

A YEAR IN KIWI CONSERVATION

Annual Report 2021-2022



Save
the kiwi



I ngā rā o nehe, matomato ana te ora o te ngahere, ā, kurupākara te kauru o te ngahere i te waiata a ngā manu. Engari ngōki haere ana ngā ngārara i runga me raro i ngā kōhiwi o ngā rākau, te kaikai haere, e āta patu haere i ngā rākau nui o te ngahere mai i roto ki waho.

I tono a Tānemahuta rāua ko tana taina a Tānehokahoka ki ngā manu rērere i te takiwā kia heke mai i runga ka noho ki te papa ki te kai i ngā ngārara e patu nei i ngā rākau. I te matakū a Tūi i te pō, kāore a Pūkeko i hiahia kia mākū ōna waewae, ā, i te warea a Pīpīwharaua me āna ki te āwhina. Engari kotahi te manu i whakaae kia wehe ia i tōna kōhanga me ōna hoa mō te ora o te wao nui a Tāne.

Ko te Kiwi taua manu. Ka whakarērea e Kiwi ōna parirau, tae tīahoaho, me tōna kōhanga i roto i ngā peka kia noho ki te papa o te ngahere makariri, pōuri, haukū mō te paunga o ōna rā.

Nā tēnei whakahere nui me tōna whakaaro mō te katoa, ka noho koinei te manu rongonui rawa atu, e tino arohaina e ngā manu katoa.

I tēnei rā, i te tōnga o te rā i Aotearoa, i te putanga mai o ngā whetū ka takoto kau ana tātau i te pō, ka oreore a Kiwi, ka tū, ka āta whakaputa i tōna mähunga i tōna rua. Ka tatari, ka tiroiro, ka rapu kei hea ia. Kātahi ka puta i tōna rua ka haere i te pō, ki tāna mahi.

Engari i tēnei wā, ko te manu i whakarere i ōna parihau mō te painga o te wao nui a Tāne kei te raru. Ko te mōrearea onāianeī ehara ko ngā ngārara engari ko ngā wīhara me ētahi atu konihi i heria mai i tāwāhi. Kua kore e haumarū te papa mō Kiwi ināianeī. I te ao te pō, kei te noho mātakutaku a Kiwi.

I ngā wāhi kua tutuki ngā mahi, kei te hoki mai ngā kiwi ki Aotearoa. Engari kei te heke haere tonu te taupori kiwi ā-motu mā te 2% i ia tau, ā, he maha ngā tāngata o Aotearoa kei te noho kūare kei te noho tūpono tā tātau manu rongonui o te motu ki te korehāhā.

Kei te hiahia te kiwi kia āwhinatia e tātau.

Nā, me whakaora e tātau te kiwi.



Long ago, the ngahere flourished with life and the canopy was filled with birdsong. But insects from the ground crawled up and down the tree trunks, eating as they went, slowly killing the giants of the forest from the inside out.

Tānemahuta and his brother Tānehokahoka asked the birds of the air for a volunteer to leave the canopy and live on the ground to eat the bugs that were killing the trees. Tūi was scared of the dark, Pūkeko didn’t want to get his feet wet, and Pīpīwharaua was just too busy to help. But one bird was prepared to leave his home and his friends for the sake of the rest of the forest.

That bird was Kiwi. Kiwi sacrificed his wings, bright colours, and home in the branches to reside on the cold, dark, damp forest floor for the rest of his days.

And for his great sacrifice, he became the most well-known and most loved bird of them all.

Today, when the sun sets over Aotearoa, as the stars come out and we all settle down for the night Kiwi stirs, stands, and cautiously pokes his head out of his burrow. He pauses, looks around, gets his bearings. Then he rustles out of his burrow and away into the inky night, away to start his day.

But now, the bird that sacrificed himself for the sake of the rest of the forest is in trouble.

Stoats and other introduced predators have replaced insects as the threat.

The ground is no longer safe for Kiwi. While the birds of the air enjoy freedom in the canopy, Kiwi lives in fear.

The kiwi population is declining by 2% every year, and many New Zealanders have no idea that our national icon is in danger of extinction.

The kiwi needs our help. Now, we must save the kiwi.



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The last 12 months in a ~~nutshell~~ an eggshell



jobs created through
Jobs for Nature



chicks hatched at the
Crombie Lockwood
Kiwi Burrow



raised in one record breaking
donation day during
Jarden's Save the Kiwi Day



\$50,000
donated by an NFT creator



53,000
additional hectares of
safe habitat through
Jobs for Nature funding



1,000
kiwi estimated to be at
Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari

“We are more confident than ever that our strategy is working.”



From the Chair

Richard Leggat

Save the Kiwi has had another very pleasing year with great progress made on several fronts, despite significant Covid disruption. We are more confident than ever that our strategy is working, and we are now aiming for abundance rather than simply reversing long term declines in kiwi populations.

What’s really pleasing is that we are now seeing increasing numbers of kiwi in many areas, and for the first time ever a kiwi species has come off the Department of Conservation’s threatened list. North Island brown kiwi are now classed as ‘not threatened’ with a ‘conservation dependent’ caveat, which is a marked improvement on the various threatened categories and proves to us that the mahi we do and support is working. But the work is certainly not over, and we are looking at this reclassification as further motivation to continue ramping up our work.

Our Kōhanga Kiwi work is seeing good results, and Jobs for Nature continues to enable us to significantly boost our support of third parties growing safe kiwi habitat. We are hopeful that 2023 will see our first translocations from Maungatautari to replenish depleted kiwi populations in areas with predator control, and all going well hundreds of kiwi a year will be available from Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari indefinitely. Motutapu is not too far behind Maungatautari, albeit with lower numbers, and good results are being achieved at Cape Sanctuary too.

Our next main strategic ambition is to work with more large-scale landowners. Midway through the year we signed an exciting partnership with Comvita whereby we provide predator control expertise that Comvita uses to lift the biodiversity of their large land holdings. Our aim is to work with Comvita to create more safe habitat for kiwi and ultimately have thriving kiwi populations on Comvita’s properties. This ties perfectly with Comvita’s aim of lifting biodiversity, because if kiwi can thrive, most other native flora and fauna will thrive as well. Developing this work further has led us to discussions with the forestry sector and other large-scale landowners.

We welcomed two new trustees to the board during the year. Miriama Kamo and Alistair Ryan have been wonderful additions with Miriama’s media knowledge and contacts being extremely useful and Alistair’s in-depth board and finance experience adding a great deal to our governance capability. Miriama and Alistair replace Peter Cullinane and Evan Williams who have both been extremely valuable as trustees and contributed significantly to help get us to where we are today. My sincere thanks go to both Peter and Evan.

