a nest. Spring 2022 started with some bad news. Everyone was devastated to learn of the deaths of Haimona and Bouuch in Pukeiti, and Tamatea east of the Oakura River. Despite the areas of concern being heavily trapped, Haimona and Bouuch's pathology results indicated a ferret or, less likely a cat, was involved. The response from the Trust members, Pukeiti Taranaki Regional Council staff, Taranaki Mounga Project, Department of Conservation and other organisations was huge as they got about the following response:

- Different types of traps were set in the area.
- All traps were fresh baited with prime ferret tucker of rabbit or chicken.
- Halo trapping of the kill sites with live capture traps.
- All local trap lines were monitored weekly for the next six weeks.
- Camera footage in the area was also reviewed.

A ferret was not caught but a feral cat was caught very close to where Tamatea was found. It was a reality check for all, but the Trust members are very proud of their response, meaning that the release schedule continued and 11 birds were rehomed to the ranges in Autumn 2023. The Trust named two of the them, McGregor, after Robbie McGregor a key founding member and Katie, after Katie Simmonds, one of the landowners who allows the Trust access to remote areas of the Kaitake through her farm.

The exciting part of the year for the group has been the health of the other kiwi released and the number of successful clutches. Thus, at the most there are 11 new birds, 17 existing adults, plus 30 potential juveniles from the two breeding seasons, so a possible total of 58 kiwi. One healthy chick has been seen on camera and another was in the burrow where Lewis was checked which was very exciting.

The Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust does not underestimate the need for monitoring of the predator lines, and this is a vital part of that organisation's

Trap Catch Data of

**2094** for  
KAITAKE RANGE

activities. The annual catch totals statistics prepared by Kelvin Perrie show they are catching many predators which otherwise will have feasted on the native wildlife. As a group of volunteers, they acknowledge the guidance, science and knowledge of partners Department of Conservation, Taranaki Kiwi Trust and the Taranaki Mounga Project. Working together, they know they are seeing the Kaitake Range coming back to life.



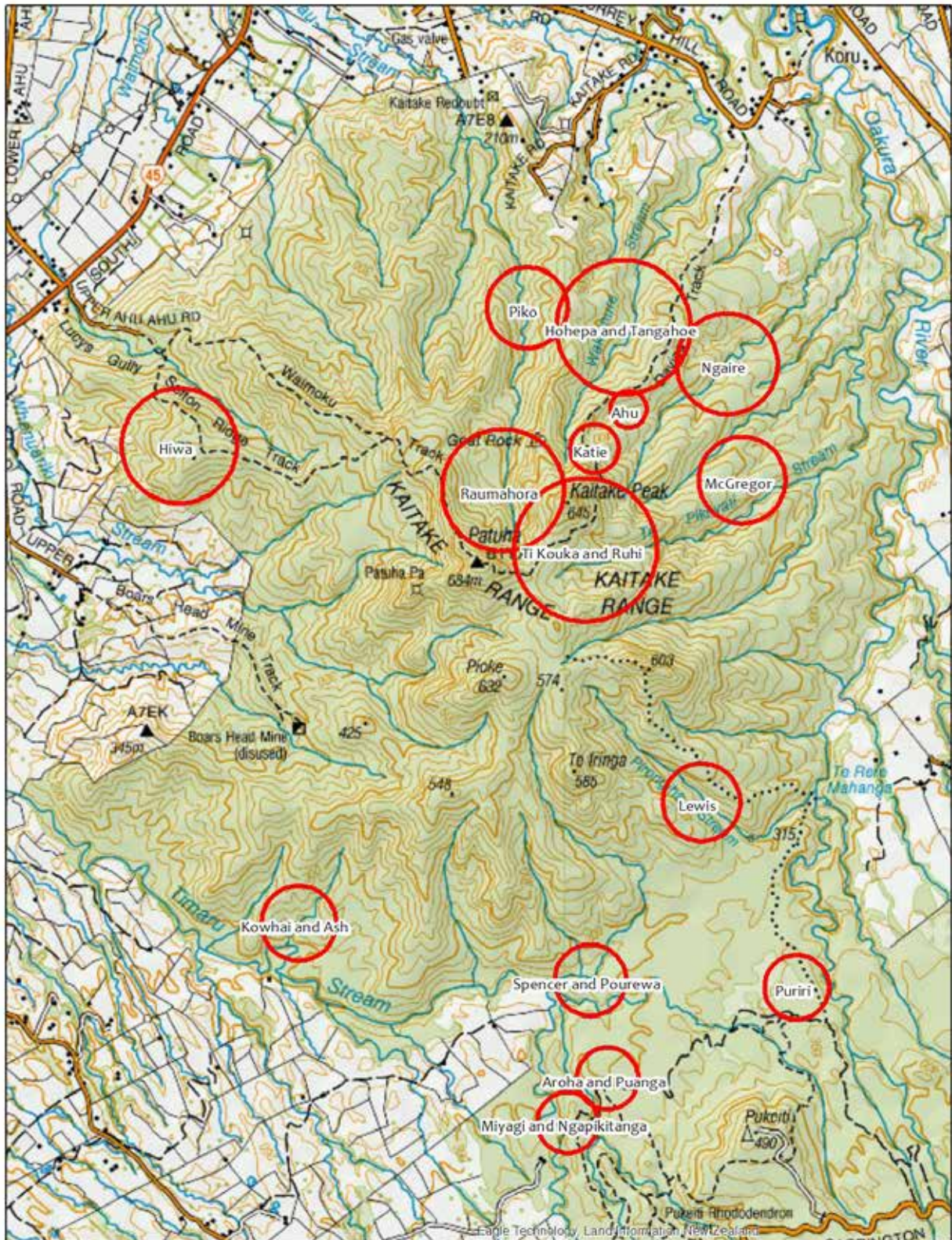
Volunteer Lachie White with Lewis' chick

Species	Number Caught 2022-2023
Feral Cat	17
Ferret	2
Hedgehog	27
Mouse	6
Rabbit	3
Rat	1910
Stoat	93
Weasel	6
Unspecified	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>2094</b>

Trap Catch Data for the Kaitake Range.

