



EAST TARANAKI
ENVIRONMENT COLLECTIVE
Restoring Native Biodiversity. Protecting our Future. Together

Annual Report 2025



ABOUT EAST TARANAKI ENVIRONMENT COLLECTIVE

East Taranaki Environment Collective - ETEC is a community led conservation initiative administered by the East Taranaki Environment Trust. Our mission is to protect and restore the ecosystem and biodiversity in East Taranaki. Our approach to restoring the ecosystem and increasing the native biodiversity of our 18,000-hectare community project is mainly through the control of invasive pest species. Our predator work consists of 1,300 DOC200 and 600 DOC250 traps targeting mustelids, and more than 1,200 resetting traps (A12s and A24s) that target rats and possums. Our pest operations, through our trap network and ground toxin operations, provide a place for kiwi, kōkako, New Zealand long-tailed bats (pekapeka) and other native species to thrive.

Our country's national kiwi recovery plan indicates that New Zealand's total kiwi population is declining at 2% per annum. ETEC's project is significantly contributing to recovery of the western North Island brown kiwi in New Zealand. Our project has an estimated western brown kiwi density of 1 pair per 12.5-15 hectares. In 2018, we translocated 20 kōkako into the project area. The goal of this was to establish a self-supporting population which can contribute to the wider kōkako recovery plan and the restoration of the overall ecological system.

Our Trust takes a collaborative approach working side by side with local Iwi and Hapū, Department of Conservation, Taranaki Regional Council, other conservation groups and organisations, as well as with funders and supporters.

The Trust believes to continue the long term success of the project collaboration is key. We believe 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.

OUR MISSION

To protect and restore the ecosystem and biodiversity in East Taranaki.

OUR VALUES

- We are a community based ecosystem-level conservation project
- We are a major player in conservation work in New Zealand
- We are a community group who have a collaborative approach
- We are professional and accountable
- We have a team of capable people who are efficient and result orientated

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO COMPLETE OUR OBJECTIVES

ETEC takes a science-based approach to conservation work, by using several indicator species to demonstrate the effectiveness of our pest control programmes. While pest control is at the core of our work to restore the ecosystem, we monitor kiwi, kōkako, and other species to indicate whether we are successfully reducing predation rates on these species.



CHAIR'S MESSAGE

As is outlined in this Annual Report, our financial year ended June 30 2025 has been both stimulating and problematic.



The year has been stimulating because there is some great work in progress. We have successfully continued pest management operations throughout our 18,000 ha protected area and within Everett Park, and we have continued to work hard to maintain strong relationships with fellow conservation organisations and supporters.

However, the year has been problematic because New Zealand's current financial climate has meant it has been increasingly difficult to maintain the level of funding necessary for our activities. East Taranaki Environment Collective is a community-led conservation initiative that relies heavily on external funding, and we have been forced to work harder to secure that funding.

With that as background, as Chair I would like to express my gratitude for the ongoing support of our existing sponsors and funders.

Thanks also to our field staff, contractors and volunteers who have all contributed to a successful 2024/25 – ETEC is very lucky to have all of you. I also offer my thanks to my fellow Trustees for the effort they have put in during the year.

Special praise for our General Manager Kat Strang who has successfully combined her administrative duties with work in the environment she loves - out in the field. Thanks also to our Conservation Manager Jayden Fabish and our outstanding young rangers, Olly Sleep and Halle Aish. You've all done a superb job.

During the year considerable progress was also made towards development of te noninga o Hakuturi – the Taranaki Environment Centre to be established in Inglewood. This is a joint project involving ETEC, the New Plymouth District Council, and the Pukerangiora hapū of Te Atiawa iwi.

The project is currently moving through its planning phase, and further announcements can be expected during the next financial year. This is an exciting concept which will add greatly to the collaboration that is building between parties involved in conservation in Taranaki region.

Rob Maetzig
Chair
East Taranaki Environment Collective

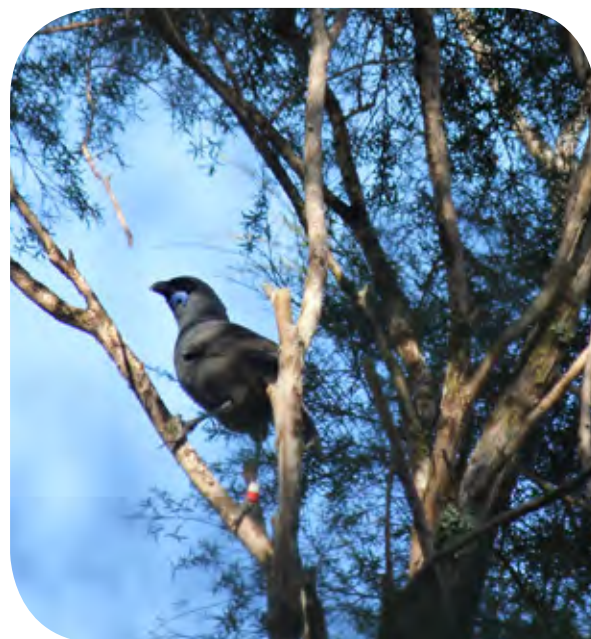
OUR TEAM

Trustees:

Robert Maetzig – Chair
Aaron Chambers – Deputy Chair
Anaru Marshall
John Haylock
Gavin Faull
Gloria Campbell
Jane Bowden - Dobson
Sam Haultain
Sarah Lucas

Staff:

Kathryn Strang – General Manager
Jayden Fabish – Conservation Manager
Corbyn Fabish - Senior Ranger
Oliver Sleep – Ranger
Halle Aish – Ranger
Nadine Paterson – Finance and Admin Support
Laura Beaty – Finance Officer



OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR THAT'S BEEN

This report summarises some of the activities undertaken by the East Taranaki Environment Collective (ETEC) during the year ending June 30, 2025.

It has been another busy year for the Trust, though one that brought a lot of change after four years of stability.

In August, we farewelled Rebecca Somerfield as our General Manager, with Rebecca leading the Trust over the last four years. While it was sad to see Rebecca go, it was a time to reflect on the Trust's journey over the past years. Rebecca focused on collaboration, relationships, and accountability, solidifying the focus of the Trust as a community project as well as a conservation project, and boosting our profile within Taranaki.

While change can be difficult, it allowed the internal promotion of some of our staff into management positions. This included Kat Strang, our Conservation Manager for the past four years, into the General Manager position, and Jayden Fabish, our Senior Ranger, into Conservation Manager. With their experience within the Trust, the board was confident that they would be able to build on the momentum gained over the last few years.

In October, we had our Senior Ranger Corbyn Fabish step back from the Trust to move to Taupō. Corbyn had been with the Trust since the start of 2021 when the Jobs for Nature project started. Corbyn was a workhorse out in the Eastern hill country, often picking up some of the longer lines for the team.

With the team changes, and the ending of Jobs for Nature funding which has helped to pay for some of the field team's salaries the past few years, the structure of the team has changed slightly to keep operating costs lower during this more difficult economic climate. Halle Aish was employed as a Ranger in January, and Aaron Chambers is working as a contractor for the ETEC team whenever they need the extra help in the field.

The Trust also celebrated being 20 years old in 2025! The Trust was founded by Karen and Bob Schumacher, starting with the 192ha block that was their farm out at Purangi. The project then grew, with other landowners coming on board. By 2009, the project area expanded to the other side of the Waitara River, encompassing the Pouiatua Conservation Area and reaching 13,000ha in size. Recently, we've built on



this and included another 5,000ha to reach 18,000ha. This has been an incredible journey over the past 20 years, and shows the impact that community projects have, just by taking one small step at a time.

Over the past few years, the Trust has been expanding its footprint, with the predator control expanding from 13,000 to 18,000 hectares. This created new relationships and the opportunity to work with new communities. We've been fortunate to have received the funding for this expansion through Jobs for Nature, which has now come to an end. We're grateful for this funding, which allowed us to not only expand our footprint and protect more forest, but to also retain our highly skilled staff. With this funding now finished, the Trust is focusing on maintaining the gains that it has made during this tough economic climate.

The field team is currently working to intensify the rat and possum control within the Pouiatua Conservation Area to provide long-term infrastructure and better coverage of the area with traps. We'll be continuing this work over the next financial year, and we're grateful to the Lotteries Environment and Heritage Fund for supporting this work. It'll go far in helping us to restore the ecosystem, and provide valuable protection to our most vulnerable taonga.

The Trust is grateful to our funders, partners, and sponsors who continue to advocate and support

our important kaupapa. Methanex has continued to sponsor our kōkako programme, with the aim for this to be a self-sustaining population in the future. Todd Energy has continued to support our pest control work in Everett Park, and Taranakipine has continued supporting our work across the region. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support, particularly during uncertain economic times. We have enjoyed being able to connect with their staff and show them the on-the-ground kaupapa.

The Trust is also thankful of the continued support from Toi Foundation, Taranaki Electricity Trust (TET), Save the Kiwi, Jobs for Nature, and Lotteries for their significant contribution to the project.

To secure our future, the Trust continues to work with Pukerangiora Hapū and the New Plymouth District Council to explore developing the Taranaki Environment Centre in Inglewood. This project aims to diversify our income streams and reduce dependence on grants while providing a collaborative space for the Taranaki Conservation Community. It will allow us to share overheads, resources, materials, expertise, and knowledge, creating a place where volunteers can come together and where the community and visitors can learn about our efforts to protect and restore biodiversity for future generations. We are grateful for the continued architectural support of Gibbons Architects and New Plymouth Partners for helping to drive this kaupapa.

