

ENVIRONMENT

Community conservation on the Kapiti Coast

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Inspired by the success of nearby predator-free Kapiti Island, residents of the Kapiti Coast are working together to create safe homes for wildlife in local wild spaces.

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Steve Whitton with one of only two shore coprosma (*Coprosma acerosa*) plants in Queen Elizabeth Park photo Alison Ballance

Teams of volunteers work on projects as diverse as building weta houses, counting birds, putting nest boxes for little penguins along the coast, growing and replanting rare dune plants, restoring degraded streams that run through farms and predator trapping.

The [Kapiti Mainland Island](#) biodiversity project was set in motion by the late [John Lancashire](#). It brings together existing groups such as the Friends of Queen Elizabeth Park, and the Guardians of Whareroa and Nga Uruora, and last year was awarded [\\$300,000](#) from the Ministry for the Environment.

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Steve Whitton with one of only two shore coprosma (*Coprosma acerosa*) plants in Queen Elizabeth Park photo Alison Ballance



This male sand coprosma plant in Queen Elizabeth park is being eroded into the sea photo Alison Ballance



Shore bidibidi seedlings photo Alison Ballance



Foliage of the divaricating sand coprosma photo Alison Ballance



Sue Blaikie and a penguin box tucked amongst flax in the sand dunes photo Alison Ballance



Michael Stace checks a stoat and rat trap photo Alison Ballance



Paul Callister with new technology that helps monitor all the predator trapping photo Alison Ballance



A map of all the predator trap locations in Queen Elizabeth park photo Alison Ballance



A replanted area and public track on Whareroa Farm Park photo Alison Ballance



Jan Nisbet in the kohekohe forest with a weta house photo Alison Ballance



Wellington tree weta in a weta house photo Alison Ballance



Kohekohe flowers are a sign of effective possum trapping photo Alison Ballance



Jean Fleming and ngaio replanted along a ditch on the farm at Queen Elizabeth park
photo Alison Ballance



Willows replanted along a silty weedy farm stream with the aim of shading out weeds
photo Alison Ballance