



# 2021 Annual Report



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# FROM OUR CHAIR



## LIFT OFF?

Last year, I suggested that I was hoping to be able to announce Lift Off this year, and I think it is fair to say that we have reached a stage where we can be confident that we have taken flight, and that we:

- have a voice and are getting our message across,
- are making a genuine contribution to the local conservation effort and to supporting our members,
- are a significant player in the conservation effort in the Bay of Plenty, and
- are a driver in the development of a national grouping of similar organisations.

We have also increased our membership to 22, and importantly, this is not because we have been knocking on doors, but because groups and organisations have approached us. We had an original target of 15 members by 2022, but as we surpassed that in 2020, we decided that targets were no longer useful in gauging the needs of groups in our area. That being said, recent funding from Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council includes a target of increasing our membership by six each year for three years.

I do find the organic growth of BCA very comforting, but at the same time, we must not rest on our laurels as there is a huge job to be done. We set out to change the paradigm, to change the way that community conservation is organised and run in Aotearoa, New Zealand. Darwin noted that it is not the smartest or strongest that survive, but the ones that are most adaptable to change. BCA must not only be ready to change but must be an agent of that change. We need to be leading and I think we are, but we must not be tempted to stand still.

A big thank you as always to our team, so ably led by our CE, Michelle Elborn, to Emma Richardson who took over the Cadet Programme, to my fellow Board members, with a particular thanks to our Secretary David Peters and our Treasurer, Clive Lock who I think wondered what he had let himself in for, and is now an important member of our team. A big thank you to two board members who stepped down this year. Larry O'Neil from Te Whakakaha Trust who has been an avid supporter and Louise Saunders who has been a very valuable member of the Board, but resigned to take up a new post with Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku Trust, go well both of you. A special welcome also to our two new board members, Alice Cameron and Mark Dean,

welcome on board and hold on tight!

The big plus in this year's annual report is the addition of two particular new members, KEEP – the Kōkako Ecological Expansion Programme and Rotoiti 15. KEEP is an unincorporated group but with a landscape sized project that links two of our existing members, and for whom BCA will likely be the initial fundholder. I am excited as this is a possible new way forward, with BCA supporting in ways that enable an unconstituted group to fulfill project objectives. Rotoiti 15 is our first Māori Trust member, and I am as excited by what we can learn from them as much as how we can offer support. So, a big thank you to Arapeta Tahana, your trustees and team, for having the vision to see what needs to be done in your rohe and we look forward to supporting you and learning from you.

It is so important, if we really are to preserve and restore the native biodiversity and mauri of our ngahere, wetlands and dunelands, that we all work together - thank you to everyone across the alliance.

**Julian Fitter**  
BCA Chair

# ABOUT US

## OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND SERVICES

This year we reviewed and reset our strategic plan. This was a very valuable process that included engagement with member groups, stakeholders and funders to really refine our objectives to meet the needs of the sector and keep moving forward in an aspirational way. Special thanks to Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council for providing some funding to enable a supported and robust review process. Our new strategy highlights:

### OUR VISION

Through collaboration the natural ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity of the Bay of Plenty are restored.

### OUR PURPOSE

To support and grow the capability and impact of our communities and partners, to restore and preserve natural ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity.

### OUR AIMS

1. To expand and strengthen the support services for our network members.
2. To grow and develop the Bay of Plenty conservation volunteer base.
3. To improve the capability and impact of the community conservation network.
4. To support and strengthen relationships with our partners.
5. To support landscape-scale biodiversity restoration projects.
6. To improve the sustainability of the BCA network.

### OUR SERVICES

These are our key shared support service areas with the intention of lightening the load on our member groups so they can get on with the real work:

- Project/operations management
- Collaboration
- Education & training
- Communications & marketing
- Fundraising
- Financial management
- Administration
- Advocacy



# OUR CE'S OVERVIEW

## A YEAR OF CADETS, WIDENING CONNECTIONS AND MOVING AT PACE

Having secured funding in the later part of 2020 from the Ministry for Environment to develop the Bay Conservation Cadets – Tauria Mahi, we launched this programme in January 2021. The launch event was supported by the Environment Minister Hon. David Parker, Iwi, Agencies, the BCA team and of course our inaugural 10 cadets, filled with eager anticipation. The year saw us deliver three successful intakes. We feel privileged to be able to offer such a unique training and capability building programme here in the Bay of Plenty. The programme has been a catalyst for BCA, developing a whole range of new relationships this year with different training providers, employers, hapū and communities. The big reward in the delivery of this programme is watching the cadets grow in confidence and gain a wide set of skills. Many of them are now applying those skills in exciting new roles fulfilling their dream of working in the conservation sector. More on the pathway

some of our cadets are travelling is in section 4.

A key task during the year was the review of our strategic plan. For me, having the right foundations in place is a fundamental part of ensuring organisations head in the right direction. Thanks to the BCA board for ensuring our foundations are maintained well. It's exciting to see community conservation evolving and it's important for BCA to ensure our offerings of support add the best value possible.

Unfortunately this year, we lost a core team member, Brian Ireland, when he returned to live in Auckland. We will always be grateful to Brian for setting up both our school nature education work and our cadet Tauria Mahi programme. Emma Richardson jumped into the driving seat for cadets and Janie Stevenson has taken up the lead for school education work, both bringing their own great passion and skills.

As Julian mentioned we had significant growth in members again this year. Of note, many new Eastern BOP groups have joined thanks to the work Wayne O'Keefe is doing in that area. Emma Cronin and Wayne O'Keefe (our Operations team)

have been working alongside their assigned groups, assisting with a whole range of planning and field tasks and Remedy Emtage has provided some great support with administration and communications.

Special thanks also go to our funders, whom the conservation sector could not operate without their support. Both BayTrust and TECT again this year welcomed combined funding applications of our member groups, facilitated by BCA. The regional council's Long-Term Plan had a focus on volunteer support and resulted in welcome support for BCA's, Envirohub's and NZ Landcare Trust's support roles.

The pace this year has been pretty fast! But my final thanks go to the BCA team, our awesome contractors, volunteers, funders and everyone supporting us to ensure we keep up and do the best job we can.

Ngā mihi,

**Michelle Elborn**  
Chief Executive Officer

# CADETS ON A CAREER PATH



## TIFFANY RANDELL

### **Before the cadet program, what were you doing and what made you apply?**

Our youngest daughter had just begun school and after being an at home mum for many years I wanted to continue my journey of self and whakapapa whilst trying to find mahi that I was passionate about that could work around our 3 young children. I was given a heads up about the cadet programme from a friend of mine and thought it was such an amazing opportunity to put myself out there, to upskill, and to begin a new career path bringing with me the newly acquired skills and knowledge of Te Ao Māori with the passion of incorporating this knowledge and encouraging the absolute value of seeing te taiao through a Māori lens as well as through a botanical one.

### **What new skills and knowledge did you gain throughout the program that helped you get to where you are today?**

The skills I learned were countless. In those short and intense 12 weeks my knowledge base, and my confidence grew so much. You are given a 'taste' of so many areas of conservation which, by the end, give you a fairly good indication about which path(s) you may like to pursue.

### **Did the cadet program have an influence on securing a job role within the environmental sector?**

Yes! The programme had EVERY influence in securing me work in the environmental sector. I'm now doing contract work for Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust supporting plans for a Kōkako translocation and also for BCA working on a Rongoa

project with Rob McGowan (Pa Ropata). The great thing about the cadet programme is that you get to network with so many people and you get opportunities to volunteer, which not only helps cement the knowledge gained and practice what you have learnt and keep that momentum going, but also helps to get your foot in the door and make a name for yourself for any future roles that may come up. BCA are also very good at giving the heads up for job vacancies and supporting you in the application and the interview process if need be.

