PROJECT JANSZOON

Together restoring the Abel Tasman

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Mihi

Takahia mai ra
Te tupuna whenua o Aorere
Ka rere taku reo tongi
Mai i Mārahau ki Wainui
Whakatau mai
Whakatau mai

Traversing the ancestral lands
My voice soars and declares
From Mārahau to Wainui
Welcome, welcome.

Pāteke/brown teal. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*
Cover: Released kākā at Wairima/Bark Bay. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*

Contents

Milestones

JUL-2011
Proposal presented to Hutton Wilson Nominees Ltd

OCT-2011
Project approved in principle

DEC-2011
Project Janszoon Trust formed

JUN-2012
Heads of Agreement signed with DOC

AUG-2012
Weed survey commenced

SEP-2012
First bird survey completed

JAN-2013
Canaan/Wainui stoat network activated

JUL-2013
Firesmart dune programme started

NOV-2013
Wi-Fi trial commenced and Abel Tasman app launched

DEC-2013
1080 consent granted by TDC

FEB-2014
First wasp control trial

FEB-2014
Awaroa to Anchorage stoat network activated

MAR-2014
Tomorrow Accord signed with Conservation Minister

APR-2014
Education programme launched

APR-2014
First planting at Hadfield Clearing

MAY-2014
First kākāriki released at Wainui Hut

MAY-2014
Beech trial started on Motuareronui/Adele Island

SEP-2014
Tīeke/saddleback released by ATBT on Motuareronui/Adele Island

OCT-2014
Initial strike of pine control completed

DEC-2014
Wi-Fi network and Abel Tasman app extended across park

FEB-2015
Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador programme launched

JUN-2015
Won Supreme and Philanthropy and Partnership awards at Green Ribbon Awards

SEP-2015
Rātā planting programme begins

OCT-2015
Wins Green World international conservation award

Whariwharangi. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*


NOV-2015
First kākā release
MAR-2016
Internet access available in Awaroa and Torrent Bay
APR-2016
Toutouwai/robin translocated to Pitt Head by Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust
NOV-2016
Native snails monitored with transmitters
JAN-2017
1,000th stoat trapped
MAY-2017
First pāteke/brown teal release at Hadfield Clearing
SEP-2017
Last stand of mature wilding pines controlled at Bark Bay
DEC-2017
First pāteke/brown teal chicks born
FEB-2018
Education scholarship announced
APR-2018
Heads of Agreement for Tomorrow Accord signed
JUN-2018
Beech trial extended to Anchorage
SEP-2018
New website launched
SEP-2018
First whio release
DEC-2018
Down the Bay book launched
JAN-2019
First kākā chicks fledge in park
MAR-2019
Two new schools join education programme
AUG-2019
Pāteke released at Tōtaranui
SEP-2019
First kākā released at Wairima/Bark Bay
SEP-2019
First ecoblitz held at Hadfield Clearing
MAR-2020
Covid-19 lockdown halts conservation work in park
MAY-2020
Project Janszoon and DOC team resume work in park
JUN-2020
40,000th predator trapped

Tomorrow Accord explained

Throughout this annual report you will see a symbol referring to the Tomorrow Accord target indicator.

The Tomorrow Accord is a formal agreement between NEXT Foundation and the Government that was signed in 2014. This agreement ensures that once agreed restoration outcomes are achieved, Project Janszoon hands responsibility for maintaining those gains to the Crown.

In 2018 a Heads of Agreement was signed by Project Janszoon chair Gillian Wratt and Department of Conservation Director-General Lou Sanson, which outlines the transformational outcomes that will trigger the Accord in the Abel Tasman. These triggers are outlined throughout this annual report with the first target, regarding wilding pine control, expected to be handed to DOC in late 2020.

Miromiro/tomtit

Director and Chair Message

Tēnā koutou katoa,

By all measures, 2020 has been an extraordinary year with unexpected challenges but also continued success. We are pleased to report that Project Janszoon, working with our Department of Conservation, Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust, and Iwi partners has continued our positive progress towards restoring the ecology of the Abel Tasman National Park.

We recognise the impacts the pandemic has had on those we work with and who support us, and are grateful for their continued support through these unusual times. As we connected with our partners during lockdown, it was heartening to hear their continued passion and energy for the park, and to see so many keen to return to re-set traps, maintain plantings, feed kākā, and undertake many other activities as soon as it was safe to do so.

The changing visitor outlook for the park has put particular pressure on the concession operators, and we'd like to thank them for continuing to stand behind our vision for what the park can be through this challenging period.

Work to control the plant and animal pests that threaten the Abel Tasman continues, with positive progress being made on most fronts. It is pleasing to see the signs of the wildling conifer infestations that once threatened the park ridges gradually disappearing from view as we prepare to hand over this programme to DOC under the Tomorrow Accord.

We continue to see the impacts of the mega-beech mast from 2019, with increasing rat numbers, but are confident our aerial control operations will give our native birds the opportunity to breed safely through spring.

One of the highlights of the year was the release of 24 kākā at Wairima/Bark Bay in September and October. This was the culmination of years of effort by DOC rangers and volunteers from the Birdsong Trust to control stoats and make it safe for the young birds. Since then, the kākā have been very visible along the coast and their playful antics enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.

One of our best memories was seeing a large group of visitors gathered on the beach at Wairima/Bark Bay watching a dozen kākā vigorously feeding on pōhutukawa flowers over the summer holidays. We look forward to the next few years when these young birds breed and their young establish themselves as a common presence in the park.

