

KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST

FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER



Meat Distribution to Families

This has carried on with stock all gone and hoping for another process day early this year. Distribution centred around our Taku Wairua youth and their supporters. See Layton Gardner at Morrinsville.



Our First Fulltime Employee and Branded Workwear

For those of you who remember faces you will recognise Layton Gardner from our “The Growth of Kaitiakitanga Trust” 2018 report and newsletters. Layton started volunteering for environmental work with us pre-Charitable Trust status. He has been loyal for 9 years.

Welcome Layton and congratulations on your achievements;

- Spray Certificate
- Full Drivers Licence
- Safe Chainsaw Operation Certificate
- First Aid Certificate

He is not only proficient at trap making, but also very handy potting on the native plants we grow for the whenua. Cheers Layton.



Okete Planting

Our August 2022 newsletter covered the full plan. Due to extraordinary wet conditions, we were able to complete planting late into November. All are doing well at last releasing effort.

Both Wallis and Hall farms have committed to retiring more wetlands and riparian areas for us to plant this year.



Preparing fenced off site via gorse removal



Planting from 2 years ago



We are extending the developers early planting having maintained it for the last 5 years.

The area is seeing increased numbers of birds including quail, blue heron, fantail, grey warbler, Tui, silver eye, kingfisher, various seagulls and a flock of royal Spoonbills.

Pukeko, Canadian geese, Magpie, minah, starlings, rosella, sparrows, chaffinch, goldfinch, thrush, harrier hawks, paradise ducks and mallard are also present. Pukeko, Canadian Geese and Magpie are in need of control due to their unbalanced impact on the environment and biodiversity. While Kereru are seen within a few kilometres, the estuary at Okete Landing has no sightings over 18 years of observation.

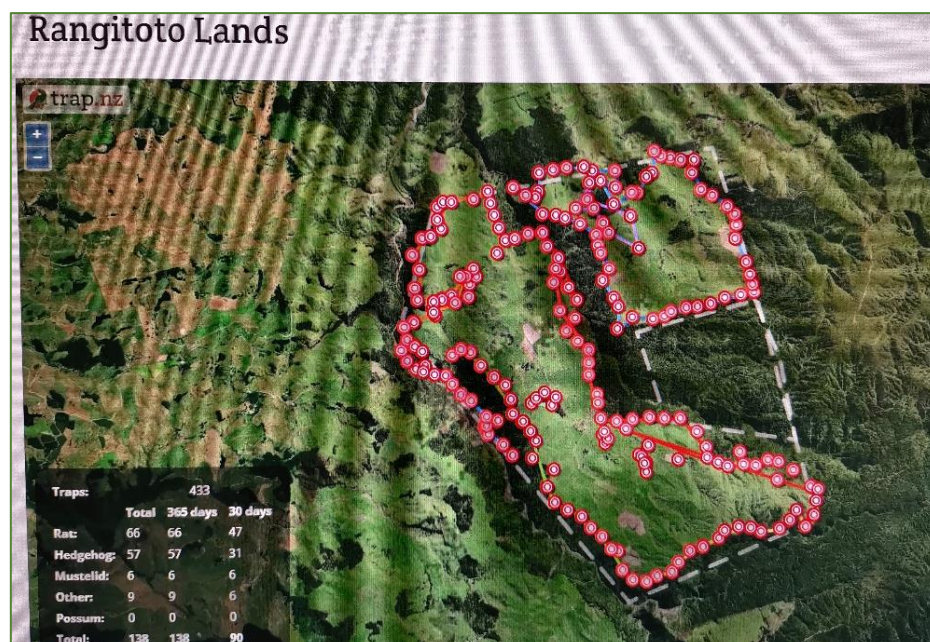
Rangitoto Lands, Owawenga Station and Chindie Trapping

Chindie is about to become our third farm where we operate trapping with our DOC 200's. We estimate we will need 150 traps and are about to deliver another 75 to get nearer to total.



You will remember we are part of several groups protecting kokako, karearea and Whio. Save The Kiwi are co-ordinating efforts to have some parts of Northern Pureora suitable for the release of 100's of adult Kiwi. The fourth farm we are to trap is Rua Oki Station at Waimahora. That links 4 private farm blocks together providing protection in thousands of hectares. There are other groups operating on DOC conservancy land and land held by Trusts. We are working towards Kiwi release in 2 years' time.

February trap round results from Carrie Bullard ; 61 rats, 35 hedgehogs, 5 stoats and 2 feral cats. Carrie also uploads the data to Trap NZ and is patiently teaching the administrator and chairman how to access the computer records. Thanks for the hard work Carrie.



Tauwhare Container

Jim Wade of Hamilton, a long-time key supporter of the Trust, is unfortunately stepping down from his role as supervisor of the trap making and meat processing due to health concerns. We will miss the tasty sausages, quality of his traps, patience, jokes and his cheeky smile!



Taku Wairua have doubled the number of youth attending their 5-month program. This will require more trap making days to accommodate the training. We presently have material for 100 traps which are to go to Judge Valley Dairy Ltd and Rua Oki Station.

Access has been improved by Alan Brown following a wet season causing problems.

Rangitoto Lands Youth Camps

We held our 5th Upper Waipa Youth camp in November 2022. See the photos attached. Again, many thanks to Duncan & Rhonda Oliver for allowing us to use their land. We obtained and planted 160 natives around the big pond as thanks.



Website and Administration

Melissa Wadsworth a supporter from Sydney Australia is a website expert. She has volunteered to help upgrade our website.

Allison Grant now works part time as our administrator. She is making us more efficient. We have previously been supported by Carol Bond and Tayla Robinson of Stace Hammond and we thank them for their great work.

A big thank you to you all for your support.

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