The Everett Park Restoration project continues to go from strength to strength, with the monitoring results showing 0% tracking rate in September 2024. This is an incredible achievement and a real testament to the hard work of our volunteers, particularly because rats were at 72% before traps were installed in the area. In June this year, we hosted the first Todd Energy Everett Park Fun Run. This was a special day for the team, seeing so many people in the Reserve enjoying the forest.

The Trust has continued to build on our education programs, sharing our knowledge and passion for the environment. We are working alongside our partners Ngāti Maru to connect whanau to the whenua and are thankful to the team at Tupu ā nuku for helping us to engage rangatahi in our kaupapa through pest management and monitoring. We have also led efforts to educate local schools on regional conservation efforts and run our kaitiakitanga education programme, engaging nine local schools in environmental protection. There was support from the sector for the Trust to run another Pest Control Hui, which we partnered with Ngāti Maru, Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust and Wild for Taranaki to achieve this. There were 65 people that attended and shared their

knowledge, built strong connections, and supported each other in the mahi throughout the region.

To our volunteers and contractors, thank you for sharing your expertise, knowledge, and passion. Once again, volunteers contributed over 2,000 hours to the Trust. This figure shows how valuable the contribution of volunteers is to our project. We wouldn't be able to achieve nearly as much as what we do without our volunteers and community.

Our continued success wouldn't be possible without the support of our valued partners, funders, supporters, and volunteers. We extend a heartfelt thanks to the community that backs our project and vision, whether through funding, advocacy, or in-kind support. Your contributions are crucial to achieving our mission and goals.

"You can't achieve conservation in isolation". This has been one of our sayings for the past few years, and one that the team says often. Collaboration is key for what we want to achieve, and this has been driving our work over the last few years.

Each year seems to get bigger, with new opportunities, collaborations, and partnerships popping up. I'm extremely proud of what our team achieves and their commitment to the mahi, and achieving this with the backing of our community.

"People and community are the foundation of success"

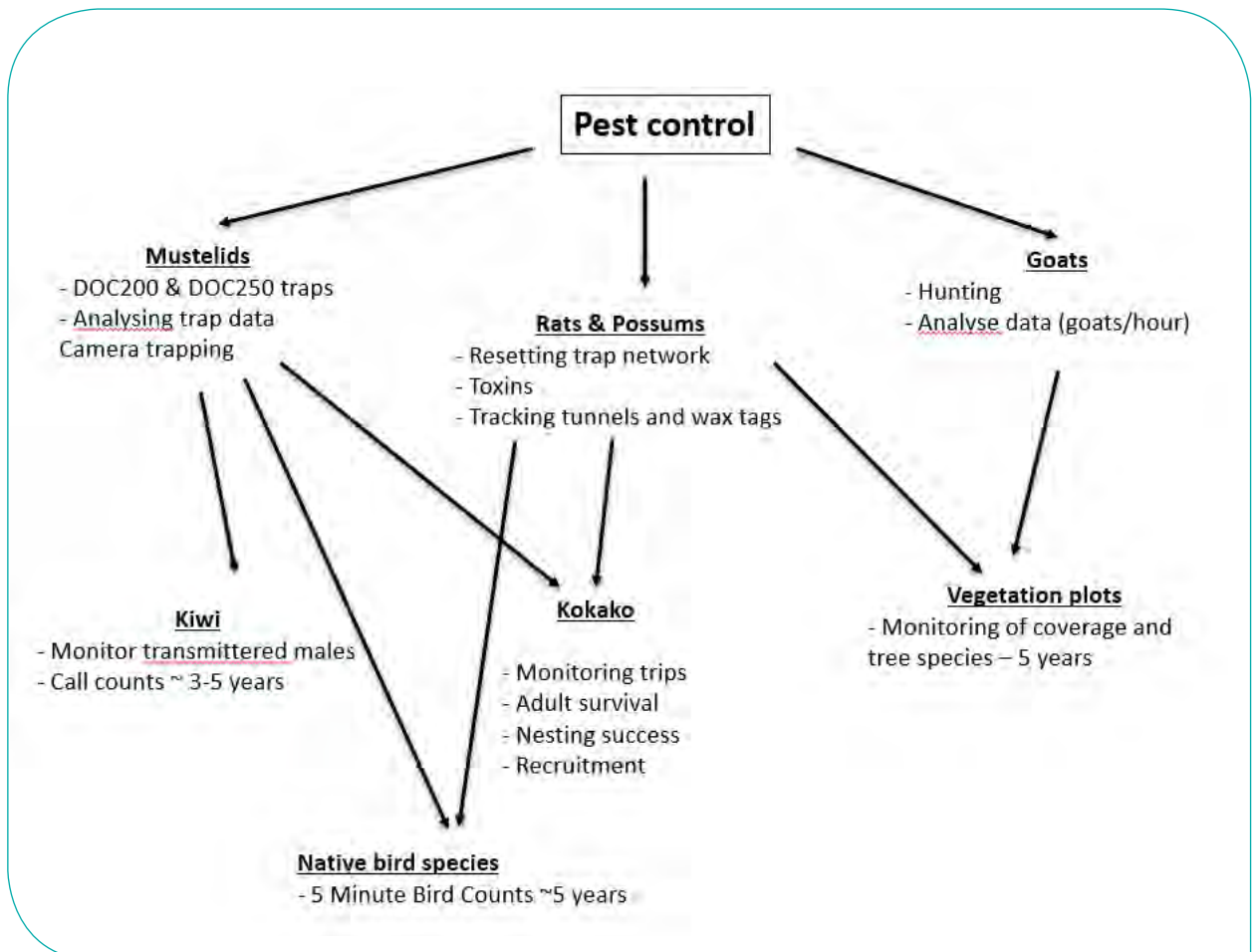


BIODIVERSITY OUTCOMES

The Trust aims to restore native biodiversity within the East Taranaki region and provide a protected area for native wildlife to thrive. This is mainly achieved through using an integrated pest management approach, where the main pest species are targeted and control is adapted based on findings. Generally, as you control one pest and lower their numbers, the pressure can be removed from other pests and they may become a new problem. Continually assessing our pest control plan and the ecosystem means that we can adapt with these changes. To ensure that the pest control regime is leading to biodiversity gains, the Trust monitors key indicator species such as kiwi and kōkako. The Trust is also looking to include other indicator species over the next few years such as lizards and bats if funding allows.

Our biodiversity conservation action plan, including interactions within the ecosystem, is summarized below:

The Trust's footprint increased from 13,000 hectares to 18,000 hectares in East Taranaki, and the Trust has also been implementing pest control in Everett Park.



PEST CONTROL AND MONITORING

Mustelid control

Stoats have been the main mustelid targeted over the original 13,000 hectare project area, though the Trust has been working over the past year to strengthen this mustelid control and include more targeted ferret control too. The Expansion area consists of mainly DOC250s, and the peripheral traplines around the original DOC200 lines have had every third DOC200 changed to a DOC250.

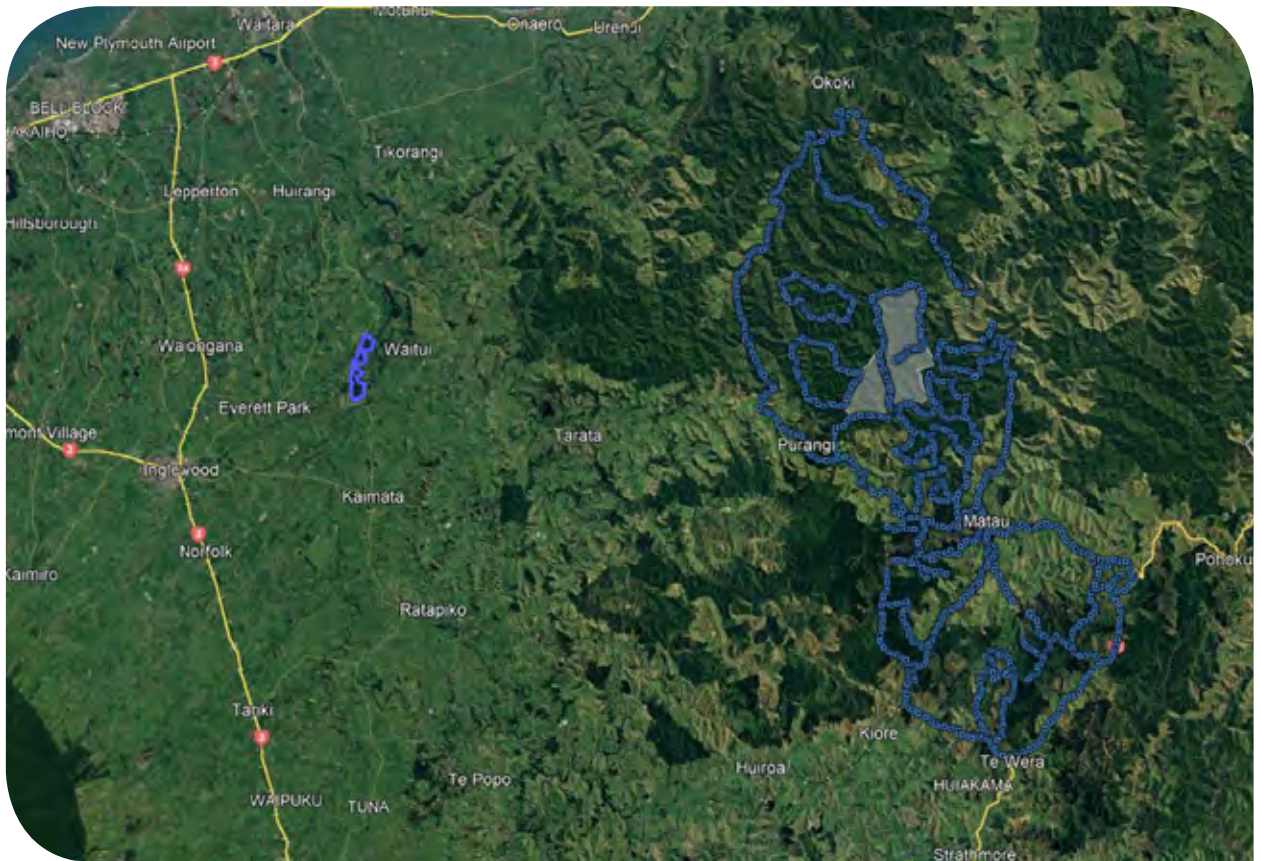
Within the original 13,000 hectares, there are 1,075 DOC200s and 111 DOC250s set up across 19 different traplines. The Expansion area (an additional 5,000ha) consists of mainly DOC250s. The traps are spaced 100m apart, with lines spaced 1km apart. Traps are checked, rebaited, and reset every month by contractors or staff. The team has continued using the rabbit mince made by local company Feral Control due to the higher mustelid catch rates. The team is also trialling other lures alongside this such as blaze, scent lures, and blood to see whether this increases trap catch rates and animal activity around the traps. Rabbit blood is being utilised during the main ferret catch season; July-September, February-April.