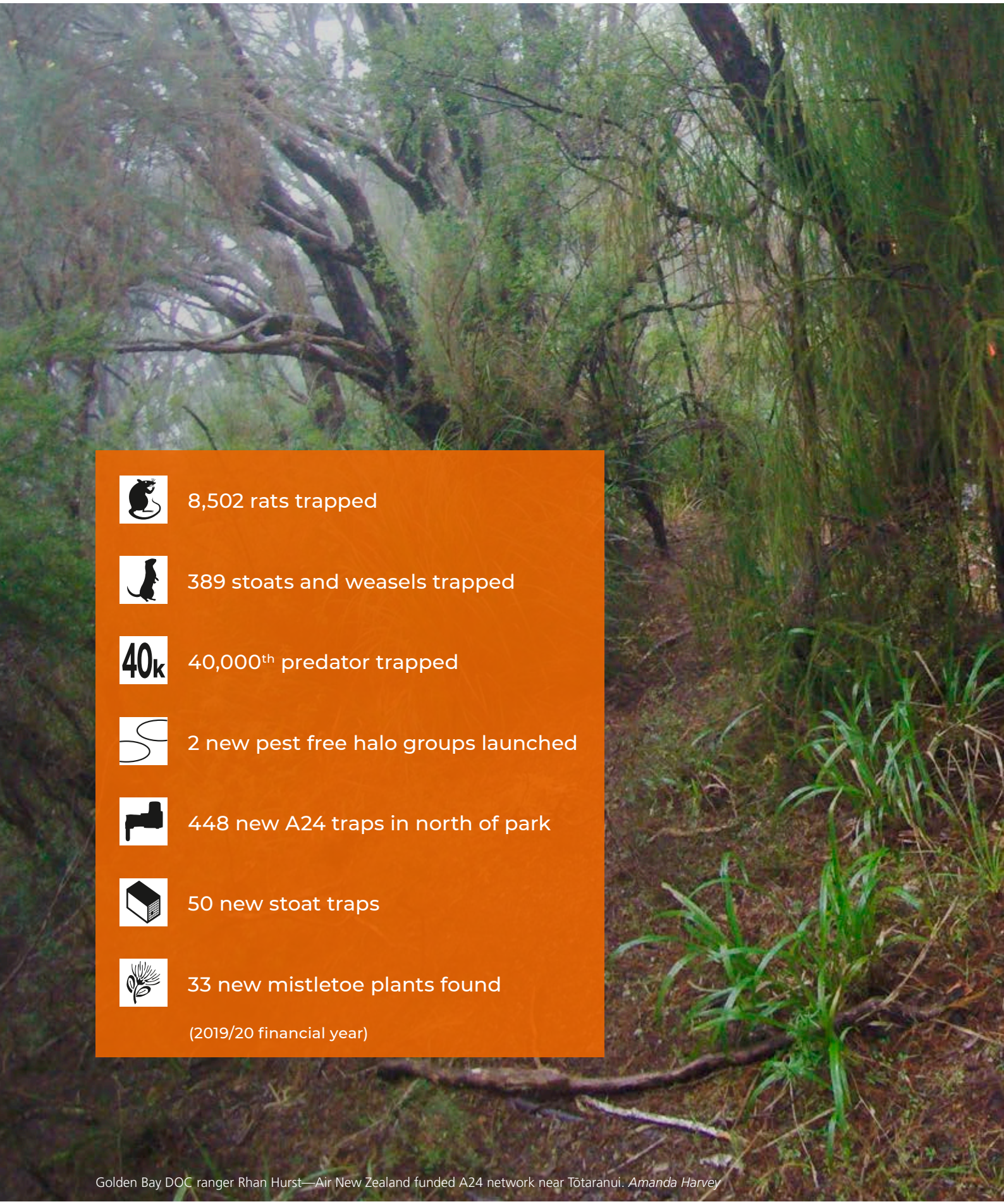
We also released more pāteke/brown teal than ever before with 138 birds released. This brings the total released birds to 288, approaching our goal of 300. We unfortunately lost several birds during the lockdown period due to stoat predation while trapping was on hold. Despite this, the pāteke population is doing well and we are seeing strong signs of breeding and finding that pāteke have spread to most wetland areas in the park. We are grateful to the Pāteke Recovery Group and the private breeders who make these birds available to us.

The enthusiasm from communities and landowners surrounding the park to contribute to the restoration work is great to see. Groups like the Takaka Hill Biodiversity Group Trust, Mārahau Halo, Project Rāmeka, Otūwhero Trust, and others, have taken initiatives to control pests adjacent to the Abel Tasman, providing additional safety to our native biodiversity and helping to sustain the gains we've made inside the national park.

Our education partners from Lower Moutere, Ngātīmoti, Motupipi, Golden Bay High, and Motueka High schools continue to actively use the park for learning through the Youth Ambassador and Adopt-a-Section programmes, as well as contributing to conservation activities. Student leaders are taking on bigger projects such as monitoring the hydrology of the wetland at Anchorage and leading an ecoblitz to better understand the biodiversity at Hadfield Clearing. We are grateful to the boards and principals from these schools for supporting the teachers and these students to share in and contribute to the transformation of the Abel Tasman. These programmes are key to future-proofing our work restoring the biodiversity of the park.

In addition to those already mentioned, we are pleased to thank the Project Janszoon staff, the DOC team, and volunteers from the Birdsong Trust for the amazing scale and quality of work they undertake. We also thank local Iwi Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Tama, and Te Ātiawa for their support in re-establishing taonga species in the park; we are pleased to see these endeavours succeeding. And finally, thank you to Neal and Annette Plowman for their generous support that makes this work possible.

Gillian Wratt, Chair
Bruce Vander Lee, Project Director



- 8,502 rats trapped
- 389 stoats and weasels trapped
- 40,000th predator trapped
- 2 new pest free halo groups launched
- 448 new A24 traps in north of park
- 50 new stoat traps
- 33 new mistletoe plants found

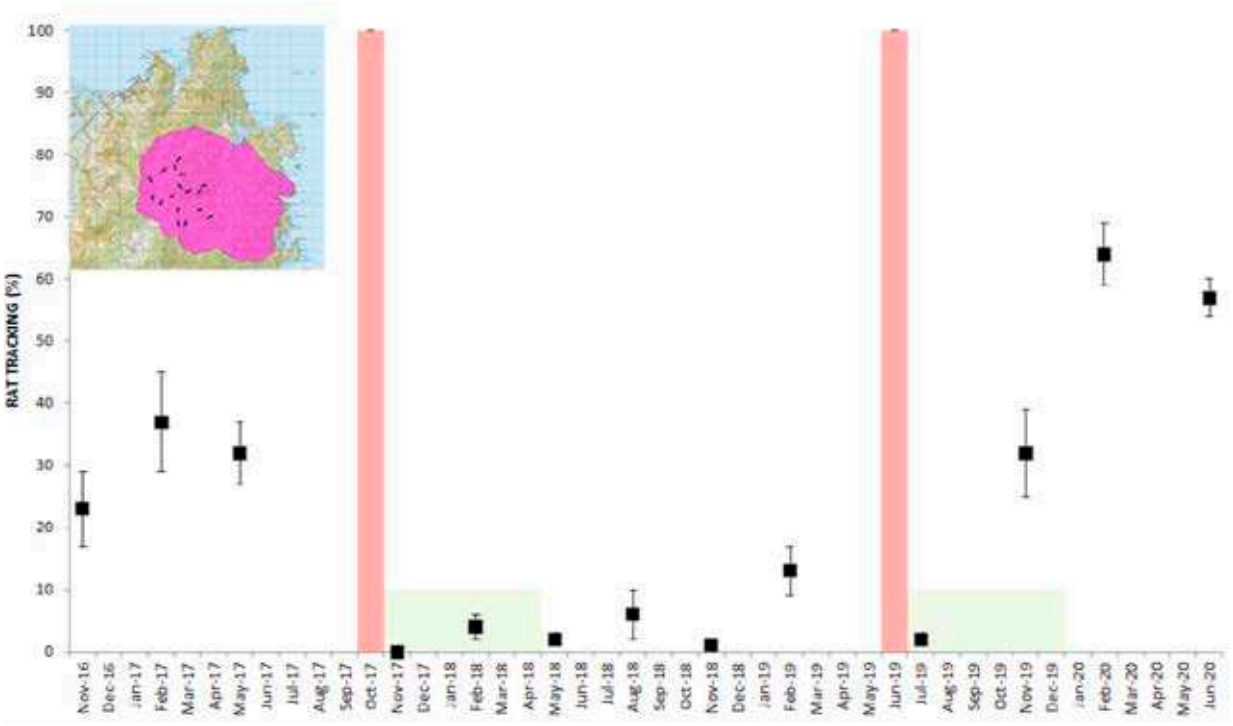
(2019/20 financial year)

Golden Bay DOC ranger Rhan Hurst—Air New Zealand funded A24 network near Tōtaranui. *Amanda Harvey*

Secure

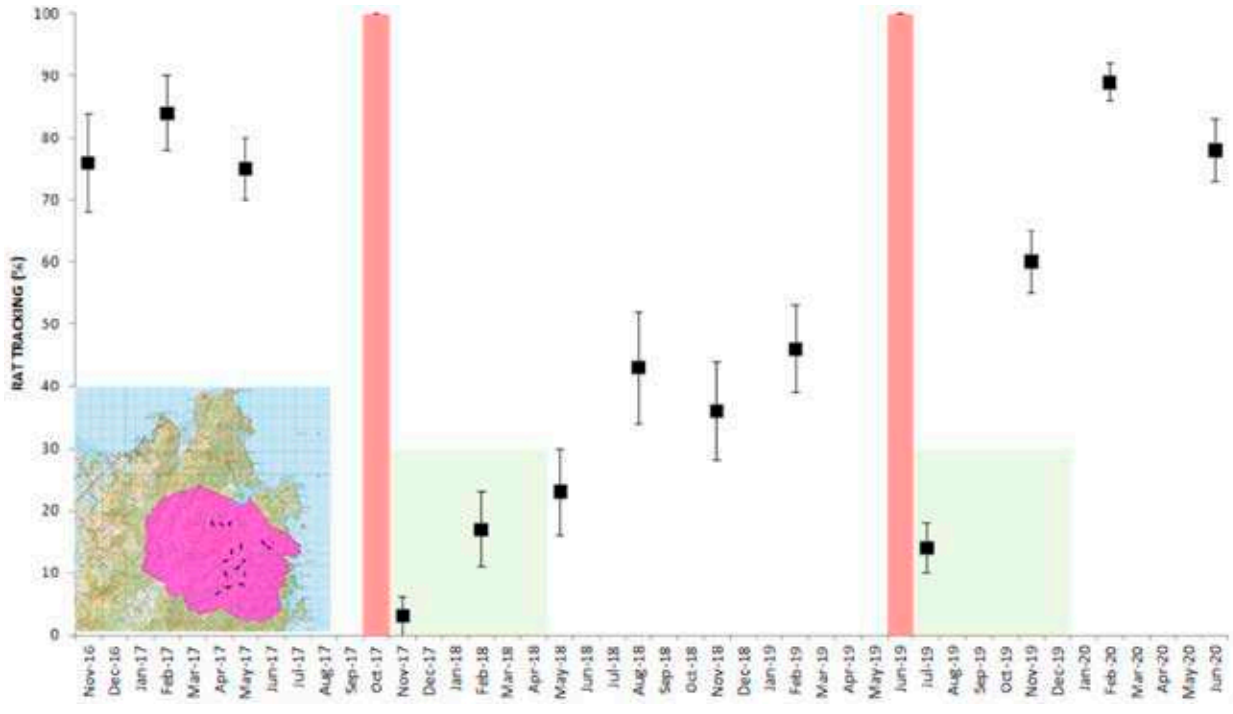
Rat tracking—aerial treatment above 600 m

Objective: to maintain rat tracking indices at less than 10% for six months after aerial treatment area above 600 m



Rat tracking—aerial treatment below 600 m

Objective: to maintain rat tracking indices at less than 30% year for six months after aerial treatment area below 600 m

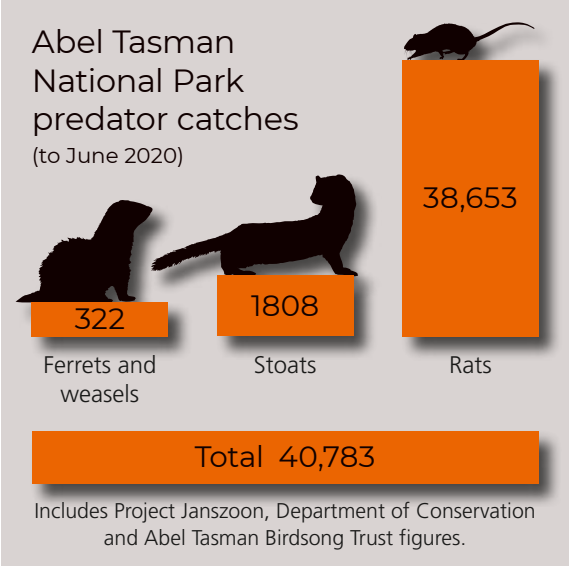


40 thousand trapping milestone reached

A milestone was reached this June when we recorded the 40 thousandth predator trapped. Over 90% of the park is now covered by the stoat trapping network since Project Janszoon began installing traps back in 2013.

The trapping records bring together catches from traps monitored by Project Janszoon, Department of Conservation, the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and a network in the north of the park funded by Air New Zealand. While we know the A24 self-resetting traps are also taking rats out of the system we aren't able to accurately gauge how many, as the carcasses are scavenged by stoats and weka. Similarly it's impossible to know how many pests are removed in aerial predator control operations.

"These are impressive numbers that reflect the trappers' hard work and dedication. Reward comes from witnessing the multitude of native birds singing their praise," says DOC Senior Biodiversity Ranger Jim Livingstone.



By removing these introduced pests we are giving birds like kākā, kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeet, toutouwai/robin, korimako/bellbirds and native snails a fighting chance to thrive in the Abel Tasman National Park.

Beech mast challenging

The one-in-50-year beech mast proved extremely challenging this year with rat numbers rebounding more quickly than we would have hoped.

An aerial predator control operation was undertaken in June 2019 over 11,449 ha in the park to protect vulnerable wildlife including toutouwai/robin, giant snails and kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeet from attacks during their critical nesting period. Initial results were positive with rat tracking around four weeks after the operation showing 2% rat tracking above 600 m and 12% below 600 m.

However, like other conservation projects around the country the mega beech mast, and subsequent abundance of food in the system, saw predator numbers recover relatively quickly. Monitoring in November 2019 showed rats tracking at 32% above 600 m and 60% below 600 m altitude.

Operations manager Andrew Macalister says the key learning was that when there is that much beech seed in the system you really need to get rat numbers to zero because the potential for them to recover is very high. "It really illustrated just how difficult it is to manage rodent numbers during a major beech mast event. We are now confident if we do an aerial operation in a non-beech mast year when food is declining we can get a good sustained result above 600 m, but we still need to find the best recipe for the park in a beech mast year," he says.

Because of the results, the Department of Conservation and Project Janszoon decided to bring forward the scheduled 2021 aerial predator control operation to winter/spring 2020. The plan is to undertake a focused aerial pest control operation in a higher-elevation area of the park that is a stronghold for native wildlife like kākā, kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeet and whio/blue duck.

DOC Ranger Lana Taylor installing A24 trap. *Amanda Harvey*


DOC ranger Aaron McClatchy near Tōtaranui. *Amanda Harvey*


DOC ranger Kathryn Smith. *Amanda Harvey*

Northern A24 network to be intensified

There are plans to extend a network of A24 self-resetting traps at Tōtaranui because rat numbers have remained high after last years mega beech mast.

The Department of Conservation Tākaka team installed 448 new A24 traps over 450 hectares around the Tōtaranui Headland in August 2019. The traps were funded by Air New Zealand and installed in a variety of habitats to protect native birds like korimako/bellbirds, miromiro/tomtit, kererū/New Zealand pigeon and pīwakawaka/fantails.

Department of Conservation senior ranger Hans Stoffregen says the beech mast saw a surge in rat numbers and rat tracking was a lot higher than the 10% the team aims for. "We installed the traps at a rate of one per hectare and what we have learnt is that in some areas we need to increase that to two traps per hectare," he says.

DOC is now planning to increase the number of traps per hectare in areas of mature forest.

Stoat trapping network extended

The Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust and its volunteers have extended the stoat trapping network during the year, installing 25 double set trap boxes along the ridgeline that runs between Yellow Point and the Holyoake Track. This trapping line creates a perimeter to protect the Trust's 'Heart of the Park' A24 network. The trap boxes along the ridgeline have been positioned closer together than usual with the hope it will help create a defensive boundary.

The Birdsong Trust have also taken over management of several of the 'front country' lines in the Canaan Downs area. Birdsong Trust coordinator Abby Butler says the volunteer pool has remained very active with 130 members and there is now a waiting list of people keen to be involved.

"The volunteers found it hard not to be in the park checking traps during lockdown and were super keen to get back out there when it was allowed. Up till now we have mainly worked around the coast so volunteers are enjoying working in the different landscape of the higher altitude area of the Abel Tasman," she says.

Over 90% of the park is now covered by stoat traps and work is underway to optimise the network to make it more efficient. We know the trapping network is highly effective because species like pāteke/brown teal which are highly susceptible to stoat predation are doing well when the stoat traps are checked regularly.

Alistair Sheat with stoat traps on Yellow Point Ridge. *Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust*

A trail camera monitoring programme to understand how many stoats are not being trapped has taken place this year and results from that, and trapping data, will be used to develop a predictive model that tells us how often we need to check traps to make the network more efficient and cost effective. A workshop with Project Janszoon, DOC and Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research was delayed by the Covid-19 lockdown and this project will now be completed next year.

Thriving populations of kākā and other forest birds is a Tomorrow Accord indicator that predator control is effective.

Mountain beech with mistletoe. *Philip Simpson*

Dwarf mistletoe *(Korthalsella salicornioides)* on kānuka at Anchorage

Moho pererū/banded rail. *Bradley Shields*

New finds in mistletoe survey

A survey of mistletoe in the upper reaches of the park found 33 new red mistletoe plants this summer.

Mistletoe is rare in the park as it is a particular favourite of possums. Stoats and rats also reduce the bird populations that are responsible for pollinating and dispersing the mistletoe seeds.

The survey was undertaken by DOC Takaka biodiversity ranger Steve Deverell around Moa Park and Canaan. This area has intensive stoat trapping networks and has had aerial predator control so healthy mistletoe populations are a good indication predator control is making a difference. Steve focused on areas where he knew mistletoe had been seen before.

"The aim of the survey was to assess the health status of the known plants, many of which have been monitored since 2010, and to expand the search area for new plants to be tagged and monitored. Only five of the nearly 80 plants monitored showed evidence of possum browsing. However, this damage was at least one to two years old and all plants were recovering well. With sustained possum control here, this recovery should continue and produce seed sources for new mistletoe plants," he says.

Until recently, only 50 red mistletoe plants were known at Moa Park and Canaan so these new finds are good news. There are three species of beech mistletoe that have been recorded in the park, scarlet mistletoe *(Peraxilla colensoi)*, which is found on silver beech; red mistletoe *(Peraxilla tetrapetala)*, found mainly on mountain and black beech, although occasionally on red beech; and yellow mistletoe *(Alepis flavida)*, which is associated with mountain and black beech.

Healthy mistletoe is a Tomorrow Accord indicator to show possum control is working in the park.

Rare banded rail benefiting from predator control

The rarely seen moho pererū/banded rail is being noticed more and more often at the southern entrance to the Abel Tasman.

Banded rail are well-camouflaged and live in salt marsh and estuary vegetation, seldom venturing into the open. They dash between clumps of cover and look somewhat like a miniature weka, but with intricate patterns of black streaks and pale spots on an olive brown background.

If visitors know what to look for they are likely to spot a banded rail as they enter the park via the Mārahau estuary. "I can't remember the last time I walked over the Mārahau causeway and didn't hear or see a moho pererū. Once you hear their distinctive call if you stay quiet you have a good chance of getting a glimpse of one on the mudflats," says Project Janszoon's Robyn Janes.

Tasman Bay is a stronghold for banded rail in the South Island. Project Janszoon's ornithologist Ron Moorhouse says the habitat around Mārahau really suits the species and stoat control will be helping too. "Great Barrier Island, where there are no stoats, is heaving with banded rail."

The best time for viewing banded rails is at dawn or dusk, or when a falling tide has exposed snails and small mud crabs, which are their preferred food. Look for a fleeting glimpse as they dart across the mudflats between clumps of rushes.

Wilding pine control at Awaroa. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*

Ngātimoti School students at Wairima/Bark Bay. *Helen Lindsay*

DOC Ranger Fay McKenzie at Tōtaranui. *Robyn Janes*

Volunteers Peter Hanson and Deborah Archer at Onetahuti. *Helen Lindsay*

DOC Trainee Rangers Hans Pelcher and Jorg Otto at Tōtaranui. *Robyn Janes*

Winning against wilding pines

Removal of wilding pines in the park is on target, with the Department of Conservation due to take over the responsibility for ongoing control at the end of 2020.

This will be the first Tomorrow Accord target met as part of Project Janszoon's transformation of the Abel Tasman National Park's ecological prospects. Project Janszoon and DOC have built on work started by the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust in 2011 to remove hundreds of thousands of wildings from the park.

"The back has definitely been broken and we're starting to meet the objective of zero density of coning trees. There's such a big seed source there's always going to be young trees popping up but follow-up work can keep those under control," says DOC biodiversity ranger Dan Chisnall.

Three days of aerial wilding pine control was undertaken this year with a particular focus above Tinline, Apple Tree Bay and the Torrent Bay catchment. "Aerial control lets you get to areas that aren't accessible on foot and places that have had ground control so we can pick off any trees above the canopy we've missed. With a combination of those two tools we should be able to pick up 98% of trees in their coning cycle," says Dan.

Dan says while the work is being done in challenging landscapes, he's really impressed at the gains being made by the contractors J Mears Contracting. Further aerial control will happen through priority coastal locations between Mārahau and Awaroa before the Tomorrow Accord handover. Wilding pines cone at around 11–12 years old so DOC plans to do follow up control annually.

The Tomorrow Accord target is met when no more mature coning wildings are found in the park, and one complete cycle of follow-up maintenance has been achieved.

TOMORROW ACCORD

Weed control focusing on known locations

Weed control has focused on known locations this year with effort concentrated on controlling regrowth.

DOC biodiversity ranger Dan Chisnall says it's been business as usual when it comes to dealing to weeds like banana passionfruit, tradescantia, periwinkle, wattle and Japanese honey suckle. "We now have a good database and understanding of where these weed infestations are, so we can concentrate our efforts," he says.

Previously, Project Devine identified a large infestation of old man's beard near Taupo Point. The site is difficult to access so aerial spray control with a selective herbicide was undertaken.

A rule change by the Tasman District Council means landowners in the park's coastal enclaves are now responsible for controlling easy-to-deal-with weeds like European holly, grevillea, cotoneaster species, sycamore and Douglas fir.

Grevillea. *Andrew Macalister*

Project Janszoon is continuing to help manage weeds on private land which are more difficult and need to be controlled on a regular basis, like pampas, African club moss and tradescantia. Restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay says the vast majority of landowners have been extremely supportive and helpful allowing access onto their land.

Pampas grass. *Wikimedia Commons*

Mārahau Halo—Chris Palzer and Jared Bosecke. *Robyn Janes*

Invasive pampas grass concerning

Aerial coastal surveillance has identified a few sites of invasive pampas grass in the park.

Pampas is a prolific seeding grass from South America that invades disturbed areas such as slips and cleared bush margins. It is easily confused with the native toetoe but unlike toetoe it competes with, and smothers, other vegetation, and provides habitat for rats and mice. Its wind-blown seeds are easily spread.

The aerial survey identified pampas at Waiharakeke, Shag Harbour, Tonga Quarry and Sandfly Bay. Due to difficult access of these sites the plants were spot sprayed from helicopter with a grass selective herbicide, which was funded by the Abel Tasman Foreshore Fund.

"It's quite a concern to see pampas as it's got the potential to spread throughout the park, it's such a good coloniser and there is plenty of it around the park halo, especially around East Wainui," says DOC biodiversity ranger Dan Chisnall.

Protecting the halo

The number of pest free groups protecting the park's halo is increasing with trapping groups now underway in Mārahau at the southern gateway to the park and on the Tata Islands in Golden Bay.

They join others including the Tākaka Hill Biodiversity Group, who are working to create a safe corridor for native species between the Abel Tasman and Kahurangi national parks, Project Rāmeka, a charitable trust providing a predator free strip between the park and privately owned Rāmeka Carbon Forest, and the Otūwhero Trust, near Mārahau.

"It is really exciting to see new pest free halo groups emerging because pests don't respect boundaries. It complements the trapping networks in the Abel Tasman and it's just fantastic to see each group recognising the mutual benefits of working together and enthusiasm building."

Bruce Vander Lee, Project Director

Protecting the south

Pest free group Mārahau Halo launched in the midst of March's Level 4 lockdown with the aim of protecting the southern entrance to the Abel Tasman National Park.

Beginning with a small number of donated second-hand traps in the Mārahau estuary and Newhaven Street the group then started a trap line along Mārahau Valley Road. Another trap line is planned for Harvey Road, which will run parallel to the park's Inland Track trap line maintained by the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust. In time it is hoped trapping can be extended into nearby forestry adjoining the Abel Tasman.

Project Janszoon is providing advice and helping the group purchase new traps. It is encouraging to see residents, local businesses and conservation groups also donating funding, time and materials.

"It seemed like the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust had plenty of volunteers keen to trap in the park, so we thought why not start trapping outside, to provide a pest free halo around the southern entrance to the park. In Mārahau a lot of people do individual trapping and this is a way of pulling it all together," says founder Chris Palzer from the Abel Tasman Ocean View Chalets.

