



High Value Area

# ANNUAL REPORT

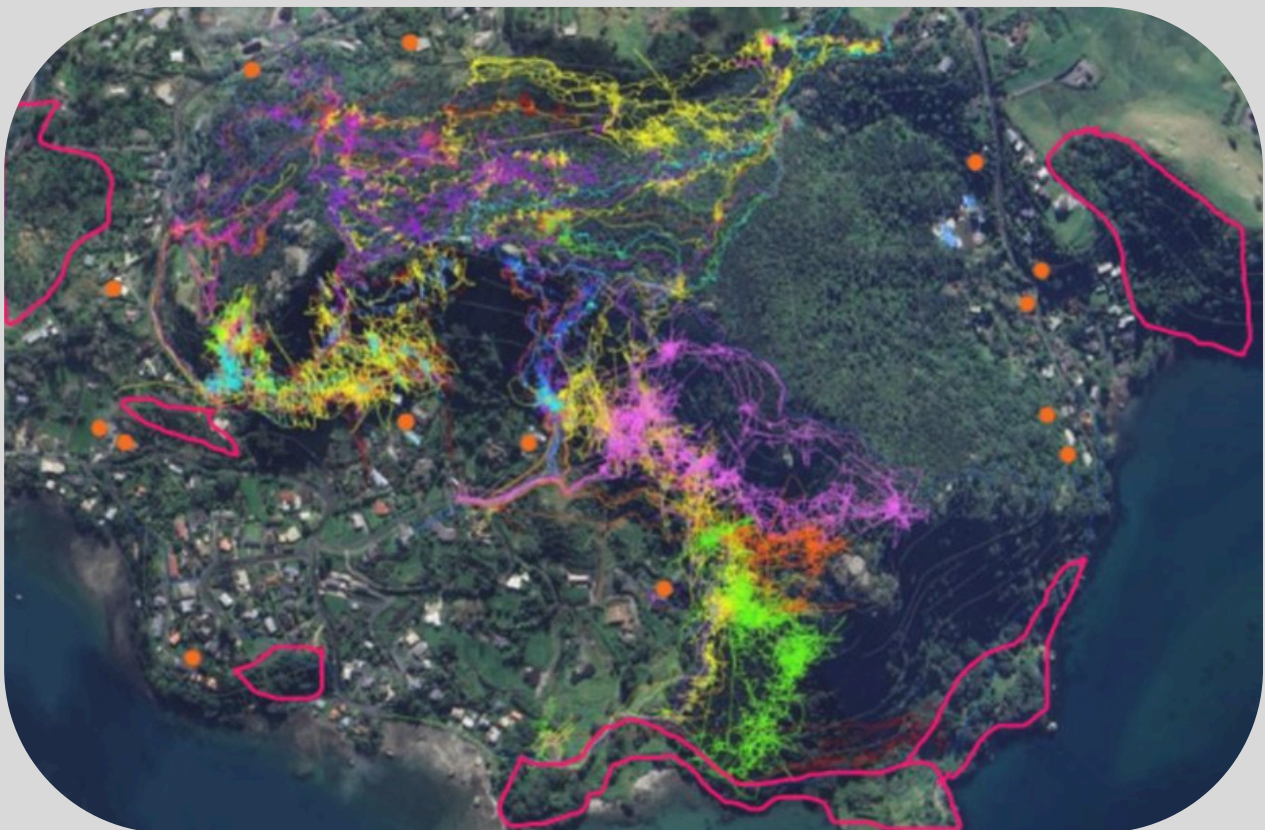
2024/2025

## Our vision

To work with community, tangata whenua, NGOs, and government agencies to restore the native habitats within the Whangārei Heads High Value Area, so indigenous ecosystems are healthy, flourishing, and free of invasive exotic plants, and the biodiversity of the area can thrive

### Our programmes and underlying principle

- Engage and support the community in habitat restoration
- Volunteer habitat restoration on reserves and public conservation land
- Landscape level habitat restoration on reserves and public conservation land
- To work with Tangata Whenua and develop our Tangata Tiriti competency to support hapū/iwi habitat restoration aspirations



Map image composite of Reotahi Reserve showing Landscape Level Programme track logs courtesy of Aki Tai Here, pink borders of Volunteers and Small Reserves Programme and orange dots of Residents and Landowners Programme

community resilience – connection to te taiao



## Supporting community habitat restoration

### objectives

support local residents

visibility and outreach

conveying our story

tracking data

buffer properties

parua bay privet buffer

### outcomes

126 free herbicide allocations, 33 site visits, more advice sought and supplied, cementing links with Kohinui and Campbell Rd Landcare groups

branded trailer, marquee and signage at 4 community events, Mega Moth Plant Movement launched, targeted Strategic Weed Action Team events, increased Whangārei Heads School student engagement