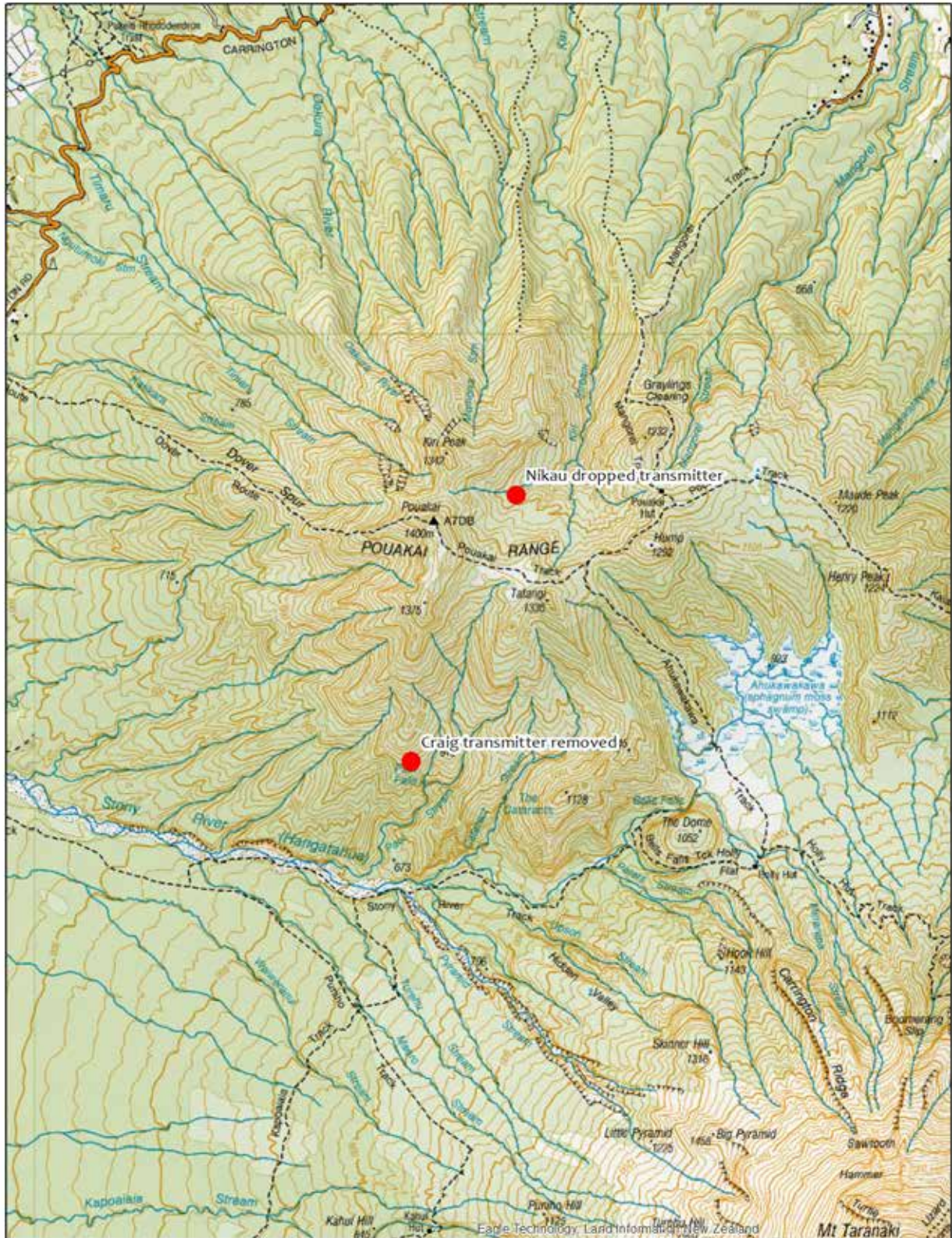


Locations of Monitored Kiwi on the Kaitake Range





Locations of Kaitake kiwi in the Pouakai Range





# TRAPPING IN TE PAPA KURA O TARANAKI



**Project Leader** – Māia Gibbs

**Funders** – Toi Foundation, Worley Global

**Project Partners** – Taranaki Mounga Project, DOC, Taranaki Regional Council

**Project Supporters** – BECA, First Gas, Craigs Investment Partners, SGS, Mt Egmont Alpine Club

While much of the trapping in our national park is managed by Taranaki Mounga Project, Department of Conservation (DOC) and Taranaki Regional Council, we look after ten traplines on the northern and southern side of the Maunga. We have a team of dedicated volunteers who service the lines accessible from Mangorei Road and are led by Hamish McCook from Beca. The Mt Egmont Alpine Club look after a South Taranaki line overseen by dedicated and enthusiastic Rotokare Sanctuary volunteer Andrea Shepherd. First Gas, Craigs Investment Partners, and SGS all have their own dedicated traplines that staff check and three super fit and committed individuals Wayne Butt, Stephen Boot and Ryan Anker all take responsibility for some or all of a trapline.

All trap checks are aligned with the three-weekly roster set by DOC on the Maunga and are making a significant contribution to protecting existing and released kiwi in the park. Māia provides support to all these people, and ensures they have the equipment and bait to do the job well.