For consistency and comparison between each year, the catch data for the mustelid traps have been split into the “Core project” – original 13,000 hectares, and the Expansion project (details in section below) – ~5,000 hectares.



Our mustelid catch data for the main 13,000ha block is starting to show an interesting pattern with the number of weasels caught increasing quite a bit over the past few years. Within the Expansion area, we caught more weasels than stoats over the past year, which is quite unusual. This may be a sign that we are significantly reducing stoats within the control area, as stoats outcompete weasels. In previous studies in Europe where both weasels and stoats naturally occur, a reduction in stoat population led to an increase in weasel abundance. Interestingly, we’ve also seen a difference in the number of mustelids caught and the lure used.





The map below outlines the original project area, the expansion area that was funded through Save the kiwi Jobs for Nature, and Everett Park. The Trust's project area covering 18,000 hectares, with the DOC200s and DOC250s marked as blue squares, and Everett Park outlined in blue. The 1,000 hectare area where rats and possums are controlled is highlighted in white at the centre of the Pouiatua Conservation Area.

Core Area 13,000 hectares, 1,075 DOC200 traps and 111 DOC250 traps, total catches:

	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sept-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total
Cat	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	2	0	11
Ferret	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hedgehog	1	2	2	7	1	4	10	10	12	10	14	10	83
Possum	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	8
Mouse	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	5	3	1	3	0	20
Rat	104	106	67	93	101	67	70	82	138	107	113	116	1164
Stoat	20	10	12	13	6	22	32	23	11	17	12	7	185
Weasel	11	11	5	5	3	12	1	5	5	1	5	4	68

Expansion area 5,000 hectares, 14 DOC200 traps and 556 DOC250 traps, total catches:

	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sept-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total
Cat	1	1	2	0	3	1	0	5	4	4	2	2	25
Ferret	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hedgehog	3	2	4	7	10	11	26	19	17	26	24	16	165
Possum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	5
Mouse	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	5
Rat	21	19	15	32	10	13	23	14	17	30	32	41	267
Stoat	3	5	1	1	7	4	10	8	7	2	5	3	56
Weasel	7	4	8	8	4	1	4	5	4	4	6	5	60

Trap catch data, which is based on the number of nights that the DOC200s and DOC250s are active and the catch rate, shows a catch rate for stoats of less than 1%. Camera traps were set out in 12 different locations throughout the project area. Each

location was monitored for three weeks at a time, twice throughout the year (July/August and November) which resulted in a camera trap capture rate of 1% (number of detections/number of camera trap nights) for stoats.

Rat and possum control

Rats and possums are controlled within 1000 hectares of the Pouiatua Conservation Area through a number of different methods. The main reason for this is that it is where the reintroduced kōkako have settled, and kōkako need low rat and possum populations to be able to breed and nest successfully. The rat and possum control will also benefit other vulnerable species inhabiting the area.

To help keep rats and possums suppressed year-round, there is a network of 281 A12 and 826 A24 Goodnature resetting traps set up over 1,000 hectares of the Pouiatua Conservation Area. A12s are mainly set up on the perimeter tracks with 100m spacing and target possums, and A24s are set up on the perimeter and interior lines with 50m spacing and target rats. These are regassed and relured every six months. An additional 159 A24s were added to side spurs within the 1,000 area for added protection and coverage.

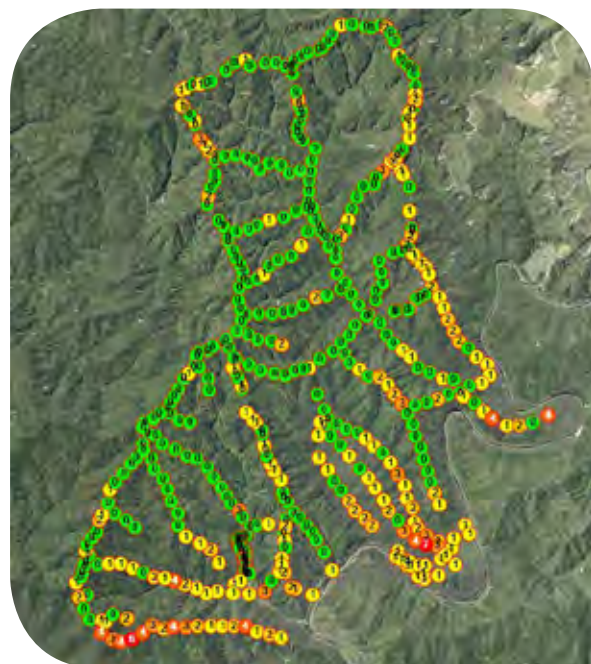
In January 2025, the New Plymouth Boys' High prefect team helped the Trust's field team to replenish the resetting traps, with almost 500 traps being done in one day. The field team was joined by staff from Taranaki Regional Council, and Department of Conservation to mentor the prefects through this field work.

ETEC carried out a ground toxin operation in the Pouiatua Conservation Area in the form of Potassium Cyanide for controlling possums. The operation consisted of two original pre-feeding operations and a single pulse of toxin. Later it was decided to do an additional pulse of pre-feed and toxin due to the number of possums were removed from the original operation, and this was targeting the areas that were identified as hotspots or potential reinvading lines (in the south). Bait bags were also utilised in areas where there were no bait stations set up. The team recorded all dead possums that they saw after the Feratox pulse, and 290 possums were removed from the area.

With the team low on capacity, it was decided that rather than a pre- and post-toxin monitor each year, that there would just be an annual monitor following the ground toxin work. Monitoring by ETEC was conducted post- toxin operation to determine rat and possum levels, with the post-monitor 4-5 weeks following the toxin application. Tracking tunnels were used to monitor rats – there were 13 lines with 10 tunnels each 50m apart with at least 200m between lines. The same lines as the previous year were used. Tracking tunnel cards were baited with peanut butter on the edge of the card and were placed into the tunnels overnight.

Wax tags were used for monitoring the possums, with 13 lines measured using the standard practice of 10 wax tags along a line that are spaced 20m apart. Wax tags were blazed and were left out for 7 nights.

Rats		Possums	
Post-monitor	36.72%	Post-monitor	35.38%



Map shows the number of dead possums counted at each bait station during the Feratox ground operation.

Table 1: Post-monitor results for tracking tunnel cards set out for one night, baited with peanut butter, in November/December.

Tracking card Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total rats	Rat tracking rate
Tracking tunnel line												
A	Rat, Mouse	Rat, Mouse	Mouse			Mouse			Mouse		2	20.00%
B					Rat				Rat		2	20.00%
C	Rat						Rat	Mouse		Rat	3	30.00%
D						Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	5	50.00%
E				Rat	Rat, Mouse		Rat		Rat		4	40.00%
G											0	0.00%
H						Rat		Rat			2	20.00%
I											0	0.00%
K	Rat	Mouse	Rat	Rat	Possum						3	30.00%
M	Rat			Rat		Mouse		Rat	Rat	Mouse	4	40.00%
2R	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	10	100.00%
?	Rat		Rat				Rat				3	30.00%
PTL	Rat	Rat	Rat		Rat	Rat, Mouse	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	9	90.00%
											47	36.72%

Table 2: Post-monitor results for wax tags set out for seven nights in November/December.

Wax tag number (20m)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total possums	Possum tracking rate
Wax tag line												
A		Possum		Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum		Possum	7	70.00%
B									Rat	Rat	0	0.00%
C											0	0.00%
D			Possum	Rat				Possum			2	20.00%
E				Possum			Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum	5	50.00%
G				Possum							1	10.00%
H	Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum		Possum	Possum		Possum	Possum	8	80.00%
I	Possum	Possum		Possum				Possum			4	40.00%
K	Rat, Possum		Rat, Possum	Rat						Possum	3	30.00%
M											0	0.00%
2R	Rat	Possum, Rat	Rat	Rat	Possum, Rat	Possum	Possum	Rat	Rat	Rat	4	40.00%
?	Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum	Possum		Possum	Possum	9	90.00%
PTL	Possum		Possum		Possum				Rat		3	30.00%
											46	35.38%

Table 3: Independent camera trap videos of possums from within the Feratox area (in green) and the timing of the Feratox operation (red).