Our financial position remains healthy and while government is easily our biggest funder, we are extremely grateful to our two largest corporate partners, Jarden and Crombie Lockwood. Both contributed significant amounts over the last financial year, and we are extremely appreciative of both companies’ ongoing support. They are by no means our only supporters and we have developed a really great team of corporate partners with new additions this year including Signature Homes, Comvita, and First Mortgage Trust.

Our endowment fund has seen small but steady growth with Covid lockdowns preventing many kiwi experience opportunities from taking place. We have found providing potential donors with a genuine kiwi experience is often a catalyst for a donation, so over the coming year we are hopeful we will be able to do a lot more hosting. With Jobs for Nature funding scheduled to end in 2025, the focus is to build a fund that can generate income to help substitute the completion of the Jobs for Nature contracts.

My thanks again go to a very capable and supportive board, and to Michelle and her executive team for their continued enthusiasm and excellence in delivery of this very important kaupapa. We look forward to another successful year as we build on this momentum.

From the Executive Director

Michelle Impey

The adage “success begets success” has never been truer as we see momentum building for our organisation. 17 years ago when I took over what was then the BNZ Save the Kiwi Trust, I was the only fulltime employee. It is with enormous pride that I look across our organisation at the incredibly talented and passionate team we have attracted, from the board through to the rest of the organisation.

In October we launched Save the Kiwi, replacing Kiwis for kiwi as our public facing brand and trading name. This better articulates who we are and what we do, and our vibrant visual assets are a welcome departure from the typical greens and browns of conservation. We are an organisation and a cause for everyone in New Zealand – and beyond – and we feel this new approach reflects our mahi more accurately.

Returning kiwi to abundance is our primary goal and the intention behind our flagship Kōhanga Kiwi kaupapa. This involves collecting wild eggs, incubating them, and releasing the chicks to a predator-free site that is geographically confined. Over time the site will fill as the founder population breeds, and the excess young can be removed and released to safe places in the wild to create new populations or bolster sparse ones.

A significant milestone will be reached soon with kiwi out of Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari being gifted to safe areas in the wild. This initiative alone will see kiwi in the western side of the North Island growing well past the national goal of 2% per year. But having kiwi for release is only a small portion of the mahi to be done. We have a year of trials and research ahead of us as we explore the safest and most economical methods to find, catch, and transport hundreds of kiwi every year. It is a great problem to have!

Ensuring there are safe sites and that the people at place are ready to receive is equally important. We are very proud of our work this year alongside Ngāti Korokī Kahukura, mana whenua of Maungatautari, to support their tonono (gifting) process. The gifting of kiwi starts with the relationships between iwi at both gifting and receiving sites being established and sound.

For the Hauraki region, we are populating Motutapu Island by releasing Coromandel brown kiwi to the motu to establish a kōhanga population. This work was paused last season because a rāhui was placed on the island following a stoat incursion. Nearby predator-free Rotoroa Island came to the rescue as a safe place to hold chicks until the rāhui was lifted. We continue to work in partnership with the Rotoroa Island Trust and are grateful for their support.

Eastern brown kiwi are potentially in the most dire situation of the four regions of the North Island. Working alongside other projects in the region, we have progressed a regional workplan which will be completed in the coming year. Operation Nest Egg and Kōhanga Kiwi will play a key role. Several private landowners are building predator-free fenced sanctuaries that we hope can support kiwi populations.

“Over 50,000ha of safe habitat has been created, and that will grow to nearly 100,000 in the next couple of years. Since the scheme started in 2020, 106,467 hours of paid employment have been created for people who are building careers protecting te taio”



Cape Sanctuary is already established and is now ready to start gifting kiwi to the wild. Cape Sanctuary provides living proof that kiwi thrive in mixed-use landscape of farming, forestry, and native bush. A permit for the first release of kiwi from the sanctuary was lodged this year, and we look forward to that being the first of many.

We enjoyed another successful year at our purpose-built kiwi egg incubation facility, the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow, located at Wairakei Golf + Sanctuary in Taupō, with 98 eggs successfully hatched. Our ongoing thanks go to Wairakei owner Gary Lane for his support of our work, and of course to Crombie Lockwood whose support covers 100% of the operating costs. We enjoyed a 100% success rate at our kiwi crèche in Napier, with 46 chicks arriving at the facility at four weeks of age. Those same chicks grew to a healthy release weight of 1kg or more before being released to the wild.

Our Māori Engagement team supports and guides our team as we increase our knowledge of te ao Māori and what it means to truly work in partnership. There is no one-size-fits-all for engaging people in conservation, and volunteering to do this mahi isn't always an option. Ensuring there is capacity building and paid contracts to help bring Māori into the conservation mahi is part of our focus. The entire Save the Kiwi team has

embarked on evening tikanga and te reo classes to help increase our understanding and comfort, and our team supported the delivery of Kāhui Taiao Tūroa, a digital Iwi in Conservation hui this year – another product of this pandemic era.

As we look to the coming year, I am excited for what lies ahead. For the most part, our Jobs for Nature-funded initiatives have their trap infrastructure in place and are now in maintenance mode. Over 50,000ha of safe habitat has been created, and that will grow to nearly 100,000 in the next couple of years. Since the scheme started in 2020, 106,467 hours of paid employment have been created for people who are building careers protecting te taio. The opportunity in front of us is to leverage the power of kiwi and our brand to encourage large landowners with deeper pockets than us to undertake predator control. This will of course provide more safe habitat for kiwi, but will also protect other flora and fauna and help inch Aotearoa towards our Predator Free 2050 goal. This is the light at the end of the tunnel.

Until then, we will continue to grow as many kiwi as we can so their night calls will fill the sound of Predator Free New Zealand.

An enormous thank you to our incredibly dedicated team who lend their name, mana, and expertise to this cause. We are making history with this work.

New name, same vision

In October 2021, Kiwis for kiwi rebranded to Save the Kiwi as a literal nod to the daily mahi our teams, projects, and partners put into saving our national icon.