Species	Number Caught 2022-2023
Feral Cat	3
Ferret	5
Hedgehog	5
Mouse	16
Rabbit	1
Rat	1066
Stoat	28
Weasel	2
Unspecified	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>1160</b>

Annual Catch Data for Taranaki Kiwi Trust Managed Traplines



Mark Garner with a ferret caught on Taranaki Maunga

Annual Catch Data of  
**1160**  
 for Taranaki Kiwi Trust  
 Managed Traplines



# OMOANA KIWI PROJECT

**Project Leader** – Jess Fancy

**Funders** – Jobs for Nature, Toi Foundation, Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust, South Taranaki District Council, Taranaki Electricity Trust

**Project Partners** – Taranaki Regional Council, Native Forest Restoration Trust, Eltham Forest, 800 Trust, Department of Conservation, one private landowner

We have been working with landowners at Omoana for several years now, with the ultimate goal of releasing more kiwi into this area. Over the past couple of years, these amazing people, along with our own staff and volunteers, have vastly expanded the trapping network and made the site suitable for a kiwi release. In May this year, we were able to release 11 kiwi into the area, which was a very rewarding

event for everyone involved. A big event was held at the Toko Hall where sponsors, stakeholders and the local community gathered to welcome the birds to the area. After this, a few people headed out to release the birds into their new home. Along with Koby Gavin, one of the rangers for the 800 Trust, Jess has been monitoring 10 of these new kiwi to track their movements, survival rates, and breeding success. Most of them have stuck near to where they were released and we are very excited to see if there will be any nesting attempts this year. There will be more releases to Omoana over the next three years, as the permit allows release of 80 birds enabling us to further boost population numbers in the area and supplement the genetics. The birds will be monitored for one year, after this year then the transmitters will be removed unless it is deemed necessary to continue monitoring them.

Kiwi Name	Age	Sex	Weight (g)	Bill (mm)	Condition	Pair
Koa	Sub-adult	Male	1600	85.1	Moderate Good	Released alone
Rewi	Adult	Male	1600	104.5	Moderate	Mate of Ohia
Ohia	Adult	Female	1850	126.8	Poor	Mate of Rewi
Stella	Sub-adult	Female	1850	117.6	Poor	Released with Tupaia
Tupaia	Adult	Male	1950	96.4	Very good	Released with Stella
Whakaahurangi	Adult	Female	2500	128.2	Good	Mate of Trumpet
Trumpet	Adult	Male	1650	102.4	Moderate Poor	Mate of Whakaahurangi
Buddy	Adult	Male	1840	98.7	Moderate	Mate of Kevin, released alone
Kingi	Juvenile	Male	1500	92.3	Poor	Released alone
Kevin	Adult	Female	2500	141.6	Good	Mate of Buddy, released nearby
Rapa	Juvenile	Male	1450	93.1	Moderate	Released alone

Omoana Release Information

**11** May this year  
**KIWI**  
**WERE**  
released into  
Omoana area

## Omoana Kiwi call count survey

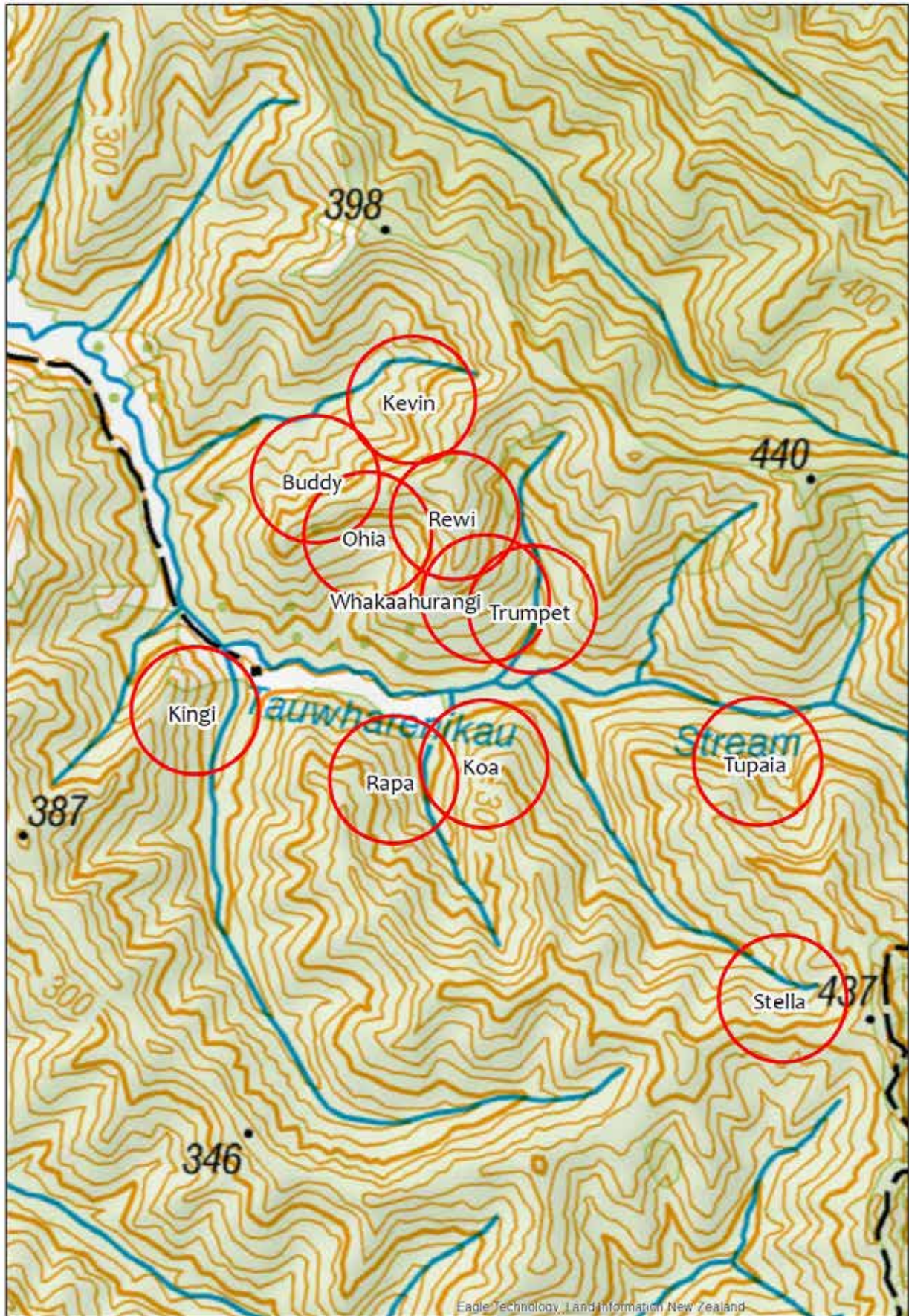
Kiwi call count surveys involve trained people sitting out in the bush for two hours and recording every kiwi call heard, including the sex of the bird, the direction and proximity of the call. This is a good way for determining exactly how many birds are in an area as assumptions can be made on how many different birds are present based on direction and distance. We undertake surveys at three indicator sites in North, Central and South Taranaki on a cyclical basis, plus the Tōtara Block. In

