



## **HOROWHENUA BRANCH**

Branch trips leave from Thompson House, Kent St, Levin; with pick-ups in Foxton, Shannon or Otaki.

President: Geoff Ritchie (06) 927 9281  
Secretary:

-Our mission is to preserve, protect, and promote New Zealand's wildlife and wild places.

-The public and members are welcome at all events listed but you must be vaccinated and boosted –Contact trip leader before attending. For trips take water, stout footwear, raincoat, and lunch. Carpool petrol costs are to be shared. Public Liability Insurance held by Forest & Bird covers members only.

The Meeting Place is at  
Thompson House in Kent St Levin  
**Forestandbird.org.nz**

## **HELLO MEMBERS**

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that we can resume our outside activities after such a long break. To avoid the virus you must are fully vaccinated and boosted, keep a 2 metre distance and wear a mask.

Because it is winter we have decided to keep to local venues and avoid long journeys on trips on Saturdays.

We thank the members who kept our nurseries and traps cared for when the rest of us were unable to help. This was a fine effort and we truly value their dedication. Any members who have now got time available would be very welcome to join us our working parties.

Unfortunately we cannot yet start holding Branch meetings at Thompson House. We suggest that members tune into the Manawatu Branch Zoom meetings. They have very interesting speakers and the meetings are held in the evenings after work is done. If you would like details of these meetings contact Barbara 364 5063 and she will forward the link when they are received.

We held our own AGM on Zoom on 21 June and the same officers and committee were elected unopposed for 2023.

We are still looking for a secretary and committee members if you wish to help run the branch. Our meetings are held on Zoom at 1.30 in the afternoon so there is no travelling required. Contact Geoff Ritchie 06 927 9281 for more information. You will find us a friendly group.

## **ITEM OF INTEREST:**

### **RARE WETLANDS CAN BE DESTROYED**

The Government has announced a consultation document which will allow new pathways for industries to destroy wetlands as exceptions to the protection in 2020 National Environment Standard for freshwater.

Forest and Bird Head Office propose to submit against this proposal. Already 90% of our wetlands have been lost and this proposal will allow more to be destroyed for mining including coal mining, quarrying, landfills and urban development.

Submitting against this proposal is expensive and your committee felt that we should contribute from the funds the branch has on hand. We have therefore voted to donate \$1,000 to this project. F & B have been successful in advocating to the Government against other recent schemes which would have destroyed the environment and we wish them well in this endeavour.

## **AUGUST 2022**

WED 3 BIRD MONITORING at Booth's Otaki. Another private Wetland with great views of large flocks of swans, ducks and geese. CONTACT: Geoff Monk 06 364 5986

SAT 6 TRIP: PAPAITONGA SCENIC RESERVE this may include a visit to the new extension in Arawhata Rd. Bring lunch, drink, warm and waterproof clothing and wear good shoes. CONTACT: Margarett 06 364 5986

SUN 14 PROUSE BUSH WORKING PARTY: Weeding and seed collecting very close to Levin Centre. Home of native snails. CONTACT: Maggie Peace 021 215 2688

WED 17 PAPAITONGA NURSERY: Transplanting and caring for native plants to be planted out in the Extension and other reserves in the local area. CONTACT: Margarett 06 364 5063



NZ SEALS

## **SEPTEMBER 2022**

SAT 3 TRIP TO WAIOPEHU RESERVE LEVIN. Renowned for its many different fungi. CONTACT: Claudia 367 0660

WED 7 BIRD MONITORING at Otaki Ponds and Estuary. No walking. The ponds have Teal, Paradise Ducks, Swans and Dabchicks. The Estuary has a rough track but we can share cars. There are Pied Shags, Black backed and Red billed gulls and sometimes Dotterels to be seen. CONTACT: Geoff Monk 364 5986

SUN 11 WORKING PARTY AT PROUSE BUSH. Clearing non-natives and garden escapees to restore this small reserve for the pleasure of local residents and other visitors. CONTACT: Maggie Peace 021 215 2688

WED 21 WORKING PARTY AT PAPAITONGA NURSERY LEVIN. Growing native plants to help restore reserves owned by DOC, the local councils and private landowners. CONTACT: Margarett 364 5986



CHRYSTAL'S BEND OTAKI

## **OCTOBER 2022**

SAT 1 TRIP: CHRYSTAL'S BEND OTAKI. A longer walk up hill (great coming down) to view the planting to enhance the river bank and view bird life. CONTACT: Barbara 06 364 5063

WED 6 BIRD MONITORING TE HAKARI AND KUKU ESTUARY. Te Hakari is a private wetland which is flat with a good track. Ducks, geese and swans. At the Estuary we sit on the bank and view many different sea birds. Very short walk from the car park.

SUN 9 PROUSE BUSH WORKING PARTY. We have been trapping and clearing weeds there for over 5 years. CONTACT: Maggie Peace 021 215 2688

WED 19 PAPAITONGA WORKING PARTY. We have been growing plants here for many years and always welcome new volunteers. CONTACT MARGARETT 364 5986



## ITEMS OF INTEREST TO FOREST AND BIRD MEMBERS

The following are links to items that the Executive Board of Forest and Bird has asked us to pass on to members of our Branch as they relate to matters which concern the board and they would like to know the opinions of members. In some cases there is a link to a questionnaire we urge you complete this to let your views be known.

### Matariki

Did you know that each star in the Matariki cluster relates to parts of the environment or our wellbeing? KCC have developed a series of

activities<<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforestandbird.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D056bc28505444958c9358e331%26id%3D87170f9a63%26e%3D40c4b86964&data=05%7C01%7Cchorowhenua.branch%40forestandbird.org.nz%7Cc8fccec235a84869d29508da5358025a%7C347e3fddf0c64bf5b8e5f8bf019439ad%7C0%7C0%7C637913934718609930%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jHj2kDsR7%2Fn10Q2ZcBwDcf7QPYk56UQv9xVWqzNEEJY%3D&reserved=0>>

to honour the nine stars.

### Invite to Stewardship Land

Webinar<[https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADNjMTFmZmE5LWVlYjctNDQ3MS04MTY4LWQ0YzVhMTgwYTcwNgAQAEyztHwGBqLtG9pur08zBI%3D#x\\_Webinar](https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADNjMTFmZmE5LWVlYjctNDQ3MS04MTY4LWQ0YzVhMTgwYTcwNgAQAEyztHwGBqLtG9pur08zBI%3D#x_Webinar)>,<

even if you don't want to attend the webinar, follow the link to a short (1 to 2 min), submission you can make.

### News about an important Wetlands Consultation

<[https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADNjMTFmZmE5LWVlYjctNDQ3MS04MTY4LWQ0YzVhMTgwYTcwNgAQAEyztHwGBqLtG9pur08zBI%3D#x\\_Wetlands](https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADNjMTFmZmE5LWVlYjctNDQ3MS04MTY4LWQ0YzVhMTgwYTcwNgAQAEyztHwGBqLtG9pur08zBI%3D#x_Wetlands)>

, there's a lot in here, but you can easily sign the Save the Wetlands petition Every Wetland Counts | Forest and

Bird<[https://forestandbird.org.nz/petitions/every-wetland-counts?fbclid=IwAR1LKqHCOMD9UyQ\\_xAEIZQarSb91Ij07G-m3JSIgMxrPLDi5Ot20ej58eM](https://forestandbird.org.nz/petitions/every-wetland-counts?fbclid=IwAR1LKqHCOMD9UyQ_xAEIZQarSb91Ij07G-m3JSIgMxrPLDi5Ot20ej58eM)>