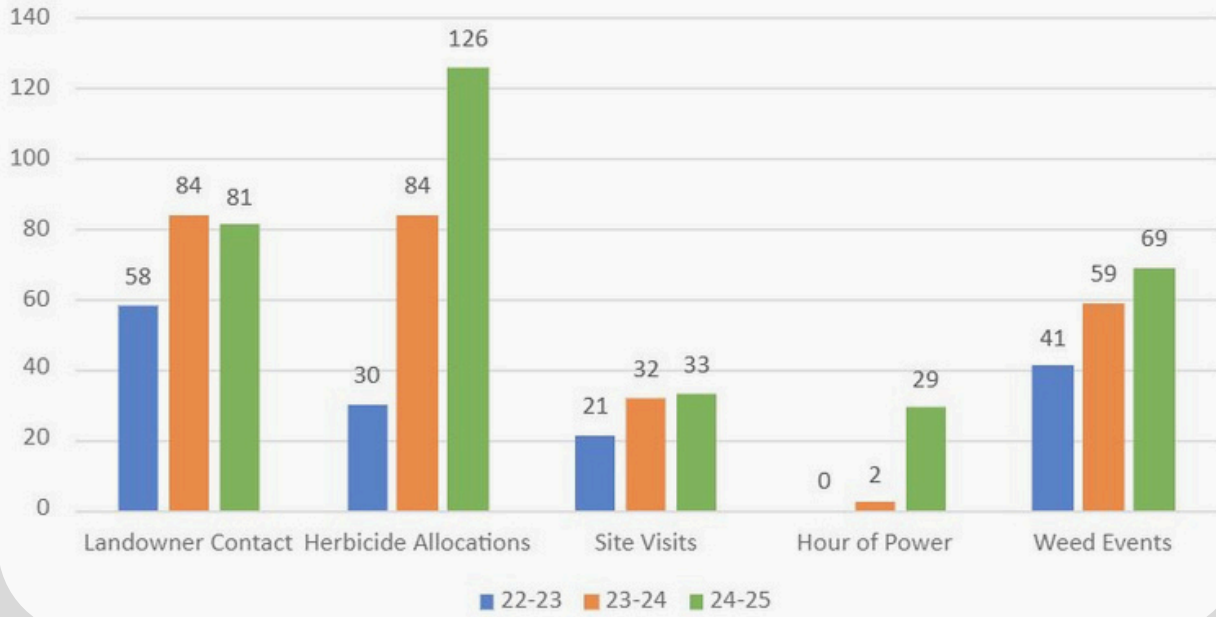
17 newsletters and articles, 45 Facebook posts, flyer drops for moth plant and planting day

continuing trial of EcoNet, data management strategy underway, website redesigned and performing well

31 properties surrounding Maunga Manaia, Reotahi Reserve and Taurikura Ridge received our support this year

momentum continued with over 300 hours and landowners now assisting their neighbours

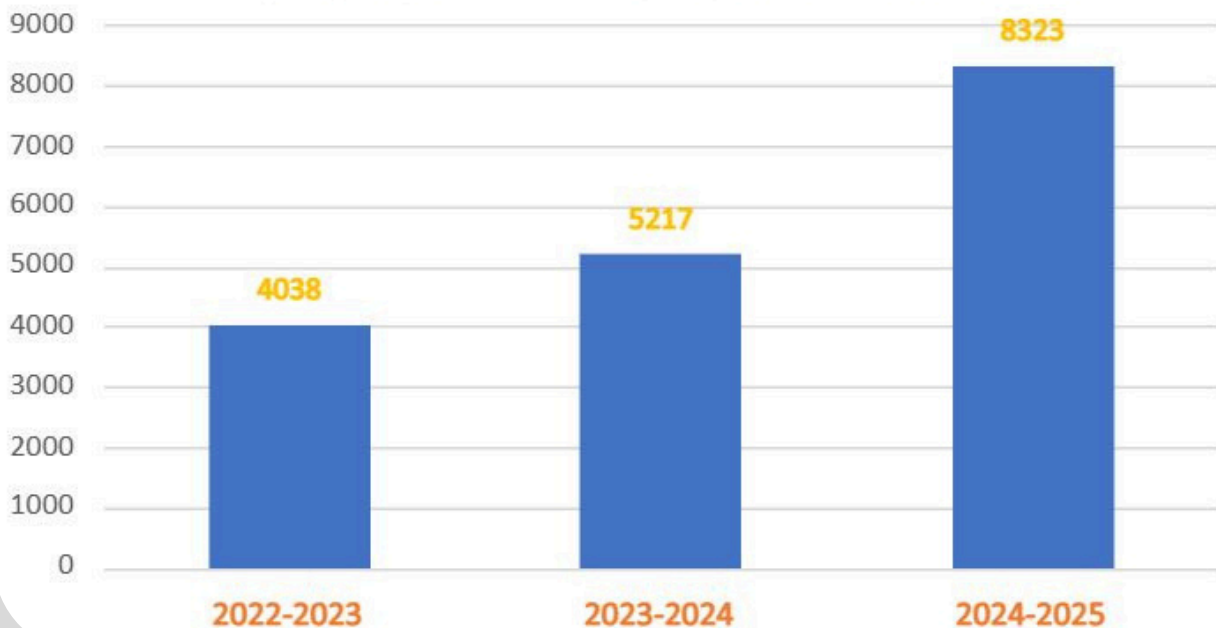
## Landowner Engagement 3 Year Comparison



