



Waimate North Landcare Trust

April 2007



Here we are in 2007 looking forward to another year of enhancing the Waimate North environment. We have funding in place for a good part of the year. Fund raising is, however, a constant task when we would sooner be working on the ground. We are very grateful to our funders for making our work possible.

Local community support is vital to our work. Subscriptions are an indication of the level of support for the Trust from the community. Potential funders look for this and for membership growth when deciding who should receive funding. It is therefore important for you as a member of the community, to show support so that the environment we are privileged to live in at Waimate

North, continues to benefit from the Trust's activities. The annual subscription is only \$10 per family. This is a small contribution which also helps towards our administration expenses. Trustees and some members put in hundreds of hours in 2006! Please join if you are not already a member, and if an existing member please ensure your membership is up to date. Try and imagine how different Waimate North would look if the native trees were ravaged by possums and our native birds were rarely seen.

We are looking forward to our community BBQ and Annual Field Day later in the year. We hope you find the articles in this newsletter interesting and of benefit to you.

Daryl Way, Chairperson



Landcare increases stocking rates

It is estimated that eight possum eat as much pasture as one stock unit. NZ Landcare Trust members and trappers killed 2131 possums in 2006. Our efforts therefore resulted in an extra carrying capacity in the region of 266 stock units!



NZ Landcare Trust

landcare action on the ground

Good News / Bad News: Kiwi numbers and protections



We have evidence that kiwi numbers are increasing in parts of our district. Unfortunately as young birds seek new territories they have to cross our roads. We are aware of four that have been killed. Please take care when driving at night, the possum you are trying to hit at night may be a kiwi!



When kiwi move to establish a new territory they will sleep in any cover, even in quite open areas. Please maintain good control of dogs, they love kiwi to death!

Although in other parts of New Zealand kiwi live to more than 50 years of age – this is reduced to an average of only 13 years in Northland! This is largely due to the impact of uncontrolled dogs.

We need your help to benefit you!

- **Feedback**

The Trust carries out monitoring to determine whether our operations are having the desired effect i.e. enhanced biodiversity values. For example, more kereru, kiwi, healthy trees. Feedback from members adds to our data and also indicates to potential funders that you care! If you can assist with monitoring work (e.g. counting kauri snails, kiwi calls) please contact a Trustee. Ten minutes a month completing parts of the monitoring form attached would be greatly appreciated.

- **Shooters and Trappers**

Our trappers do not have the time to work in all parts of the region. If you are controlling pests, please let us know so we can include your data.

- **Word Processing**

We occasionally need secretarial assistance. If you can help please contact a Trustee.

- **Children Wanted!**

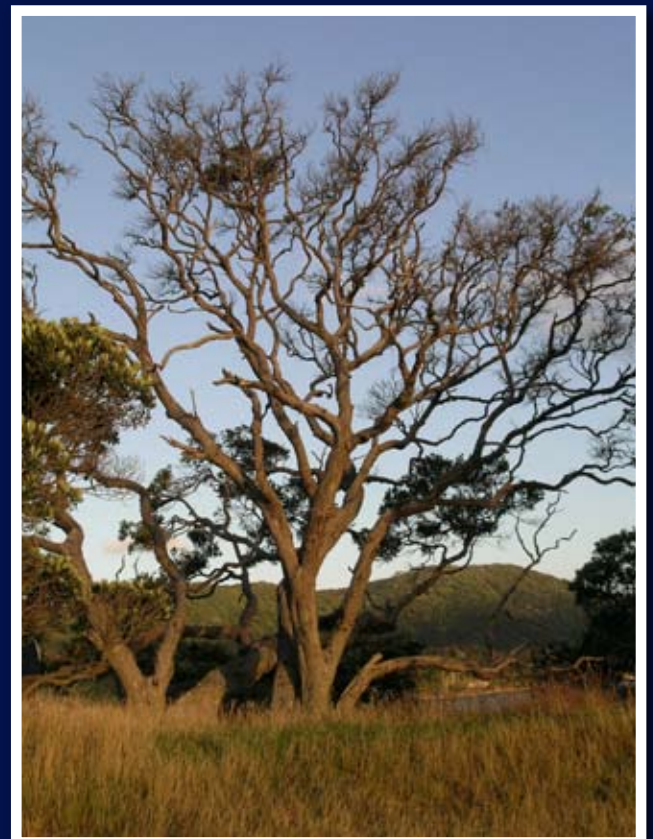
Get your kids involved in environmental protection and appreciation activities so we have a supply of active members for the future.

- **Freezer**

Can anyone donate an old freezer for our frozen bait supplies? We need a constant supply of rabbits for stoat bait.

- **Waimate North Website**

We have a volunteer who could establish a site, but we would need someone to maintain it. If you can assist please contact Phillip Saunders on 09 405 9249



Did you know?

If you go outside just after dark, in most parts of Waimate North on a still quiet night you will hear kiwi calling. Kiwi are now known to live to fifty plus years IF not predated by stoats, ferrets, cats and dogs, especially when they are young. How old are the kiwi in our back yard? If we have no young birds surviving, the calls we hear will eventually stop as the older birds die.

Annual Community Tree Auction



**- 6pm, Sunday the 13th May
2007, Showgrounds Hall**

There will be a shared meal followed by an auction of plants. Everyone is welcome. Please bring your own plate, cutlery, food and drink. BBQ meat is provided. Please also bring you cheque book if you want to purchase trees!

Putting the

life

into your lifestyle block

Waimate North Landcare and NZ Landcare Trust
invite you to a seminar



where

Waimate North Showgrounds, Showgrounds Rd
Waimate North

date

Saturday 28 April 2007

time

Start 10.00am with morning tea. Finish around 3.00pm
Lunch (and heating) will be provided

Speakers will cover:

Principles and details of weed and pest control
Productive use of lifestyle blocks
Assistance, funding and working with neighbours
Planting for life

There will be a comprehensive range of experts available to answer your questions.

An afternoon walk to nearby bush and wetland will be optional.

For more information, or to RSVP (appreciated for catering purposes) please contact Helen Moodie,
(09) 435 3863 or helen.moodie@landcare.org.nz

Funding and Sponsors

"Five funding applications were prepared in 2006. Four were successful. Please acknowledge the following if you have the opportunity as they make our activities possible."



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

DOC Biodiversity Condition Fund

Providing \$11,250 for each of the next three years, which enables us to employ the trapper for one and a half days per week (2005 was 1 day a week)



WWF

Providing \$8775 funding for July 2006 to August 2007



Northland Regional Council

Providing \$3000



Far North District Council

Providing \$3500



This funding enables us to employ trapping contractors (Scott Candy, Maia Wheoki and Tim Grant) for two and a half days a week and supply them with equipment and poisons.

Trustee names and phone numbers:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| • Daryl Way (chair) | 405 9981 | • John Crawford | 405 0468 |
| • Mike Simmons (Treasurer) | 405 9590 | • Jim Shaw | 405 9500 |
| • Howard Dixon (Secretary) | 405 9762 | • Philip Saunders | 405 9249 |
| • Geoff Wightman | 405 9640 | • Justin Blaikie | 405 9868 |
| • Ernie Taylor | 405 9759 | | |

Produced by NZ Landcare Trust Communications

Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions for the year ending July 2007 are now due and are still only \$10.00 per family. They can be forwarded to Waimate North Landcare Trust, Showgrounds Road, RD2 Kaikohe 0400

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Subscription: \$10.00

Donation: _____

Total: _____

As Waimate North Landcare is a registered charitable trust, donations are tax deductible