

North Shore Branch news February 2020



Northern royal albatross. Photo: Bernard Spragg

Our seabirds are under threat.

New Zealand is known as the seabird capital of the world, and a stronger National Plan of Action is our chance to live up to the title and ensure our fishing industry is trusted to be doing the right thing.

Past voluntary action plans have failed to reduce the rate of seabird deaths. We need to act now or it may be too late for some of the 90% of our seabird species edging closer to extinction.

The government's draft National Plan of Action for Seabirds is our opportunity to get serious about saving our threatened seabirds. It is only open for public submissions until **January 27 2020**, so for many of you, it will be too late to submit if you haven't already done so. But your support for stronger action will make a difference.

Forest & Bird has created an [online submission form](#) to help people have their say.



Forest & Bird Youth nationally have been holding sandcastle building competitions to raise awareness of the government's Draft Plan of Action for Seabirds and the submission process. Seabird sandcastle events have been held at Golden Bay, Westport, Christchurch, Dunedin, Auckland and Wellington over the past two weeks.



North Shore Forest & Bird held their sandcastle building competition at Long Bay beach. They had a good turnout and lots of people stopping by to engage - great for spreading the message about our seabirds and the submission process.

Public meeting Gannets and the Oil Spill

When: Monday 3 February at 7:30 pm

Where: Takapuna Senior Citizens' Hall, The Strand — through the courtyard at the rear of the Takapuna Library

Lynn Miller will be talking about northern gannets, from the impact of the Deep Water Horizon oil spill to post-spill monitoring of the second largest gannet colony in the world at Ile Bonaventure, Quebec.

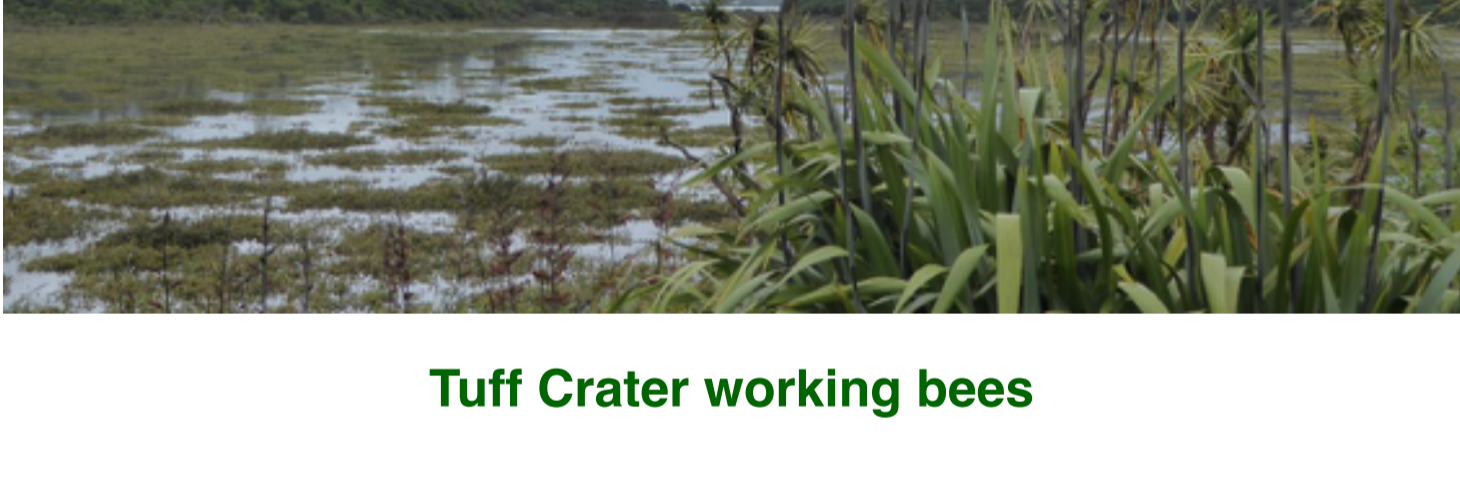
Lynn was contracted first to attend the spill, then to follow these birds for three years in this colony.