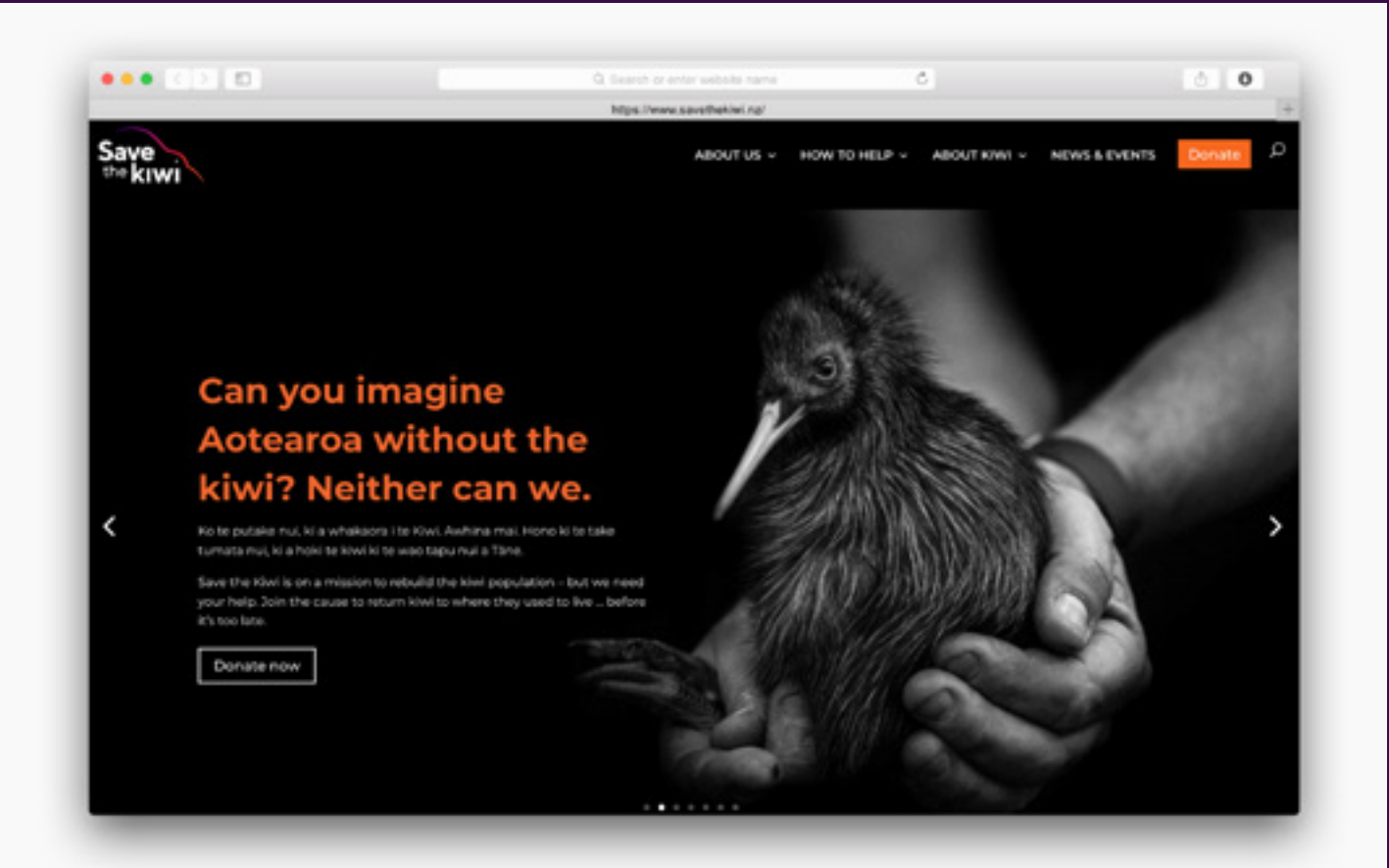
The rebrand journey started out as a project to simply modernise our dated website and logo. However, the further we got down the redesign route, the more we realised that Kiwis for kiwi as a brand name was no longer fit for purpose. It had always been difficult to understand and frequently required an explanation that we supported the bird, not the fruit, and weren't a KiwiSaver provider or support group for New Zealanders in need! Because the te reo alphabet does not have an 's' in it, referring to ourselves as 'Kiwis' was becoming increasingly sensitive too.

Our brief to The Hatchery, our wonderful (aptly named!) design agency, was to create a vibrant, uplifting brand that encourages people to get behind a cause that is going places. We wanted our purpose to be easily understood, and we wanted to avoid the traditional greens and browns normally associated with conservation.

The result is a vibrant brand that removes all confusion, is hopeful and joyful, and addresses the 's' in our former name. The colour palette reflects the setting sun as the kiwi wakes up for the night, and it's wonderful to see the oranges and purples of the Save the Kiwi brand contrasting with the greens and browns of the bush.

Launched as part of Save the Kiwi Week 2021, the rebrand has enjoyed positive uptake from our internal team through to the rest of the kiwi community. In fact, it feels like we've been Save the Kiwi forever, which proves that sometimes it's better to say exactly what it is on the tin. Ever since the launch, our team has found it easier to articulate our purpose to prospective donors and sponsors and connect with the wider kiwi community.

Special thanks must go to The Hatchery for interpreting our brief in such a dynamic way and creating such a wonderful brand that our team is proud to wear.





Halberg award winners become Save the Kiwi ambassadors

To celebrate the launch of the Save the Kiwi brand in October 2021, we welcomed New Zealand Olympian Dame Lisa Carrington to the team in an ambassador role. Dame Lisa and her cavoodle Colin are the faces of our 'holiday dog programme' which encourages dog owners to reconsider taking their pet dogs on holiday or into places where kiwi might live with them during the holidays.

In March 2022, New Zealand cricket captain Kane Williamson joined the team as an ambassador too. We welcomed him to the team with a visit to the Wairakei crèche, where he and his family got up close and personal with a juvenile kiwi that was due a health check.

It's an absolute privilege to have not one but two Halberg sportspeople of the year join the Save the Kiwi team! Dame Lisa and Kane join a high-calibre collection of Save the Kiwi patrons and ambassadors, including Sir John Key and Helen Clark who are endowment fund patrons, along with Kat Quin, Ruud Kleinpaste, and Sir Graham Henry.





Kiwi chick hatches live on TV to squeals of excitement

It was a very special morning on TVNZ's Breakfast on February 16th, when a kiwi chick hatched on live television right before the 8 o'clock news.

Breakfast was live streaming the egg from an incubator at the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow in Taupō, when right on 8am the chick decided to kick free from its shell and

hatch in front of four very excited presenters and thousands of New Zealanders watching from home.

"It's in there thinking, 'What the hell is going on?!'" Breakfast host John Campbell exclaimed. "There's a world outside the egg. Go, you little bird."

"We're proud of you," Breakfast's Matty McLean added. "It's really magic."

Breakfast invited viewers to name the chick, and the chosen name was 'Parakuihi' which is te reo for 'breakfast', in honour of the show.

