

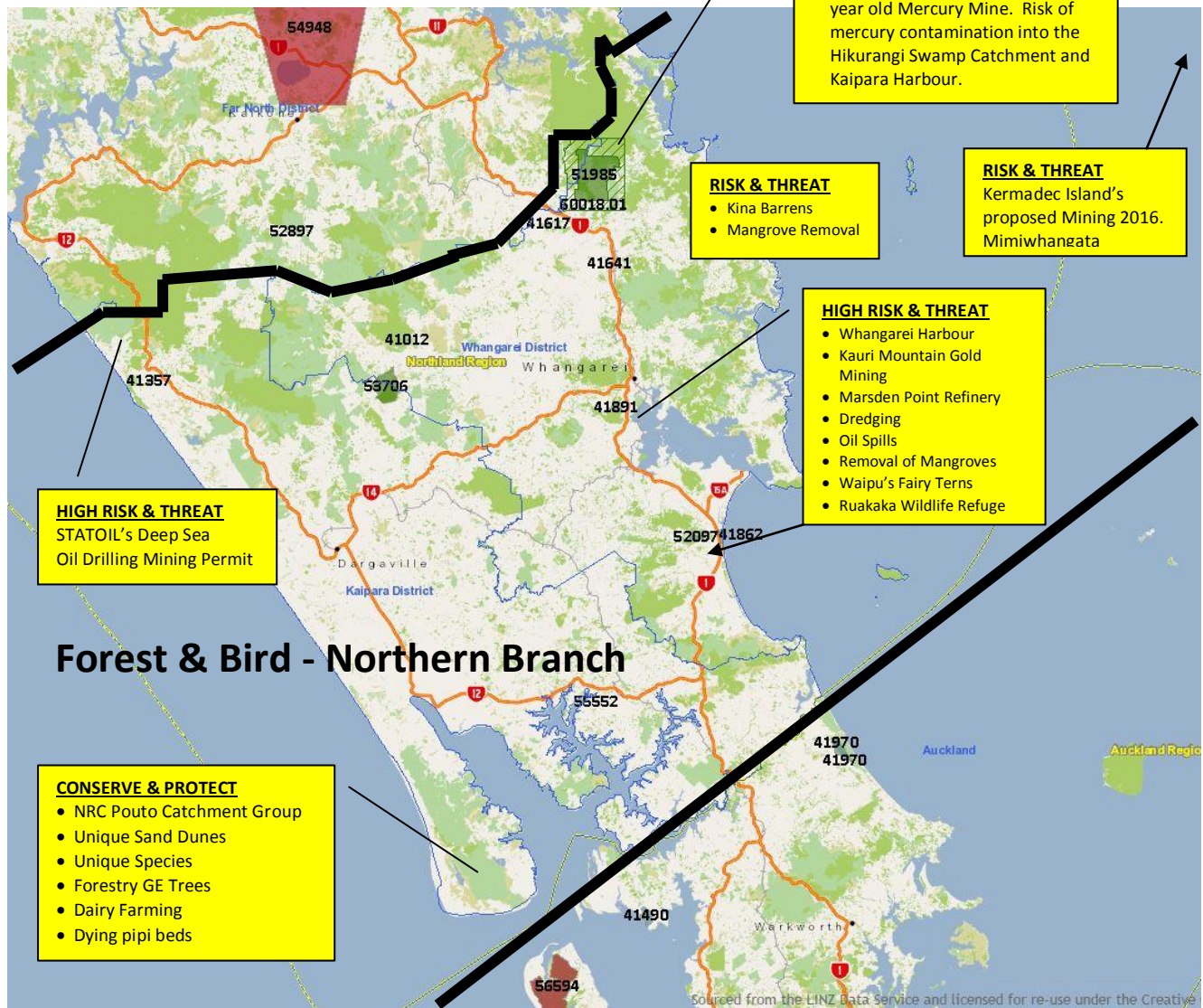
FOREST & BIRD NORTHERN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

August 2015

F&B Northern Branch – Kauri Coast/Whangarei

Members: 282

Areas: Whangarei, Bream Bay & Dargaville



Communications



Neighbourly

Our branch is using Neighbourly as an important tool to communicate to our community in our Branch Area on www.neighbourly.co.nz. This reaches over 11,000 people in different neighbours.

Facebook

We have 598 likes for our local Forest & Bird Facebook page. Taking posts from the main Forest & Bird Facebook. Great idea about the 48 hour Photo Challenge and there was some awesome photos from nature. Looking forward to the Bird of the Year Competition 2015 which we are supporting the Fairy Tern and Kukupa. We want to see MORE Membership and need to do more promoting.

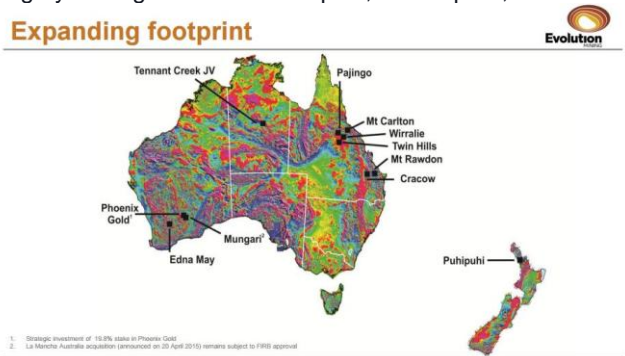
F&B Northern Branch Rambles

Diane Lee is our Rambles Co-ordinator and she has been organising these popular events monthly on a Saturday depending on weather. Some of the places they have been to Ruapekapeka Pa and Maley Reserve, etc.



EVOLUTION MINING purchased the Exploration Mining permit from Degrey Mining in 2015 for Puhipuhi, Whakapara, Northland.

Expanding footprint



KCC – Kiwi Conservation Club

Our KCC Kids Group is small but busy we have 17 schools but we are working on a proposal with a Whangarei District Council on a Nature Trail/Track at Whangarei Falls for tourists, visitors, schools and for education. We will start with a pamphlet and working on an App for smartphones.



The Great Kereru Count is coming up again soon. By reporting sightings of the NZ Native wood Pigeon. www.greatkererucount.nz



F&B KCC kids are organising a keep NZ Beautiful Clean Up Day at Whangarei Falls, Tikipunga in Sept 2015.

NRC's Weed Workshop

Attended the Northland Regional Council's Weed Workshop on Thursday 30th July 2015 at Water Street, Whangarei with Sara Brill, Biosecurity Officer. Highlighting the need for more education on identifying, other options to plant, killing and safe removal of weeds in our area. They were promoting Weedbusters on www.weedbusters.co.nz



Swamp Kauri Exports

Congratulations to the Northland Environmental Protection Society and Far North branch of Forest and Bird for their years of hard work exposing swamp kauri exports from Tai Tokerau. They have released a complaint they laid with the Auditor-General on May 28 over "the many discrepancies" in the exporting of swamp kauri from Northland wetlands. I would like to acknowledge Bev Woods (F&B Member) originally from Ruakaka for her commitment to fighting swamp kauri exporting from NZ.

F&B Northern Branch AGM

Our annual general meeting is being called in October 2015. Watch this space. We are looking for new Branch Committee Members. Please contact Diane Lee for more information on northern.branch@forestandbird.org.nz

F&B North Island Gathering 2015

Gatherings are held for the North and South Island every year. They are attended by Forest & Bird members, branch committee representatives, board members, and staff. They are where ideas are thrashed out and knowledge shared. They remind people why we care so deeply about conservation. Come along and enjoy stimulating conversation, amazing landscapes and presentations on a range of contemporary conservation issues.

Check onto www.forestandbird.org.nz

Event Detail

Date: Friday, 13 Nov 2015 | 9:00am - Sun, 15 Nov 2015 | 9:00am

Location: Ruapehu Lodge

Contact Details: Trevor Hunt or Laura Dawson

Phone: 07 378 5975

Email: rainbow@reap.org.nz

Forest Collapse Presentation in Whangarei by Dean Baigent-Mercer Watch this space!!!

Northland Regional Council's Tai Tokerau Maori Advisory Committee

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Chairman (Cr Dover Samuels, Northland Regional Council)

Cr Bill Shepherd

Northland Regional Council

Catherine Murupaenga-Ikenn

Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa

Pita Tipene

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine

Fred Sadler

Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi-O-Ngāpuhi

Mike Kake

Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi-O-Ngāpuhi

Will Ngakuru

Te Roroa Whatu Ora Trust

Tui Shortland

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine

Martin Rudolph

Te Rūnanga O Whaingaroa

Cr Joe Carr

Northland Regional Council

Mikaera Miru

Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust

Isha Waetford

Ngātiwai Trust Board

Cr Paul Dimery

Northland Regional Council

Darryl Hape

Te Rūnanga O Whaingaroa

Rawson Wright

Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust

Henry Murphy

Ngātiwai Trust Board

Moengaroa Murray

Te Roroa Whatu Ora Trust

HAPŪ REPRESENTATIVES

Pereri Mahanga

Te Waiariki, Ngāti Korora and

Ngāti Takapari Hapū/Iwi Trust

Rowan Tautari

Te Whakapiko Hapū

John Harawene

Ngāti Manu

Patu Hohepa

Hokianga o Ngā Hapū Whānau

Juliane Chetham

Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board

Mira Norris

Te Parawhau Hapū Authority

Charitable Trust

Rudy Taylor

Hokianga o Ngā Hapū Whānau

Nora Rameka

Ngāti Rehia

Helen Locke

Ngāti Manu

Michelle Elboz

Ngāti Kuta Patukeha

Shirley Hakaraia

Ngāti Kuta Patukeha

Te Huranga Hohaia

Ngāti Rehia

Bundy Waitai

Te Hiku O Te Ika Marae Trust

Forest & Bird 2015 Calendars and Diaries

Please contact Diane Lee, Secretary on 09 438-6636 A/H or email: northern.branch@forestandbird.org.nz



New Zealand's poisonous plants

Botanists and toxicologists say knowledge about New Zealand's most poisonous plants is not as widespread as it should be, despite the fact that some of them can be deadly.

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/282813/poisoned-by-a-plant-'it-looked-like-big-asparagus'>



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

AGM - NZ FAIRY TERN CHARITABLE TRUST - Saturday 19th Sept 2015, 2pm, Mangawhi

Guest speaker: Dr Ian Southey Website: www.fairytern.org.nz



NRC – CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE LICENCE TRAINING NEXT MONTH

The first course on Tuesday 01 September 2015, is aimed largely at students seeking a CSL for cyanide only, while the second and third courses (on Thursday 03 and Friday 04 September) will be offered to adult community members and encompass training for several toxins. Those interested in the CSL training should contact EnviroSchools Regional Coordinator Susan Karels at the Northland Regional Council on (0800) 002 004 or email her via susank@nrc.govt.nz

Freshwater for Life - <http://waterqualitynz.info/>

This website aims to independently report on the freshwater situation in New Zealand by providing information on NZ's water quality and the main threats to good water quality and freshwater biodiversity.

The site is not affiliated with industry, so its goals are not to protect financial interests but to safeguard our environment.

SUBMISSIONS

Biological control for mothplant- please make a submission



A biological control for moth plant is almost here. Moth plant is a fast-growing vine that can rapidly climb and smother trees. Moth plant has white flowers that turn into large hanging kapok-like pods (images attached). It has become increasingly common along roadsides, forest edges and coastal sites in Northland. It is also a problem in urban reserves and gardens where it can spread quickly. Each seed pod splits open to release approximately 750 seeds with silky threads that are carried by the wind to new sites. Moth plant seeds are poisonous and pods and stems contain a milky sap which irritates the skin. Butterflies, moths and bees are attracted to its flowers and become trapped in them, hence the alternative common name of 'cruel plant'.

The Northland Regional Council is applying to the EPA for a species specific rust to be released that attacks moth plant and will help to keep this weed under control.

The NRC needs our help to support their application and submissions are now open – closing on 7 October. Please take this link to make a submission and help get this moth plant control tool approved:

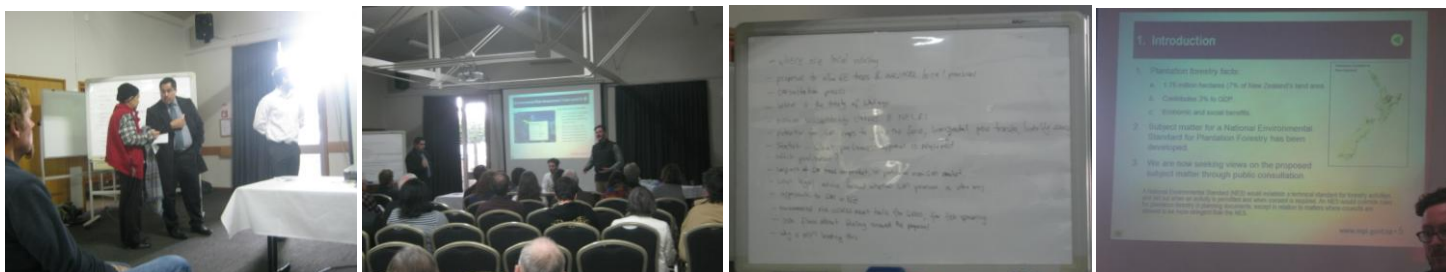
<http://www.epa.govt.nz/.../EPA-seeks-submissions-on-moth-plan...>

If you need more information please contact Sara Brill at the Northland Regional Council on 09 470 1200.