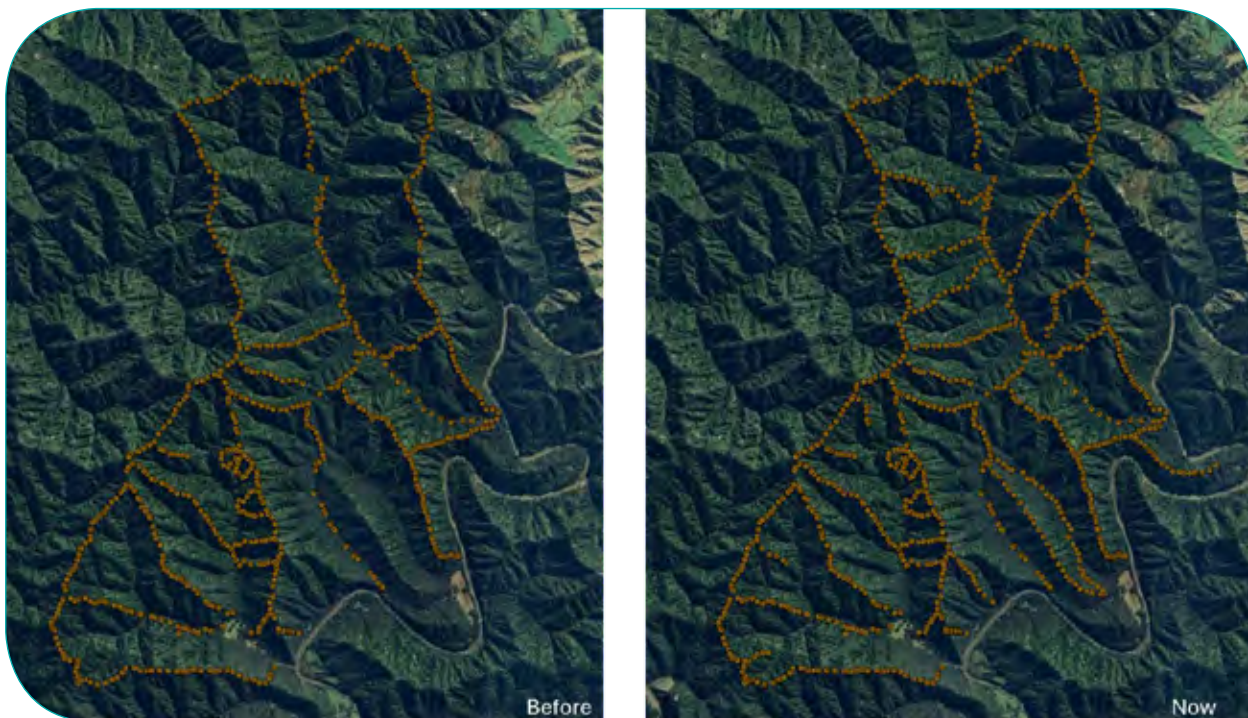
Possum counts	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sept-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
I-J	17	3	1	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	7	10	6
Culvert line	3	2	0	2	8	5	10	22	10	31	24	6
Milk bottle	4	3	0	2	5	1	4	2	6	5	5	3
Death ridge	13	15	10	27	34	77	34	23	36	23	24	22
2nd Ridge	9	5	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	3	18	3	5	1
B-line	3	0	0	1	3	2	13	2	7	6	10	3
SBL 721	8	3	5	9	4	0	8	29	9	11	11	17
SBL 766	1	0	N/A	N/A	2	0	0	1	5	9	5	5
CTL 841-842	4	0	1	0	1	0	3	2	3	7	N/A	N/A
CTL 810	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
SFL 613-614	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
SFL 651	3	6	1	9	1	N/A	N/A	4	10	8	19	7
Purangi Saddle	119	96	46	39	68	25	N/A	N/A	15	46	0	0
Within control area	49	124	59	32	52	61	61	52	93	121	78	41
Outside control area	139	109	54	58	77	25	11	37	43	83	35	33

It's difficult to draw conclusions from the camera trap data for the possum monitoring. The number of possum videos dropped within both the Feratox area and outside of this. Though this is likely mainly influenced by the videos captured on Purangi Saddle, which is a main travel route in to the Pouiatoa and bait stations are set up within 600m from this camera.

Intensification of rat and possum control within the Pouiatoa – Lotteries Environment and Heritage Fund

With funding from the Lotteries Environment and Heritage Fund for 2024-2026, the Trust is able to intensify the rat and possum control within the Pouiatoa by installing more infrastructure. Over summer, the team and volunteers installed 159 A24s on established lines that had only bait stations. These A24s will target the rat population and provide better coverage of the area.

The next stage of the project is to install SA2 traps around the perimeter to reduce possum reinvasion, and to reinforce the ageing A12 network that will need replacing over time.



Goat control

The Department of Conservation has again obtained funding and helped with the logistics for goat control to be undertaken within the Pouiatoa Conservation Area. Two different hunting groups are working within the area.

	Hours	Goats kills	Goats/hour
21/22	447	756	1.69
22/23	548	952	1.74
23/24	355	462	1.30
24/25	353	477	1.35

ETEC will be working with the Department of Conservation to continue this goat control work to ensure the long-term survival of the forest and increase the regeneration of vegetation.



NATIVE SPECIES

Kiwi monitoring

Last year, the Trust removed the radio transmitters from the last kiwi that were being monitored by radio telemetry, with the Trust focusing on monitoring kiwi through camera traps and call surveys to ensure the population is still growing. The field team continues to maintain their kiwi skills by helping with other projects where they need to catch and change transmitters for their kiwi, and with the forestry project.

When the Trust expanded the pest control area from Matau to Te Wera, there was a baseline kiwi call survey that was carried out that Taranaki Kiwi Trust conducted for the Trust. The baseline survey was completed in 2021 before 591 DOC250s were installed over the 5,000ha area. The same methodology was used for this repeated Acoustic Recording Device (ARD) survey, where the same sites were used if possible.

Fifty sites were surveyed in 2021, and 47 in 2025 due to three sites having active harvesting operations. ARDs were set up to record 30 minutes after sunset for 4 hours, with the five best weather nights analysed. The five days either side of the full moon were excluded from analysis.

It's difficult to draw conclusions from the comparison between the two surveys due to the landscape changing significantly over this time. This is due to the presence of three significant pine forestry sites that are undergoing, or have undergone, harvesting. Overall, the call rates had decreased in both the highest call rate and the average call rate across all of the sites (see table below).

Interestingly, the site that had the highest call rate in

2021 of 4.2 calls per hour had dropped to 1.6 calls per hour. This site is one that had recently had the pine trees harvested. The site with the highest call rate in 2025 of 3.4 calls per hour had a call rate of 1.35 in 2021, with many of the other sites having call rates that jumped around between the years. This data may be reflecting that the habitat has had quite a change over the four years, and is most likely not reflecting the trapping efforts but the movements of kiwi in relation to habitat disturbance through the forestry operations. There were five sites that had not picked up kiwi in the 2021 survey that had kiwi present in the 2025 survey, while seven sites that had kiwi present in 2021 no longer detected kiwi in 2025 (see figure below). These mixed results are likely to be due to the disturbance within the area.

With these results, it will be interesting to continue the surveys within the area and compare the results across the years as the pine forest in the Expansion site continues to change.

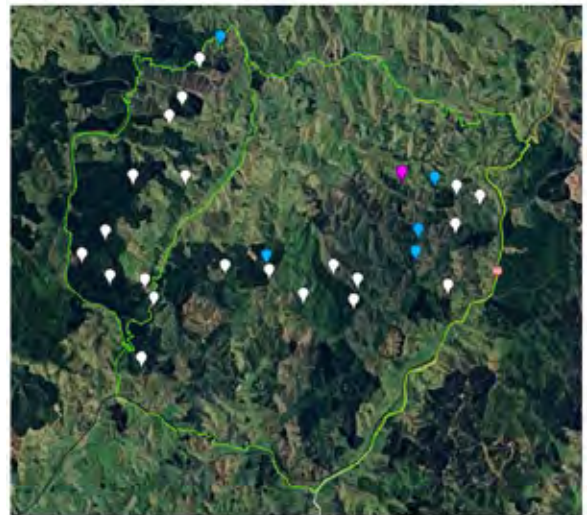


	2021	2025
Sites that had kiwi present	31	27
Sites with only Males detected	3	5
Sites with only Females detected	2	1
Sites with both Males and Females detected	26	21
Highest call rate	4.2	3.4
Average call rate	0.72	0.47





2021



2025

RESEARCH PROJECT: Study on harvesting effects on kiwi inhabiting pine plantations – partnership between Parininihi ki Waitotara, Ngāti Maru, Taranaki Kiwi Trust, NZ Forestry and ETEC

The Trust has entered into a partnership with Parininihi ki Waitotara, Ngāti Maru, NZForestry and Taranaki Kiwi Trust to study kiwi within pine plantations around harvesting operations.

The study proposes to investigate how the use of pine forests changes for kiwi during the different harvesting phases, and how clear-felling harvesting techniques can impact kiwi. The potential impacts identified from previous studies are on kiwi movements, breeding, survival, and foraging. The possible outcomes of this study are to provide updated information on kiwi inhabiting pine forests, and potential mitigation that could help reduce any impacts of pine forest harvesting on kiwi.