Six weeks after 'Parakuihi' hatched, Breakfast presenter Jenny-May Clarkson accompanied representatives from Save the Kiwi, the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow, and Ngāti Koroki Kahukura to release the bird into its new forever-home at Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari.



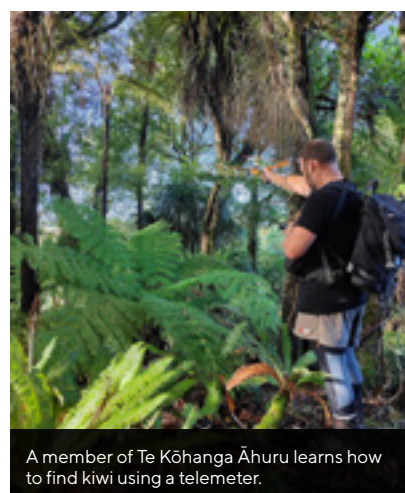


Predator control advisor Cam Rathe, Sam Green and Jacqui Basset from Department of Conservation head office, community engagement coordinator Michelle Worth, and Michelle Impey and Stasia Wharepouri from Save the Kiwi check out some of the land The Forest Bridge Trust is helping to protect near Matakana, north of Auckland.

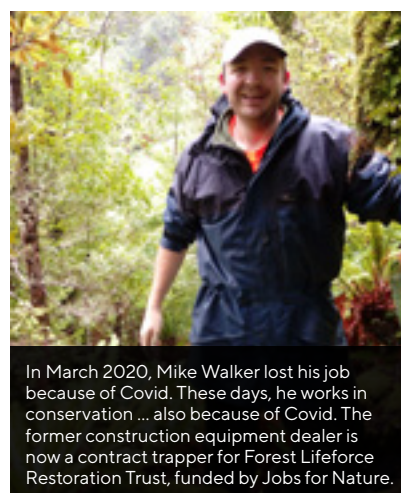


Taranaki iwi-led group Te Kōhanga Āhuru completes a training session with National Predator Control Advisor John Bissell.

Some people who lost their jobs during the pandemic are now finding valuable employment in other fields, while others have relished the opportunity to return to their rohe and iwi to work alongside their people.



A member of Te Kōhanga Āhuru learns how to find kiwi using a telemeter.



In March 2020, Mike Walker lost his job because of Covid. These days, he works in conservation ... also because of Covid. The former construction equipment dealer is now a contract trapper for Forest Lifeforce Restoration Trust, funded by Jobs for Nature.



Sian Potier and Tamsin Ward-Smith host a kiwi call survey and acoustics trainings workshop at Awakeri and in the Omataroa Forest near Whakatāne. Funded by Jobs for Nature, the course is an introduction to kiwi, their special traits, and the principles behind surveying kiwi using their calls.



Kristy Owens is the kiwi ranger at Paparoa Wildlife Trust on the South Island's West Coast where she looks after roroa/great spotted kiwi. Her role is funded by Jobs for Nature.

Jobs for Nature creates jobs & conservation gains

In September 2020, Save the Kiwi was the recipient of a \$19.7 million funding package through Jobs for Nature. Our 12 projects have made great progress in the 2021/22 financial year. Combined, 45.01 full-time equivalents (FTEs) were created, adding up to 68.24 since funding was announced. Approximately 18 months into the funding period, we're well on our way to creating our goal of 100 FTEs over the lifetime of the scheme.

Speaking with some of these new hires who are on the ground, Jobs for Nature is proving to be changing not only local conservation but also lives. Some people who lost their jobs during the pandemic are now finding valuable employment in other fields, while others have relished the opportunity to return to their rohe and iwi to work alongside their people.

For example, the Kiwi at Home | Kiwi i te Kāinga project on the Coromandel peninsula has launched a trap-building social enterprise in partnership with local iwi Pare Hauraki. All kiwi conservation groups involved in the project, as well as other conservation groups outside the kiwi kaupapa, will purchase traps from this group, making this enterprise sustainable beyond the duration of Jobs for Nature funding.

Sustainability is a major focus for Jobs for Nature projects: how to ensure they can continue the momentum they've created once funding stops. One project, a kiwi monitoring and handling training programme in Taranaki with a particular focus on mana whenua, exists to train and upskill local people in practical kiwi conservation skills that will help them secure long-term employment beyond the Jobs for Nature scheme.

Although Jobs for Nature was initially created as an employment-generating programme, the biodiversity outcomes are equally important. So far, our projects are now protecting an additional 53,000 hectares of potential kiwi habitat (with the goal of hitting 96,682 by the end of the scheme), which means more of our ngāhere is becoming safer for kiwi to live in in the future.

Local jobs for local rangatahi

“Jobs for Nature sets you up with that real job experience and it’s pretty cool it’s offered to people. And anyone I talk to want to stay in conservation because of Jobs for Nature. I know I do.”



For many New Zealanders, the opportunity to work in the outdoors all day every day is what dreams are made of.

For Māia Gibbs, the appeal of the outdoors has always run deep. The 21-year-old was born and bred on her family’s farm in Tongapōrutu, northern Taranaki. She worked for several years in her dad’s beekeeping business, then embarked on a quintessential OE to Canada. When she returned to Aotearoa, a friend invited her to do some volunteer hours checking possum lines while she worked in hospitality. From here, Māia was hooked on conservation.



In 2021, Māia heard about a new kiwi training programme being hosted at Pukearuhe Marae. A Save the Kiwi initiative funded by Jobs for Nature, the kiwi training programme was established to support local conservation groups and mana whenua to learn practical kiwi conservation skills. For Māia, it was an in-road to a paid role in kiwi conservation.

“I did the kiwi training programme and had such a good time,” says Māia. “At the same time, I was trying really hard to get more volunteer hours because I just loved it. Then I got sent an application for a role at Taranaki Kiwi Trust. I went for it, had an interview on the Mounga which was special, and got it. And now I’m working in a job that I really love.”

Before landing an Apprentice Kiwi Habitat Protection Ranger role at Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Māia hadn’t seen a kiwi in the wild before.

“I’d hear them all the time, but I’d never seen one,” she says. “They’re such an interesting bird. Knowing that kiwi might be there but never actually seeing them is quite special.”



Sian Potier who runs the Save the Kiwi training programme says its purpose is to introduce complementary skills to the conservation work already happening in the area.

“There are a number of fantastic conservation projects happening in the Taranaki region with a focus on predator control, and we want to upskill local people to be able to carry out kiwi survey work within their own project areas,” says Sian.

Sian says Jobs for Nature is doing wonders for conservation in the Taranaki region.

“Jobs for Nature has been incredible for the conservation community here in Taranaki as it has given people from all walks of life the opportunity to learn practical and technical skills that will help them become the country’s future conservation leaders.”

