



Forest & Bird

GIVING NATURE A VOICE

CENTRAL OTAGO-LAKES FOREST & BIRD

News, Views & Events – Feb 2017



Left: areas of increasingly rare fescue tussock grassland would be cleared for housing along with mature kanuka:
Right: one of the few *Coprosma brunnea* (or perhaps an *acerosa* subsp.) in the Wanaka locality - would be lost under the proposed housing development.



QLDC District Plan Change 51 - Peninsula Bay North – PBJV Ltd have appealed the entire decision of the QLDC to turn down their application to rezone the Open Space at the north end of Peninsula Bay in Wanaka. The Branch Committee is waiting to hear back from National Office whether we can join the appeal, to support the Council in defending their decision. The Council had decided that the zoning of the area as Open Space for informal recreation, visual amenity and biodiversity values better served the purpose of the RMA than allowing it to be developed for another 27 residential lots.

Shortcut Road Planting Project - Great news - the Branch has been successful and was granted \$19,264 from the DoC Community Conservation Fund to build a rabbit-proof fence around the planting areas at the Shortcut Road Native Restoration Planting Project (Rekos Point Conservation Area). This should be completed by early to mid April, and will include ferreting to rid the area of rabbits and weed control (broom, hemlock). **NEXT PLANTING DAY IS SATURDAY MAY 6 - mark your calendar now!**

Trap Line Stats – Jan 17

Blue/Young: 3 rats / 4 hedgehogs / 12 stoats

Look out & Link Tracks: 1 rat / 3 stoats

Nature Trail: Nil

River Track: Nil

Bridle Track: 4 rats / 6 stoats



We still require a Raffle co-ordinator for our annual fund-raising raffle. We have the painting, we have the people to sell tickets! We just need someone to plan and coordinate the raffling process. If you are able and willing to help the branch by doing this, contact Anne Steven. a.steven@xtra.co.nz 021 293 9207.

Mark Your Diary.....

Mokihi Trust – 1st AGM – Thurs 23rd Mar 7pm - Harvest Hotel Conference Room, Cromwell, Guest Speaker, Stephen Woodhead, Chair, Otago Regional Council, "ORC Views on Preservation and Restoration of Native Flora in Otago", with reference to elimination of exotic flora. Please pre-register at mokihitrust@gmail.com, for planning and name tags etc.

Butterfields Planting Day – 22nd April & Shortcut Road Planting Day – May 6th – More details to come soon.....

Late March/April – A botanical walk along the Blue-Young track near Makarora to observe the autumn berries, admire podocarp remnants & massive beeches, engage with the seasons fledgling birdlife & also help to clear the traplines – fun for all and lots to learn!

Southern Regional Meeting – Sat 29th / Sun 30th April - hosted by the Dunedin branch. Hope to see many of you there!

AGM – April/May - Details to be advised soon.. Please contact Anne Steven if you have any field trip ideas.

DESPERATELY WANTED - Secretary and Treasurer – we are still looking to find two volunteers to take on these roles in the Committee. Please contact Evan Alty for more information evan.alty@xtra.co.nz 022 041 4540

For more news & info on events – please see our Facebook page

Or contact the Chairman - Evan Alty, PO Box 10, Lake Hawea 9345 evan.alty@xtra.co.nz 022 041 4540

Or the Interim Secretary = Anne Steven, PO Box 576, Wanaka a.steven@xtra.co.nz 021 293 9207