This year, we were proud to receive first place in 'Environmental Action in the Community' and runner-up in 'Environmental Action to Protect Native Life' at the Northland Regional Council Environmental Awards - recognition of over a decade of impactful programmes, partnerships, and measurable outcomes.

Photo credit: Dawn Dutton Photography

## WANHRT Volunteer Hours 3 Year Comparison



# Volunteer habitat restoration in reserves



## objectives

support new groups

highlight work of groups

support & bolster groups

## outcomes

7 groups now active – Tamaterau, Parua Bay, McLeod Bay/Manaia, Reotahi, Busby Head, Ocean Beach, SWAT  
50 volunteer participants  
new groups at Parua Bay and Busby Head  
significant increase in number of events, reserves under care, and volunteer hours on previous years

groups are featured in newsletters and Facebook reports, with strong community awareness and appreciation  
several groups have achieved full sweep of reserves and completing first maintenance, with greatly reduced weed burden apparent

support is provided through equipment, herbicides, event marketing, training opportunities, mapping

5 year MOU with Whangārei District Council renewed  
Volunteer Week 2025 sharing and celebrating workshop and lunch held

## Reserves receiving Weed Action volunteer input 2024 – 2025

<b>Reserve/size ha</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Tamaterau Reserve 2ha	Tamaterau Landcare Group	376
Manganese Point Reserve 2ha	SWAT	30
Turiapua Reserve 3.3ha	SWAT	21
Lamb Road	SWAT	33
Kiteone Reserve 7.5ha	SWAT/Parua Bay Weed Action Group	27 / 56.5
The Nook Reserve 6.5ha	SWAT	40
McLeod Bay Green & Watercare lands 34ha	Manaia Bush Recovery Group	216
Darch Point PCL 7ha	Individual Logan Carter	400
	DoC Volunteer Wednesday	170
Reotahi & Darch Point Rds	SWAT	21
Reotahi Coastal Walkway 7ha	Reotahi Working Bee	74.5
Little Munro Bay & Vinson Reserves 7ha	Little Munro Bay residents	44.5
Busby Head/Smugglers Track PCL	Smugglers Track Crew	84
Ocean Beach Reserve 5ha	Ocean Beach Landcare Group	174

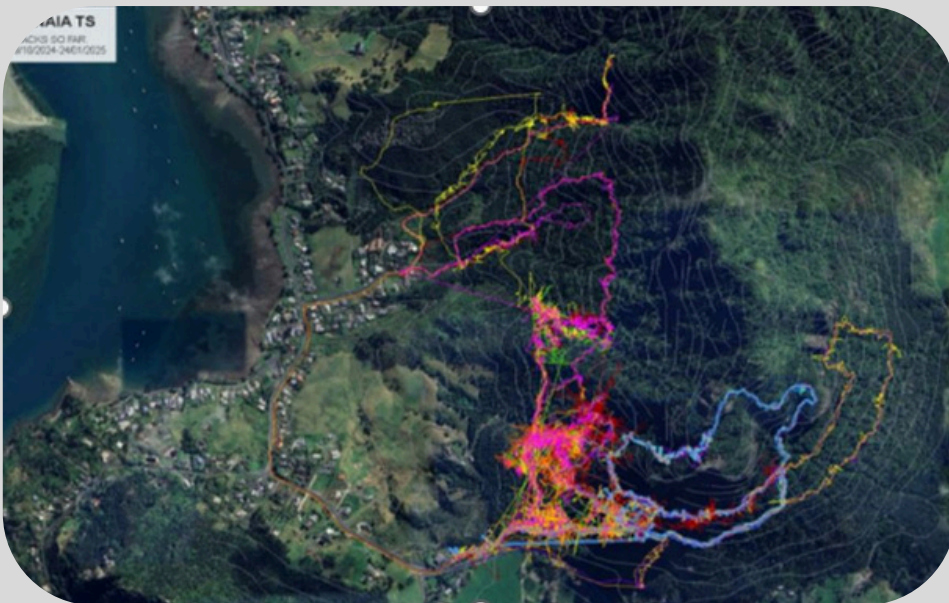
# Landscape level habitat restoration



## Highlights of 2 current major projects

### Reotahi – Second Full Sweep Complete

- Reotahi Reserve 65ha
- 39ha controlled for over 30 species of invasive weeds
- 720 WANHRT and Aki Tai Here contractor hours between July and October 2024
- Track logs maintained coverage and informed planning
- Signs of greatly reduced weed burden reported by kaimahi
- Thanks to this second round of funding from Lotteries Environment, native regeneration is flourishing