MPI – Proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry

Change of Standard by the MPI not NZ Government to allow the Forestry Industry to plant G E Trees in Northland. What they didn't tell you was this would OVERRIDE any local council's Bylaws or Resource Consents as they see fit. Thank you and appreciation to Dr Benjamin Pittman for his submission on behalf of the Forest & Bird Northern Branch (see attached), Zelka Grammar from G E Free Northland and David Lourie. I was informed of the meeting late Friday night and attended the MPI Public meeting at Forum North, Whangarei on Tuesday where the staff from MPI were promoting that Forest & Bird supported this new standard. There were 6 MPI Staff which 3 were admin and they had representation from the Forestry Industry (lower north island) and there were no representation from this area Northland. A serious threat where genetically modified trees would be planted alongside local indigenous forests - eg Glenbervie, Russell State Forest - despite the councils in these districts being promoted as GE-Free areas.

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) was seeking public views on the proposed subject matter of a National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF). This is a proposal to change how plantation forestry activities are managed under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). If implemented, an NES-PF would replace councils' existing district and regional plan rules for managing plantation forestry. It would provide a nationally consistent approach that is responsive to local environments. Formal consultation will begin on Wednesday 17 June 2015 and closed at 5pm on Tuesday 11 August 2015. A series of public meetings and Hui will be held as part of the consultation. The first one was launched in Wellington and the next first public consultation one was held at Forum North, Whangarei.



WDC Draft Rural Urban Interface and Coastal Plan Changes

Whangarei District Council has prepared two draft plan changes to manage the urban fringe of the city, and the coastal areas of the District. We are now calling for comments on the draft provisions before we progress to a formal notification process toward the end of the year. The Rural Urban Interface (Plan Change 86) considers land on the city fringe that is within the boundary of the Urban Growth Strategy. The proposals include rezoning land that is currently Countryside Environment for urban development (Living 1, 3 and Business 4) based on the Urban Structure Plans. A new zone is also proposed for larger lot residential development that provides for the redevelopment of sites when infrastructure services become available.

The Coastal Environment (Plan Change 87) gives effect to the new Regional Policy Statement which identified the parts of the District that will be classed as the coastal environment. The Regional Policy Statement also identified areas of the coastal environment displaying high or outstanding natural character that require careful management under the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. Plan Change 87 proposes to add new overlays to the District Plan Resource Area maps, with related objective policies and rules for subdivision and land use.

Please find enclosed two brochures containing brief explanations of the main changes proposed in the draft plan changes. If you would like to see more detailed information, including the draft maps and rules please refer to our website www.wdc.govt.nz/planchanges or call us on 4304200 and ask for Nina Murphy (Rural Urban Interface) or Evan Cook (Coastal Environment).

If you would like to make comments on the draft plan changes feedback forms are enclosed with this letter and are also available on our website. Council will accept feedback up until 4pm 18 September 2015.

Environmental Protection Authority) Protection of Environment) Amendment Bill

Public submissions are now being invited on the Environmental Protection Authority (Protection of Environment) Amendment Bill. The closing date for submissions is Thursday, 10 September 2015.

This bill amends the Environmental Protection Authority Act 2011 to add an additional objective that the organisation must aim to protect, maintain, and enhance New Zealand's environment.

The bill is available online from the 'Related links' panel. The committee requires 2 copies of each submission if made in writing. Those wishing to include any information of a private or personal nature in a submission should first discuss this with the clerk of the committee, as submissions are usually released to the public by the committee.

Those wishing to appear before the committee to speak to their submissions should state this clearly and provide a daytime telephone contact number. To assist with administration please supply your postcode and an email address if you have one.

Further guidance on making a submission can be found from the Making a Submission to a Parliamentary Select Committee link in the 'Related documents' panel. http://www.parliament.nz/en-nz/pb/sc/make-submission/51SCLGE_SCF_00DBHOH_BILL62501_1/environmental-protection-authority-protection-of-environment

Refining NZ - crude shipping proposal

<http://www.refiningnz.com/our-investors/crude-shipping-proposal.aspx>

Greg McNeill, Communications & External Affairs Manager, Refining NZ
Phone 09 432 5115, Mobile 021 873 623, Web: www.refiningnz.com