



KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020

RANGITOTO LANDS PREDATOR CONTROL

With a massive and crucial input from James Moore of Taipa Salt Pig our mobile container workshop is set-up and producing DOC200 traps.

One team of Waharoa youth led by Pari Kaukau and Peter Witika of Kaitiaki Trap N Train Trust based in Waharoa joined Layton Gardener's team from Melville and produced 70 traps in a week shortened by rain.

James was joined by Jim Wade who may be able to supervise the second production run of a further 70 traps. (See **attached** photos with the team measuring and cutting, and next to completed trap boxes).





This was a significant goal and we learnt a lot as we progressed. The Trust and the teams got better as the week went on. The bacon and egg pies from Matangi Bus Café were a great treat on two of the four days.

Malcolm McFarlane is an experienced trapper protecting Kiwi in the Coromandel Peninsula for DOC and private groups. We are engaging him to teach trap tuning (each trap needs to be tuned to ensure efficient operation with correct weight testing and adjustment), GPS marking on Trap NZ compatible software, guiding us on best practice trap placement and operation.

It is essential we get this part of our project right as that is the second major goal to reach. The rationale behind using 250 DOC200 traps on the boundary of Rangitoto Lands, as a reminder, is the observation of Karearea (Native Falcon), Whio (Blue Duck) and hearing Kokako by a Trustee. Three other groups operate in the general area being Okahukura, the Tunawai Stream and Rangitoto Station (Mangatutu Ecological Area). Discussions with these fellow ecological groups continues so we can compliment one another with our predator control efforts. Our Trust brings traps which not only target rats (which they also poison) but also mustelids and hedgehogs. DOC has offered training assistance and we are to negotiate a Community Agreement with them so we can extend our trapping on their land adjacent to Rangitoto Lands in the future.

Ngati Haua (Waharoa)

This is where Kaitiaki Trap N Train Trust is based. They are working with youth setting up trap lines in the Kaimai Ranges. They were the beneficiaries of three separate deliveries of small goods from us using the meat supplied by Duncan and Rhonda Oliver of Rangitoto Lands during Level 4 lockdown. We have plans for them to provide a team of trap box makers for the remaining 180 traps to be made. This has an obvious benefit as these youth are learning the art of predator trapping. Knowing how to make operative maintenance is enhanced through this experience.

TAUWHARE WETLAND RESTORATION

Our project here got a boost when Alan Brown and Jilly Shaskey, as lessee and lessor's representatives respectively, okayed a re-metaling of the track in. Previously we have had access issues in the winter. With increased use of the site making trap boxes at the mobile container workshop, getting stuck would be the norm without Alan's work. He is now officially considered a key supporter/sponsor of our Trust. Thank you Alan and Jilly.

Kaitiaki Trap n Train Trust also attended to releasing native plants of the ever-present weeds at the wetland.

OKETE ESTUARY RESTORATION

2000 native plants were added to this project in the land set aside by Sean and Jo Wallis and family. Waikato Regional Council provided the plants and we received \$5,000.00 for the planting and some maintenance. Our work is definitely appreciated as we expect one more year of planting at Okete and are in discussions with another group for an even bigger area nearby for planting 2021.

Callum Bourke, Catchment Manager for Waikato Regional Council, has asked for the plant list for a further 1700 natives for next autumn.

CONTACTS

Prison Care Ministries:

Not a lot to report here as a planned trip to Okete fell through early this month. The Trust understands how difficult it is for these men to rehabilitate.

Future Leaders:

A camp for 8 of their new participants is planned for later this year. It will incorporate some mahi and new outdoor experiences for these youth. Talk is "If this works out, let's make it a part of Future Leaders program".

Waikato Regional Council:

We satisfied their criteria in the Okete planting again. We are working on a proposal to become a service provider on their books for future work.

Waikato District Council:

We are in discussions with Waikato District Council about future work, planting of areas in Raglan Harbour. Our success at Okete means our reputation here is solid.

Byron McGowan:

Teaches our youth how to catch fish in the Waipa.

Native Forest Restoration Trust

If our traps meet their criteria we have a chance of being a provider for their extension of trapping plans. They are a wonderful Trust with great leadership operating throughout New Zealand. Their achievements are awesome.

SPONSORS

Stace Hammond:

Provide legal work (they established the Trust), volunteers, an office, a computer, office material and secretarial support.

Frank Risk:

Provide brokerage advice, volunteers and a generous financial contribution.

Ebbetts:

Suppliers of a vehicle and fuel, plus initial logo support.

Brown Pennell:

Accounting advice throughout the year.

Rangitoto Lands:

Our big project relies on their support through access, meat supply, accommodation, camping opportunities and knowledge of area.

Our relationship with this group also introduces us to other locals farming on the Upper Waipa.

River Kitchen:

Maria has continued to supply the Trust with delicious food.

Trek N Travel

Colin Hancock is supplying four quality two person tents and six sleeping mats for our 2020 Future Leaders camp.

Grant Family:

Provide transport via vehicle and fuel, food and major volunteer support.



GENEROUS FUNDERS