Track logs map of Manaia courtesy of Aki Tai Here

### DoC Threatened Species

- Over 20ha controlled by WANHRT and Aki Tai Here contractors/kaimahi on lower Manaia slopes for 15 high impact ecological weeds in order to protect the upper Manaia threatened species habitats
- Upskilled alongside DoC and NRC experts., Increased native ID skills
- New finds of threatened plant species as a result

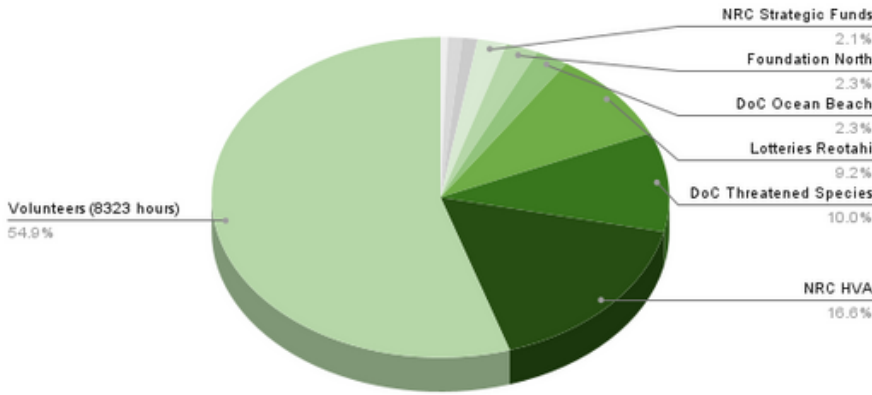
# Landscape level habitat restoration objectives

objectives	outcomes
maintain & strengthen relationships	community hui planned for September 2025 regular DoC Threatened Species hui has fostered relationships with hapū/iwi
support iwi led priorities	supporting hapu aspirations for threatened species propagation methods following recommendations in Pilot Project Report sharing delivery of Te Tiriti workshops with Bream Head Te Whara Conservation Trust resourcing to enable tangata whenua involvement now included in funding applications
habitat restoration in PCLs and reserves	Manaia Threatened Species DoC project into year 2 first maintenance sweep (second full sweep) of Reotahi completed under Lotteries Environment fund, by WANHRT & Aki Tai Here Reotahi planting event increased community involvement
build collaborative leadership	Aki Tai Here leading projects with confidence & skill Aki Tai Here in leadership role designing work plans in collaboration with WANHRT
advocate for WDC reserves	MOU renewed for 5 years unsuccessful obtaining funding for WDC owned land at Manaia 2 days contractor spray work at Reotahi & Ocean Beach
advance DoC collaborations	Aki Tai Here leading Threatened Species work with hapū/iwi guidance project to control ecological weeds at Proctors/Ocean Beach delivered by WANHRT & ATH



# Operational funding and Trust update

WANHRT Financial Contributions 2024-2025



Contribution 2024-25	Amount
A K Franks	\$1,000
Interest (Kiwibank)	\$2,316
NRC Strategic	\$3,400
Pub Charity	\$3,690
WDC community grant	\$4,844
NRC Privet Buffer	\$6,000
Foundation North	\$10,383
DoC Ocean Beach	\$10,500
Lotteries Reotahi	\$41,700
DoC Threatened Species	\$45,620
NRC HVA	\$75,717
WANHRT Volunteers (8323x\$30/hour)	\$249,690
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$454,860</b>

As Tangata Tiriti, the Trust embraces the responsibility and opportunity to deepen our understanding of Te Ao Māori worldviews. This commitment aligns with our evolution from weed control to full habitat restoration—recognizing the profound interconnection between people, nature, and wellbeing.

Our trustees are dedicated to community-led environmental action, supported by strong governance, financial stewardship, and health and safety expertise. This year, we completed a comprehensive review of our Trust Deed and resubmitted it to Charities Services. Looking ahead, we are focused on growing restoration leadership—grounded in cultural respect, strengthened through collaboration, and driven by a vision of thriving ecosystems and connected communities.

Our work wouldn't be possible without the support of our major funders and grant supporters:



