



WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

Update 01 February 2023

Next Working bee Sunday, Feb 12th, 9 to Noon. NOT the 5th

Releasing the wetland plants below the Hub. Morning tea provided. Drive in to the Hub if you wish but leave gates as you find them. All Welcome. Morning tea provided. Ground muddy in places. Gloves and grubbers needed.

2023 will be our 16th year of caring for Whareroa. The first 7000 natives arrived in Jan 2007.

Last working bee Sunday, Dec 4th

This was a wonderful mega clear/tidy up of the shed and the “stuff” along the hedge by the entrance. Kapiti mountain bike club members joined us. There was a lot of rubbish – old fencing wire, abandoned bicycles, an old tank, metal cupboards and shelves, an old BBQ etc. Recyclables were moved to a safer location. Macauley’s Metals took the metal away for free. DOC will remove the remainder. A new place will be allocated for stuff/rubbish as it is removed – particularly old fencing. Some battens have been used for recycled furniture.





Many thanks to: Shane Williamson, Peter Kentish, Ann Evans, Denys Crengle, Dawn Bush, Janet Walker, Bruce Bulmer, Ken Fraser, Jan Nisbet, Liffet Stewart, Ben, Eric, Alba & Alex Morton, Steve Lewis, Cherie Ruscoe, Eeuwe Schuckard. It was good to have “morning tea” together again – thanks Liffet.



“After” -

Kapiti “Coastal Crew” working bee



A gang of regular Whareroa mountain bikers – the Coastal Crew, did a fantastic job clearing the Intake and Red Tape Tracks right up to the bush. Many thanks bikers. Thanks also for their regular seasons greeting, up at Five Ways. (see below).



DOC have also spent several days working on their tracks which had become very overgrown. Shane Williamson, Bruce Bulmer and Denys Crengle have also been working on tracks over the summer. Thanks guys.

New retired area by culvert

It is so good to have the new culvert and to have the stream fenced off from stock. Denys has removed the old fence so native planting can now follow both banks and join existing planting. The Marines Trust have replaced their sign explaining the concrete pillars (broken by a tree fall). An area of wetland is now retired and will be planted this winter. Shade is needed to stop the horrible celery weed. However, some animals like it – the leopard slug (Limux maximus) below emerged as weed was cleared and an eel wriggled away.



Leopard slug, about 12cm long



Part of the zone for planting

Whareroa Seeds: Pigeon wood,

Carex secta and

Mahoe



Mahoe is the tree that will germinate under gorse and then grows through and suppresses it. One can see huge expanses of gorse on the Whareroa hills already replaced by mahoe. Thus restoration happens naturally. It is lucky that patches of mature native forest remained to provide seed sources. Our planting just helps speed it up.

Generally working bees are the first Sunday each month, 9 to noon.

www.kapitibiodiversity.org.nz/whareroa

whareroa.guardians@gmail.com for email

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