Māia says getting involved with Jobs for Nature was the ideal way to step into a career that she loves.

“Jobs for Nature sets you up with that real job experience and it’s pretty cool it’s offered to people. And anyone I talk to want to stay in conservation because of Jobs for Nature. I know I do.”

Mana whenua take the lead to release kiwi to safe spaces

In the coming months Save the Kiwi expects to reach a significant milestone, with the first taonga kiwi in our Kōhanga Kiwi programme to be removed from Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari and gifted to safe spaces in the wild. The successful gifting of kiwi builds on the foundation laid by mana whenua in the original receiving of taonga.

The translocation of this taonga is proof that Kōhanga Kiwi has been and will continue to be extremely successful. As kiwi are returned to the wild to rebuild large and resilient populations, the connections of people to this taonga are also strengthened. Abundance builds opportunity.

Gifting kiwi from Maungatautari is helping to change how work with taonga is carried out. Tikanga and mana to mana relationships rightfully sit at the heart of these processes.

At the same time, a lot of research and many trials are ahead of us as we explore the safest and most economical ways to find, catch, and transport potentially hundreds of kiwi out of Maungatautari and into safe habitat every year.

About Kōhanga Kiwi

Kōhanga Kiwi is a world-leading kiwi repopulation strategy driven by Save the Kiwi that aims to supercharge the North Island brown kiwi population. We work in partnership with whānau, hapū, iwi, the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai, landowners, kiwi conservation projects and groups, organisations, and everyday people who are passionate about saving our national icon.

Kōhanga Kiwi takes Operation Nest Egg, a nationwide kiwi recovery tool, one step further. Kōhanga Kiwi works to increase kiwi population growth by taking kiwi eggs out of the wild, incubating, hatching, and raising them in captivity, then releasing them into predator-free kōhanga sites where they'll live the rest of their days finding a mate, breeding, and generally living their best life without fear of predators.

When these kōhanga sites have reached capacity, the offspring of the original founder population will be either returned to the regions where their ancestors came from or used to bolster existing populations or create new ones.

Progress in Pureora

The Save the Kiwi Māori engagement team has been supporting other iwi groups to prepare for the return of kiwi in the future. Robert John and his team at Pureora have been doing wonderful mahi establishing the Pureora Pest Control Halo in a project initiated with Jobs for Nature funding. This mahi increases the effectiveness of established pest control in Pureora to protect taonga such as pekepeke and whio, and paves the way for future return of kiwi to boost the small remnant population.

Robert John's team has hit the ground running. They're now looking to secure further contract work to supplement the pest control and Timber Trail mahi currently on their books. It is the ability to generate these streams of income as preferred contractors that ensures people can stay 'at place' and keep building the experience and skillsets of kaimahi. This creates supportive work and a positive learning environment for rangatahi to get into te taiao work, which in turn strengthens community and wellbeing. We're proud of the work that Robert John and his team are doing and look forward to the day when kiwi are released back to Pureora.



Predator control a major focus of kiwi conservation

When you think ‘kiwi conservation’, you’d be forgiven for only thinking about cute fluffy chicks. In fact, a huge amount of kiwi conservation revolves around predator control. Many volunteer trappers may never meet a kiwi despite committing a huge part of their life to saving the species.

Over the last 12 months, predator control has been front of mind for not only groups protecting kiwi at place but also the wider Save the Kiwi strategy. Groups on the ground are well-versed in trapping to protect the ngāhere, and while creating safe habitat for kiwi has always been a priority for Save the Kiwi it’s becoming increasingly important the closer we get to the significant milestone of translocating kiwi from the predator-free Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari out into the wilderness of the western side of the North Island.

Save the Kiwi’s Jobs for Nature funding revolves almost exclusively around creating kiwi-safe habitat, both for kiwi that reside in that environment now and to create safe habitat for future kiwi. Over the lifetime of the funding, our projects have the combined goal to protect almost 100,000 additional hectares; with three years to go they’re sitting at 53,000.



A billboard of Dame Lisa Carrington and her dog Colin can be seen from the road on State Highway 16 at Glorit.

There are some very exciting technical developments in the predator control world, but a major focus on Save the Kiwi’s predator control advice has been getting the basics right. National Predator Control Advisor John Bissell (a role funded by Jobs for Nature) has spent much of the last 12 months travelling the country and encouraging kiwi conservation groups to aim for excellence with the resources they currently have. This has involved carrying out audits of current trapping processes, offering advice on everything from the best lures and baits to the best direction to place a trap, and encouraging particularly the smaller groups that ‘flasher’ doesn’t necessarily mean ‘better’ and that making sure the little things are done right.

However, as he has travelled the country, John has identified a worrying trend. Ferrets are on the rise and are now being seen in areas where they haven’t been before. Rising ferret populations are very concerning for adult kiwi populations. Stoats tend to prey on kiwi chicks but kiwi that weigh at least 1kg have a fighting chance if they come face to face with one. Ferrets, on the other hand, are much larger than stoats and can kill an adult kiwi very easily. When you consider that the average kiwi could live for 60 years and produce 100 eggs in their lifetime, just one death of an adult has the potential to significantly impact the kiwi population.

As conservation groups all over Aotearoa collaborate to achieve the national Predator Free 2050 goal, Save the Kiwi is committed to creating habitat that is safe for kiwi – for both birds that live in those habitats now, and birds that will return to wild places in the future.

Man’s best friend is not a kiwi’s best friend

Many people have no idea that places like Northland and Coromandel are home to dense populations of kiwi. In fact, kiwi could literally live just over the fence from holiday homes and campgrounds.

In December 2021, we launched a holiday dog campaign, fronted by ambassador Dame Lisa Carrington and her dog Colin, to encourage urban dog owners travelling to holiday hotspots over summer to consider the impact their furry friend could have on kiwi. While we acknowledged that dogs are important members of many New Zealanders’ families, this campaign sought to educate dog owners about the risks even friendly and inquisitive dogs could pose to vulnerable kiwi.

New kiwi avoidance training brand

Kiwi avoidance training for dogs is one tool that can help reduce the threat dogs pose to kiwi in the wild. Part of our increased education around the impact of dogs on kiwi is creating better understanding about the role kiwi avoidance training can play in helping reduce kiwi deaths.

In June 2022 we launched an independent Kiwi Avoidance Training brand and website which has been designed to make it easier for dog owners to understand the programme and register their dogs, while making it easier for training coordinators to manage trainers and their accreditation.

Check the website out at www.kiwiavoidancetraining.nz.





Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow cracks a double century

The Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow saw another very successful season, with 98 eggs hatching including the 200th chick to hatch since the facility opened in December 2019.

At the time, Save the Kiwi Executive Director Michelle Impey said reaching 200 hatches is significant for all of Aotearoa.

"95% of kiwi chicks that hatch in areas without predator control will die before they reach adulthood," she said. "200 kiwi chicks that probably wouldn't have survived in the wild if they'd been left to fend for themselves will make a huge difference to the future of the kiwi population."

Success achieved at the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow is thanks to a huge amount of engagement and collaboration.

"The idea behind the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow first 'hatched' because we needed to create capacity for our Kōhanga Kiwi kaupapa which we knew would make a tangible difference to the future of kiwi. Reaching such a big milestone in only our second full season is testament to both our vision and the iwi, kiwi conservation groups, and organisations we work alongside."

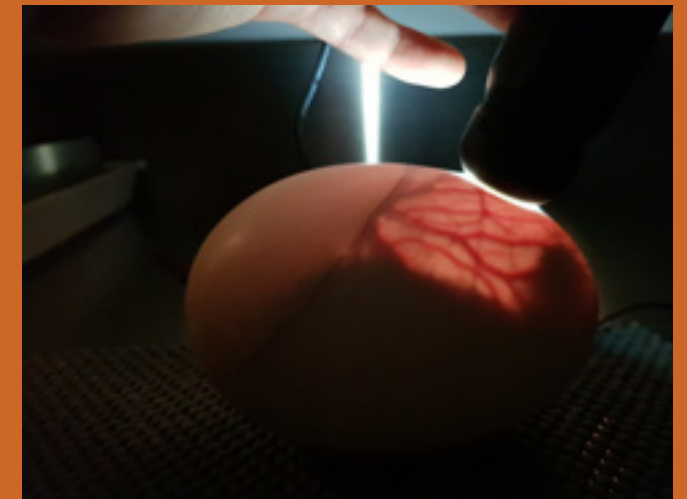
"Hitting this milestone of 200 chicks is the result of overwhelming support from people and organisations who are as passionate about saving the kiwi as we are. Crombie Lockwood and the team at Wairakei Golf + Sanctuary have been wonderful partners since they joined the cause in 2019 and without their backing we wouldn't be here today."

"It is a real privilege to extend our support to the protection of kiwi," said Crombie Lockwood Insurance Brokers CEO Carl O'Shea. "Every chick that hatches makes a difference to the future of the population and we are thrilled to celebrate number 200 with Save the Kiwi and of course the wonderful team at the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow."

The egg was originally gifted to Save the Kiwi's Kōhanga Kiwi programme by Ngāti Tama in Taranaki. When the chick was approximately four weeks old, it was released into the fenced, predator-free Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. Eventually, this chick's offspring will return to Ngāti Tama or be relocated to other safe parts of the North Island to establish new kiwi populations or boost existing ones..

Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow

The Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow is a kiwi incubation, hatching, and brooding facility located within the Wairakei Golf + Sanctuary at Wairakei, near Taupō. Officially opened in 2019, the centre raises chicks until about four weeks of age, at which point most are released into predator-free Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. So far, 224 kiwi have successfully hatched at the centre. 95% of chicks that hatch in the wild will never reach adulthood, so 213 of those chicks may have become stoat fodder if they'd been left in the wild to fend for themselves.



Volunteers the lifeblood of kiwi conservation

A significant amount of kiwi conservation success can be attributed to the work of selfless volunteers who give up hours of their time to clear traps, bait stations, plant trees, sit in the bush at night recording the number of times kiwi call, prepare food for chicks in incubation and crèching facilities ... if you can think it, volunteers do it.

These two stories highlight many kiwi conservation volunteers' commitment to helping preserve our national taonga, and their desire to give back to their communities wherever their hands are most needed.



"It just makes me feel wonderful knowing that I'm making a difference."

"I volunteer for my soul"

Volunteering is in Carol Larson's blood.

As a child growing up in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts in the United States, Carol was part of a large family where everyone had a job to do to contribute. After working as a schoolteacher for many years, she volunteered in schools and taught children how to read, and later taught immigrants to the US how to speak English.

When she emigrated to New Zealand in 1982 with her Kiwi husband, it was only natural that she continued her love of volunteering.

"When I moved here, I knew I wanted to give back to my adopted home," says Carol. "New Zealand has a wonderful volunteering system. When organisations don't have enough hands or resources, a huge amount of work can be accomplished thanks to volunteers. In the collective we can make a big difference, and volunteering is something positive that I can give to the world when there's so many other things going on around us."

Carol's family also had a huge amount of respect for outdoors.

"As children, my parents taught us a lot about the bush including how to identify plants and animals, and how to respect it. My father was also a birder so when I came to New Zealand, I wanted to learn more about the special birds that live here."

Carol's first encounter with a kiwi was when she took up a job as the Education Manager at the National Aquarium of New Zealand in Napier, and it was love at first sight.

"It's such an unusual, quirky bird – how could you not love them?!"

Now that she's retired, it seems only natural that she continues her passion for both the kiwi and giving back to the community by volunteering at Save the Kiwi's kiwi crèche in Napier. Every Wednesday morning, she helps with tasks that free up time for crèche staff Bev and Miriam to carry out weekly health checks on the kiwi that call the crèche their temporary home. She collects food dishes and weighs any leftovers to see how much the birds ate overnight, cleans water dishes and fill them up, and replaces leaf matter in the kiwi burrows. She also gets up close and personal with kiwi.

"Bev and Miriam have been very inclusive and generous in letting me help with health checks," she says. "They've taught me how to hold a kiwi correctly and safely, and I help assess their feet, eyes, and ears during their weekly health checks."

For Carol, volunteering is a core value of her life that allows her to both give back to her community and honour her family.

"I volunteer for my soul really," says Carol. "It makes me feel so good to be able to help other people, and I firmly believe that if we all do a little bit we'll all make a difference."

"We come up from the shoulders of our ancestors. My parents loved the bush and helping people, and I still want to make them proud. My sisters in the States and my family here in New Zealand are very proud of me too and love seeing photos of me working with kiwi."



“I think we have a responsibility to leave the place better than when we started,” he says. “Helping to save the kiwi and rebuild kiwi populations on the Coromandel is really rewarding for me. It makes me feel like I’m leaving a legacy for my children.”

Saving kiwi is a way of life

Right from a very young age, Aaron Power has always had one foot in the bush. A few decades on and now with kids of his own, doing what he can to protect Aotearoa’s environment for future generations remains a top priority.

