



# Annual Report 2021-2022





# Our Vision

Rotokare will be a thriving natural ecosystem that benefits & inspires wider conservation efforts within the community & throughout the region

# Our Mission

We will achieve the highest level of restoration, protection & enhancement of the indigenous ecosystem at Rotokare Scenic Reserve & beyond

We will actively involve the community & provide the best opportunities for education, recreation, inspiration, & environmental sustainability

*Source: Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust Strategic Plan 2017-2027*

Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust is a conservation-based community-led charitable organisation formed in 2004.

The Rotokare Scenic Reserve was gazetted in 1887 and is a stunning 230 ha forested hill-country catchment including extensive wetlands and a 17.8 ha natural lake. Since 2008, a specially designed 8.2km long pest-proof fence has surrounded the reserve along with eradication of 12 mammalian pests. Ongoing biosecurity protection has resulted in flourishing biodiversity at Rotokare with flora and fauna thriving including some regionally extinct and threatened, or at risk, native birds. The biodiversity outcomes continue to benefit the whole Taranaki region and deliver important conservation outcomes of national importance.

This is our ongoing story of community, inspiration, determination, passion, aspiration and fun!

*All information presented in this Annual Report covers the year July 2021 to June 2022,  
except for the Financials which are April 2021 to March 2022.*



# Message from the Chair

Welcome to the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust Annual Report 2021-2022. It provides a great summary of the main work and outcomes between July 2021 and June 2022.

This year saw considerable challenges faced and overcome. Following the tragic loss of previous Sanctuary Manager Simon Collins in March 2021, long-standing volunteer Julie Larcom stood in as Interim Sanctuary Manager. New Sanctuary Manager Sophie Tucker then started in August 2021, at the same time as another nationwide Covid-19 lockdown. The terrific team of staff remained passionate and committed throughout this period and I am proud of each and every one of them. I am also, as always, in awe of the huge effort given to us by our amazing team of volunteers and all they do for the Rotokare project.

Following the resignation of our longstanding trustee and former chair, Steve Kane, we welcomed new trustee Tāne Houston to the Board. Tāne is a descendant of the local Hapū Ngāti Tupaia, who have lived in this area for many generations. This Hapū have been supportive of the Trust for many years.

Together we have gotten through a challenging year and the outcome is that the Reserve continues to thrive in all respects.

I am excited for what the future holds for Rotokare. In particular I look forward to increased biodiversity through further species re-introductions and the positive impact this will have on regional and national conservation, and continuing to enable our community to lead this journey.

I hope you enjoy this report and that it encourages you to come and visit the sanctuary to enjoy a slice of pest-free biodiversity-rich Taranaki!

*Mike Weren, Trust Chairman  
October 2022*

## Our year in numbers....



**65**  
hibi population



**7 mice & 1 rat**  
caught in the  
Sanctuary



**4**  
awards!  
(see more on  
pages 13, 15, 17)



**154**  
pāteke introduced



**92**  
feral cats caught  
in the Halo



**30,000**  
visitors



**268**  
kiwi kōhanga  
population

**30**  
kiwi to other sites



**230 ha**  
pest-free  
Sanctuary

**4,500 ha**  
intensively trapped Halo



**6,302**  
volunteer  
hours



# Biodiversity at Rotokare



Tieke at Rotokare



Flowering dactylanthus

Our significant and ongoing biosecurity work means biodiversity is thriving at Rotokare! Since 2010 nine threatened or at-risk native bird and plant species, some of which were also regionally extinct, have been re-introduced namely kiwi, dactylanthus, popokatea, tieke, green mistletoe, toutouwai, hihi, titipounamu and pāteke. We continue to actively monitor some of these and are also working towards further species reintroductions.

## ***Pua o te reinga / Dactylanthus Taylorii***

Dactylanthus is Aotearoa’s only fully parasitic flowering plant. Since 2014, Rotokare has been working with DOC, collecting seed from the Waitaanga conservation area, and sowing these at Rotokare, in an attempt to establish this unique plant within the sanctuary. Seed was collected in November 2021 and sown at Rotokare over winter. It can take 7+ years for these plants to become visible! We look forward to checking sow sites in the future with hopes they will have established well!

## ***Hihi / Stitchbird***

Hihi are classified as nationally vulnerable in DOC’s ‘Threat of Extinction’ system. As members of the Hihi Recovery Group, working alongside the Hihi Conservation Charitable Trust, Rotokare is proud to support the recovery of this unique manu taonga.

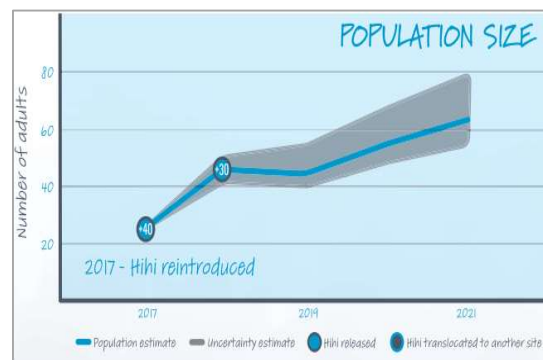
Hihi are only found at 7 sites: 1 natural population and 6 reintroduced populations, including at Rotokare. All translocated hihi populations are actively managed through pest control, supplementary feeding, provision of nest boxes, management of parasites and population monitoring.

The 2021-2022 Rotokare breeding season began with 65 known hihi (as an absolute minimum based on the pre-breeding survey). At least 12 females bred this season. Excitingly Rotokare had more natural nests this season, with a number of un-banded juveniles being seen around the reserve. Based on the number of birds sighted and locations they were seen it is believed there were at least 4 successful natural nests. 28 chicks were banded over the 2021-2022 season and an additional 15 were caught as juveniles from natural nests.

While the hihi population at Rotokare is still relatively new and still establishing, the population continues to steadily grow year after year.



