

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES FUND

PROJECTS FUNDED 1 JULY 2021 – 30 JUNE 2022

ABOUT THIS FUNDING ROUND

A total of 27 applications were received in the 2021/22 Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF) round, totalling \$754,309.51 in requested funds. Two applications were withdrawn, two were ineligible, and 12 applications were declined. Grants totalling \$147,069.68 were made to 11 projects.

DRIVING CREEK RAILWAY LTD

Project:	Driving Creek Kiwi Care
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$15,000 (2022/23)
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Driving Creek Railway Ltd is a charitable company that owns a tourism business and 24 hectare conservation park in Coromandel. This funding is for an extension of the existing predator control network and weed control in land surrounding the park, to provide greater protection for kiwi and other native species in the wider area.

PROJECT KIWI TRUST

Project:	Project Kiwi Trust - Kūaotunu Peninsula
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$27,276.40 (\$2,000 in 2021/22; \$12,668.20 in 2022/23; and \$12,608.20 in 2023/24)
Duration of Funding:	3 years

Project Kiwi Trust is a kiwi conservation project that has been operating on the Kuaotunu Peninsula on the Coromandel Peninsula for over 25 years. This funding is for trapping and bait station materials to control rats, possums, mustelids and wasps over the 2850 hectare project area.

WAIKATO ENVIRONMENT CENTRE TRUST (TRADING AS GO ECO)

Project:	Climate Response Programme
District/Catchment Zone:	Hamilton City/Central Waikato
EIF Contribution:	\$20,000 (2022/23)
Duration of Funding:	1 Year

Go Eco is an environment centre hub for the Waikato region based in Hamilton. This funding is to run a “Climate Response Programme” which aims to prepare businesses, charities, and other organisations to understand, measure and report on their CO₂ emissions. The programme will help organisations to get started on the climate journey by training community advisors, offering tailored onsite support and sharing resources, stories and running workshops.

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Project: Speedy Reserve Restoration Project
District/Catchment Zone: Hauraki/Waihou-Piako
EIF Contribution: \$3,774.90 (2021/22)
Duration of Funding: 1 year

Hauraki District Council's Community Services Team works closely with volunteer groups and advocates for the community. This funding is for the restoration of a small one hectare remnant of the Hauraki Plains kahikatea forest, called the Frank Speedy Memorial Reserve one kilometre east of Ngatea. Funding will be used mostly to undertake weed control and native planting.

MERCURY BAY ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

Project: Backdrop Trust Land Wilding Pines
District/Catchment Zone: Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$13,000 (\$3,000 in 2021/22; and \$10,000 in 2022/23)
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Mercury Bay Environmental Trust (MBET) was established in 2019 to conserve and enhance the natural environment in the Mercury Bay area along the east coast of the Coromandel Peninsula. This funding is to control of wilding pines on 61 hectares of private land at the edge of Whitianga Harbour owned by the Backdrop Trust. The Backdrop Trust plans to replant the land with native trees creating a lifetime 'backdrop' for the town of Whitianga.

PŪKOROKORO MIRANDA NATURALISTS' TRUST

Project: Shorebird Centre Shore Guide
District/Catchment Zone: Hauraki/Waihou-Piako
EIF Contribution: \$13,400 (\$6,700 in 2021/22; and \$6,700 in 2022/23)
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Pūkoro-koro Miranda Naturalists' Trust advocates for shorebirds and their habitats and operates the Miranda Shorebird Centre on the south-western shores of the Firth of Thames. This grant is to fund the wages for a shorebird guide to educate visitors about shorebirds and inspire action to protect these species.

THAMES COAST KIWI CARE INCORPORATED

Project: Helping Wild Kiwi Thrive Through Best Practice Predator Control
District/Catchment Zone: Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$8,500 (2021/22)
Duration of Funding: 1 year

Thames Coast Kiwi Care services a trapping network over 4893 hectares in the Te Mata and Tapu valleys along the Thames Coast to protect a remnant population of the Coromandel brown kiwi. This funding is to part-fund the wages of the predator control coordinator for one year to supervise and train volunteer trappers, audit traplines, record data, organise working bees to maintain tracks and undertake fundraising and education activities.

TONGARIRO NATIONAL TROUT CENTRE SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Project:	Taupō for Tomorrow - Freshwater education programme
District/Catchment Zone:	Taupō/Lake Taupō
EIF Contribution:	\$5,000 (2021/22)
Duration of Funding:	1 year

The Tongariro National Trout Centre Society is a charitable trust that provides a visitor education experience about freshwater conservation at the Tongariro National Trout Centre in Turangi. This funding is a contribution towards contractor wages to provide the day-to-day running of the freshwater education programme for schools.

KARUNA FALLS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

Project:	Karuna Falls Wilding Pines Control project
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$23,036 (\$3,036 in 2021/22; \$10,000 in 2022/23; and \$10,000 in 2023/24)
Duration of Funding:	3 years

Karuna Falls Co-operative Society communally owns 297 hectares of non-subdividable land comprising regenerating and secondary broadleaved forest in northern Coromandel between Colville and Waikawau Bay. This funding will be used to control wilding pines on their property to enhance the habitat values of the vegetation where kiwi are present.

NGĀTI HEI TRUST

Project:	Coromandel Scallop Restoration Plan
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$8,082.38 (2022/23)
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Ngati Hei Trust is a charitable trust that represents the interests of all Ngati Hei iwi members (beneficiaries). Ngati Hei are seeking to develop a long-term management plan to ensure sustainability of the scallop population in Coromandel and to minimise impacts that destructive fishing techniques (dredging) has on the fishery and the benthic habitat. This funding is provided to undertake a dive survey of the scallop populations in Whitianga Harbour.

MAHAKIRAU FOREST ESTATE SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Project:	Mahakirau Forest – 2021/22 Intensified Endangered Species Protection
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$10,000 (2021/22)
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Mahakirau Forest Estate Society runs a predator control programme on behalf of 24 landowners on 600 hectares of privately owned forest between Coromandel and Whitianga. This funding will be used for contractors to continue the ground-based predator control and undertake monitoring.