“The bush really is my happy place,” says Aaron. “I love to see the manu chirping away in the ngāhere, and it’s something I’ve been interested in forever. My four kids have grown up with a deep appreciation and respect of the environment too. As a family we spend a lot of time in the outdoors which has strengthened that passion even more.”

When Aaron was shoulder-tapped to join the board of Coromandel kiwi conservation group Project Kiwi about five years ago, he jumped at the chance. The businessman now spends much of his time supporting the group in health and safety, finance, and governance, as well as the group’s efforts in expanding their trapping area, managing wilding pines, and promoting kiwi avoidance training.

Aaron isn’t afraid to get his own hands dirty: in fact, that’s a big part of his volunteering journey.

“Project Kiwi has taken on a big area of land in the last year, so I’ve been GPSing much of it, tracking it, laying out traps, and checking the traps regularly. Seeing the impact that our team is making with my own eyes makes me confident about the future of the kiwi in this part of the country.”

Aaron is always putting his hand up to help wherever a few extra hands are needed. One of his most recent volunteering stints was participating in a population survey on Motutapu Island for 10 days. He was paired up with a kiwi dog and its handler, and the trio would essentially ‘catch kiwi’ and perform health checks on the birds so they could get more of an idea of the overall health of the kiwi population on the motu/island.

“We’d head out at night to hear kiwi and get a general idea about where they might be, then return in the morning with the dog in tow. There were kilometres of walking involved, and sometimes we’d come up empty-handed. But when we caught a bird, it was the most incredible feeling holding one of these special creatures and knowing that I’m in a minority of New Zealanders that have seen one up close and personal.”

That’s a sentiment that really motivates Aaron.

“I absolutely love the kiwi. It’s our icon, but so many Kiwis have never seen one in the wild. The reason I’m doing this is so our tamariki can go out and actually see them, see their habits for themselves, and discover what they’re really like in the wild. And when we work to save the kiwi, we’re working to save the overall ngāhere. It can only be a good thing.”

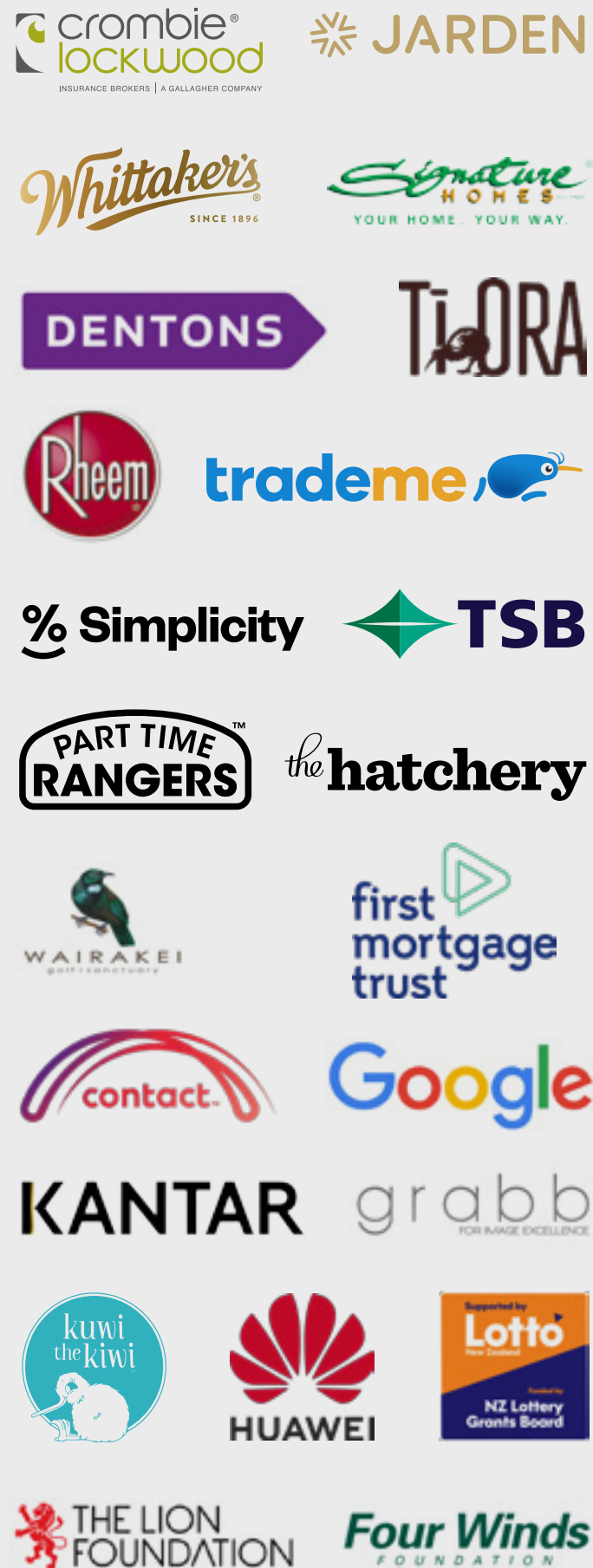
All New Zealanders have a role to play in helping make Aotearoa a better place.

“I think we have a responsibility to leave the place better than when we started,” he says. “Helping to save the kiwi and rebuild kiwi populations on the Coromandel is really rewarding for me. It makes me feel like I’m leaving a legacy for my children.”

Project Kiwi was the first community-led kiwi project in Aotearoa and Save the Kiwi has been proud to be a key supporter of this kaupapa since its inception.

Meet our sponsorship whānau

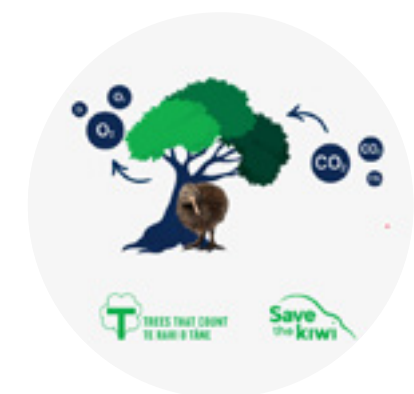
Save the Kiwi, along with the community, hāpu and iwi conservation projects that we support, could not do what we do without the support of our committed whānau of sponsors and supporters. We are proud to partner with some of Aotearoa's most iconic brands who not only do good things for the people of New Zealand but also want to do good things for kiwi conservation.



Jarden

To celebrate Save the Kiwi Week last October, Jarden raised \$350,000 for kiwi conservation, adding up to \$420,000 for the year. Jarden CEO James Lee says the organisation wants to make a meaningful difference to kiwi conservation, and that is exactly what their engaged and enthusiastic teams are doing. These funds have been directed to the work going on at Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari in preparation for kiwi to be translocated to the western side of the North Island.