Information collected over the past year forms the pre-harvesting data on the movements and home range of the kiwi, nesting success, weight

and condition, and activity. Road construction and harvesting has started, with the data now being collected informing on the kiwi behaviour during the harvest.

An unfortunate series of events where a failing and hard to detect transmitter, a nesting male, and a change in harvesting plans, meant that trees were felled in an area where a male kiwi was nesting and he abandoned. The eggs were recovered and taken up to the National Kiwi Hatchery in Rotorua, however the male had been off the nest for a couple of nights, and one of the eggs was young, so the eggs had a low chance of survival. Despite these odds, the two chicks hatched.

Porotahi was released into Rotokare Scenic Reserve as a founder, and Pororua was released into the Pouiatoa Conservation Area, close to his home. The names were gifted from Ngāti Maru - Porotahi translates to first severing, which represents the bird's first severing from its father when it fled the nest. And Pororua means second severing, representing the separation of siblings to spread the gene pool.

These chicks certainly beat the odds, and it was heartwarming to be able to welcome them back.

Kōkako Monitoring

Over a period of seven days the ETEC team surveyed the Pouiatoa Conservation Area (and its surrounding areas) for kōkako territories. In total, 1500 hectares and 50 km of tracks were surveyed. Eight pairs were found, along with four single birds seen. Of the 20 birds seen, six were identified as being banded, thirteen non-banded and one was unconfirmed. Nine of these non-banded birds were in a pair, including four pairs of non-banded birds. The man hours totalled 208 hours. In one survey, five individual kōkako were seen together in the Mangapito Valley. All appeared to be non-banded and are likely offspring of the J-line pair.

The team conducted the census surveys over October and November, mainly because the kōkako have not been responsive in the Pouiatoa in September.

The field team split up into two different teams with different surveying techniques. A rapid survey was used for areas where kōkako have not been heard or seen before, to establish whether any have set up their territories there now. A parallel survey is when two different groups/surveyors work parallel to each other on separate ridges/lines where they will keep contact with each other. Calls are played by the groups at each other every few hundred meters. This allows the area to be covered efficiently and ensure that kōkako are not counted twice. Whichever group finds or hears the kōkako can communicate this to the other group and spend time working with those birds. This technique is used for areas where kōkako have been encountered previously or are expected to be found.

Findings: Eight pairs seen, four singles seen. A total of 20 kōkako were seen during the 2024 season.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Kokako	7	10	7	13	16	16	20
Pairs	3	4	2	5	6	7	8
Singles	1	2	3	3	4	2	4
Survey days	9	10	8	8	9	8	7
Kilometres surveyed	20	35	25	54	39	70	50
Number of survey hours	234	264	208	184	136	176	208

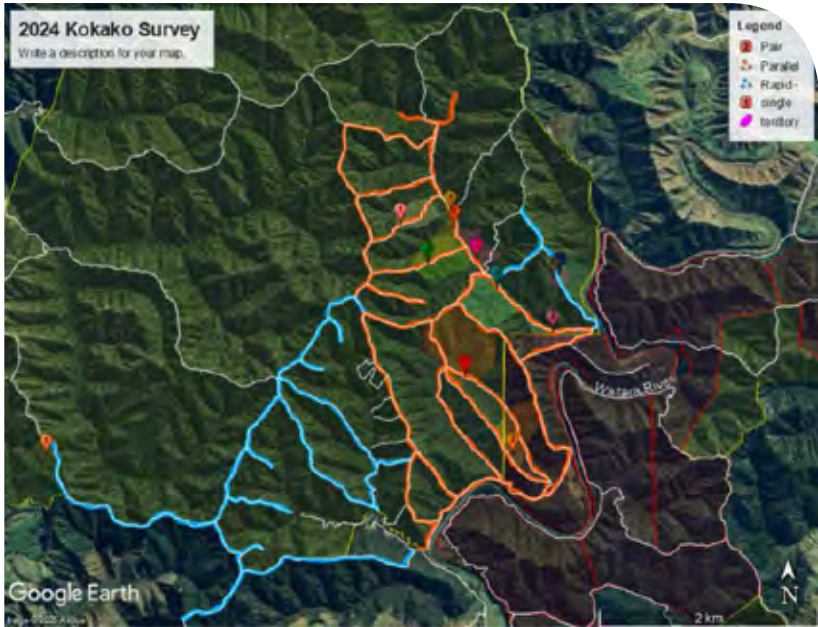


Figure 3: Locations of kōkako seen during the 2024 census survey. Blue tracks are those that were surveyed using the rapid survey technique, and orange was using the parallel survey technique. "1" shows where a single kōkako was seen, and "2" where there was a pair seen. The large yellow area shows the Pouiatoa Conservation Area. The smaller red areas show iwi land.



EVERETT PARK

The Trust has been working in partnership with Pukerangiora Hapū and the Department of Conservation to continue restoring the Everett Park Scenic Reserve. This involves an intense pest control programme to target the rats, possums, and mustelids within the reserve.

The catches from the SA2, Trapinator, Warrior, DOC250, and F-bomb traps for each month are summarised below:

	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sept-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total
Cat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ferret	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Hedgehog	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	5	1	0	11
Possum	2	4	7	7	7	15	8	4	8	11	7	4	84
Mouse	0	9	3	7	3	1	2	0	3	34	15	10	87
Rat	8	1	6	7	4	7	6	14	20	15	10	5	103
Stoat	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4
Weasel	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2

Monitoring results are showing that the rats and possums are still at lower densities than they were before traps were installed.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Possum RTC - TRC		18%	8%	10%
Rats - Tracking tunnels	72%		8%	0%

Camera trapping										
	Rat	Possum	Hedgehog	Cat	Pig	Stoat	Ferret	Weasel	Mouse	
2021	127	74	3	11	0	1	2	0	2	
2023	3	10	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	
2024	1	34	0	11	0	0	0	0	1	



Everett Park Planting 2025



Mouse trapping and a lizard release in Everett Park

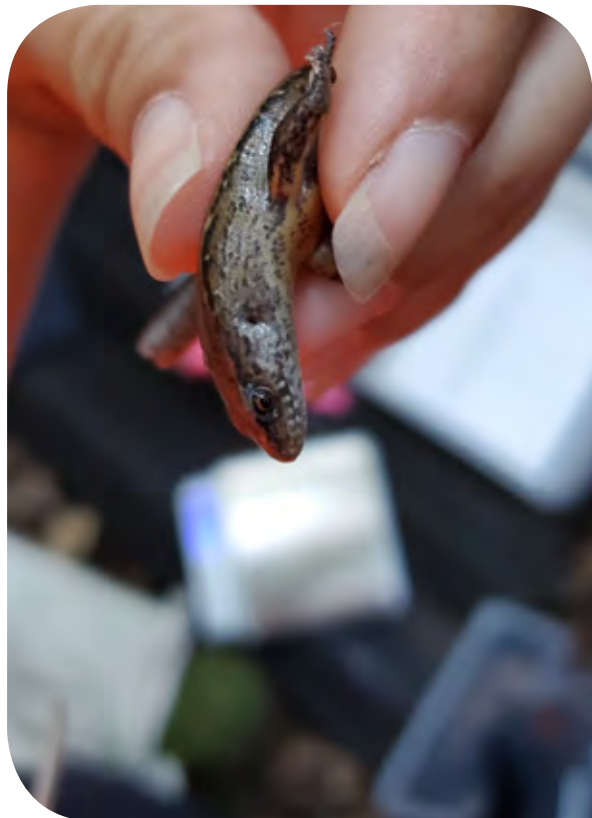
An exciting development to the Everett Park restoration project was the addition of mouse traps to the vast network within the Reserve so that the site could be used as a lizard relocation site. The Department of Conservation had been working with Waka Kotahi NZTA to identify areas where lizards could be relocated from areas where roading development was happening. Due to the intensive pest control in Everett Park, and the previous monitoring results, it was proposed that Everett Park could be a good site for lizard relocation.

The Trust partnered with the New Plymouth MenzShed who volunteered to build custom-made mouse tunnels for the project. This was based off a design put together by Bryan Ritchie from Feral Control. There were 70 of these tunnels built, which were installed in the Reserve between the A24s in the interior lines to reduce the 100m gap between control devices. Victor mouse traps were put in these tunnels, which were eventually swapped for T-rex traps in April 2025 due to the Victor traps not lasting well in the field. T-rex mouse traps were also placed in the DOC250 boxes.

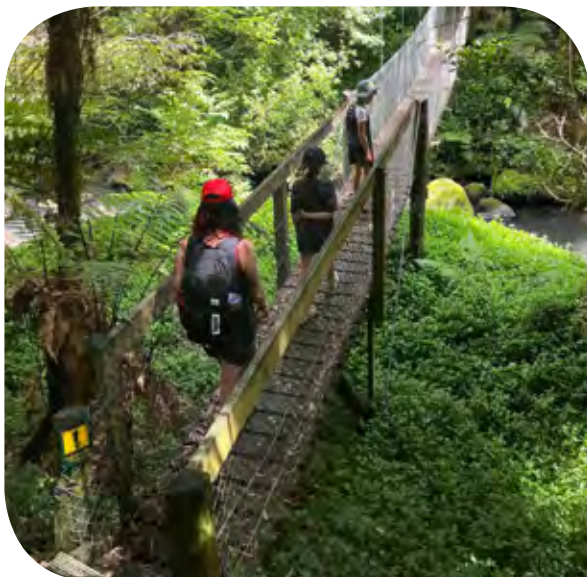
The lizard salvage at the Mangorei roundabout construction found a copper skink that was released into Everett Park in March 2025. This was a very exciting moment for the project, showing how far the restoration project has come. We are hoping to expand on this lizard work, and to set up monitoring devices in Everett Park to gather a baseline result so that the change in the lizard population over time can be measured.