Male banded hihi at Rotokare



Rotokare hihi population history



## ***Pāteke / Brown Teal***

Pāteke were listed as nationally endangered until 2008 when the conservation status was changed to 'at risk-increasing'. This status change was driven by considerable effort to halt the extinction of pāteke. While numbers are slowly increasing, and the recovery programme has been effective, pāteke are still vulnerable. They could again become at risk of extinction if threats are not managed.

Pāteke have been released into Rotokare since 2019. During the past year 154 pāteke were released at Rotokare: 50 in January 2022, 30 in February 2022, and 74 in May 2022, 20 of which were fitted with radio transmitters allowing us to monitor their dispersal and survival.

Coming into spring, pāteke ducklings were spotted around the reserve! Our resident pāteke and their young are doing well and continue to explore their environs inside and outside Rotokare. Pāteke have been seen visiting nearby farm ponds and returning safely, a promising sign for the population's recovery.



*Wonderful sight of pāteke ducklings at Rotokare!*



*Pāteke release May 2022*



*TKKR and Conservation Dogs team March 2022*



*Totara Block kiwi release April 2022*



*Kaitake Ranges kiwi release April 2022*

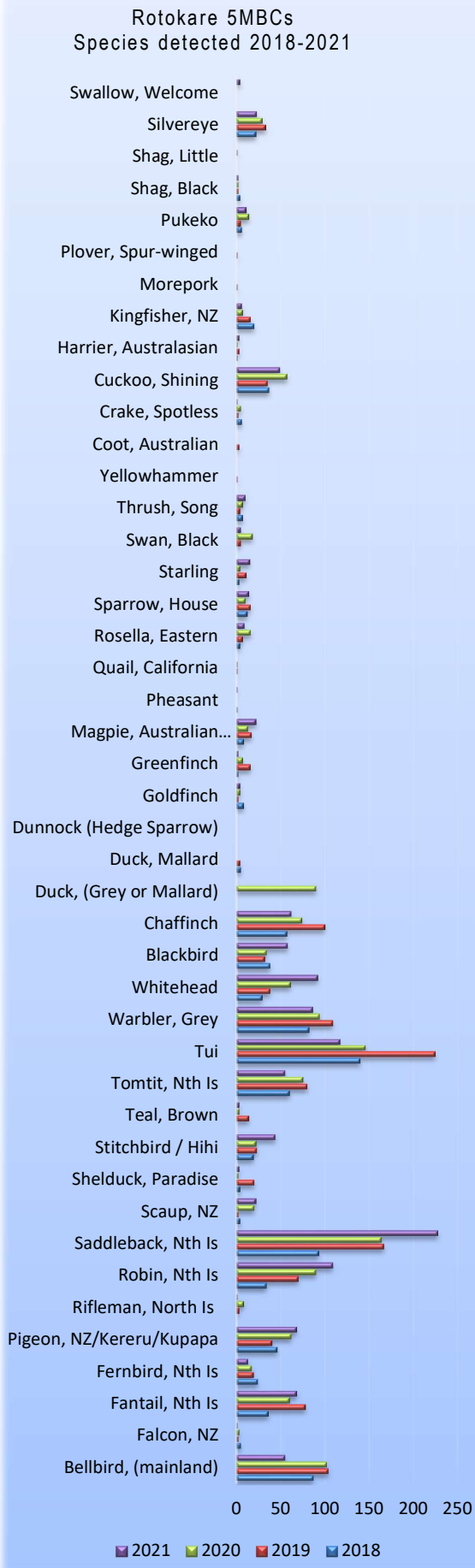
## ***Kiwi***

Established in 2012, the Taranaki Kōhanga Kiwi at Rotokare (TKKR) is a collaborative partnership between the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust and the Taranaki Kiwi Trust. It's initial goal was to establish a genetically diverse founding population of 40 North Island western brown kiwi at the TKKR kōhanga at Rotokare, with the ultimate purpose of growing kiwi numbers throughout Taranaki and beyond, by releasing kiwi from the kōhanga to suitable protected sites.

Two founder kiwi, Tucker and Benny, were sourced and released into the kōhanga this year bringing the current founder population to 39. We hope to reach the 40th founder goal next year! The population at the kōhanga is flourishing with recent estimates suggesting a population of 268 kiwi within the sanctuary.

In 2020 TKKR achieved its goal of having enough kiwi within the kōhanga to begin annual translocations to other approved sites. The tremendous collaboration between kiwi practitioners, volunteers, Rotokare hapū Ngāti Tupaia, DOC, and many regional iwi, hapū and conservation groups enables the ongoing annual translocation of kiwi. In 2022, 30 kiwi were translocated from the TKKR kōhanga: 10 to the Kaitake Ranges and 10 to Mouna Taranaki both managed by Taranaki Mouna Project, and 10 to the Totara block managed by South Taranaki Forest & Bird. A total of 107 kiwi have now been translocated to other sites, helping to re-establish kiwi populations across the region.

## Sanctuary Five-Minute Bird Counts



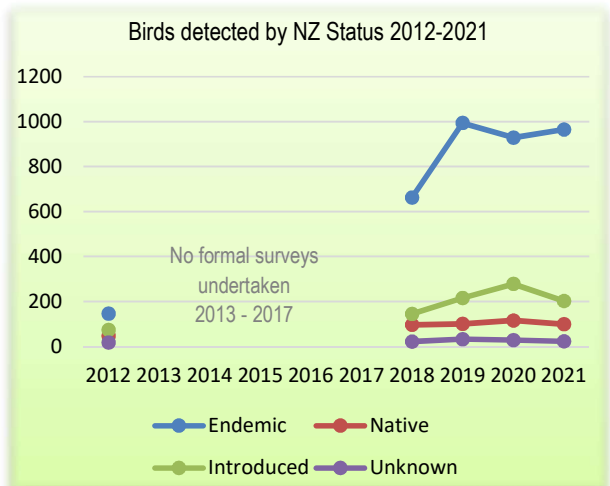
Sanctuary five-minute bird counts (5MBC) were previously undertaken on a 5-yearly cycle at Rotokare. From 2018 the Trust began to deliver these counts annually, in part to provide a training and development opportunity for the Rotokare whānau, but also give a more in depth understanding of changes within the reserve.

