

PĀNUI October 2026

Honeymoon Valley Landcare Charitable Trust

*Working together to enhance and protect the natural Honeymoon Valley and Peria ecosystems,
for the enjoyment and benefit of present and future generations*



**All welcome to the Trust AGM and Planning meeting
Sunday 18 October 2026 10.30am @ Peria School**

***Agenda:** achievements over the past year, Finance report, Election of Trustees, completing Action Plan and materials list needed for the coming year. Come along and share your thoughts*

“Ka Waitatia Maungataniwha” Corridor Project of 7000 hectares connects the communities of Otangaroa, Fern Flat, Honeymoon Valley and Mangamuka, who have been working together since 2020 towards “Maungataniwha singing into the future”. Restoring the health, abundance and mauri of this ancient forest ecosystem is the aim, with around 5000 pests killed per year (stoats, weasels, rats, feral cats, possums).

Half the area is Department of Conservation/ Te Papa Atawhai managed public conservation land, and the Community Agreement between the Trust and DOC has been updated through to 2030. Jobs for Nature funding ended mid 2025. Thanks to Kylie McDowell and the Kaitia DOC team who supported the Trusts contract December 2025 - April 2026 for professional predator trapping contractors doing monthly trapline baiting and servicing of over 1400 predator traps on all 23 traplines (7 are in Honeymoon Valley) along 167 km of tracks.



Ka Waitatia Maungataniwha

Thank you also to the 40 private landowners who are part of this project area. Currently only volunteer work is occurring on areas close to home zones as funding is being sought to continue. The Governance Group is seeking co-funding for the continued Predator Pest control operation with Invasive Weed Management a key future aspiration.

The aim is to service the trap network based on best practice 14 times per year. Save the Kiwi has granted a small amount to ensure the traps and tracks can have annual maintenance for the next 2 years. DOC have indicated potential support for endangered species monitoring.



There are now fifteen AT220 Auto traps in Honeymoon Valley automatically killing rats and possums in remote locations thanks to support from Air NZ and the Stephenson Fund for QEII Forever Protected / Ngā Kairauhi reserves.

Photo: Northern rata red flowering indicates low possum numbers

The “**Ka Waiaatata Maungataniwha**” corridor is recognised as a key part of the upper Doubtless Bay/ Tokarau catchment. This native forest area is the top of both the Oruru and Oruaiti river systems; two of the three sub-catchments in Doubtless Bay / Tokarau, and the weed work in our valley supports the future resilience of the streams, forests and whole catchment.

Weed Action Project Honeymoon Valley supporting local biodiversity values is continuing without new funding. The Trust is ensuring essential follow up work happens this spring and early summer on Kahili ginger, Chinese privet (both forest invaders) and jasmine (garden escape climber) in the upper valley catchment areas of steep forested understory. The professional contractor works on more than 20 different properties working down stream and down the valley. *Some small ginger seedlings continue to be found and it is essential that all flowering and seedling ginger and privet is stopped so that eradication will continue to succeed.*

YOU CAN HELP BY:

ALL property owners should ensure the bush has a walk through each summer and all ginger and privet removed (photo shows cut and paste of ginger clump)

Come to a valley roadside working bee Sundays 10-12 in spring and summer to help eradicate privet, cotoneaster down the valley

Weed observation and do small actions locally on your walks; take a small kit with you and weed and remove the weed trees as you spot them - ask us for a kit

Summit Forestry logging has finished on Duttons Road and being alert for forest understory invasive weeds such as ginger and privet is important

Note that Bat wing passionflower vine (pictured here) is a big garden escape problem in Kohumaru, we hope it does not travel with the birds!

If you need materials or tools for this work please ask.

Donations are tax deductible and contribute to the Trusts efforts:
38-9016-0688584-00 Honeymoon Valley Landcare

Weed Action contacts: Yvonne 027 6999 063 and Sandra 021 116 4207



Two free workshops have run this year for anyone tackling invasive weeds to share and learn.
Next workshop is Thursday 3 Dec 10.15am - 12pm in Mangonui.
Email to be on the list: weedactiondbt@gmail.com

Honeymoon Valley CPCA/ Community Pest Control 2000 ha area of interest
Northland Regional Council support with annual budget for pest control and weed action equipment.