She will talk about the rehabilitation issues from oil spills as well as the impact of oil on the birds biologically and toxicologically.

Lynn's life-long passion for wildlife and conservation has led her to work with birds and rehabilitation for over 35 years, and she is currently General Manager of NZ Bird Rescue, Green Bay, Auckland.

The meeting is free and open to all including non-members, although a small koha is appreciated to cover costs.

For more information email northshore.branch@forestandbird.org.nz



Tuff Crater working bees

Monthly working bee

We run a working bee at 9:00 am on the second Saturday of each month except January. During the summer months the focus will be on pest plant control and track maintenance.

For information on the working bee scheduled for **Saturday 8 February**, please sign up to our [mailing list](#)

If in doubt on the day please contact Richard Hursthouse on 021 216 1296

To receive regular updates for Tuff Crater Saturday events please join our [mailing list](#)



Weekly working bee Thursday 9:30am

Anne Denny and Paul Pyper run a half-day working bee every Thursday from 9:30am. Meet new people and enjoy working in the great outdoors!

Weekly working bees will recommence on 30 January 2020.

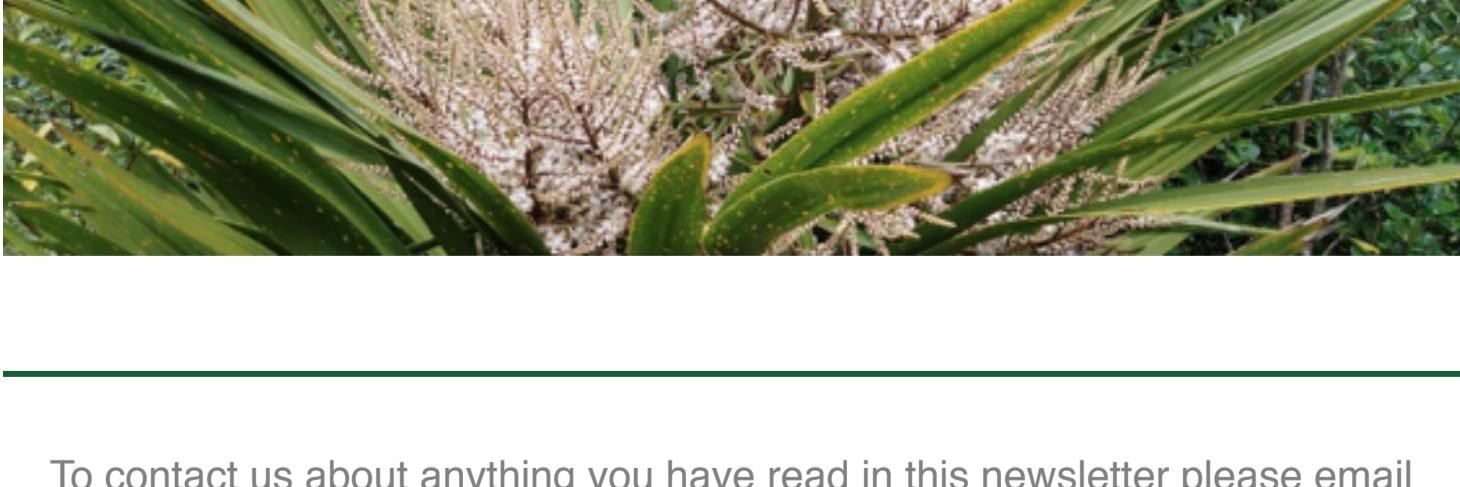
The location of the working bee can change from week to week, so sign up to the [mailing list](#) to learn more.

For more news and information about Tuff Crater:

Join our Pest Free Tuff Crater Facebook Page [@PestFreeTuffCrater](#)

Do you have time to volunteer for Forest & Bird?

We are looking for someone to organise our monthly branch trips. Please contact us at northshore.branch@forestandbird.org.nz if you would like to help with this, or would like to assist us in other ways. We are always looking for new ideas.



To contact us about anything you have read in this newsletter please email northshore.branch@forestandbird.org.nz

*Forest & Bird is New Zealand's independent voice for nature. Our mission is:
'To defend New Zealand's wildlife and wild places - on land and in our oceans'*