Our 5MBC surveys take place over two consecutive fine days at the same 35 stations across the reserve.

Overall, the number of birds detected during this years' survey remained consistent with the previous 2 years' surveys, with 1,289 birds detected overall in this year's survey sessions.

Numbers of native species has remained reasonably constant, whereas there has been a continual increase in endemic species. This is in large part due to the reintroduction of a number of vulnerable bird species to the site over the past few years such as hihi, tieke, popokatea and toutouwai. There have been significant increases in all 4 of these species in sanctuary 5MBC which is a great indication that these species are thriving here at Rotokare!

At least 44 different bird species have been detected in our sanctuary 5MBC, with new species being picked up in counts year to year as some species are returned to the site such as titipounamu and pateke, others begin to return to Rotokare on their own, and others increase to more detectable levels.



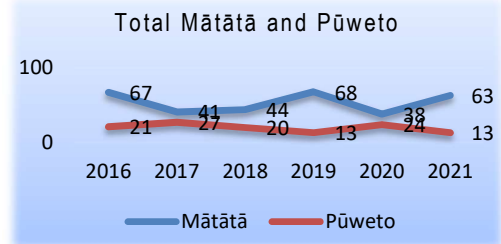
## ***Mātātā / Fernbird and Pūweto / Spotless Crane***

Both mātātā/fernbird and pūweto/spotless crane were present at Rotokare prior to the pest-proof fence being built and pest animals removed. Both species (and many others) have flourished in the sanctuary following on from this. Rotokare is now one of the few (potentially the only) north island population large enough to be used as a source for translocation. There have been 3 translocations of 100 mātātā in total from Rotokare to other sites, in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Rotokare has undertaken annual surveys for both mātātā and pūweto since 2016 to better understand both populations, the impacts of translocation on the resident population, and in readiness for future requests to translocate. Our 2021 survey showed both populations are in great shape, with mātātā being detected in great numbers and pūweto remaining consistent with recent years.



*Fernbird*



*Forest gecko*



*Goldstripe gecko*

## ***Lizards***

While a number of species have recovered at Rotokare following the construction of the pest-proof fence and eradication of mammalian pest species from the site, the recovery of lizards at site has been a little harder to see.

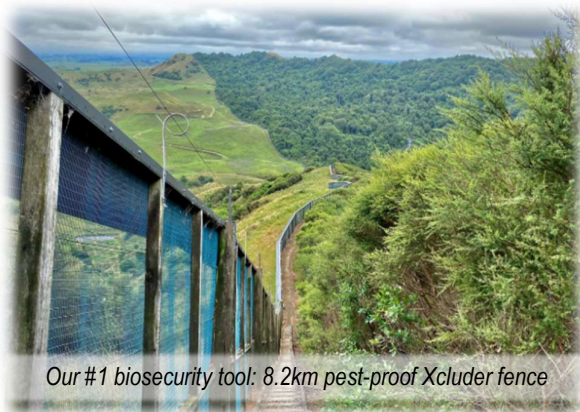
Recovering lizard populations may not reach detectable levels for as long as 10 years post-pest eradication. Although lizard monitoring was undertaken 2008-2016, no lizards were found during formal surveys so we paused to review our approach.

Now, 12 years on since the sanctuary was established we are starting to see evidence of lizards flourishing at Rotokare once more. Chance sightings of lizards have increased with goldstripe gecko being found regularly on night tours and even in the workshop! The time was ripe to recommence monitoring efforts and in 2021 we embarked on a new monitoring programme with hundreds of monitoring devices rolled out across the reserve.

We have completed our first 2 sessions of the new monitoring regime, with survey sessions in early summer, and autumn. At least four species of indigenous lizards are known to be present at Rotokare, including ornate skink (*Oligosoma ornatum*), brown skink (*O. zelandicum*), forest gecko (*Mokopirirakau granulatus*), and goldstripe gecko (*Woodworthia chrysosiretica*). The team were delighted to find all 4 of these species, and in good numbers! We are excited to see what future surveys uncover and how this may shape our future plans for potential translocations.



# Biosecurity at Rotokare



Our #1 biosecurity tool: 8.2km pest-proof Xcluder fence



Volunteers carry out weekly fence checks

Maintaining the pest-free status of the sanctuary is our number-one priority. The ongoing successful management of sanctuary biosecurity is a significant achievement, and enables unique biodiversity restoration milestones for the benefit of the region. The team at Rotokare use a suite of tools to ensure we remain pest free, and to detect and swiftly address any invading pests that manage to sneak in.

## Pest-Proof Fence

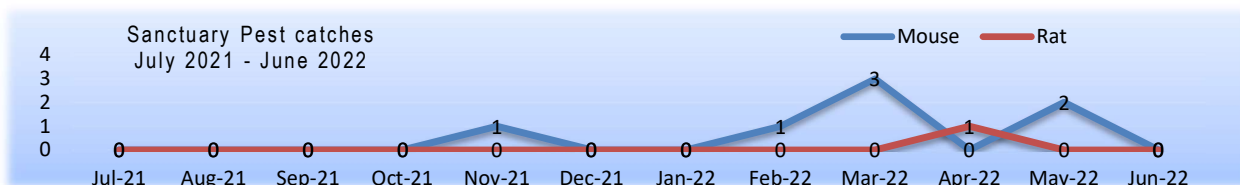
The 8.2km fence continues to be the number-one asset in our biosecurity armoury. While pest incursions can happen via vehicles or avian predators (i.e. harrier, falcon, kingfisher, ruru – dropping live prey inside the sanctuary), the fence removes permanent pest-animal pressure on the taonga within. The fence is monitored 24/7 in case of a breach and weekly checks are undertaken on foot by staff and volunteers. Regular maintenance is undertaken seasonally and repairs as required (such as replacing rivets, staples and screws). In February 2022, after 160mm rain in 48 hours, a 200m+ long and 12m wide slip occurred only 1m from the fence. A team of staff, volunteers and contractors quickly mobilised to ensure fence protection continued.

## Sanctuary Trap Network

Over 500 of traps are permanently set within the sanctuary as a first line of defence but also as a monitoring tool. These are checked once a week (and some twice a week over summer). This past year we caught one rat and seven mice within the sanctuary. All of these were in known high risk areas in and around the car park. Response trapping was rolled out immediately following all these detections to ensure invaders were quickly found and removed. Rotokare is Aotearoa’s only essentially mouse-free sanctuary. The team is committed to this vision and work hard to ensure any invaders are quickly found and removed.



Great teamwork to catch this rat, April 2022



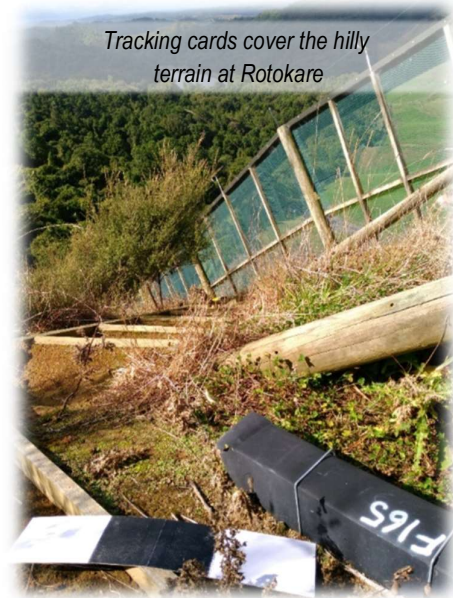


## **Tracking Card Audits**

Five times a year inked tracking cards, baited with food, are placed around the sanctuary as a passive monitoring tool. These are scheduled to line up with high risk times of year when pests are on the move and to pick up any animals which may not be interacting with our existing traps. A rat was detected in sanctuary in a routine tracking card run in April, our first since 2018. Response trapping was swiftly deployed and the rat was caught the very next day! A great result.

## **Pest Dog Audits**

Each year the trust benefits from the incredible support of the Conservation Dogs team (humans and dogs). Normally, two rodent audits and one mustelid audit are undertaken each year. Each audit involves 3-4 days searching the entire sanctuary for any indication of pest animal presence. These provide critical information, highlighting any areas of concern which are followed-up on immediately. Rodent audits were undertaken in November 2021 and May 2022. No detection was reported during either audit. There is currently a shortage of mustelid dog handlers across the country so it was decided to defer our mustelid audit this year. Our last audit was undertaken in January 2021. No mustelid sign was detected. We also had a feral cat detection dog check the sanctuary in July 2021 following a suspected sighting near the gates. No cats were detected within the sanctuary.



*Tracking cards cover the hilly terrain at Rotokare*



*Dog handler Miriam Richie with rodent dogs Will and Ahu*

## **Lake & Wetlands**

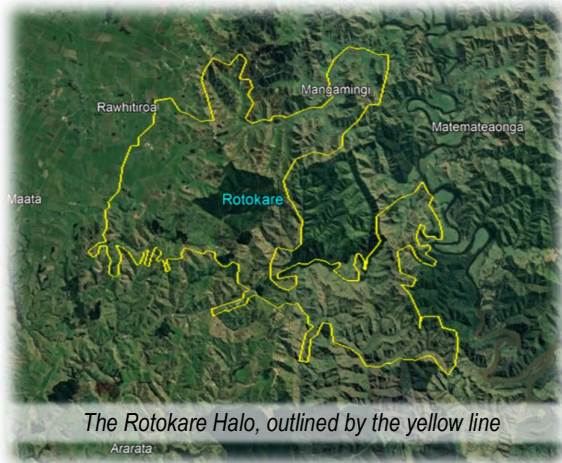
Manaaki Whenua is currently undertaking research looking at laragrosiphon (oxygen weed) and possible methods of control for this aquatic weed. Laragrosiphon is present in Lake Rotokare and we have been supporting Manaaki Whenua's research with samples of this weed being collected from the lake for the past two years.

During Laragrosiphon sampling undertaken in early 2021, a fragment of hornwort was found in the lake. Hornwort is a submerged freshwater weed which poses a significant threat to freshwater ecosystems. Further hornwort targeted surveys were undertaken in 2021 & 2022 and thankfully no hornwort was found. These surveys are undertaken by NIWA in collaboration with DOC.



*Lake Rotokare*

# Rotokare Halo



## Halo Trapping

With the Halo being nearly 20x larger than the Reserve itself, it's key to have plenty of support to do the mahi. Relationships with Halo landowners are vital and volunteers often help with the extensive Halo trapping network.

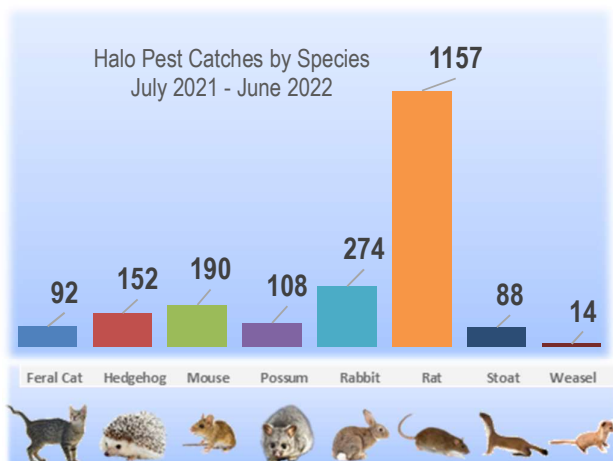
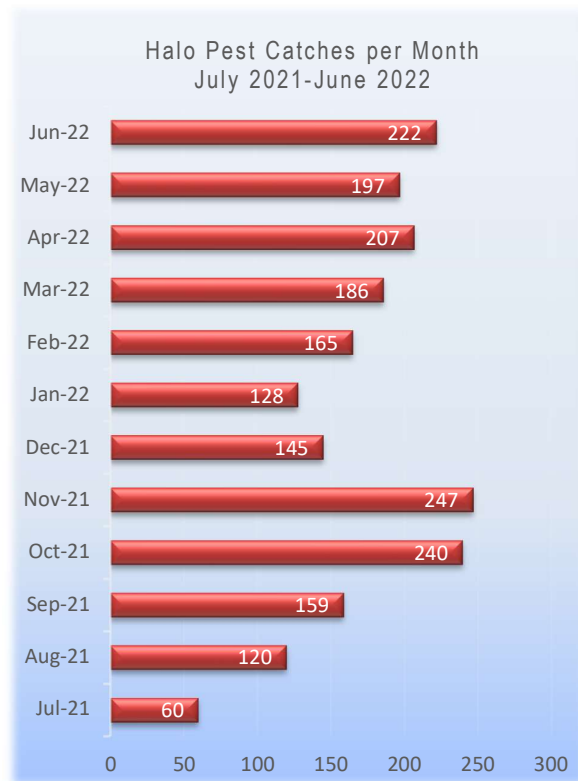
The Halo has over 1,200 traps of various types including a broad mix of DOC 250's, DOC 200's, A12's, A24's, Steve Allen's, and cat cages.

The Halo has offered opportunities to a couple of students from Hawera High School, who have been spending a day per week with Rotokare's Site Manager, often servicing traps in the Halo.

In addition to trapping, dedicated volunteers are helping to tackle large rabbit populations with active hunting. This approach is able to make a much larger dent into rabbit populations than trapping alone. Rabbit control is essential to keeping ferret numbers down in the Halo.

Trapping in the Halo has been readjusted to meet needs. A prominent example being a redistribution and increase to live feral cat traps near wetland spaces. These feral cat traps were attended to extra closely after pāteke releases as many of these manu frequent Halo wetlands and are extremely vulnerable to feline predation. Distribution of traps were decided alongside data from pāteke transmitters, to ensure the birds were protected.

One of the ultimate goals of Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust is to return some of our special native and endemic species to the wider Taranaki region, allowing our community to live alongside our native fauna once more. The Rotokare Halo Trapping programme was initiated in 2015 to support this goal, by reducing pest numbers in the area surrounding the sanctuary, reducing pressure on the pest-proof fence and making it safer for native wildlife to disperse from the sanctuary and into the surrounding landscape.



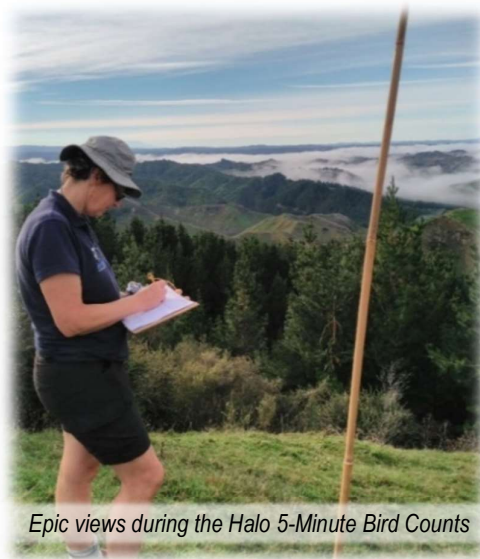
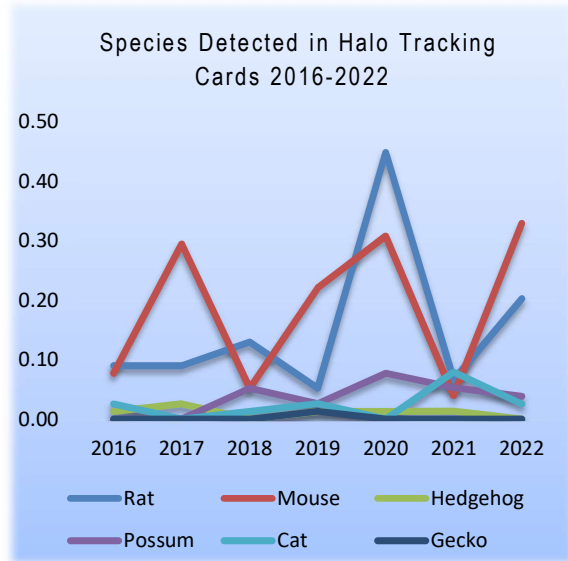


## Halo Outcome Monitoring: Pests and Birds

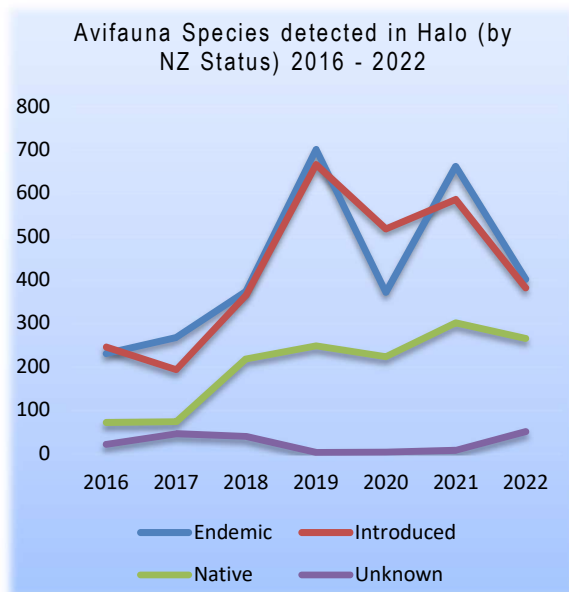
Annual biodiversity monitoring across the halo project area was initiated in 2016 to monitor the impacts of halo trapping efforts on pest abundance and help understand changes in the diversity, abundance and distribution of bird life in the halo project area. Monitoring is undertaken in four study areas, over 39 permanent bird-count stations, and 79 tracking tunnel stations across the 4,500 ha halo project area.

In May 2022 a combination of skilled Rotokare staff, volunteers (both trained and trainees), and Taranaki Regional Council biodiversity officers completed this year's monitoring sessions.

Pest tracking rates were up in 2 of the study areas, but were at similar or lower levels at all other sites. The increases seen largely reflect an increase in both rats and mice in the 2 locations. These results are comparable with previous higher detection years (2017, 2019 and 2020). Weather conditions over the past year have been particularly favourable for rodents, with a mild wet winter, and an increase in rodent abundance had been anticipated at the end of 2021.



*Epic views during the Halo 5-Minute Bird Counts*



While it is still too early to see any discernible trends with the five-minute bird counts, raw results suggest an increase in both native and endemic species overall across the halo. While detections were slightly lower this year, overall numbers are steadily increasing year to year.

There has been an increase in detections of some of our more vulnerable endemic species such as tieke/saddleback, titipounamu, toutouwai and hihi, which are now being routinely recorded outside the sanctuary in the halo pest management zone, predominantly in areas adjacent to the reserve. Additional pest management has been deployed in these areas as a result of these findings.

# Education at Rotokare

## Schools & Students



Rotokare's Environmental Education programme provides science and conservation-based learning experiences for students of all ages, from early childhood through to NCEA. Our modules complement classroom education with unique outdoor experiences that weave in the core strands of the national curriculum and 'Nature of Science' achievement aims.

From July 2021 to June 2022 a total of 1,101 students visited Rotokare. Three new schools engaged with Rotokare, two of which visited us at the reserve, the other was visited at school. This brings the total of Taranaki schools that have engaged with Rotokare's Education Program since it was launched in 2010 to a whopping 87%.

Student engagement has extended beyond school trips with Rotokare hosting special groups of ākonga from groups such as the Kiwi Conservation Club, Sustainable Taranaki's Te Ara Taiao, Taranaki Home Schoolers, WITT, and Topec.

Pathway-type programs have also been established with Tupu ā Nuku, where students get a taste of conservation careers with a hands-on trapping workshop.

**1,101** ākonga through our Education Program\*

**3** new schools engaged with Rotokare\*

**87%** of all Taranaki Schools have visited Rotokare ✓

\* between July 2021 and June 2022

✓ since the education program was launched

## Winter Night Tours

Our winter Rotokare by Night Tours provides a unique perspective on the sanctuary.

Six public Night Tours sold out in a snap, the popularity boosted by a high reach on social media. In addition, three private Nights Tours were held with a corporate group and two youth collective groups.

In total, 309 guests, young and old, were guided through the dark bush by outstanding volunteers and Youth Ambassadors spotting all sorts of night-time critters including kiwi, wētā, peripatus, pāteke, kōura, kōkopu, ruru, and more!



Spotting the reclusive peripatus / ngaokeoke is always a treat



Spotting night-time critters on our sell-out night tours



## Youth Ambassadors

Initiated in 2016, Rotokare's Youth Ambassador programme is a year-long extension-learning programme. A focused group of Year 6-8 students with a passion for nature apply annually to engage in workshops, tour guiding, field skills training, and kaitiakitanga around native wildlife and conservation.

In October 2021, we took the motivated ākonga on field trips to Wildbase, Ngā Manu Reserve, Zealandia, and Island Bay Marine Reserve to extend their awareness of conservation beyond Rotokare.

The end of 2021 saw a cohort of 10 Ambassadors successfully graduate from this programme. In early 2022 a new group of enthusiastic Ambassadors embarked upon the programme, ready for a year of discovery ahead.

The Ambassadors continue to be conservation force in Taranaki with some of the special projects completed in the last year including: raffling of a homemade bird house, student-led workshop to create weta hotels, and winning science fair projects. Ambassadors also assisted in Night Tours and acted as guides for their school visits.

In November 2021, we were delighted that our Youth Ambassador Programme received a Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Award for 'Environmental Action Through Education'. This award is dedicated to all our Ambassadors, old and current, and to their whānau, for the mahi and inspiration they bring to the region.



*The 2021 and 2022 Youth Ambassadors: just a few of their trips and projects!*



*Receiving the Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Award for 'Environmental Action Through Education'*

## Projects



*Trustee Joe Menzies and long-standing supporter Bill Hodges at the new hihi seat supported by Bill*

Two projects were completed, enhancing the experience for our many visitors throughout the year.

**Hihi seat.** A generous donation from one of our stalwart supporters, Bill, enabled us to build a new seat at one of the hihi feeders around the lake, allowing visitors to admire these special birds when they come to use the feeders, at a safe distance which won't disturb the birds.

**Boardwalk Replacement.** We replaced 100m of damaged boardwalk, improving the beautiful lake walkway track for the thousands of visitors who come to experience Rotokare each year.

# A Place for Recreation



Rotokare Scenic Reserve is open 24/7 and is free for the community to enjoy!

Entry to the reserve is through a set of double gates. Visitors often comment that it feels like entering Jurassic Park! These gates are an important part of the sanctuary biosecurity, preventing the entry of pest species.

There is plenty of car parking, lawns and seating to relax, an informative visitor shelter and public toilets.

The 4km lake walkway track is a real treat for all ages and fitness levels. The track weaves in and out of native bush whilst following the lake edge where the ngahere and flourishing wildlife can be experienced.

The first 600m of this track is barrier free enabling access for wheelchairs and pushchairs.

The Wetlands Boardwalk, completed in 2020, allows visitors to get close to the wetlands.

Rotokare is home to the largest wetland inside a fenced sanctuary in NZ. This threatened ecosystem is ideal habitat for the cryptic mātātā / fern bird and many other rare wetland species.



The 5.4km ridge track is a popular excursion.

Walkers are rewarded with stunning views beyond the reserve. The initial 100m climb to the seat is the hardest part!





Responsible freedom camping is permitted in designated areas.

It is a rare night when there isn't at least one freedom camping tent or van at the reserve.

The dawn chorus, nocturnal kiwi sightings and tranquil location are huge draw cards for visitors.



*"We found 6 kiwi, an eel, crayfish, some smaller fish and a bright green + purple spider + the nocturnal ducks!"*

*"Just bliss today. Thank you."*

*"What a wonderful experience to see (and hear), a place teeming with bird life. A real testament to all the hard work – thank you 😊"*

*"Arrived, got invited to wakeboard with locals, went for a late-night walk, saw the satellite string fly by and saw 3 kiwi. Awesome"*

Many visitors from regional, national and international locations come to visit and leave wonderful comments of thanks and appreciation in our visitor book.

*"Amazing place! & we saw our 1st kiwi! We love it here. A perfect place for bird lovers. Thank you for all of your hard work."*

*We saw very friendly Toutouwai that came up to our feet.*

*"This place is fun and cool to go to hope you enjoy 😊"*

# Rotokare Whānau

The Rotokare whānau is made up of Trustees, staff, and a huge team of volunteers who are passionately committed to achieving the vision of Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust together.

## Trustees



Mike Weren  
*Chair*



Jacqui Kingsnorth  
*Deputy Chair*



Deborah Clough  
*Treasurer*



Graeme Pitman  
*Deputy Treasurer*



Joe Menzies



Murray Prankerd



Allen Juffermans



Tāne Houston



Bruce Clarkson  
*(Co-opted)*

## Staff



Sophie Tucker  
*Sanctuary Manager*  
*(since Aug 2021)*



Julie Larcom  
*Sanctuary Manager*  
*(interim April-July 2021)*



Tricia Jamieson  
*Administrator*



Fiona Gordon  
*Conservation Manager*



Chris Dodd  
*TKKR Kiwi Ranger*



Kane Bretherton  
*Site Manager*



Ash Muralidhar  
*Environmental Educator*  
*(to July 2022)*



Sophie Herlihy  
*Environmental Educator*  
*(since July 2022)*



Hugo Bell  
*Trainee Ranger*  
*(Oct 2021 – Jan 2022)*

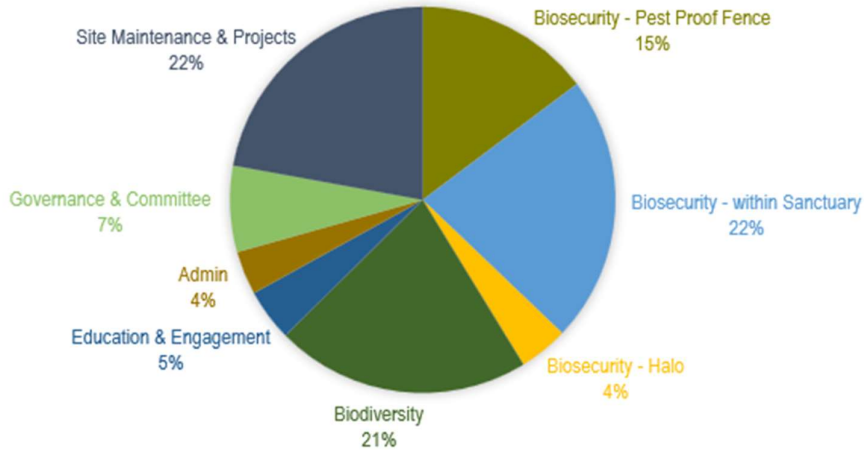


## Volunteers

The Rotokare project was started by passionate volunteers, and volunteers remain the critical life-force of Rotokare, fulfilling key roles throughout the organisation. This dedicated team of people from all walks of life generously donate their time throughout the year in all weathers. They are the heart and soul of Rotokare!

Our life members to date, Gwen Muller, Joan O'Connor, Alex Ballantyne, Ray Willy, Win Kerr, Don Litchfield, Barry Hartley, Jenny Kerrisk, Bill Hodges, Val Campbell, Audrey Thompson, Alan Rogers.

Volunteers hours amounted to a huge **6,302** hours covering many crucial work areas:



Four generations of the Muller / Pranker whānau were recognised for their contributions to Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust with a Tuku Iho Volunteer Award from Volunteering New Plymouth.



Tony & Anne Collins were also awarded a Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year Local Hero medal for their huge Taranaki wide efforts in conservation and ecological restoration, including at Rotokare. Tony sadly passed away in 2021 and we miss his passion and laughter.



# Finances

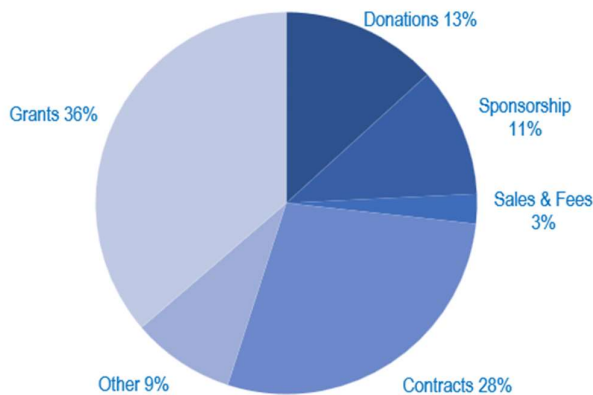
The Trust works extremely hard to ensure a cautious approach to expenditure, and puts in significant effort to ensure income streams are diverse. A key part of this is endeavouring to generate our own income.

Over 35 different funding sources contribute to the Trust annual income and we continue to rely on income from grants, sponsorships, donations, and generating income through contracts, sales and fees.