Chris Palzer says Mārahau Halo is entering its trapping data into TrapNZ with 300 pests caught in its first few months including one stoat and one weasel. "The data will help us to see patterns, there might be a rat 'super highway' we don't know about."

Doug Howard, Kerry Geen, Carol Foster and Martin Potter with traps on yacht about to head to Tata Islands. *Peter Geen*

Peter Geen trapping on Tata islands. *Peter Geen*

Pārekareka/spotted shag in partial breeding plumage.
Alan Tennyson New Zealand Birds Online

Goat control on target

Feral goats in the national park are being reduced to low numbers and private landowners around the wider park halo have a real enthusiasm to work together to stop reinvasion.

On the ground and aerial hunting took out 849 goats in the park and on neighbouring private land this year.

Operations Manager Andrew Macalister says the key to getting goats under control is to stop the reinvasion and consultation with private landowners has now been completed with good results. "There is good buy-in and real enthusiasm and passion from the vast majority of landowners who want to get rid of the feral goats. We are considering how we can do more work with neighbours to manage feral goats and protect the park," he says.

Goats eat native plants like broadleaf and māhoe/whiteywood and trample large areas of vegetation in the park. They also trash fences and ruin farm infrastructure, as well as eating pasture and spreading parasites.

We will know that we have reached the goat control target under the Tomorrow Accord when palatable understory species are thriving.

TOMORROW ACCORD

Golden Bay painter helping protect spotted shags

Golden Bay painter Peter Geen has been trapping rats on the Tata Islands for the past three years to protect the declining pārekareka/spotted shag population.

As a painter he was drawn to the islands and over time he began noticing shag numbers were dropping, so he put his hand up to do something about it.

In 2017 Department of Conservation senior ranger Hans Stoffregen dropped 30 decommissioned DOC 150 box traps (some still with dried rats in them) to Peter's house.

"They all needed water blasting and were desperate for some overdue repair work. After some handy work I loaded them on my boat, sailed them out to the islands, lugging them ashore up onto the islands and installing them where I best thought I could catch the most rats."

At that point he wasn't sure if stoats were on the island. He knew there were mice there, but they would have had to be poisoned and he wasn't keen to do that.

"Stoats would totally decimate the shag colony on the islands in a very short time. I haven't since seen any sign of stoats nor caught one on the islands."

As a precaution though, he and another 'keen trapper' Martin Potter, have recently laid an extra line of defence of 15 old box traps on the mainland Abel Tasman Headland adjacent to the Islands.

Peter logs all his trapping information onto the Trap.NZ site. He thinks this is a great way for trappers to coordinate their work because people with smartphones can record data on the day, and it shows where pest hotspots are.

He's also convinced rats are swimming to the islands though he has no scientific proof of it. Project Janszoon has offered to fund some new traps and also assisting with a trapping network to reduce predators on the mainland.

He loves painting the islands and said they offer "so much material to paint." He's painted them many times over the years, from different angles.

"The very first painting sold in my Clifton Gallery 17 years ago was of Tata Islands which was bought by [former Project Janszoon director and current trustee] Devon McLean. He has done fantastic work initiating and setting up Project Janszoon and since gone onto many other restoration projects around the country, he is a real inspiration to me.

"I guess too it's one small way I can scratch my 'civic duty itch' and give something back to these iconic landmarks we all love, while I have fun doing it."

Over the last 11 years spotted shag numbers on the islands have decreased from 4700 to 450 today. While rats are one part of the equation, Peter thinks a mix of environmental issues have led to the decline, as they once did to the weka population in Golden Bay.

Pārekareka/spotted shag.
Ruth Bollongino
www.fernphotos.com

Tata islands have a rich history

While many have kayaked or even swum the kilometre to the two islands off Tata beach, few know they're part of the Abel Tasman National Park, shelter some rare species and were once home to a Norwegian hermit.

The two Tata Islands—Motu/North Tata Island on the right as you're looking from Tata Beach, and Ngawhiti/South Tata Island on the left, are home to one of the country's largest colonies of spotted shags. The shags live in the rock crevasses.

Each rising to roughly 30 metres high, the islands are made of limestone, meaning water falls easily through their porous makeup. The islands are fertile compared to the rest of the national park's granite based lands.

The porous rock, says DOC senior ranger Hans Stoffregen, would have made long term inhabitation difficult on the island, for animals and humans.

Lepidium oleraceum or Cook's scurvy grass has been planted on the Tata Islands due to its fertile land and abundance of shags who provide the compost. "It's doing really well there," said Hans. This plant has been in serious decline over the last century.

Ngawhiti was long ago mined for limestone. There is also evidence of Māori inhabitation there. It's likely both islands were burned off as there are no larger rātā, tōtara or mataī trees. Instead, large milktree, dotted with nīkau, grow.