Mouse tunnel in Everett Park



Copper Skink - first lizard to Everett Park



VERTICAL HORIZONS KEY NATIVE ECOSYSTEMS BLOCK

In March 2025, the Trust was approached by the Taranaki Regional Council Biodiversity team to see whether they had the capacity to maintain the trapping within the Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) in Vertical Horizons next to Everett Park. Due to the proximity of the KNE to the northern part of Everett Park, and that pests would reinvade from the KNE into Everett Park if the traps were not maintained there, the field team took this work on.

The KNE is an additional 6ha where there are rat and possum traps installed in the area. The area is classed as a “Chronically Threatened” ecosystem type in Taranaki, and due to its proximity to Everett Park Scenic Reserve, the area offers important connectivity and habitat within the area.



HĀKUTURI – TARANAKI ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

Work has continued to progress on Hakuturi, which is the proposed Taranaki Environment Centre. The centre, a partnership between East Taranaki Environment Collective, Pukerangiora hapū of Te Atiawa iwi, and New Plymouth District Council, with the help of New Plymouth Partners, will be built as a centrally located shared space for organisations working in the conservation and pest management sectors, and as a place of learning.

The centre would be named Hākuturi – the place where the Hākuturi, the guardians of the forest, reside. In Maori mythology the Hākuturi have a collective responsibility to protect, regenerate and advocate for the natural environment. The Taranaki Environment Centre will mirror this responsibility, as a place where organisations involved in environmental stewardship and the preservation and enhancement of biodiversity can work together and collaborate. Planning for the centre, which will be sited on council-owned land adjoining Joe Gibbs Reserve alongside the Kurapete Stream, is well advanced.

New Plymouth architect Brady Gibbons of Gibbons Architects has been creating a building concept that closely follows Pukerangiora’s cultural narrative surrounding Hākuturi. In the Maori korero, Rata felled a tree to build a waka, but he failed to offer prayers to Tane the lord of the forest, so that night the Hākuturi repaired the tree and stood it upright again. Rata expressed remorse and pleaded forgiveness, and in response the Hākuturi felled a tree themselves and carved a waka for him. Brady Gibbons’ building design

suggests a long and lean facility that will lie lightly on the landscape, indicative of the trunk of the tree that Rata attempted to fell to make his waka. The centre will comprise a simple but robust series of pole shed type structures linked with covered walkways. This will allow development of Hākuturi to be staged if necessary, as costs and funding permit. In conjunction with the building project, the NPDC will restore part of the property into wetland and native bush area featuring a wide range of native plant species. Inglewood’s public walkway network will be expanded so it leads walkers through it.

The proposed idea for the centre is still within the planning phase with a feasibility study underway to look at the potential running costs and revenue of the centre.



ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION

Kaitiakitanga programme

Our kaitiakitanga education programme, which is mainly sponsored by the Taranaki Electricity Trust with additional support this year from Greymouth Petroleum, ran for the third year. This programme involves nine local kura – Inglewood Primary, St Patrick's Inglewood, Waitara Central, St Joseph's Waitara, Kaimata, Waitoriki, Egmont Village, Norfolk, and Huirangi. Each school sends 2-3 students who attend four different workshops, one per quarter.

Workshops focus on hands-on learning with the ETEC staff, with sessions covering how to identify pest species and their impact on native species, control methods and monitoring techniques, native species identification and the uniqueness of native species, and monitoring different native species.

The team has also been supported during these sessions by Te Ara Taiao (part of Sustainable Taranaki), who aims to develop environmental leadership with kura in Taranaki. Looking forwards, we're hoping to continue this collaboration and build on it in the coming years.

Engagement with this programme has been high, and there have been requests to be able to send more students. This is something that we are hoping to do in the future.



Ngāti Mutunga Camp – Kimihia Kōura

ETEC had the opportunity to learn from Ngāti Mutunga about stream sampling, and kōura and freshwater fish sampling. This was part of their Kimihia Kōura project, where they were surveying rivers and streams within Ngāti Mutunga rohe using eDNA techniques and searching for kōura. This involved night surveys and setting up nets on the Waitara River and some tributaries.

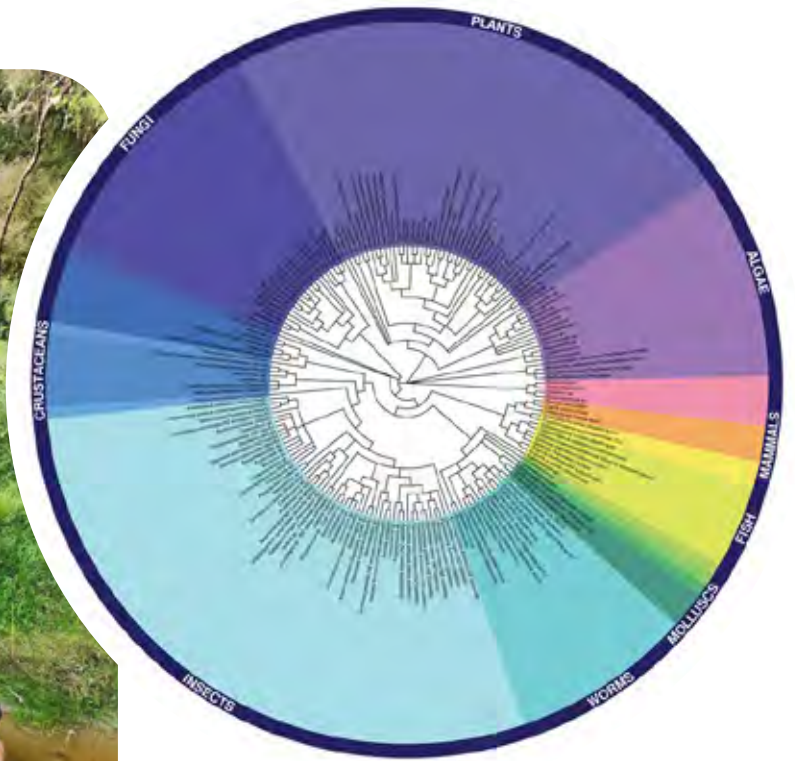
Plenty of kōura were found, along with tuna (eels), bully, and a giant kokopu. With so much of the Trust's time spent surveying the terrestrial life, it was a welcome change to survey and spend some time in the awa.



Kimihia Kōura project



Kaitiakitanga programme workshop students



ADVOCACY

Advocacy is a key pillar to the Trust's strategy and plays a key role in engaging and educating the community about the essential conservation work the Trust undertakes. This connection and engagement to the taiao is what leads to behavioural change, and hopefully the long-term restoration of these areas. The Mazda Foundation has continued to supply the Trust with a BT50 ute. This support has been vital for allowing the team to safely access the remote areas that our project is based, and to access traplines on forestry and metal roads within the Eastern hill country. The unique sign writing on the ute has made it an iconic sight within our area.

With the support of Rob Maetzig and TGM Creative, the Trust has continued to produce its newsletter. This is important for updating our stakeholders and communities about the work that we carry out, and stories from our field team and conservation communities. These newsletters are also now being distributed around local Inglewood businesses so keep an eye out while having your morning coffee.

This year we added another vehicle to our fleet, with WR Phillips and ORIX kindly provided a discounted lease for a Mitsubishi ASX. With the project area and field team expanding over the last few years, this vehicle has been a much-needed addition.

Everett Park continues to provide the Trust with the perfect platform to engage the community, volunteers, rangatahi, tamariki, and supporters in the Trust's important mahi and vision. It has been an excellent site for people to learn trapping techniques and about habitat restoration. Over 11 events were held at the reserve this year, with 136 attendees actively participating. We also had several groups help to re-lure and re-gas the resetting trap network within the Reserve. This included staff from Todd Energy and Ballance, students from WITT, rangatahi from Tupu ā nuku, and tamariki from Huirangi School. This provided a hands-on learning experience about the trapping programme in the Reserve, and team building opportunities.

Our Trust continues to promote our important mahi through our education programs, public talks, newsletters, and social media channels. The addition of our Ranger Halle to the team has given the Trust's social media profiles a real boost with her engaging posts.

In summary, the Trust held or attended 38 events this financial year, engaging close to 1,500 people.

	No. of people	Notes:
Contractors Evening	12 Contractors, Vol and Staff	The Trust hosted a contractor and volunteer evening to update and inform members about various key aspects. The event covered expectations and the importance of thinking like a predator when trapping, a refresh of health and safety protocols, and provided updates on the Trust's upcoming projects and goals.
NPBHS prefect trip	19 Students 1 Teacher 4 Vol	Every year, the prefects from NPBHS help the field team with regassing and reluring the A12 and A24 trap network in the Pouiatoa. This year the prefects came out for a day trip. We also had mentors from the Department of Conservation and Taranaki Regional Council
Kaitiakitanga (4 sessions)	19 students (2024) 18 students (2025)	Youth Kaitiakitanga ambassadors for East Taranaki Environment Collective. The program consists of 4 workshops engaging Year 6, 7 and 8 children – from Inglewood, St Patrick's Inglewood, Waitara Central, St Joseph's Waitara, Kaimata, Waitoriki, Egmont Village, Norfolk and Huirangi – workshops are run by ETEC staff to teach our future generations about the importance of protecting and restoring our region's native biodiversity.
Venture Taranaki - Curious Minds Education Programme	10 people ~50 people	Curious Minds is a Participatory Science Platform with funding distributed through Venture Taranaki. This initial funding pilot has come to an end, and the Trust presented on their past projects at the closing event. There was also a catch up with a smaller group who were in the last funding round.