### **If you hadn't done the cadet program, where do you think you would be right now?**

If I hadn't had the opportunity to do the cadetship, I would have continued my learning journey at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Tauranga and may have looked to pick up more study outside of this space also.

### **What would you say to someone who is hesitant about applying for the program?**

If anyone has this opportunity or is umming and ahing about even applying, just go for it.! Honestly, you will not regret it. You will be inspired daily, not only by your fellow cadets and teachers but also by all the incredibly passionate and selfless people you get to meet in this industry. It is easy to find excuses, I know I had them, but if you want something bad enough you will find the solutions and then there will be no looking back. These weeks test you, tire you, reduce you to tears one minute and have you cracking up laughing the next, but you will have grown so much from these experiences. Karawhīua!!! Give it heaps!!!



## HANNAH THAIN

### **Before the cadet program, what were you doing and what made you apply?**

Prior to the programme I was working on a wildlife boat in the tourism industry. As the pandemic made its way to New Zealand the tourism industry took a big hit and I lost my job. I then began thinking about what's next. Having studied marine biology I've always had an interest in the underwater world, but I started to really think about how it's all connected. I enjoyed spending time in nature and wanted to learn more about our native fauna and flora, so the course sounded like the perfect opportunity to learn new skills in this area.

### **What new skills and knowledge did you gain throughout the program that helped you get to where you are today?**

In terms of skills & knowledge my biggest takeaway would be what I learnt about the ngahere, the plants, the birds and the importance of biodiversity in order for it to thrive.

The other takeaway from this course would be connections. There are so many amazing conservation groups working to protect our precious environment, and having connections with these groups has allowed me to keep learning and become involved with some great projects.

### **Did the cadet program have an influence on securing a job role within the environmental sector?**

Absolutely! My new role with Envirohub Bay of Plenty has been the perfect opportunity to use some of my new skills

from the cadetship such as predator monitoring and the importance of this, knowledge on our native birds and plants and developing relationships with local community/conservation groups.

### **If you hadn't done the cadet program, where do you think you would be right now?**

Something I wanted to do more of was volunteer with some of these local conservation groups, and learn more about some of the projects happening in the Bay of Plenty. I also think I would have looked for opportunities with the local councils or Department of Conservation that would allow me to use my science background. Now I know that field work skills are super important and having great connections, both which I thank the cadetship for providing.

### **What would you say to someone who is hesitant about applying for the program?**

Be prepared for it to change your life, in the best way possible! Not only did I take away some valuable skills and knowledge, but I now feel a better sense of connection to the environment. The mix of theory sessions and practical outdoor experiences allowed me to bring it all together, to make the connection of why the conservation field is so important!

Anyone is capable of doing the programme and you'll love every moment!

## NATHAN WAKLEY

### **Before the cadet program, what were you doing, and what made you apply?**

I had finished University and got stuck in a retail job that I hated. I applied because I needed a career that made me feel happy and fulfilled.

### **What new skills and knowledge did you gain throughout the program that helped you get to where you are today?**

I gained valuable knowledge about native species and pest control during the cadetship. As well as gaining certificates such as chainsaw, LUV, Growsafe, all of which I use to this day. This helped me in my current career as a Ranger at Maungatautari Sanctuary Mountain.

### **Did the cadet program have an influence on securing a job role within the environmental sector?**

Definitely! If I hadn't done the cadetship I would probably still be volunteering in the industry.

### **What would you say to someone who is hesitant about applying for the program?**

Definitely do it! It was an amazing few months, surrounded by awesome cadets, knowledgeable educators, and plenty of valuable new experiences. It was the perfect way to get into the conservation industry, and I believe it was one of the main factors that helped me get a career that I now love.

# OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Here's an insight into what all the groups have achieved through hard mahi this year.

This is what has been recorded and we know there will be more. A huge thank you to all the volunteer and group efforts that go in to protecting our native biodiversity every year, we hope you are proud of these stats!

**39,877**  
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

**1589+**  
NO. VOLUNTEERS

**52,564**  
PLANTS IN THE GROUND



**120+**  
MONITORING DAYS

**200+**  
EVENT/EDUCATION DAYS

## PEST BREAK DOWN:

**9138**  
PESTS CAUGHT TOTAL



WALLABY – **800**



WEASEL – **6**



POSSUM – **4,760**



FERAL CAT – **34**



RAT – **2,494**



HEDGEHOG – **368**



STOAT – **259**



RABBIT – **13**



FERRET – **16**



MICE – **388**



# TECHNOLOGY, EVENTS AND TRAINING

## Ecological Connectivity Strategy

This year, thanks to a funding contract with Western Bay of Plenty District Council, we partnered with Boffa Miskell on a project to create an Ecological Connectivity Strategy (the Strategy).

The Strategy is being developed using innovative connectivity modelling software and aims to support conservation projects that increase ecological connectivity for forest and wetland ecosystems within the western part of the WBOP.

The Strategy has two key objectives:

1. To map and identify opportunities to protect, enhance, connect, and extend existing forest and wetland habitats.
2. To enable communities, mana whenua, council, and other agencies to work together effectively to achieve conservation outcomes, with the support of Bay Conservation Alliance.

The Strategy will comprise an online StoryMap with interactive maps, and a written report with detailed methods and maps. It's hoped the tool will be available on the BCA website by April 2022.

## ArcGIS care/conservation group data management

This year saw Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council and BCA combine efforts to provide one data management system for care/conservation groups. Having the two systems streamlined improves the efficiency of use and builds a larger dataset.

There are already 55 groups across the Bay of Plenty using this system.

What we love about it, beyond it being a useful system for each project to record information like trapping data, bait takes, volunteer hours, monitoring locations etc. is that it provides BOPRC and BCA with a collective impact story of all the great mahi happening across the region.

## Pest control

We held several predator control workshops and events throughout the year. We were fortunate to host two of the top predator control practitioners and advisors. The first workshop was with John Bissell, who we work with regularly in our cadets

Tauira Mahi programme. We took John down to meet with volunteer groups and hapū in Opotiki and were blown away by the attendance of 95 keen participants. We partnered with Ohiwa Headland Sanctuary for this event as they have significant aspirations to work towards a predator free Opotiki. We wish the Eastern BOP every success with their vision.

In the Western BOP we hosted two predator control sessions alongside the Predator Free NZ Trust, featuring specialist Cam Speedy. Firstly, a public presentation was held that attracted over 70 people, followed by a field trip to Ōtanewainuku with a smaller group of 15. Again, this was a unique experience to download Cam's wealth of knowledge and an awesome opportunity for Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust volunteers to share some of the innovative approaches they have developed over the years.



# EMPOWERING ACTION

1. Empowering young people is one of our favourite things to do. After delays at the start of the year, Term 2 was an enormous and rewarding experience for us. We hosted the entire year 9 cohort from Tauranga Boy's College, totalling approximately 430 students. This included 21 days of students coming into the forest at Aongatete Forest Project to learn and participate in predator control. This is what some of the students thought of the experience:

*"I learnt about the birds in the forest and much more, such as the sounds of the birds and how to set traps and re-bait them."*

*"We learnt about different types of pests and how they affect certain species."*

*"It was interesting learning about how to trap, kill and lure pests and animals that are killing the forest and our native animals."*

*"I loved the big walks around the ngahere."*

Big thanks go to Janie Stevenson our new Education & Engagement Manager, who began with us this term and certainly hit the ground running!