Additionally, in February we took some Jarden staff to Rotoroa Island in Auckland's Hauraki Gulf to release not one, not two, but three kiwi chicks!



Signature Homes

In November 2021, Signature Homes announced their vision to mitigate their house construction carbon emissions by partnering with Trees That Count to plant 45,000 native trees every year. At the same time, they announced their commitment to protect biodiversity by pledging to help save the kiwi too.

"The kiwi is a strong indicator of the health of our natural environment," says Signature Homes chief executive Paul Bull. "More kiwi in our native bush means there are fewer predators around, and few predators means more opportunities for other native birds and insects to thrive."



Comvita

New Zealand mānuka honey producer Comvita joined the Save the Kiwi sponsorship collective this year with an innovative sponsorship agreement. Our predator control experts will upskill the people who work on Comvita's properties with the aim of improving overall biodiversity and thereby increasing safe habitat for kiwi.



TSB

As part of their kiwi conservation sponsorship, staff from the TSB team roll up their sleeves and courier eggs that have been collected in the wild from Taranaki to incubation facilities like the Crombie Lockwood Kiwi Burrow (in their very cool branded jeep!). In April, TSB celebrated the delivery of their 103rd egg and installed this billboard in downtown New Plymouth.



Macpac

Earlier this year, we were privileged to be a recipient of Macpac's Fund for Good programme. The Fund for Good is Macpac's way of giving back through cash or gear grants to non-profit organisations whose core focus is long-term positive impact of the protection, regeneration, or monitoring of native flora or fauna. Now, the whole team proudly wears Macpac on our chests.

Leadership team



Michelle Impey
Manahautū
Executive Director



Ross Halpin
Pou Matua Rapu Pūtea
Marketing & Sponsorship
General Manager



Tineke Joustra
Pou Matarau
Operations Manager



Paul O'Shea
Pou Tahua
Whakarite Kaupapa
Incubation Team Leader
& Account Manager



Morgan Cox
Pou Uruao a Motu
Māori Engagement
National Coordinator



Ora Barlow
Pou Uruao a Motu
Māori Engagement
National Coordinator

Board



Richard Leggat



Lady Jennie Fenwick



Henry Brandts-Giesen



Kate Graeme



Miriama Kamo



Ruud Kleinpaste



Alistair Ryan

Financials

Save the Kiwi shares a goal with the Department of Conservation, its long-time partner in the national kiwi recovery programme, to increase each species of kiwi by 2% per annum. Save the Kiwi is responsible for distributing funds to the community from the successful “Save our Iconic Kiwi” bid to Treasury by Kiwis for kiwi and DOC together in 2015. For this year, the fund for community was over \$500,000.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

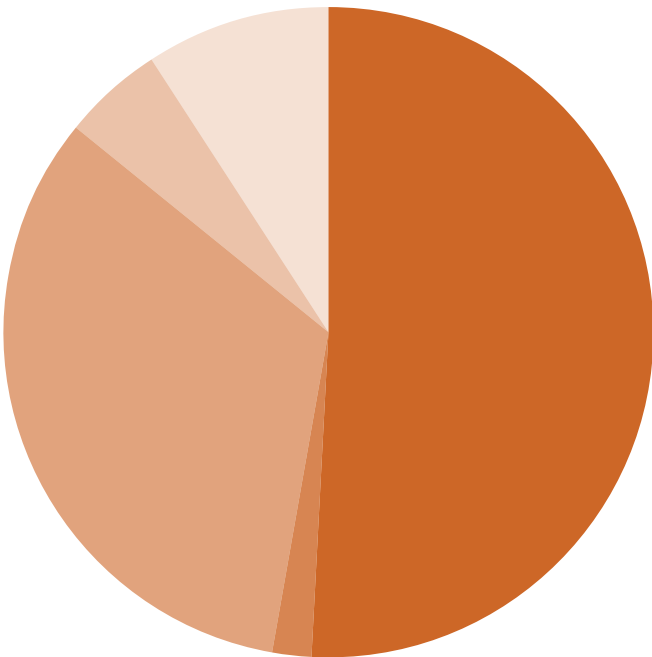
REVENUE	
Fundraising revenue	\$403,533
Donations, sponsorship and royalties	\$1,189,422
Grant revenue	\$5,784,518
Interest, dividends and other investments	\$1,525
Total revenue	\$7,378,998
EXPENSES	
Conservation project funding	\$5,183,335
Fundraising expenses	\$90,888
Organisational support	\$1,771,897
Total expenses	\$7,046,120
Total revenue	\$7,378,998
Net surplus/(deficit) attributable to The Kiwi Trust	\$332,878

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2022

CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash at bank	\$1,565,207
Debtors and prepayments	\$762,625
Property, plant, equipment and investments	\$426,057
Total assets	\$2,753,889
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Creditors, accrued expenses and employee costs payable	\$1,094,939
Deferred revenue (grants with conditions)	\$959,179
GST payable	\$0
Total current liabilities	\$2,054,118
Total assets less total liabilities (net assets)	\$699,771

Annual contestable funding grants

The Department of Conservation’s Save Our Iconic Kiwi funding allows us to support community and Māori-led kiwi conservation groups via our annual contestable funding grants.



- Predator control: 51%
- Operation Nest Egg: 2%
- Monitoring & translocations: 33%
- Project support: 5%
- Research: 9%

Predator Control

Controlling predators in kiwi habitat is the prime focus of the hundreds of community-led kiwi conservation groups around the country. The work done also provides a haven for other native birds, reptiles, and insects. Save Our Iconic Kiwi funding helps these projects set up and maintain hundreds of trap lines that form a protective shield against invasive pests and predators like stoats, ferrets, and rats. This safe habitat will be home to the increased numbers of kiwi that we will breed in years to come.

Operation Nest Egg

Rearing chicks in secure facilities gives them the best chance of surviving until they reach around 1kg in weight, at which point they are much less vulnerable to predation. Operation Nest Egg (ONE) is a highly effective way of increasing the survival rates of kiwi chicks so they have more chance of reaching breeding age and contributing to increasing kiwi populations.

Project Support

To coordinate projects that rely heavily on volunteers and run 365 days a year often requires full-time staff support. We recognise the necessity of these roles and provide administration and project support funding. We also support advocacy work and kiwi avoidance training for dogs.

Monitoring & Translocations

In order to know when we can lift eggs, keep an eye on the overall health and genetic diversity of kiwi populations, and understand what’s going on in the wild, we need to monitor kiwi. Translocations are used to manage genetic diversity, move kiwi into underpopulated, but protected, areas, and support ONE.