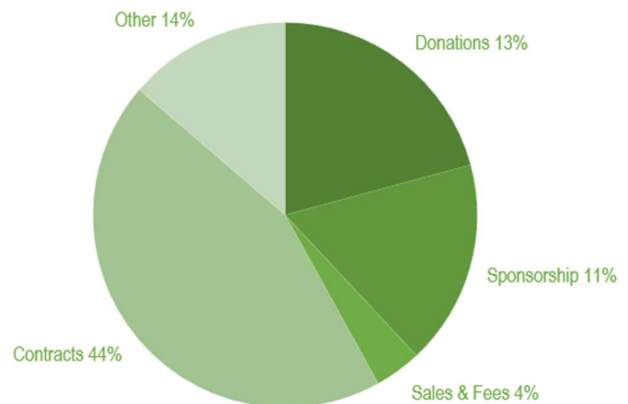
## Financial Performance 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022

Revenue	\$622,657
Expenditure	\$513,010
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>\$109,647</b>
Depreciation	\$182,092
Net Profit after Depreciation	(\$72,455)

Breakdown of Total Revenue



Breakdown of Self-generated Revenue  
(63.7% of total revenue)



### Depreciation Policy

The Trust does not save for depreciation of assets. Instead, fundraising is undertaken as needed for replacement of assets.

### Endowment Fund

Current Balance \$50,088

The long-term goal is to build this fund to a level that provides for a percentage of annual operational income.

### Self-generated Revenue

A 3-year Mahi mō te Taiao Jobs for Nature contract with DOC continued to significantly boost contract income for this period.

Public Donation Box income increased 7.5% from the previous year.

Sales & fees income from Rotokare honey, sell out winter night tours, calendars and our education programme continued to contribute to our self-generated income goal.



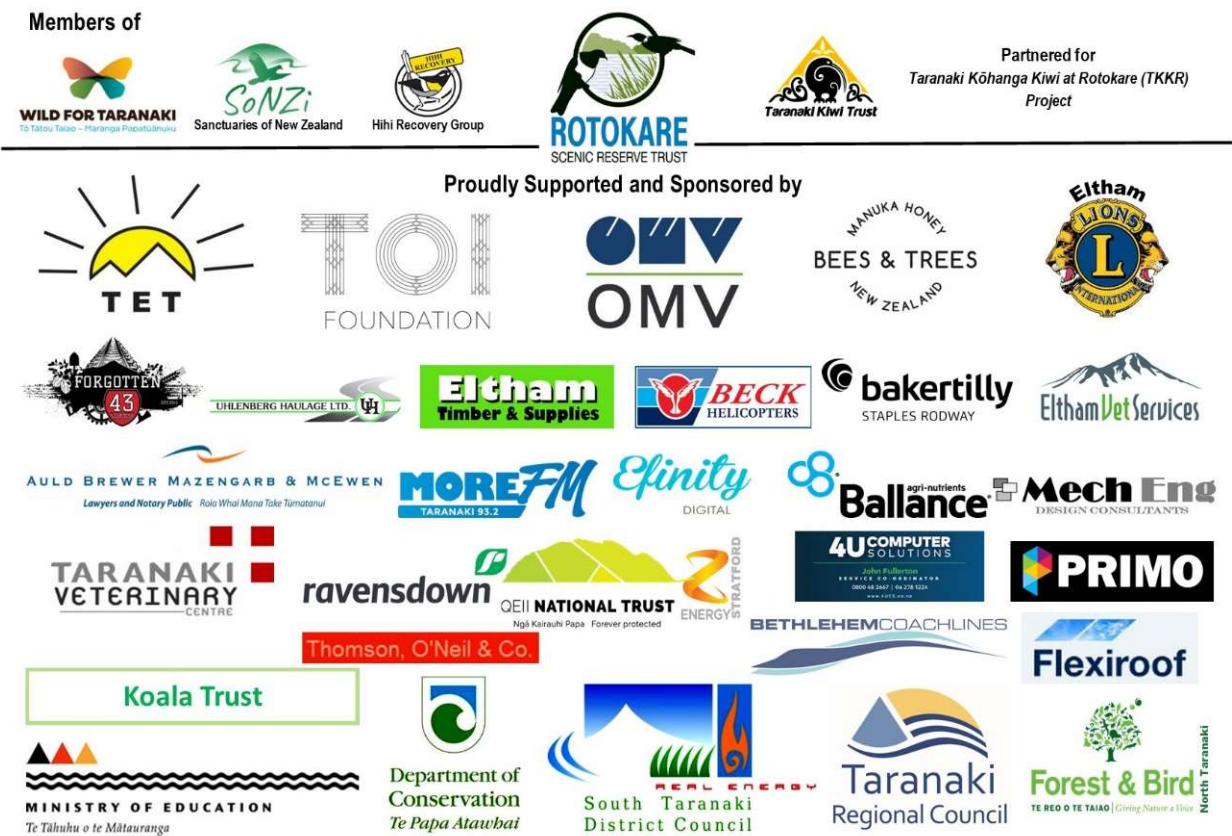
# Sponsors & Partnerships

Everyone that contributes to, visits, or benefits from this project in any way is an important stakeholder in this community-led sanctuary project.

This includes everyone from financial contributors, partners, collaborators, volunteers, governance and committee, staff, schools, halo landowners and neighbours, to the Taranaki community, wider conservation community, and future generations.

The Trust express sincere gratitude to all volunteers, neighbours and surrounding landowners, and the many 'Friends of the Lake' members – community is our purpose.

The Trust also sincerely thanks and recognises the below key partners, sponsors, donors, contributors, corporate volunteers, and collaborators.



By supporting the Rotokare Sanctuary, you are contributing to an inspiring, fun-loving, and outcome focused community-led organisation. Working together we are achieving significant results for regional biodiversity restoration and the wellbeing of our community. The Trust continues to rely of funding through a variety of sources – please consider how you might be able to be a part of Taranaki’s pest-free sanctuary.

- Become a ‘Friend of the Lake’ | Make a donation | Volunteer some time
- In-kind goods and services | Become a sponsor | Make a bequest







Contact us:  
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[www.rotokare.org.nz](http://www.rotokare.org.nz)  
[www.facebook.com/rotokare](https://www.facebook.com/rotokare)  
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