2. We also had a wonderful day working alongside the Sunrise Lion's Club to host a group of climate action students from multiple high schools in Aongatete during Conservation Week.
3. With BOPRC Environmental Enhancement funding and QEII Stephenson funding this year we set up a new block of pest control at Oteora (near Whakamārama) for both education and management purposes. The new traps in this area are now being managed through corporate staff education days with Ballance Agri-Nutrients, volunteer time from Ballance staff, cadets and schools, including Otumoetai College.

Special thanks go to Ballance Agri-Nutrients for their continued corporate sponsorship which supports the school education work we do.

Thanks also go to Western Bay of Plenty District Council for funding a new school education programme to start in the western part of the WBOP in 2022, providing a mountains to sea experience for students – watch this space!





# LANDSCAPE-SCALE HOPES

We believe that to achieve really significant biodiversity outcomes, we need to see big picture thinking and wide collaborative efforts. It's exciting to see progress being made and we thought we'd highlight a few great initiatives.

## Project Parore

Formerly known as the Uretara Estuary Managers, Project Parore has grown in scale significantly over the last two years. Project Parore champions a community-led approach to catchment management, aiming to raise awareness and increase involvement in the restoration of our land, waterways and harbour habitats. The operational plan for the project's pilot catchment, Te Mania, is intended to serve as a template for the seven other catchments at the northern end of the Tauranga

Harbour: Aongatete, Waitekohe, Te Rereatukahia, Uretara, Tahawai, Tuapiro and Waiau.

It is currently transitioning from a volunteer led initiative, to a paid operational team, thanks to significant funding from Ministry for Environment, Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council, BayTrust and other funding partners.

## Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku Trust

The Kaimai Mamaku thrives; hence we thrive, is a long-held vision of the Kaimai Mamaku Forum and, in turn, now the Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku Trust upholds this kaupapa.

The Mission is to restore the mauri of the Kaimai Mamaku ranges. Restoring mauri means different things in different places. More than a reduction in undesirable characteristics, restoring mauri means that the balance is tipped towards improving condition and upwards momentum. And we know we can do it! In the places where intensive pest control is happening, mauri is returning. This needs to happen across the entire Kaimai Mamaku ranges

and extend outwards along rivers and streams to our harbours.

While we were sad to see her go, we were really delighted to see our former board member Louise Saunders appointed into the role of CEO of the Manaaki Kaimai Mamaku Trust this year and we look forward to supporting the voyage.

## KEEP – Kōkako Ecological Expansion Programme

The KEEP group contains representatives from various community landcare groups, (including OKT and KKT), mana whenua, agencies, private enterprise, local landowners and QEII National Trust. The KEEP vision is to achieve long term sustainability of the kōkako population creating more kokako habitat to link the existing population at Ōtanewainuku and Kaharoa. As KEEP is currently an unincorporated group, they have asked BCA for support by fundholding and general support services. The energy and potential of this project is huge, and we look forward to it developing further in 2022.



A group of hikers is resting on a rocky trail in a forest. The hikers are wearing various outdoor gear, including hats, jackets, and high-visibility vests. The background shows a dense forest of green trees under a clear blue sky. A large green circle with a white border is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text.

# THE REAL HEROES

OUR MEMBER GROUPS

# AONGATETE FOREST PROJECT



## Purpose

A joint venture between Forest and Bird and the Aongatete Forest Restoration Trust, the project is focused on restoring native biodiversity including birds, insects & invertebrates to a portion of the Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park using pest control and demonstrate the benefits that more widespread pest management efforts would bring.

## Location and area covered

500 hectares of lowland forest in the Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park, at the end of Pikirangi Road, Aongatete.

## Highlights

- Second stage of revegetating the kohanga paddock completed, planting 1250 plants.
- Consents approved and significant funding received from WBOPDC and TECT for the kohanga extension.
- eDNA testing of the Aongatete and Whatakaio rivers.
- Strategic review carried out.
- Record numbers of volunteers attending Saturday sessions for our Winter and Spring pest control campaigns.

- Line clearing assisted by Toi Ohomai Conservation Studies students.

## Key challenges

- Getting back on track with predator control after further Covid-19 lockdowns.
- Cancellation, again, of our flagship Breakfast with the Birds event due to Covid-19

## Metrics

- Volunteer hours of 2600, somewhat down on previous years owing to lockdowns.
- Number of volunteers are over 100, plus corporate and student volunteers.
- Plants planted – 1250.
- 2331 checks of traps and 228 catches equating to a 9.8% catch rate (11 stoats, 2 ferrets, 143 rats, 5 hedgehogs, 63 possums, 4 mice, 1 weasel) ~243 rats in A24s.
- Monitoring days held - 4 RTIs, 1 RTC (possums), rifleman nest box monitoring, bird counts.
- Three baiting operations - Feracol, Double tap (100% take through approx. 60-70%) and Diphacinone.

## Achieving success

Construction of the kohanga extension has now started, so we look forward to its completion in 2022 and enjoying the improved facilities both for our volunteers and as a venue for BCA's nature education programme for schools.



*"We value our relationship with BCA, which supports our mahi. In turn, we are pleased to host BCA Cadets for part of their training as well as children on the nature education programme."*

# AONGATETE OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE



## Purpose

Focused on environmental education, outdoor safety and sustainability, the mission of Aongatete Outdoor Education Centre is to offer predominantly school-age children memorable learning experiences with activities that develop positive life skills, encourage resilience and promote a love of and connection to NZ's native bush.

## Location and area covered

834 Wright Road, Aongatete

## Highlights

- We added further educational resources to our forest discovery program, which included more resources to help our visitors get to know our Native Birds.
- Our Driveway is now sealed with millings thanks to Higgins.
- Lady June Hillary stepped down as our patron and Rob McGowan generously accepted this role.
- We acquired Adventure Mark Certification.
- We made a few changes in regard to Waste Management, to ensure we expand our responsibility to sustainability and environment

care. We now supply all consumables and all products have been carefully selected with the environment in mind.

## Key challenges

- Covid-19 caused many cancellations of bookings, which impacted on our instructors, who had to find work elsewhere.
- Finalising all the documentation in order to complete the Archery Shelter set the project timeline back, but we are thrilled that we are now in a position to be able to erect the shelter.

## Metrics

- 843 Students went through our forest discovery & camp conservation programme.
- 13 school camps with 849 students and 179 teachers/parents.
- 8 youth groups with 301 students.
- 4 adult education groups with 293 adults.
- 4 social functions (birthdays, weddings etc.).

## Achieving success

We received funding from TECT, Lotteries, Lions and Grassroots for the following projects to be completed in 2022: Fence for the Challenge Course, Security Lights and Cameras, Archery Shelter, Skylights and new Ceilings in Main Building Dorms, boot wash and water fountain station, re-concreting the area around our main building - this area will be embellished with leaf imprints of local flora. With government wage subsidy support and a resolute staff and board approach the AOEC has managed to get through the tough times created by the restrictions of the covid pandemic.



# ARRC WILDLIFE TRUST



## Purpose

Passionate about caring for New Zealand's native wildlife, ARRC assists the Department of Conservation, vet clinics and the public with the rescue and rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife in the Bay of Plenty. ARRC works to educate the community at large about the importance of respect and responsibility for the wellbeing of wildlife, animals and our natural heritage.

## Location and area covered

Office in Fraser St, Tauranga - covering the wider Bay of Plenty.

## Highlights

ARRC has continued to provide a high level of care for the region's injured and orphaned wildlife. Education of people and especially children is very important to us to drive change and facilitate the evolution of a society that respects and cherishes our wildlife and natural heritage. We have given

a number of talks to schools and community organisations in collaboration with BCA. Our ARRC Kids Adventure Series of books, based on true stories illustrating how our wildlife are injured or orphaned and what children can do to help make a difference have been distributed to a number of schools.

## Key challenges

- Obtaining funding.
- Organising education opportunities.

## Metrics

- Admitting and caring for more than 800 birds & animals (the occasional skink, frog and wetā!).
- School/community group educational talks - unfortunately these activities were impacted heavily by Covid-19.
- Hosting each intake of Bay Conservation Cadets for a session on animal rehabilitation.

## Achieving success

Continued collaborative efforts with BCA and others, to ensure we take advantage of educational opportunities and obtain the funding needed for our rehabilitation activities.





# FRIENDS OF THE BLADE



## Purpose

Friends of the Blade/Pa Kereru are a community conservation group drawn primarily from residents in and around Whakamarama and the wider western BOP. Animal pest control, exclusively using traps is our main focus, with the aim of creating a rat, stoat, possum and other feral animals, free environment in which the native wildlife and bush can flourish.

## Location and area covered

Near Whakamarama (north of Tauranga), currently expanding to cover 300 hectares of the Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park.

## Highlights

- Increasing public use of the Pa Kereru Loop Track.
- Good inflow of new volunteers from WBOPDC sponsored adverts.
- Decline in rat, mice and possum numbers caught, but an increase in stoats, ferrets and other ferals - this may indicate our improved trapping techniques for mustelids and other ferals are working.
- Connovation 'Treacle Gold' lure remains our main possum and rat lure, but many others

being used for variety, especially with mustelids and other ferals.

- 3km of extension of trap lines to the south, basically completed.
- Continued work since our AGM in April to diversify the running of the group by having 15 volunteers take over different aspects of the workload previously done by the founder. Hopefully this coming year will see Colin Hewens, the founder and Chair, who has osteo arthritis recently diagnosed in his hips, happily retired.

## Key challenges

- Feral cats are still a major worry - John Bissel's visit gave us some useful tips, and new design traps may help.

## Metrics

- Volunteer's hours: approx. 5353, [2600 trap work, 2753 admin and maintenance].
- Trapping totals [last year's]: Rats 1158 [1622]; Possums 631 [663]; Mice 361 [450]; Stoats 22 [34]; Ferals 9 [1]; Ferrets 8 [3]; Hedgehogs 8 [2]; Weasels 1 [1]. Generally, a slight decrease, showing a lower pest population, which has been borne out by monitoring results.

## Achieving success

- Bedding in the new cooperative management team.
- Completing planned extension to 300 hectares meeting our goal to provide more room for our birds to breathe and breed.
- It's great to be involved in the continuing success of the BCA Conservation Cadets scheme.
- Some moves have been made to be part of the DOC run Jobs for Nature scheme with the local Iwi, hopefully it will come to bear fruit in 2022.



# HALO WHAKATĀNE



## Purpose

The HALO Whakatāne initiative was conceived in 2015. The vision is an unfenced sanctuary in the heart of the Eastern Bay of Plenty. We work collaboratively with amazing community and iwi led projects and aim to build corridors between forest & rural conservation projects, recognising priority sites and establishing pest suppression across a wide landscape. When the stars align, we will see tieke (saddleback) on the Whakatāne mainland.

## Location and area covered

Our project area focuses on the urban landscape in and around the Whakatāne and Ohope District.

## Highlights

- Receiving funding from 4 key stakeholders Bay Trust, BOP Regional Council, Aotearoa Gaming and the Ōhope/Whakatāne Community Board to strengthen 3 of our major projects:
  - Connecting to Nature - Creating an all-ability Hauora Trail in the Mokorua Scenic Reserve.
  - Pest Free Ōhope Spit - We facilitate a collaborative pest control effort around the spit to further suppress pest mammal and noxious weed species that are threatening valuable wildlife.

- Te Whakaora i te Mauri o te Repo - our collaborative community education programme.

- Of course, this wouldn't be achievable without our fantastic team and committee members. We have been able to contract two new people that have joined us to support these great initiatives, bringing our HALO whanau to four. We have also welcomed four amazing people to our governance committee.
- Hosting a Royal Society Te Apārangi Science Leadership Programme Teacher from one of our key schools that we have partnered with, for 6 months.
- Learning from everyone in our team. We have a diverse HALO whanau, with different backgrounds, education and beliefs, which has made this year really exciting and enabled us to create a positive project journey.

## Key challenges

- Ensuring we are able to support new volunteers joining our team.
- Having time and resources to take on exciting opportunities when they arise.
- Keeping relationships strong and trying to please everyone.
- Supporting our HALO Kadets as they navigate

the ever-changing COVID environment, while trying to plan a Kadet programme of activities/ events when senior students are incredibly busy.

- Ensuring volunteers log their hours.

## Metrics

- Number of volunteer hours – 1120.
- Number of volunteers - 422 HALO Backyard Trappers.
- Events / education days - 12 community events held or attended and 20 student education events/workshops.
- 2 full time and 2 part time contractors.

## Achieving success

If we can continue the momentum that has led to strong partnerships, collaborative mahi and sharing of knowledge and opportunities, we will have another great year.

*“The BCA team has ensured we are aware of presentations, new technology and applications that could benefit our project. Connecting with other member groups during these events has allowed us to strengthen our partnerships with others and widen our community networks across the Bay of Plenty.”*



## Purpose

Formed in 1997 by a group of local residents with the express goal of saving the remnant population of kōkako that remained in the area. Working closely with DOC to implement ongoing pest control in the Kaharoa Conservation Area (KCA), kōkako numbers have grown. An excellent example of what can happen when the community takes on the vital role of caring for and enhancing their environment.

## Location and area covered

30km by road north-east of Rotorua, halfway between Rotorua and Te Puke as the crow flies with approximately 900 hectares under management.

## Highlights

- Upgraded the Kaharoa Conservation Area bait station network with an extra 60 stations to bring the overall total to over 860 stations complete with baffle-plated bases.
- Set up, & ran, wax tag monitoring lines to assess possum population numbers to replace the expensive and labour-intensive residual trap catch methodology.
- Carried out the most successful, in terms of pest depletion, pest control operation for 5 years. This included starting a month earlier to

adjust for the effects of climate warming.

- Upgraded our entire GIS system to include past changes and recent additions and initiated the use of the ESRI Field Maps app under the assistance of BCA and Scott Sambell with the intention of making this the main data collection and field navigation tool for KKT.
- A long-term lease block was formally released back to DOC and is in the process of being included in our pest control. KKT were successful in obtaining funding to clear most of the regenerating pines in the block.
- A palatable and rare plant protection plan was developed and some of the initiatives carried out (e.g. fencing & recording).

## Key challenges

- Funding. A number of projects have not really been started due to funds and KKT has a long 'wish-list'. With DOC funding no longer available for basic pest control, 2022 will be a difficult year to find sufficient financial support.
- KKT now have the role of managing all of the available public estate in the Kaharoa Conservation Area but the recently added blocks are not 'volunteer-friendly'. Establishing a workable ongoing plan to incorporate all of this area into our annual pest control is necessary.

- Ungulates continue to be an issue with significant damage to the forest understorey. Private hunters have only made these pest animals wary and have not reduced numbers sufficiently.

## Metrics

- Number of volunteer hours – 4300.
- Number of volunteers - 30 to 40.
- Pests caught 21 stoats, 4 weasels, 2 ferrets, 6 cats, 27 hedgehogs, 171 rats and 30 possums.
- Monitoring days held – 6.
- Events / education days - Hosted BCA Cadets.

## Achieving success

KKT plan to continue to improve the bait station coverage and run a successful pest control operation in 2022. We will support a walk-through kōkako survey on neighbouring land in Autumn and will also assist in a potential translocation of a small number of Kaharoa kōkako to boost genes of another population which will also act as insurance to retain Kaharoa genes elsewhere. In support of these projects KKT also need to contract some needed repairs and upgrades on access roads. A full territorial adult kōkako census is planned for Spring. The last full census was in 2015, so this will be a true guide as to our success over the last 6 years.

# KEEP (KOKAKO ECOLOGICAL EXPANSION PROGRAMME)



## Purpose

To undertake collaborative ecosystem restoration, commencing in the Kaharoa area, by expanding currently protected kōkako habitat and establishing protected links across private and public land to other suitable forest areas; thereby linking isolated kōkako populations in the Bay of Plenty with each other and bolstering the kōkako gene pool and the overall health of the ngahere across the landscape.

## Location and area covered

Initially our focus is on the 'corridor' between Kaharoa and Ōtanewainuku kōkako populations however, the long-term vision is to have all isolated kōkako populations in the Bay of Plenty connected via enhanced and protected ecosystem pathways.

## Highlights

- We partnered with BCA!
- We have continued to expand our relationships with key stakeholders such as Tapuika Iwi Authority, the Paraiti Catchment Care Group, and TECT Park.
- We have finalised a first version of both Management and Action Plans.

## Key challenges

- Understanding our organisational structure and how best to position ourselves to make a meaningful impact in both supporting work that is already being done and encouraging ecosystem corridors to be established and protected across all land types and uses.
- Involving and engaging all the stakeholders involved in the project - growth has been organic thus far and we are still in need of reaching out and involving all within the Ōtanewainuku and Kaharoa rohe.
- Sourcing funding for the establishment and undertaking of sustained pest control within Te Matai Reserve.

## Achieving success

Success looks like:

- We are known within the community and by all stakeholders.
- We have funding and a funding plan to deliver protection and assistance to both ecosystem pathways and stakeholders wishing to undertake their own work for the next 3 years.
- We have meaningful and collaborative partnerships with Iwi for a united purpose.

- We support all landowners and stakeholders within the landscape who wish to have kōkako back in their backyards!



*"BCA has been extremely helpful even during the early days of our relationship and of KEEP as an organisation. They have taken us on as a fledgling project and offered expert advice and support that has helped us as we find our way in the conservation space. From all at KEEP we look forward to working together with BCA for 2022 and beyond."*

# MAKETU ONGATORO WETLAND SOCIETY



## Purpose

Wetlands are nature's filters, improving water quality and offering flood protection as well as providing critical habitat for native wildlife. Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society (or MOWS for short) is behind the creation and implementation of Biodiversity Management Plans that cover the conservation of four key coastal areas surrounding Maketu. The main aim of the group is ecological monitoring and restoration of these unique habitats via a pest mammal control program, removal of invasive plant species and education.

## Location and area covered

From Kaituna Cut to Waihi Harbour Wetland, including four key project sites: Maketu Spit, Newdicks Beach, Dotterel Point Pukehina and the Waihi Harbour Wildlife Management Reserve.

## Highlights

- Work expanded westwards up the Kaituna River to include Te Hauiri o te Kawa wetland and eastwards to include the Pukehina Esplanade Reserve in Waihi Harbour.
- Red-billed gull colony grew to over 3000 pairs,

truly impressive, very noisy and smelly!

- Managing the changeover of operations management from Julian Fitter who has been doing it for too long, to Jenn Sheppard who will bring a new focus.
- Developing a new App to help with the management of our projects.
- Increasing the workforce to 3 full time employees.

## Key challenges

- Maintaining the community nature of the operation whilst handling our workload in a professional manner.

## Metrics

- Nearly 3000 wetland plants and 4000 dune plants planted.
- Pest number totals from DOC200's are: 6 cats, 18 stoats, 4 ferrets, 17 weasels, 96 rats, 13 hedgehogs, 4 possums, 23 mice, 2 rabbits.
- Monitoring days held - We have a biodiversity monitoring programme that runs throughout the year.

- Events / education days - 5 public events including working bees and around 80 education days including field trips and classroom sessions.

## Achieving success

Expanding our operations with a fully professional workforce and being seen as a key asset in the community.





## Purpose

The Manawahe Ecological Corridor is the only forested ecological corridor that exists between the Rotorua lakes and the sea. With help from volunteers, the Manawahe Eco Trust is committed to managing and enhancing the biodiversity of the area. The important landscape features within the corridor have been recognised as an outstanding regional ecological asset and it contains populations of threatened species which include kōkako.

## Location and area covered

The Manawahe Ecological Corridor is so named because this remnant natural habitat between Lake Rotoma and the Bay of Plenty coast forms a continuation of the diverse ecosystem types that can be found across this 300m altitudinal range. The Manawahe (approx. 4000 ha) is clearly identifiable by conspicuous geographical features - rugged hills that rise suddenly from the Rangitaiki plains.

## Highlights

- Hosting a record number of students through the Manawahe Ecological Community Centre.
- Commencing a wallaby control programme

and trialing different methods of toxin placement.

- Keeping rodent monitors to zero with twice-yearly bait station fills.
- Continuing work on replanting a 4ha area adjacent to the Community Centre.

## Key challenges

- Securing long-term funding to cover wages of our part-time employees.
- Finding and keeping new volunteers to assist with the predator control programme.
- Continuing to find ways to raise awareness of the work we do.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 1037.
- Number of volunteers – 50.
- Plants planted – 350.
- Monitoring days held – 4.
- Events / education days - 2467 education visitors taking part in our programme throughout the school year.
- 0% rodent monitors following our baiting days.

## Achieving success

Areas that we will focus on in 2022 are continuing the wallaby control programme, continuing our existing mustelid and rodent control, further native replanting of the land adjacent to our Community Centre. We will also aim to have a similar number of students take part in our education programme over the year, with a focus on ensuring schools from last year return and growing the geographic area of schools that visit the Centre.



# MANAWAHE KŌKAKO TRUST



## Purpose

The Manawahe Kōkako Trust (MKT) was formed in 1997 after a population of North Island kōkako was discovered on private land at Manawahe in the Eastern Bay of Plenty. As the population is considered relic (original population), it's considered significant by the Kōkako Recovery Group. The objectives of MKT are to provide a safe habitat for the kōkako to breed. We do this by working in partnership with landowners and regional council, maintaining year-round predator control through a network of bait stations and traps. Our care group is quite unique in that it works on private land.

## Location and area covered

Our core area is in the Macintosh property at 1755 Manawahe Road, extending into nearby neighbour properties to the north of Mclvor Road. We operate in approximately 380 hectares of mainly QEII covenanted forest.

## Highlights

- We were able to complete our second translocation; three pair of kōkako from the Rotoehu population. This was a huge milestone for our group, and already some nesting has been observed. Thanks to all involved.

- We reduced our resident wallaby population using Feratox strikers put out by an expert contractor arranged by BOPRC.
- Despite Covid restrictions we completed all our usual baiting, trapping and rat monitor work to spec and on time.
- In early December the MKT Volunteers held their annual Xmas Do with usual discussions and ideas on the weird and wonderful to end a busy year.

## Key challenges

- Our main work this year is to maintain our pest control and habitat enhancement programmes and keep our track network up to scratch.
- We need to grow our volunteer base and train our new people to be safe and competent operatives in the field.

We are determined to work smarter; using AT220 Auto Traps to better reduce predator population and incursions, and trail cameras to track where they and the resident ungulates are.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 1382.
- Number of volunteers – 32.
- Pests caught - 103+.
- Events / education days – 4.

## Achieving success

As well as our usual predator control work, we want to continue our mission to deal to deer and wallaby which continue to be a browse menace affecting forest ground cover and understory diversity. We also want to investigate with the local community the creation of a native forest corridor to the southwest of the Manawahe block to build and join kōkako habitats.



# MOKAIHAHA KŌKAKO TRUST



Mokaihaha Kokako Trust

## Purpose

The Mokaihaha Kōkako Trust was established in 2017 to protect and restore the Mokaihaha Ecological Area to a thriving ecosystem, supporting a large and resilient kōkako population. There is also a purpose to provide educational and recreational opportunities for the South Waikato district and be a showcase for community conservation.

## Location and area covered

The Mokaihaha Ecological Area is located at the southern end of the Mamaku Plateau, bordered by Star Road to the north, Galaxy Road to the north and west and South Road to the east. It is situated 13.5km east of Tokoroa, 8km south of Mamaku township, and 10km west of Rotorua city.

## Highlights

- Aerial 1080 operation resulted in 0% rat count. Volunteers helped do the rat monitoring.

- Contractors began installing the bait stations to cover the area not previously ground controlled.
- Presented to South Waikato District Council and received positive response and our funding has been signed off for this year. Also, a Councillor is keen to be a volunteer.

## Key challenges

- To secure ongoing funding for filling the bait stations.
- Getting more local volunteer involvement.
- Covid.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 70.
- Number of volunteers – 13.
- Monitoring days held – 4.

## Achieving success

- Increased kōkako numbers following the March/April survey.
- Increased volunteer list.





# MOTU TRAILS TRUST



## Purpose

Motu Trails Charitable Trust is the governance hub of the Motu Trails, one of 22 Great Rides on the New Zealand Cycle Trail. We aim to provide a gateway to outdoors experiences across the region, benefiting both visitors and locals. On the Dunes Trail, we have the goal of helping to restore the coastal environment as much as possible.

## Location and area covered

Motu Trails spans Opotiki-Tairāwhiti. The Dunes Trail restoration work is alongside 9km of Dunes Trail.

## Highlights

- Three successful plantings on the Dunes Trail with another 1500 plants dug in by volunteers.
- New shelter built on Motu Road, for anyone to stop at.
- New signage on Dunes Trail, including four information boards about plants, birds, and the planting programme.
- New Waioatahe trail, which will soon link back to Opotiki.

- Successfully managing a year of general trail maintenance, including on Pakihi Track.
- Plenty of trail use by locals and visitors, people getting out and active, connecting with the environment.

## Key challenges

- Covid19 has at times proved a challenge for attracting visitors.
- Highly dynamic trail environments are very very challenging to keep in good condition.
- Trails are complex things to manage well, spanning everything from using spades and rakes to business development, time is always too short.

## Achieving success

- More people getting out and active and enjoying the trails.
- The coastal environment further recovering.
- Further new trail developments including the start of a predator trapping programme on the Dunes Trail.



*"Joining BCA we look forward to the ability to tap into environmental expertise and experience."*

# ONEPŪ PARK CARE GROUP

## Purpose

To enhance environmental, recreational and educational opportunities for our community.

Starting with a covenant to form a wetland, then over a number of years as the Wetlands grew so did the pine forest on the surrounding hills. The care group observed that the emerging forest looked ideal for the establishment of biking and walking trails. A motivated team of mountain bikers/ walkers with forestry company approval set about creating a network of around twenty kilometers of trails which connect to an area of regenerating manuka/kanuka and to a DOC reserve with a small lake. Over the years a huge variety of native species have been established - a full range of podocarps, plus a beech grove, a kauri grove, selection of Rongoa plants and a collection of rare and endangered NZ species.

## Location and area covered

Onepu - 150 hectares of opportunity.

## Highlights

- Around 25,000 visits (about 10,000 5 years ago).

## Key challenges

- Growth stresses (the old long drop was never designed for this) - more people more impact.
- Track maintenance.
- Volunteer fatigue.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours - Around 700.
- Number of volunteers - Around 30.
- Plants planted - 300 specimen trees 2021 (more than 4000 in total).
- Pests caught - 7 stoats, 14 hedgehogs-bait used for rodents.
- Monitoring days held - Two.
- Key users include - harrier club, mountain bike club, three high schools.
- Onepu Park has several partners including Lions Club.

## Achieving success

Project 2022 - to upgrade as many tracks as possible to wheelchair capable to enable less able people to enjoy our Park.



# ŌTANEWAINUKU KIWI TRUST



## Purpose

To protect and restore the indigenous ecosystem of the Ōtānewainuku conservation area.

## Location and area covered

Approximately 20km south of Tauranga (past Oropi, off SH36) covering 1200 hectares of forest.

## Highlights

- Sentinel possum traps killed over 1000 possums.
- Extended Zespri International sponsorship of our Kiwi program for another three years.
- Increased sightings of Kōkako by visitors to the Ōtānewainuku forest.
- Viable kiwi eggs recovered under the ONE program reached double figures for the first time.

## Key challenges

- Re-invasion of mammalian predators from the farmland surrounding Ōtānewainuku.
- Navigating the complexity of toxin approval bureaucracy.
- Finding a new chair to replace Bruce Fraser, who did a simply wonderful job.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 10,000.
- Number of volunteers – 400.
- Pests caught - Possums 1000, Stoats 120.,
- 12 workdays in forest.

## Achieving success

- Significant progress towards our next Kōkako translocation.
- Completion of the changeover to DOC 200 & 250 traps in the forest.



*The Trust was devastated to farewell their Chairman, Bruce Fraser, who passed away after a short illness in February 2022.*

*Bruce leaves a legacy of courage and commitment to conservation and the ability to inspire people to work hard to protect and enhance our native forests and the unique wildlife living there.*

*Haere rā te tōtara.*

# PROJECT PARORE



## Purpose

Formed in 2004 primarily to help clean up the rivers and streams running into the Uretara Estuary, Uretara Estuary Managers secured a five-year grant from the Ministry for the Environment's Freshwater Improvement Fund in 2018. This drove a change in the scale and scope of activities, which led to the adoption of a new name in 2020 to better encompass the society's expanded vision. From hills to harbour, rural to residential, Project Parore is focused on a collaborative catchment management approach to water quality and biodiversity restoration, supporting landowners and residents to enhance their environmental stewardship.

## Location and area covered

The 8 catchments of the northern Tauranga Harbour - Aongatete, Waitekohe, Te Mania, Rereatukahia, Uretara (includes Katikati township), Tahawai, Tuapiro, Waiau.

## Highlights for 2021

- Awarded 5 years funding from Ministry for the Environment (MfE) Jobs for Nature program, to expand our restoration activities across all northern Tauranga harbour catchments.

- Built over 2000m of stock exclusion fencing and planted over 43,500 native plants.
- Commenced restoration and management of 7 Kms of estuarine margins + coastal reserves along the cycle & walkways near Katikati, in partnership with the regional and district councils.
- Employed an "Environmental Activator" to engage with and lead volunteer restoration projects within Katikati, and a Program Manager to lead the paid team we are establishing with the MfE J4N funding.
- Restored fish passage in northern Tauranga Harbour River catchments.

## Key challenges

- Managing organisational evolution from a predominantly volunteer group to a mixed model of paid and voluntary team members.
- Developing our new paid workforce and establishing daily operations.
- Engaging more of the local community in our work to ensure its long-term survival.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 1600.
- Number of volunteers – 40.

- Plants planted – 43,664.
- Monitoring days held – 5.
- Events / education days – 2.

## Achieving success

By the end of 2022, we will have established our works team and works base. We will have made significant progress in completing catchment management plans for each of the 8 catchments in our rohe and developed a strong program around volunteer engagement in and around the urban Katikati area.



## ROTOITI 15 TRUST



### Purpose

Rotoiti 15 Trust is an Ahu Whenua Trust, charged with caring for 8400ha of forest based in Rotoiti on behalf of the descendants of Ngati Tarawhai, Ngati Rongomai and some hapu of Ngati Pikiao.

While the history of Rotoiti 15 Trust spans the past 60 years, the whenua (lands) has been occupied by our tupuna (ancestors) for generations. Our pūrakau (traditional stories) give insight into the undisturbed paradise that our tūpuna lived in, inhabited only by the children of Tāne, and the whispers of patupaiarehe. A whenua rich in kākā, kererū, kokako, riddled with Tōtara and Rātā, that the waters were stunning, that the ngahere was so thick and dense, it was likened to a palisade. Our whenua saw the depths of Tangaroa, and after Maui fished the whenua up, it then saw the infancy of Te Arawa people in te takere o te Waka.

### Location and area covered

8400ha in Rotoiti.

### Highlights

- Strengthening our relationship with our whenua and our marae.
- Finding support in our BCA whanau and relationships with DOC.
- Positioning the Trust to take advantage of government funding opportunities.

### Key challenges

- Capacity is a big one!

### Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 40
- Number of volunteers – 2
- Pests caught - 800 Wallaby's, 3000 possums
- Monitoring days held – 2
- Events / education days – 2

### Achieving success

Success will be standing up new taiao projects on our whenua which celebrate and encompass our Mātauranga.



# TAURANGA ROTARY CENTENNIAL TRUST FOR THE KOPURERERUA VALLEY



## Purpose

Rotarians have been instrumental in helping build and enhance the K Valley Reserve. Formed in 2004, the Rotary Trust has raised close to \$2 million to date and has planted over 260,000 native trees and plants. The Valley Reserve is sustained by three partners: the Tauranga City Council, Ngai Tamarawaho, and the Rotary Trust. We also collaborate with the BOP Regional Council.

## Location and area covered

The Kopurererua Valley Reserve is a 360-hectare block of low-lying rural land in urban Tauranga. Running from Judea in the north to Tauriko in the south, the valley is bordered by the neighbourhoods of Te Reti, Gate Pa, Greerton, Westridge and Cambridge Heights, bordering the Route K Toll Road.

## Ngai Tamarawaho history

Ngai Tamarawaho hold mana whenua for Kopurererua Valley. For the hapu the Waikareao Estuary and the Kopurererua Valley are collectively regarded as being the kete kai - the food baskets of Ngai Tamarawaho. The swamps and (once navigable) Kopurererua stream were valuable for their fish, birds, flax and raupo – all important resources for the people in their various kainga.

## Highlights

- This is the largest known wetland restoration in the Southern hemisphere and includes 12km of walkways and cycleways.
- There is an extensive programme of native planting to enhance views and screen to the roadway at key locations.
- In November 2017, Kopurererua Valley won a merit award in the Outstanding Park category of the New Zealand Recreation Association Awards.

## Metrics

Our Rotary Trust contribution to date has been in planting native plants, and funding various facilities such as \$200,000 worth of bridges and a floating walkway over the Puketoromiro Pa Site. This year we have grown our involvement in predator control.



# TE WHAKAKAHA TRUST



## Purpose

Te Whakakaha Conservation Trust was founded to ensure the long-term survival of the ancient and critically endangered Otawa Hochstetter's frog. Genetically distinct from other species, the Otawa Hochstetter's frog is only found in this location, which some of was once a quarry site. Otawa Scenic Reserve was officially designated a sanctuary in December 2016 and the Trust now supports an active volunteer network to restore and protect the ecology of this precious area, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation, district and regional councils and local iwi.

## Location and area covered

Otawa Sanctuary: 400 hectares of regenerating forest at 1254 No 3 Road, Te Puke.

## Highlights

- Better trapping efforts in place with new lines/trappers/strategies/digital mapping.
- Trapper's shed transition in progress.
- New H&S document for Trust completed.
- DOC community agreement signed, TCC/TWT MOU signed.

- TWT branded gear available for volunteers thanks to Western Bay District Council.
- Three planting days of native trees thanks to Trees that Count.

## Key challenges

- Would welcome more interaction with DOC.
- Some trap destruction and disappearance still occurring.
- Hunters still bringing dogs into Sanctuary.
- Need more help with admin: website expansion/newsletters.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 1200.
- Number of volunteers – 100.
- Plants planted - puriri, tawa, kahikatea, rimu, rewarewa, pukatea, totara.
- Pests caught - Rats, mice, mustelids, possums, cats.
- Events / education days - 3 planting days, 1 weeding day.

## Achieving success

Completion of trapper's shed, Ongoing training for trappers. Increase volunteer base for trapping, trail clearing and admin support.



*"BCA has been so helpful providing support for our trapping efforts and admin help. We have really moved up a notch in our abilities thanks to Emma C and Rem especially."*

# WESTERN BAY WILDLIFE TRUST



## Purpose

Our emphasis is on the protection of native fauna and flora, and education to promote awareness and understanding of our native ecosystems here in the Western Bay of Plenty. The Trust has a strong focus on monitoring and protecting the Kororā (little blue penguin), Oi (grey-faced petrel) and native shorebird populations in and around Mauao and Moturiki Island.

## Location and area covered

Based at Mount Maunganui and a focus on the western Bay of Plenty coastline but supporting wildlife across the region.

## Highlights

- Shorebird monitoring group established.
- Record number of Grey-faced Petrel chicks banded in 30 Years.
- New volunteer support enhancing pest control and domestic cat predation surveillance.
- Supported three tertiary student research projects: korora microplastic ingestion & urban biodiversity.
- Educational talks delivered to schools, groups and organisations.
- Increased funding, recognition & enhanced relationships improving wildlife outcomes.

## Key challenges

- Loss of korora chicks and fledglings (2nd consecutive year of food shortage from la nina).
- Continued threat and impact of the growing pest rock pigeon population.
- Covid interruptions (travel restrictions, delayed fieldwork and inability to host events).
- Administrative time constraints and lack of fundraising.
- Equipment failure impacting fieldwork.
- By-law breaches threatening wildlife, particularly dogs and drone use.

## Metrics

- Annual volunteer hours – 2000.
- Number of volunteers – 30.
- Plants planted – 300.
- Pests caught – 12.
- Monitoring days held – 65.
- Events / education days – 9.
- Grey-faced petrel chicks banded = 59 Little Blue Penguin chicks microchipped = 19 Little Blue Penguin adults microchipped = 8.
- Multiple penguin rescues, 1x successful rescue/ rehab release.
- 3x student projects.
- 20+ seabird rescues.

## Achieving success

Continue penguin, petrel and shorebird monitoring and improve habitat through better fencing, shelter, pest control, revegetation and enhanced cat and dog by-laws. Mortality research begins to highlight key threats and “at-sea” issues for sea and shorebirds. Enhance rescue and rehabilitation efforts for seabirds. Develop better relationships with tangata whenua and incorporate Mātauranga Māori into our work.





# WHAKĀTĀNE KIWI TRUST



## Purpose

The Whakatāne Kiwi Trust is dedicated to the serious effort required to re-establish a thriving kiwi population. Set up in 2006 as a charitable trust, our objectives include community education, advocacy for kiwi conservation, and encouraging and assisting landowners in the long-term protection and survival of kiwi. We promote volunteer involvement in the conservation of kiwi, environmental protection and biodiversity management. Overall, our kiwi population is doing well with an estimated 350 kiwi in Whakatāne-Ohope Reserves.

## Location and area covered

There are 2,200 hectares under active management across the Whakatāne-Ohope area, including the Ohope Scenic Reserve, Mokorua Scenic Reserve, Kohi Point Scenic Reserve.

## Highlights

- Successful wasp control programme that resulted in nearly 1000 Queen wasps being trapped.

- Review and update of our education programme and resources to make it more curriculum specific.
- Despite the challenges with Covid, our kiwi aversion training team really pulled one out of the hat by holding six training sessions.

## Key challenges

- Funding - maintaining continuous funding for the project is always a challenging task.
- Developing an understanding of the changing landscape within conservation.
- Stoats continue to predate our monitored kiwi chicks despite our trapping efforts, so we continue to look for ways to address this.

## Metrics

- Trapped 60 stoats, 44 weasels, 823 rats, 301 hedgehogs, 19 feral cats (live trapping), 11 rabbits.
- 624 traps within network and maintenance carried out on 184
- Despite Covid-19 we clocked up 5,575 volunteer hours.

## Achieving success

Ensuring our volunteers are informed, supported and made to feel part of a collective effort.



*"We are very thankful for the continued support we receive from Bay Conservation Alliance"*

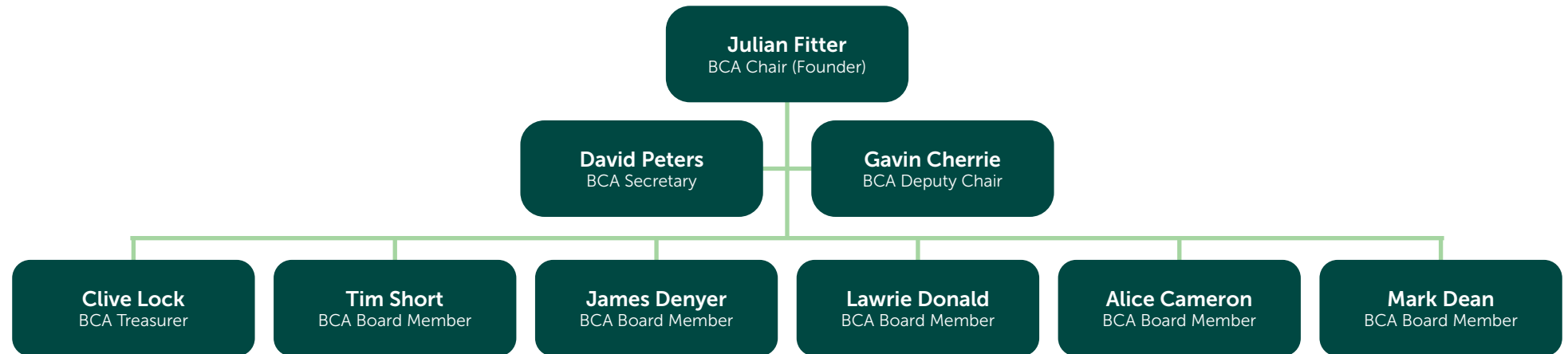


**OUR  
TEAM**

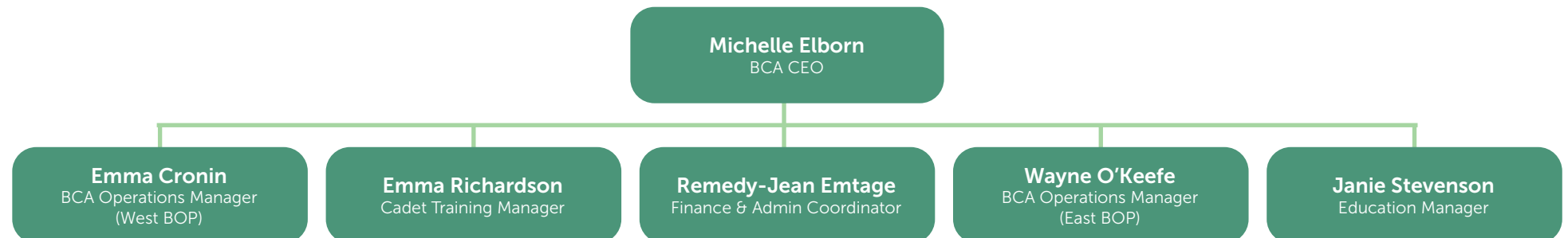


# BCA ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

## GOVERNANCE



## OPERATIONS





**FINANCIALS**

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

For the 12 months ended 31 December 2021

	\$	\$
	Dec 2021	Dec 2020
<b>Income</b>		
Fundraising	822,046	364,565
Grants	132,000	146,587
Donations	36,508	43,535
Membership	2,000	1,945
Other Income <sup>(Note 5)</sup>	668	32,970
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,023,222</b>	<b>589,602</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Education and Event Delivery	38,881	20,486
Contractors and Consultants	451,272	107,983
Wages	446,614	102,593
Other expenses	116,304	60,060
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,053,070</b>	<b>291,122</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b> <sup>(Note 1)</sup>	<b>29,848</b>	<b>298,480</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the 12 months ended 31 December 2021

	\$	\$
	31 Dec 2021	31 Dec 2020
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at Bank <sup>(Note 1)</sup>	347,626	318,995
Accounts Receivable	10,005	115
GST	0	16,698
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>357,631</b>	<b>335,808</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>		
Property Plant & Equipment <sup>(Note 5)</sup>	78,335	111,520
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>435,966</b>	<b>447,328</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	3,597	11,093
Provision for Annual Leave	16,587	0
GST	9,394	0
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>29,578</b>	<b>11,093</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>406,389</b>	<b>436,236</b>

### Notes to Financial Statements

1. Some funds income received in 2020 and included in the 2020 surplus relate to expenditure incurred in 2021 resulting in the large surplus in 2020 and the deficit for 2021. Funding received in advance will show as large funds at bank.
2. Bay Conservation Alliance financial year ends 30 June, these accounts have been prepared for inclusion in this calendar annual report only.
3. The basis for measurement in these accounts is Historical Cost.
4. These financial statements have not been audited.
5. Comparative data for 2020 has been updated to include corrections to the sale of a vehicle, a wage expense to contractors and depreciation.


# OUR SUPPORTERS

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS:



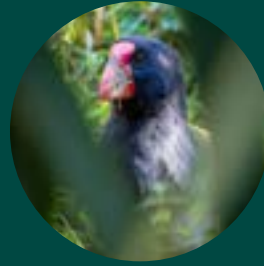
Ultimate Motor Group



A scenic landscape featuring a dark green circular overlay with white text. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a distant mountain range under a clear sky. The foreground is filled with lush green vegetation, including tall grasses and shrubs. The circular overlay is centered and contains the following text:

**E hara taku toa  
i te toa takitahi,  
he toa takitini**

My strength is not  
as an individual,  
but as a collective



# CONNECT WITH US



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