2023, we surveyed the Omoana area. Eleven kiwi were released in March to May 2023, which likely accounts for the significant increase in calls this year. This data will provide a base line for monitoring future populations as part of the release programme.

Year:	2017	2019	2022	2023
Average calls/hour	1.72	0.98	0.86	2.42



Locations of Kiwi in Omoana





# Native Forest Restoration Trust

**Trust Manager** – Sandy Crichton

**Taranaki Reserve Manager** – Jake Goonan

Formed in 1980 when a group of people got together to protest the felling of giant tōtara in Pureora Forest, the Native Forest Restoration Trust (NFRT) is dedicated to protecting the country's native forests and wetlands, not just for today, but for generations to come. Today, this Trust manages over 8,000 hectares of reserves, protected forever for all New Zealanders to enjoy. Each piece of land purchased is assessed on its ecological significance, viability for ensuring the long-term sustainability of that particular type of habitat and capacity to naturally regenerate. Once purchased, the land is permanently protected by a Queen Elizabeth II National Trust covenant, ensuring that native species

The Native Forest Restoration Trust manages

**8,000**  
hectares of reserves

are protected forever and that the land can never be harvested, cleared or developed. Their ethos remains the same as it was back in 1980 – if we all come together, we can achieve extraordinary things. This has been proven in the Omoana area over the last seven years, with the collaboration between the QEII Trust, Taranaki Regional Council, TKT and NFRT to trap Omoana Bush. It is now part of the permitted area to receive translocated kiwi over the next five years. We also provide expert advice and implementation for trapping programmes and habitat restoration for native birds at all NFRT's Taranaki reserves, with a special focus on ensuring sites are suitable to receive kiwi re-introductions in the future.

## 800 Trust



**Trustees** – Daryl Egarr, Miranda Wells, Bjorn Doherty

The 800 Trust is based in Omoana and Tututawa. They are focused on protecting and restoring the fast-declining endangered species in the back blocks of Taranaki. The 800 Trust is practicing proactive predator control (possums, stoats, feral cats, weasels, goats, pigs and mice) and extensive tree planting.

The 800 Trust intensively traps over 4,000 acres, which includes part of the Waitiri Conservation Area. Thanks to Jobs for Nature funding, the Trust employs two full time rangers who have deployed hundreds of DOC200 and DOC250 traps with some assistance from our staff and volunteers. Both of their rangers, Ian Gavin and Koby Gavin, are doing a tremendous job undertaking pest control.

Early this year, we removed the transmitters from the first lot of monitored kiwi in the area, which were being monitored as part of Save the Kiwi's Operation Nest Egg programme. This was a great opportunity for both Trusts to invite local farmers to see kiwi first hand for themselves and increase their awareness and engagement in conservation. This work has already seen local farmers more active in targeting feral cats and possums. The 800 Trust is also undertaking significant pig control using pig traps and thermal night shooting and are currently developing a trap that can be activated via remote monitoring.

With a bent for trialing new technology, they are also in the process of developing an acoustic recorder that will automatically identify individual bird calls and relay this information back via a WIFI network in order to monitor



Koby & Ian Gavin from 800 Trust

bird populations. An extensive WIFI network has been deployed throughout the trapped area in order to help improve predator control outcomes using cameras.

So far, over 100,000 trees have been planted by the 800 Trust. They were selected to be the region's King's Coronation tree recipient and will plant 7,000 of the total of 100,000 King's Coronation trees for New Zealand. Focused on planting trees that yield food for birds, thus helping to sustain larger bird populations, this year they have started a small native plant nursery from locally sourced seeds.



# TŌTARA BLOCK KIWI PROJECT

**Project Leader** – Sue Hardwick-Smith

**Trapping Partners** – South Taranaki Forest & Bird,  
Taranaki Regional Council

Tucked away up a gravel road in Mangamingi (inland from Eltham and a short distance as the crow flies from Rotokare Sanctuary) is one of our release site success stories, the Tōtara Block. The 600 odd hectare property is owned by our Chair Sue Hardwick-Smith's family and has been the target of trapping by South Taranaki Forest & Bird (STF&B) for three decades. STF&B President Jen Roberts has boundless energy for smashing predators and her team are equally dedicated to trapping and pest control. With this background, the Tōtara Block was well placed to be the first wild release site for birds from the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare (TKKR), our partnership project with the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust. When we released the first 10 birds in the Tōtara Block in 2020, the late Rotokare Sanctuary Manager Simon Collins worked very hard alongside Sue to get the permit signed off. Having worked together on the TKKR project since inception in 2012, it was a very special day and one of the legacies left behind by Simon and his endless enthusiasm for conservation.

Sue and her family continue to lead work on the Tōtara Block project, including still monitoring 11 of the 40 birds released over three years. To date, there have been



Volunteers Jarod Beasley & Lance Moseley

no known predations, but two birds have died due to misadventure falling over cliffs and one of bone cancer. Key volunteers Kelly Bridger who treks up from Whanganui, Jenny and Guy Oakley, and Julia Hardwick-Smith assist Sue with the monitoring, health checks and transmitter changes. Sue also has taken STF&B volunteer Lance Moseley under her wing and his enthusiasm for kiwi means Lance is now very close to being signed off as a handler. With so much room and plenty of tucker, the kiwi are flourishing with each monitored pair having the norm of two clutches and breeding success assessed this last season at three chicks per pair. While this project is still in its infancy, its success has meant the Tōtara Block is now setting the benchmark for all other sites we are preparing.

Kiwi Name	Health check date	2022 Weight (g)	2023 Weight (g)	Bill Length (mm)	Body Condition	Partner Kiwi (if known)	Incubation start Date	Number of clutches	Number of Eggs Outcome*	Approximate nest area
Buster (M)	23/04/23	176	1700	97	Mod		5/08/22	2	2+0=2	Line 6
Hartley (M)	28/04/23	1900	1920	93.7	Mod		20/08/22	2	2+1+3	Line 14
Digger (M)	29/04/23	1680	1675	85.5	Mod	Pukatea	18/08/22	2	2+2=4	Line 13
Hui (M)	29/04/23	2080	1950	110.5	Good		3/07/22	2	2+2=4	Line 12
Pippin (M)	30/04/23	1775	1700	88.3	Very good	Merry	16/07/22	2	2+2=4	Inner ridge
Archer (M)	28/05/23	1900	1800	108	Good		13/06/22	3	2+1+0=3	Line 10
Weka (M)	7/05/23	1550	1880	100	Mod	Rangi	7/06/22	2	1+0=1	Line 5
Ani (M)	30/05/23	1820	1950	109	Mod	Isabella	n/a	n/a	n/a	Gully below hut
Natwana (F)		2050	2450	125.2	Good					Gully near road
Rangi (F)	20/05/23	2500	2500	129.6	Good	Weka				Line 5
Isabella (F)	30/05/23	1710	2300	135.7	Good	Ani				Gully below hut
Waihi (F)	27/05/23	2250	2500+	144.1	Excellent					Inner gully
<b>7 males</b>	<b>3 eggs/male</b>							<b>15</b>	<b>21 eggs</b>	<b>1.4 eggs/clutch</b>

# South Taranaki Forest & Bird

**President** – Jen Roberts

**Trapping Volunteers** – Matt Kyle, Lance Moseley, Don Litchfield, Graham Wells

STF&B trap both the Tōtara Block and the adjacent Collier Block, in partnership with us and the Taranaki Regional Council. Their work has been intrinsic in the kiwi release project at the Tōtara Block. The first trapping was started by President Jen Roberts's father Rex Hartley. He was ecstatic when his dream of releasing kiwi into the site was realised. The organisation's volunteers are uber diligent on their trap checking regime and are on-site every week. Several of them also get involved in kiwi monitoring. There are a total of 291 traps at the site plus a few that the team move around targeting specific areas. They have a pretty good catch rate this year including plenty of pesky goats that Matt Kyle has popped off! A more recent project under development for the branch is the restoration of the Rawhitiroa Wetland.

Species	Number Caught 2022-2023
Cat	9
Ferret	2
Goat	193
Hedgehog	18
Magpie	10
Mouse	58
Possum	85
Rabbit	6
Rat	599
Stoat	14
Weasel	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1006</b>



STF&B Volunteer Don Litchfield releasing Prince in 2021



Locations of Kiwi in the Tōtara Block July 2023





# PARININIHI KI WAITŌTARA MANGAOAPA FORESTRY PROJECT

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**Project Leaders** – Jess Fancy & Kat Strang

**PKW Project Team** – Jenny Feaver, Josephine Sullivan,  
Richard Buttimore, Anaru Marshall, Sian Potier

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Another exciting project started during the year is in Mangaoapa Forest, in collaboration with Parininihi Ki Waitōtara, Ngāti Maru and East Taranaki Environment Collective. The aim of this project is to monitor kiwi before, during, and after the forestry harvest. Initially, we hoped to catch 10 kiwi to monitor. However, after two separate dog catchers and Toby with Sian Potier attempting a night catch, which was thwarted by inclement weather, we landed a total of five birds for the year – two pairs and a male. Jess has been working closely with the PKW Taiao team, teaching them to monitor the birds and track their movements throughout the five-year project. They will be collecting codes once a month and going in to get closer locations on each bird every four months. While our sample size is quite small at the moment, we hope to gather as much information as possible from this cohort.

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IMAGE RIGHT: Peter Kirkman with a Mangaoapa pair  
BELOW: Mangaoapa Kiwi in the Mangaoapa Forest



# East Taranaki Environment Collective



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**General Manager** – Rebecca Somerfield

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**Conservation Manager** – Rebecca Somerfield

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**Chair** – Rob Maetzig

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East Taranaki Environment Collective (ETEC) is a community-led conservation initiative administered by the East Taranaki Environment Trust (ETET). Their mission is to protect the ecosystem and biodiversity in East Taranaki and they are doing so through the control of invasive pest species in their 18,000 hectare project area. Predator work consists of 1,300 DOC 200 traps and 600 DOC 250 traps targeting mustelids, and over 1,000 resetting traps (A12s and A24s) targetting rats and possums. The ETEC also uses a combination of toxins and kill-traps to reduce the target pest populations. Their pest operations, through the trap network and goat control, provide a place for kiwi, kōkako, New Zealand long-tailed bats and other native species to thrive.

The ETEC believes that long term conservation success will be achieved through collaborating and co-operating with a growing number of organisations and individuals who are dedicated to protecting and enhancing Taranaki’s ecosystem and biodiversity. The Department of Conservation (DOC) has been working on the feasibility of an East Taranaki Corridor, and their project sits in the heart of this along with work being done by local Iwi and other conservation organisations and initiatives. The ETEC is working alongside DOC, local Iwi, Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Taranaki Regional Council, and other organisations, funders and supporters to establish this Eastern corridor which will act as a refuge for native species, and one where pest species are kept at low levels.

Collaboration between ETEC and TKT has given both organisations’ staff the opportunity to learn new skills and knowledge. The sharing of staff and resources also has allowed both organisations to work more efficiently and effectively. Both Trusts strive to work with as many different organisations and people as possible to achieve our common goal of protecting our taonga species within Taranaki. Effective and sustainable conservation happens through connection and collaboration with local communities and people, and this is something that both Trusts are achieving.

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IMAGE ABOVE: Taranaki Mounga Project, Forgotten World Adventures and TKT deploying a trapping line along the Forgotten Highway railway line for East Taranaki Environment Collective  
IMAGE BELOW: ETEC Staff Corbyn Fabish, Kat Strang, Jayden Fabish, Karen Moratti, Rebecca Somerfield and Ashley Bate

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# PREDATOR FREE NZ CONSERVATION APPRENTICESHIP

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**Apprentice** – Māia Gibbs

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**Funders** – Predator Free NZ, Toi Foundation

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Māia training to be a kiwi handler

Now only a few short months off completing her apprenticeship under Predator Free NZ, Māia reports she has had an amazing time being a kaimahi for us, developing her knowledge and skills and committing her love and time to the region. She cannot wait to see what the future holds and the development of conservation within Taranaki.

This year has taken her on many exciting adventures, including trapping for us and Towards Predator Free Taranaki all around the region, kiwi tracking, surveying, auditing, hiking, driving, climbing hills and mountains, quadding, building and laughing. Māia also has been

working on a Level 4 conservation programme at WITT/Te Pūkenga and became accredited as a kiwi practitioner.

In July 2022, she took over working with our incredible volunteers who look after 10 traplines in Te Papakura o Taranaki. Back in August, Māia and Celine, along with our apprentice friends from Taranaki Mouna Project, attended the Predator Free NZ conference in Wellington to meet the other apprentices working around the country. There were several excellent speakers at the conference and it was great to hear and swap notes about other predator control and conservation projects happening around the country.

A real highlight for Māia was a trip to Aotea/Great Barrier Island in October last year for a week working with the team at Envirokiwi. It was an awesome experience for her. Ant monitoring on the main and offshore islands and invasive weed hunting took up much of the trip, as well as the privilege of seeing the Mahuki Gannet colony. We in turn have hosted four apprentices from Envirokiwi in Taranaki.



## Envirokiwi

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**Manager/Owner** – Thomas Daly

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Māia Gibbs with Alexis Rountree and Laura Beston from Envirokiwi

Envirokiwi Ltd and Taranaki Kiwi Trust – a match made in conservation heaven. Situated on the outer Hauraki Gulf island, Aotea/ Great Barrier, Envirokiwi Ltd has formed a great relationship with

the Taranaki Kiwi Trust team through the Predator Free NZ (PFNZ) Apprentice Programme.

Envirokiwi Ltd is a family-owned business with a core focus on biosecurity and biodiversity through sustainable practices and positive community outcomes. Some of their current work programs involve Argentine ant eradication, pest plant control, Asian paddle crab monitoring, feral cat control and restoration planting, to name a few. The company includes ecologists and project managers, as well as accomplished field teams of permanent, part time and seasonal employees, and more recently, apprentices through PFNZ.

Like Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Envirokiwi Ltd was fortunate to be selected by PFNZ as a host organisation and given the

chance to offer two apprenticeships starting in 2020. Our first exchange saw Māia Gibbs travel up the country to join the team for a week of Island living and work in late 2022. Owner Thomas reckoned Māia was an excellent addition to his crew and took to off-grid life like a breeze. Following Māia's stay, Envirokiwi apprentices at the time (Harry and Jayden, now fully graduated) completed the exchange with a trip down to Taranaki for a week in the early summer. They had an incredible time, and this was their first mainland work experience in the conservation sphere. Since then, we have had two more apprentices enjoy the exchange, indulging in the Taranaki Kiwi Trust conservation efforts. Laura and Alexis had their very first encounter with kiwi, which was thrilling for them, resulting in lots of boasting once they were back with the Aotea crew!

Envirokiwi would like to take this opportunity to thank Taranaki Kiwi Trust for this ongoing relationship which provides the chance for our young apprentices to gain from the sharing of knowledge and to learn from expertise and practices showcased by the Trust. The benefits of working in diverse environments, with a variety of different activities and people, are enormous for students who are about to embark on their careers within conservation. Not to mention that they have all thoroughly enjoyed their time with the Trust. Envirokiwi would also like to thank Sharon Jones and Laing and Gloria Campbell for acting as hosts to our friends from Aotea.



# TRAINING, EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

**Project Leader** – Celine Filbee

**Project Funders** – Contact Energy, Toi Foundation, Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust, Jobs for Nature, Save the Kiwi

Kiwi conservation is a long road and will take multi-generational commitment. This is why it is part of our strategic aims to undertake education programmes and recognise training opportunities for those involved in kiwi conservation. This programme of work is backed by Contact Energy and their support means all our staff can participate in promoting kiwi conservation to a variety of audiences. We have delivered 58 training, education and advocacy events to a raft of organisations or events including conferences, churches, businesses, radio, clubs, schools, expos and training providers. Here are some of the highlights:

Toby has worked with organisations ranging from TOPEC, Te Ara Taiao, Kiwi Conservation Club and the Head Office as part of the Curious Minds funded Haurapa Kiwi 2.0 Tuning Up the Frequency project. His advocacy events have included a stall and guided walks during Taranaki Regional Council’s predARTor free exhibition at Pukeiti and a local trapping workshop at Oakura Hall. He has given presentations at a number of hui, including the Regional Kiwi Wānanga, the Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust AGM and a short presentation at the Save the Kiwi National Kiwi Hui along with many other of our project

partners. Jono and Māia represented us at a Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Expo in the middle of the year and Sian Potier helped with four kiwi talk sessions at Oakura School. Celine fronted a TOI Foundation promotional video, spoke at the Predator Free NZ Conference, the Save the Kiwi National Kiwi Hui and to the Mt Egmont Alpine Club. Jess, as always, spent many days working with schools all over the region delivering talks on kiwi, field trips and activities. She also attended all eight kiwi releases this year which are gold mines in terms of advocacy for kiwi. Emma has also visited several schools and is now leading the lunchbox trapping sessions at Worley New Plymouth.

While education and advocacy has always been a big focus for us, in recent years, we have added training to that portfolio. We are very fortunate to have some highly skilled staff, contractors, and volunteers so are in the position where we can pass our knowledge onto other conservation groups and the wider community. We have a programme that not only upskills them but trains new staff, volunteers and other organisations in kiwi handling, trapping, safety, kiwi surveying and monitoring and acoustic recorder deployment. Both Jess and Toby have recently been accredited as trainers for kiwi handling and transmitter attachment bringing the total of trainers in the organisation to five, also including volunteers Sue Hardwick Smith, Sian Potier and Kevin Stokes.

## The following kiwi accreditations have been achieved this year

Jess Fancy	Kiwi handling trainer	Transmitter attachment trainer	Cloacal swab trainer	Microchip insertion
Toby Shanley	Kiwi handling trainer	Transmitter attachment trainer	Cloacal swab	Microchip insertion
Māia Gibbs	Kiwi handling	Transmitter attachment	Telemetry	
Guy Oakley	Kiwi handling	Microchip insertion		

## The following people have progressed their training in kiwi skills

Guy Oakley	Telemetry	Transmitter attachment		
Jono Walter	Telemetry	Transmitter attachment	Kiwi handling	Kiwi call count survey
Lance Moseley	Telemetry	Transmitter attachment	Kiwi handling	Kiwi call count survey

Toby, Jess and Sue have carried out telemetry training with a number of groups and individuals and Jess has trained individuals and teams to deploy acoustic recorders.

### Telemetry

800 Trust Staff, Parinihi ki Waitōtara cadets, Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust volunteers, Taranaki Mounga Kiwi Monitoring Project volunteers, Te Ara Taiao, TOPEC Students, Rawiri Walsh, Opunake High School.

### Acoustic Recorder Deployment

Parinihi ki Waitōtara Taiao Cadets, Taranaki Mounga Project Taiao Rangers, Jarod Beasley, Harmony Kupe

# FUNDRAISING

Official Charity at WOMAD NZ,  
**\$6,667.07**  
collected in donations on the gate

Z Energy Good in  
the Hood recipient,  
**\$711.00**  
from the Hāwera Branch

Website merchandise sales –  
**T SHIRTS,  
CAPS AND HATS,  
DIARIES AND KIWI  
PRINTS**

The Trust also had a painting commissioned by South Island artist Geoff Noble which we intend on auctioning as a fundraiser and prints of this wonderful painting can be purchased on the Trust website.



IMAGE, ABOVE: Geoff Noble Kiwi Commission;  
BELOW: Nick Jones from Rewild volunteers  
Sophie and Samantha Perrett with Nadine on the  
Brooklands Gate at WOMAD NZ



# CONSERVATION SERVICES AND CONTRACTING

The Trust has a wealth of experienced and skilled staff who can deliver a wide range of conservation services to the businesses, education, conservation and farming sectors. We work throughout Taranaki and are experienced on all types of terrain, equipment and trapping with sound health & safety practices. We have a team of people that are highly qualified and engaged in conservation work with experience in predator and pest plant management, species work, versed and qualified in the use of machinery and equipment.

This has meant that we have become well-placed to contract to other organisations, providing conservation services in areas such as species monitoring, training, site assessment and predator management. As one example, we have been contracted by Taranaki Regional Council to assist with the maintenance and implementation of some of its trapping programmes.

Undertaking contract work is key to ensuring the financial stability of the Taranaki Kiwi Trust as it allows us to have regular income which can be used to finance our administration and projects. Our focus on conservation services also furthers our strategic aims by allowing us to share our expertise and otherwise contribute to conservation projects. This is a promising area which we will be looking to continue developing in the coming years.



IMAGE ABOVE: Jenny Oakley; MIDDLE: Volunteers Kevin Stokes and Jenny Feaver; BELOW: Staff and volunteers celebrate at Waiti Castle – Kelly Bridger, Sue Hardwick Smith, Harmony Kupe, Celine Filbee, Māia Gibbs, Jess Fancy, Guy Oakley and Sam Hopkirk



# FUNDERS, SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

## Funders



**Jobs For Nature**  
Community Trapping Project, Kiwi and Trust Operations



**Toi Foundation**  
Trap hardware and equipment,  
Community Trapping Project, Kiwi and Trust Operations



**Predator Free NZ**  
Apprenticeship programme



**Save the Kiwi**  
Trust Management



**South Taranaki District Council**  
Site development Omahina and Tarere  
Kiwi Projects



**Worley Global**  
Community Trapping Project, Towards  
Predator Free Lunchbox Trapping  
Workshops



**Curious Minds**  
Haurapa Kiwi 2.0 Tuning up the  
Frequency



**Aotearoa Gaming Trust**  
Monitoring and Surveying equipment,  
Community Trapping Project



**Wild for Taranaki**  
Bait



**Fred & Eunice Rodie  
Charitable Trust**  
Community Kiwi Ranger



**Taranaki Electricity Trust**  
Community Trapping Project



# Sponsors

We have a host of companies, businesses and individuals who have backed us this year. We are very thankful for their support and commitment to conservation and would really struggle without their input.

## Contact Energy

This New Zealand company has committed to supporting our, advocacy and training work, and sponsored Koko the kiwi for three years. They are electricity, gas, and broadband suppliers with a philosophy to 'be the neighbour you'd want to have'. To Contact Energy, this means respecting the rights of others, ensuring the safe and best practice operation of their sites, and making a positive contribution to their communities.



## Rewild

This business is the brain child of Nick Jones from Indemic. Nick, an award-winning industrial designer has spent 12 years and hundreds of thousands of dollars developing a safe, light easy to set ferret trap, which he has cunningly named the F-Bomb. Production of the trap has now commenced from the factory in Inglewood which Nick generously shares with us, including an office meeting room, storage area and help with repairs and maintenance.



## MG Taranaki/ Hawera Auto Court

Sue Goble & Jimmi Guillosson are now the dealers for MG, SsangYong & LDV in Taranaki. Along with these brands, they sell used vehicles so have all bases covered. They have branches on Gill Street in New Plymouth and the corner of Wilson & High Streets in Hawera. Sue and Jimmi bend over backwards for the organisation. They provide us with a sponsored vehicle, free servicing of our ever-growing fleet and help with breakdowns and purchasing additional vehicles.



## Baker Tilly Staples Rodway

Every year, for a now forgotten number of years, this business prepares our annual performance report, a considerable saving for the organisation. Every year or two, we call in with morning tea. They have up to about 90 staff across their Taranaki branches. It is always very rewarding as their people show an active interest in our work.



## Grounded Kiwi

New supporter Blake Marston and his family from Grounded Kiwi run a small family business based in New Plymouth. After first learning about Earthing/Grounding, involving the health & well-being aspects of reconnecting to the earth, they decided to experience the benefits themselves. Their next thought was, "we have to spread the word, everybody should know about this". They are passionate about sharing their knowledge of Earthing to as many people as possible and receive great feedback on their product's positive impact. They are a family with a genuine desire to do good and now they are doing good for kiwi.

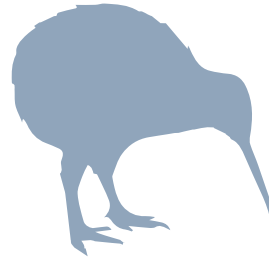


## Primo

A notable Taranaki broadband supplier specialising in rural connections which needs very little introduction. They support over a hundred organisations throughout the district, including us, by way of free internet, a somewhat sizeable contribution to the region's not-for-profit sector. We are very thankful that they also supply free internet to our Inglewood depot.



# Te Papakura o Taranaki Trapping Partners



These businesses are all backing our trapping work in Te Papakura o Taranaki. They have volunteers that help with checking traps or administering a trapline, and they make a financial contribution to help with resource and training. Their work is incredibly valuable in keeping the kiwi we release in the national park safe.

We would also like to thank the following businesses that have contributed to the organisation in the last year

## Mt Egmont Alpine Club

Members of the club led by Andrea Shepherd look after our only South Taranaki trapline.



**Ballance Agri-Nutrients**  
Annual shutdown donation



**Rent-a-Mac**  
iPad for North Egmont Visitors Centre



## BECA

Hamish McCook not only looks after the BECA team but our own Taranaki Kiwi Trust volunteer team who check traplines at the top of Mangorei Road. Engineers and consultants, with multi-disciplinary expertise in project delivery from buildings, power and energy to water.



**Jenny Feaver Photography**  
Epic images of our kiwi and events



## Firstgas

This team is led by Aimee Mason. New Zealand's largest natural gas network connecting over 60,000 customers with access to a safe, clean, and reliable form of energy



**Fertile Fields**  
Trap building and storage workshop, assistance with training and trap checking



**TimberCo**  
Trap timber cutting



## Craigs Investment Partners

Christine Egarr is the team leader for this trapline. A world class investment advisory firm who can help with all facets of financial advice and planning.



**Z Energy**  
Good in the Hood donation



## SGS

Loralee Garlick has overseen this team. The world's leading testing, inspection, and certification company, enabling a better, safer, and more interconnected world.



**SVS Laboratories**  
Kiwi health testing



**Eltham District Veterinary Services**  
Help when we ask – gold!



## Not-for-profit Discount Providers





# Financial Summary

## Year End 30 June 2023

We have worked hard to diversify our income streams in this financial year. This has resulted in a considerable profit which will set the Trust in good stead for the transition from Jobs for Nature to other sources of income in 2024.

### Income & Expenditure

Income	2023	2022
Donations Received	15,846	28,674
Grant Income	245,220	411,878
Contract Income	273,917	129,202
Sponsorship Income	46,000	38,000
Sundry Income	2,056	7086
Website Sales	1,169	
Interest Received	5,295	809
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>589,504</b>	<b>615,649</b>
Expenditure	2023	2022
Field Equipment	19,329	22,395
Mileage	2,564	11,667
Office Equipment		748
Subcontractors	104,173	111,422
Staff Expenses	6,396	6,308
Training and Development	6,217	4,717
Wages and Salaries	260,026	230,010
Wages Kiwisaver Employer Contribution	7,330	6,811
Advertising	8,289	1,361
Audit and Accounting Fees	199	
Bank Charges	44	155
Depreciation	40,600	31,698
General Expenses		1,639
Hospitality	7,031	2,362
Insurance	2,460	4,493
Movement in Inventory	-5809	
Postage and Freight	59	252
Subscriptions	4,448	2,579
Sundry Expenses	1,674	1,724
Vehicle Expenses	31,912	25,893
Website		5,291
Practitioner Donation	1,550	4,658
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>498,491</b>	<b>476,183</b>
<b>Profit/Loss</b>	<b>91,012</b>	<b>139,466</b>

### Property, Plant and Equipment

	Opening Carrying Amount	Additions	Depreciation	Closing Carrying Amount
Motor Vehicles	46,979	8,000	14,156	40,823
Plant and Equipment	175,417	65,172	26,444	232,033
<b>Totals</b>	<b>239,219</b>	<b>73,172</b>	<b>40,600</b>	<b>272,856</b>



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