Thanks Clayton Rameka, Biosecurity and Pest Control for working on our behalf. We are extremely grateful for the tools and weed action and pest control materials. We can therefore offer free landcare traps and materials to active Honeymoon Valley residents. Contact us about what you need and if you need help to get started.

Possum management continues and monitoring of possum populations gave good results this year. Thanks to all, especially Wayne for killing over 1000 possums per year in the valley. Spring and summer is time to target hungry predators so make sure all your traps are freshly baited.

Note all traps need to be set up on trees or ramps above 70 cm height to be kiwi safe

(Photo shows Steve Allan setting up SA2 (possum trap) on tree and SA3 (feral cat trap) on ramp above kiwi height)

Thank you to the kiwi aware local pig hunters who keep pig populations down to a manageable level. Remember to keep your pig hunting dogs kiwi aversion trained with annual refresher training.

It would be good to increase the pest catch results being logged onto the **Trap.nz** website. It's not hard to do, if you are interested in coming to a learning session soon please contact us.



Thanks for all the volunteer efforts caring for Te Taiao in Peria

We record valley landcare work that averages over 2500 hours per year = 1.5 fte (full time equivalents). This includes removing invasive weed species, stoat and feral cat trapping, possum hunting, track maintenance, pig hunting, native reserve management, administration and funding, meetings, community outreach etc.

HONEYMOON VALLEY LANDCARE KAUPAPA

- Looking after the local natural biodiversity for the enjoyment of all and for future generations
- Working together whilst respecting everyone's peace and privacy on their land
- Being a good neighbour
- Controlling your pets responsibly especially at night
- Increasing native birdlife and the health of surrounding forests and streams
- Reducing invasive weeds in the valley
- Maintain the high water quality and natural native stream and roadside vegetation

“He Rangai Maomao” Trust has grown from the Doubtless Bay Tokarau Catchment community and hapū roopu to further the wider catchment objectives and attract independent funding going forward. First supported by DOC Nga Awa project, the new Trust has taken its name from a local whakatauki, “shoal of maomao weaving together in the bay”. Tokarau is recognised as Doubtless Bay moana and is different to the Tokerau beach name.

To date some important foundation information and research work has been undertaken such as the Baseline Catchment Report, Climate Resilience and Planting Report, local stream macro-fauna research and species monitoring including Kēwai / fresh water crayfish (also known as Kōura) and Inanga spawning projects with local kaitiaki being trained, and currently a GIS Weed mapping project by AUT students is underway to support future weed work. This all contributes towards a Doubtless Bay/ Tokarau Moana Catchment Plan.

Aotearoa has many nocturnal creatures including fish and insects macro fauna that live in streams and are a key to the ecosystem feeding tuna, and native fish.

Research presently includes a Waikato University team doing stream and forest biodiversity comparisons within native and pine forest ecosystems including spiders, birds, bats, eDNA and macro invertebrate food webs etc (photo shows researchers on site). Maungataniwha range is one of several sites around the country and we await the results in the near future.



Fresh water native fish species found here include: Short fin eel, the rare long fin eel, Koaro, Redfin bully, Common bully, Koura. Possibly the very rare Shortjaw Kokopu is present. Four new species have been discovered amongst the 28 different species of Caddisfly, 15 species of Mayfly, Flatworms and Freshwater worms, Dobsonflies, Craneflys and Microvelia bug species and 3 species of Stonefly.

DOUBTLESS BAY LANDCARE NETWORK is going well to support increased bird life on the coast with more rat, stoat and possum trapping. Focus is around four coastal stream areas; Owhetu, Opoi, Otanenui, Kanekane linking to Friends of Rangikapiti and Taumarumaru Reserve team. Our Trust hosts their bank account as the group grows.

Contact: dblandcare@gmail.com



NEXT EVENT:

Kaitiaki Tent @ Taipa Market Saturday afternoon 28 November 2026 1 - 7pm

Practical demonstrations of tools, trapping, weed action options, catchment info with local Weed Action Network, Friends of Rangikapiti, Doubtless Bay and Honeymoon Valley Landcare

TRUST CONTACTS: Shayne Waldron, Gerlinde Andraschko, Sandra Carey, Yvonne Steinemann, Beth Newick

Email: honeymoonvalleylandcare@gmail.com to be sent the occasional update and Panui

honeymoonvalleylandcare.org.nz

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