<p>Advocacy Talks</p>	<p>New Plymouth Tramping Club 35 Guests</p> <p>Rotary 30 Guests</p> <p>Good in the Hood promotion ~50 people</p> <p>PKW AGM Expo 70 Guests</p> <p>Volunteer Event 35 Guests</p> <p>NZ Farm Forestry Association talk 50 Guests</p> <p>Methanex 40 staff</p> <p>Women in Trades Expo 400 attendees</p>	<p>Throughout the year, the Trust has actively engaged with various organisations, schools, and community groups to share our vision and mission. Our team presented at multiple events. These talks and educational sessions have helped to raise awareness about our conservation efforts and foster a deeper understanding of the importance of protecting and restoring Taranaki and New Zealand's native biodiversity.</p>
<p>Tupu ā nuku</p>	<p>Trap checks 20 rangatahi throughout the year</p> <p>Tarata School trap set up 12 rangatahi</p>	<p>The Trust has a formal partnership with Ngāti Maru and participates in the Tupu ā nuku environmental workforce development programme led by Ngāti Maru. The Trust provides training and hands-on experience to the Tupu ā nuku team, sharing expertise with rangatahi and helping them connect to the taiao. Tupu ā nuku rangatahi check, rebait, and reset three trap lines each month for the Trust.</p>
<p>Tree Machine</p>	<p>10 rangatahi</p>	<p>Workshop was run teaching rangatahi from the Tree Machine Forestry course how to build DOC200s and DOC250s.</p>
<p>New Plymouth MenzShed</p>	<p>8 volunteers</p>	<p>Volunteers helped to build specialised tunnels for mouse traps to be installed in Everett Park to help protect lizards from mouse predation.</p>
<p>Puketapu Trust</p>	<p>4 rangatahi</p>	<p>Rangatahi came out to Everett Park from the Puketapu Trust to learn about trapping techniques and restoring the whenua.</p>

<p>Everett Park Tree Planting</p>	<p>42 Attendees</p>	<p>The Trust holds the community agreement for pest management at Everett Park in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Pukerangiora Hapū. Thanks to the support of Todd Energy, over 400 trees were donated and planted at the Reserve. This tree planting event was a true display of community spirit, with Te Ihowai kaimahi digging the holes and tamariki from Huirangi and Waitoriki schools helping to plant the trees.</p>
<p>Everett Park – A24 Trap Network</p>	<p>Todd Energy 8 Staff</p> <p>Ballance 5 Staff</p> <p>Tupu ā nuku</p> <p>WITT students 6 students 1 staff</p> <p>Huirangi School 10 students 2 volunteers</p>	<p>The Trust has over 160 A24 resetting traps in Everett Park to control the rat population. These traps are re-gassed and re-lured every 3-4 months by our field team, with assistance from the community, schools, and various organisations.</p>
<p>Kiwi Releases – Pouiatōa & Rotokare</p>	<p>14 people</p> <p>20 people</p>	<p>One of the male kiwi being monitored as part of the forestry project abandoned his nest, and an emergency egg lift was carried out. The chicks successfully hatched, with one released into Rotokare Scenic Reserve as a founder, and the other released into the Pouiatōa, back to his home.</p>
<p>Fungal Foray with FUNNZ</p>	<p>8 people – Everett Park</p> <p>16 people – Pouiatōa</p>	<p>Taranaki was to be the host for the annual fungal foray this year, with mycologists surveying different areas throughout the region to document fungi seen. ETEC took people out to the Pouiatōa and to Everett Park for this survey.</p>

Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Awards	~100 attendees	ETEC and Pukerangiora Hapū won the Environmental Action in the Community for the work restoring Everett Park Scenic Reserve. A video was made of this mahi and shown at the awards evening.
Ngāti Mutunga camp	8 people	Ngāti Mutunga whanau came out to the Pouiatoa for a camp and to survey the Waitara River and some tributaries as part of their Kaimihia Kōura survey for Curious Minds.
Predator Control Hui	65 Attendees	The Trust organised a predator control hui to bring the conservation community together, providing a platform to share learnings, challenges, and successes in pest management.
Volunteer day – A24 line expansion	8 volunteers	Volunteers helped the field team to install A24 traps as part of the Lotteries project to provide additional protection to the kōkako and other native species within the Pouiatoa.
National kōkako hui	~30 people	The Trust presented an update on the Pouiatoa kōkako population to the Kōkako Recovery Group and other community groups working in kōkako conservation.
Todd Energy Everett Park Fun Run	250 participants 13 volunteers	This event was partly fundraiser, but mainly about getting the local community out to Everett Park to enjoy the forest for the day.
Methanex kōkako surveys	12 staff	Staff from Methanex came out to the Pouiatoa to help survey the kōkako and see how their support helps us to protect this vulnerable species.



In 2024, the Trust has provided local Inglewood High School student Daniel Polata the opportunity to work with the ETEC field team as part of the New Zealand Gateway programme. Gateway is designed to support school students' transition into the workforce by offering them workplace learning while still in secondary school. Daniel helped with installing traps, checking and rebaiting traps, native bird monitoring such as kōkako and kiwi, and trap building.



Todd Energy Everett Park Fun Run

In June 2025, after an initial delay due to the weather, the Trust held a Fun Run in Everett Park to celebrate the East Taranaki Environment Trust turning 20 years old. Thanks to the generous funding from Todd Energy, as well as sponsored equipment, the Trust was able to hold this event for the first time. We'd like to say a huge thank you to the following supporters: Department of Conservation, Pukerangiora Hapū, Leading Traffic, Hirepool, Custom Medals, BSEEN Media, TGM, Tool Hire Taranaki, Cut a Trail Events, and Taranaki Community Stadium Trust.

There were 250 people that participated on the day, with events ranging from 2.5km, 4.5km, and 9km. The routes utilised the public track as well as the trapping tracks that ETEC has throughout Everett Park. Feedback on the day was that it was certainly an adventure, and that the bush was beautiful to run through. Money raised from the entry fees will go towards the pest control out in Everett Park and restoring the area.

Oakura Fire Brigade put on a great BBQ and offered coffees and hot drinks to the participants, with money raised from the koha going towards the running costs of their emergency response vehicles.



VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATION

Over the 2024-2025 year, our volunteers continued to support our efforts, again contributing more than 2,000 hours of volunteer time and support. The work within Everett Park is a large contributor of this. In 2024, four dedicated volunteers built a much needed shelter out at Purangi to protect our equipment. Every year it is incredible witnessing the difference that these voluntary hours make to our work and our team. It is because of this that the Trust is able to achieve what it does every year.

Our dedicated trappers

Our field team, though small, achieves great things thanks to our volunteer network and contractors. We extend our gratitude to all volunteers and contractors who regularly check traps. We have many dedicated volunteers who check traplines for the Trust every month. This includes in Everett Park and within the main project area. We'd like to extend our thanks to Allan Nokes, David Jull, Nathan Hall, Kay Kendall and Allan Flynn, Kevin Payne, the Tupu ā nuku rangatahi, Kama Burwell, and Frank de Lange. These regular checks are helping to keep pest numbers down and our native species thriving.

Between our field team, contractors, and volunteers, we have 1,900 mustelid traps that are checked and rebaited every month – quite the monumental feat. We'd like to thank our contractors for their continued work in this important space: the Iremonger family, the Chambers family, Andrew and Claudia Mansell, Harry Hall, Blake Rawlinson, and the Dodunski family. This year we caught a record number of mustelids!

Special thanks also to Aaron Chambers for helping the field team this year and filling in when we've needed an extra hand. Aaron has been an absolute weapon in the field!

New Plymouth Boys High School Prefect Camp

The Trust has been working with the NPBHS prefects since 2017, providing the opportunity to have a prefect camp in the Pouiaoa. This is always a great day, with the prefects learning essential leadership and communication skills while achieving the main task – regas and relure over 500 resetting traps in remote country. This year, the ETEC field team was joined by Taranaki Regional Council and the Department of Conservation to be mentors to the 19 prefects, helping



them with this task and taking them through the bush.

It's always a great day, and the Trust is appreciative of this collaboration. Being able to replenish half of the resetting trap network over 1,000ha in just one day not only helps the field team, but is helping all of our vulnerable species in the area.

MenzShed Partnership

We have continued to partner with the New Plymouth MenzShed this year. The Trust needed some specially made tunnels for mouse traps that could be installed in Everett Park, and MenzShed rose to this challenge. They built 70 tunnels for us that have been perfect for excluding most rats from the mouse tunnels, but allowing the mice in.

Purangi Shelter

We had a group of four very dedicated volunteers who built a shelter out at Purangi for the Trust. A huge thank you to our sponsors Taranakipine who donated and delivered the timber for this project, and to John, Robin, Wayne, and Daniel for building the shelter. Thanks also to John Velvin for leading the project, Mat Somerfield for helping with the planning and sourcing of materials, and Neil Barnes for putting together the initial plans.

This shelter has helped to protect the Trust's gear out at Purangi, and provided cover for the shipping container that has a leak. It's also used by the Trust's team to shelter whenever a passing shower goes through.

This team of builders provided 225 hours of voluntary work to build this shelter over July and August 2024 – an incredible effort!



Board of Trustees

Our board is dedicated to restoring and protecting native biodiversity within East Taranaki through a collaborative approach. We had a slight change to board this year, welcoming on Sarah Lucas. Sarah is an Inglewood local, part of the Inglewood Community Board, a business owner, and keen hiker/trail runner. It's been great to have her perspective on the board.

We thank our trustees—Rob Maetzig, Aaron Chambers, Anaru Marshall, John Haylock, Gavin Faull, Sam Haultain, Gloria Campbell, Sarah Lucas and



Jane Bowden-Dobson—for sharing their expertise, energy, wisdom, and passion. Special thanks to Rob for supporting Kat during the change in management, Jane for driving the Hakuturi project, and John for chairing the management committee.

Volunteer Recognition

The Trust values the input of our volunteers, and we wouldn't be able to achieve our outstanding conservation results without their contribution. Thank you for all that you do. Over the year we have had volunteers help out in many areas and the team would like to thank the following volunteers and acknowledge the following activities that have taken place:

- Chair of the Trust Rob Maetzig for sharing his communication and media expertise, and putting together the Trust's newsletters and any media releases.

- The dedicated Frank de Lange and rangatahi from Tupu ā nuku for their time and commitment to predator trapping.
- Cherry and Jane from Te Ara Taiao for helping with the Kaitiakitanga education sessions.
- To Wendy Hale for always being there for our field team when they need help.
- MenzShed for building mouse tunnels to help protect lizards at Everett Park.
- John, Daniel, Robin, and Wayne for building the shelter at Purangi.
- Students from New Plymouth Boys High and teacher Chris Harvey for regassing and reluring the resetting traps in the Pouiatoa The Department of Conservation and Taranaki Regional Council for helping to mentor on this day.
- Huirangi School, Todd Energy, Pukerangiora Hapū, DOC, Ballance, and Tupu ā nuku for regassing and reluring the resetting traps at Everett Park.
- Our volunteers who helped with the Fun Run on the day: Gloria and Lang Campbell, Aaron Chambers, the Somerfield family, Rob and Sue Maetzig, Jane Bowden-Dobson, Jo-anne Mowat and Allan Nokes, David Jull, Carolien Van Reekum, Darrel Chudleigh, and the Oakura Fire Brigade. Also thanks to Aaron and Jane for helping the field team to cut the tracks for the event.
- To our volunteers that are committed to checking traps at Everett Park; Allan Nokes, David Jull, Nathan Hall, Kay Kendall and Allan Flynn, Kevin Payne, Tupu ā nuku rangatahi, and Kama Burwell.
- Daniel Polata for helping our field team with pest control, and pest and native species monitoring.
- Our wonderful Trustees who volunteer their time to support and steer the direction of our Trust.
- Our backcountry volunteers - with a landscape sized project, and some pretty challenging terrain we are extremely thankful for these back country superstars.
- Mark Hale Contracting for helping the Trust keep on top of our tracks out to the Pouiatoa.
- TGM for their support to design and create the Trust's quarterly newsletter, and providing a sign for our new office base.
- Moxwai for their support to keep our website up to date.
- Philip Armitstead and the team at Thomson O'Neil for their support and assistance with legal services.
- Rumatiki Timu, Anaru Marshall and Ngāti Maru for providing the Trust with both cultural and iwi support.
- Jaqui, Nardia, and Noeline from Pukerangiora Hapū for providing cultural support and iwi support for our project at Everett Park and the proposed Taranaki Environment Centre.
- Anne-Maree and Ngāti Mutunga for support and planning with activities within their rohe.
- Jane Bowden-Dobson, Rob Maetzig, and Brady Gibbons for their continuous support and drive of the proposed Taranaki Environment Centre.
- Mazda Foundation for sponsoring the BT50 for the field team to use.
- Bruce and his team at Combined Motors for keeping our farm truck in working condition.
- Renny and his team at Johnston's for keeping our quad and side-by-side in working order.
- The team at Taranaki Kiwi Trust for always being there to help us out.
- Thanks to the team at Todd Energy and Te Ihowai, and tamariki from Waitoriki and Huirangi for helping to plant over 400 trees at Everett Park. Huge thanks to the Department of Conservation team for organising this day.
- To all of our landowners that trust us, our volunteers, and our contractors to work across their land.
- Our wonderful volunteer base for everything you do!

Thank you for volunteering we couldn't do what we do without you!



VALUE OF VOLUNTEER INPUT

We have estimated the value of work in-kind and volunteer hours for this year is \$154,767.50. This included over 2,100 volunteer hours, equipment use, travel, donated equipment and trade personnel time.



COLLABORATION

The Trust is committed to collaboration as we believe it is crucial for achieving long-term conservation success. Our mission is to build strong, authentic relationships with all our partners and the conservation community by sharing our expertise, knowledge, and skills as capacity allows.

This financial year, the Trust has actively supported various conservation organisations. We have contributed to lizard surveys at Rotokare, and assisted with kiwi catching at Rotokare and Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari in the Waikato.



PEST CONTROL HUI

For the second year, the Trust organised another Pest Control Hui, partnering with Wild for Taranaki and our hosts Ngāti Maru at the Te Upoko o Te Whenua marae. This hui is aimed at bringing together the pest control practitioners throughout the Taranaki region so that they can share knowledge and create a strong network. There were 65 participants from 16 different organisations. Special thanks to our speakers from Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Taranaki Regional Council, Predator Free 2050 Trust, Mt Messenger Alliance PMA team, Department of Conservation, Tiaki te Mauri o Parininihi Trust, and Feral Control.

The following day, Rotokare Scenic Reserve held a practical field day within their Halo project. This was to discuss different techniques and to have a more hands-on experience and discussion about pest management.

The Trust will continue to actively support other conservation organisations and extend our gratitude to the conservation community for their ongoing support and expertise.

We are all in this together.



MANAGER'S REPORT

Every year just keeps getting bigger for the Trust! We've been working across so many different avenues, but the core of what we do will always be our mission – restoring the native biodiversity in East Taranaki.

There's been so many accomplishments this year, and with the pace of the work, it's often hard to stop and reflect on this. Here are just a few of the milestones:

We reached 20 kōkako in our census survey! Increasing the kōkako has been a real battle for the team. While there were 20 kōkako introduced into the Pouiatoa in 2018, due to the contiguous forest in the area, with ~8,000ha of connected bush, many of these released kōkako dispersed from the area. Now, we're down to 5-6 founders from the released population. However, with the consistent pest control from the team and focus on bolstering this population, the hard work is paying off. In the past five years, we've managed to double the kōkako population! A huge thank you to Methanex for helping us with this. Their continued support has meant that we've been able to focus on building this population and doing what needs to be done.

A testament to the success of the restoration efforts of Everett Park were three milestones this year. One was the release of a copper skink into Everett Park, and the Reserve being classed as safe enough to be used as a lizard relocation site for the SH3 roadworks. This would not have been possible a few years ago when rats were at high levels in the Reserve. The second was reaching a 0% tracking rate for rats in the Reserve – an incredible reduction from the 72% tracking rate before the traps were installed in the area. And the third was ETEC and Pukerangiora Hapū winning the Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Award for Environmental Action in the Community. None of this would've been possible without our volunteers, community, and partnership with DOC and Pukerangiora Hapū.

We're built and strengthened so many more collaborations and partnerships over the past year, and the Taranaki Conservation Community is going from strength to strength and it's exciting being a part of it.

Each year the Trust achieves more, learns more, and takes a step closer to our ultimate goal of restoring the native biodiversity of East Taranaki. It wouldn't be possible without the support detailed throughout this report about our volunteers, contractors, landowners, Trustees, partners, and supporters.

I also want to acknowledge the incredible and hardworking team that I work with who really embrace our mission. With such a small team, it always amazes me what we can achieve every year. You all should be very proud of the work that we do.

Kat Strang
General Manager
East Taranaki Environment Collective
July 2025



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

East Taranaki Environment Trust For the year ended 30 June 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024
Revenue			
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities	1	71,375	55,181
General grants	2	526,127	478,557
Capital grants and donations	3	13,333	20,520
Government service delivery grants/contracts	4	-	116,760
Revenue from commercial activities	5	23,382	28,438
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	6	19,647	20,879
Other revenue	7	-	6,894
Total Revenue		653,864	727,230
Expenses			
Expenses relating to fundraising	8	2,813	257
Employee remuneration and other related expenses	9	386,998	442,572
Volunteer related expenses	10	2,968	3,708
Expenses related to commercial activities	11	-	1,078
Other expenses related to service delivery	12	112,133	105,418
Grants and donations made	13	-	(5,000)
Other expenses	14	13,245	22,897
Total Expenses		518,156	570,929
Surplus for the Year		135,708	156,301



SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

Over the year we have had support from the following organisations and businesses. We are extremely thankful for both new and continued support.

Our Partners



Funders:



SPONSORSHIP/SUPPORTERS:

- +More Taranaki
- Baker Tilly Staples Rodway
- Rotary North New Plymouth
- Razz Print
- New Plymouth Tramping Club
- Bidfoods
- Johnstons Motors
- Ballance
- Moxwai
- Combined Motors
- Thompson O'Neil
- Wendy Hale
- Mark Hale – Hale Contracting
- Move Foundation

