



# WHAREROA GUARDIANS COMMUNITY TRUST

## Update 02 March 2023

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**Next Working bee Sunday, March 5th, 9 to Noon.**

Working on the Ramaroa Wetland tracks and Totara Ridge. Vegetation is encroaching in places – flax a particular hazard. On Totara Ridge gorse is beginning to return – and there are thistles. We need to keep the totara clear and aiming to keep the terrain between them open. All Welcome. Please bring your own morning tea – the logistics for us to provide this are too difficult at the moment. Gloves, hand saws, secateurs and grubbers needed.



From Coastal Lookout Track this morning

Quite a lot has been happening at Whareroa in the last month. See recent alert.

The old ngaio in the Dell at last toppled over. It had looked vulnerable for some time. A bypass track is present – please don't let children climb on it as parts are very rotten. Luckily, both tables have survived. DOC will cut it down when they have time – only some staff can do this work.



Happier times for the tree – shading musicians on Opening Day April 2011

## Last working Bee Feb 15th

We released the wetland plants below the Hub – many were totally covered by climbing weeds but popped up happily. Quite a few carex did not survive due to pukeko. Guards helped. Swamp trees: kahikatea, matai and pukeatea were particularly happy amongst the shelter of flax and Ti Kouka. Also giant rush and coprosma tenuicaulis.



**Many thanks to:** Ian Redward, Ann Evans, Denys Crengle, Bruce Bulmer, Ellen Soulliere, Sue Campbell, Brian May, Rachel Calvert, Craig Belcher, Amanda, Daniel, Peter & Tim Cottrell



Carex secta - dark green older, pale last year



We cleared the gorse here

## Horse (Carex Valley) Track slip

The edge of part of the Horse Track slumped towards of the bottom of the steep section at the head of the valley, just after the “Stile to Nowhere”. It is no longer safe for use by horses. Walkers can still pass this section with care. It has occurred where a small water seepage under the bank crossed the track and caused erosion. Horses can still access Campbell’s Mill Rd via East Ridge Track and return the same way as well as use the Ramaroa/Rocks/Ti Kouka circuit.



## Volunteer activity

Our track mowers continue to do sterling work – thanks Denys and Bruce. Janet W has been cutting gorse along the main valley time and has cleared it and is now starting on a new area. The blackberry team are active every Tuesday morning and Ann & Jan are roaming in the early mornings, grubbing thistles, clearing gorse and checking things out. The trappers are out regularly – pleased to be boosted by Scott who is back from overseas for a month. Scott looks after our online presence from afar – much appreciated Scott, thanks. Helen G monitors birds every month and has built up an impressive data base.

The zone by the new culvert has been cleared of fencing and will be planted this winter.

The Trustees have been working with DOC on a revision of the Farm Plan – a slow and complex process. Volunteer input contributes hugely to the reserve. Many thanks to all.

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