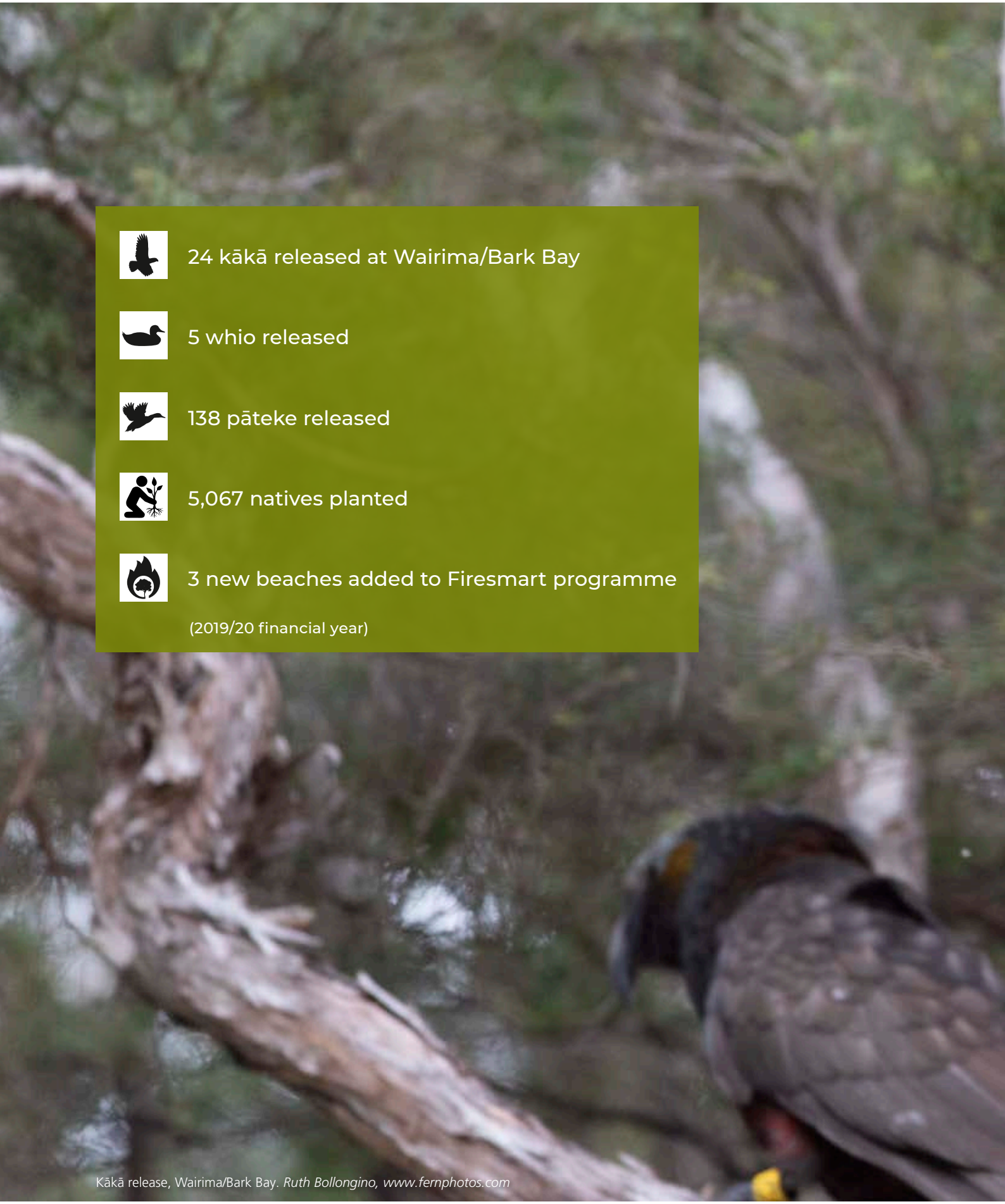
Around 1908 the government took the islands under the Public Works Act when the new Golden Bay cement company was investigating port options. At that time many saw them as providing the only safe harbour in Golden Bay.

In the thirties Norwegian immigrant Peter Peterson moved into an abandoned hut on Ngaiwi Island where he became known as the 'Hermit of Tata Island.'

The Tata Islands were added to the Abel Tasman National Park in 1954. They had been sitting unused since the 1908 when the government claimed them and it was a natural progression to add them to the park.

In early 2000 the islands were considered for a marine reserve site as they offer nurseries for fish. The idea was rejected by commercial and recreational fishers who wanted access to the food around the islands.

Tata Islands. *Golden Bay Kayaks*

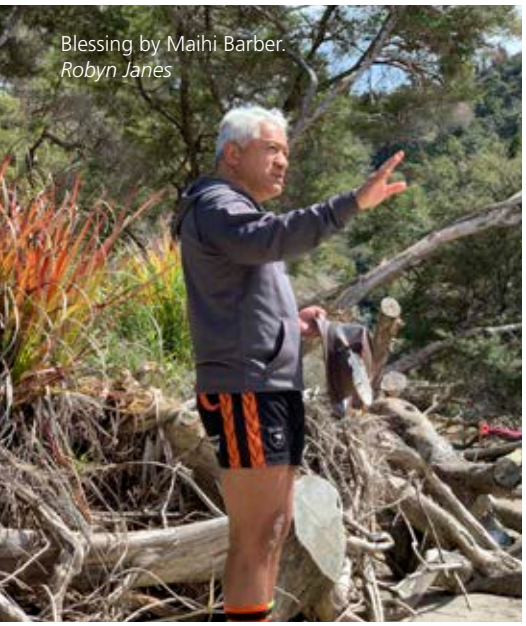


- 24 kākā released at Wairima/Bark Bay
- 5 whio released
- 138 pāteke released
- 5,067 natives planted
- 3 new beaches added to Firesmart programme

(2019/20 financial year)

Kākā release, Wairima/Bark Bay. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*

Restore



Blessing by Maihi Barber. *Robyn Janes*

Bruce Vander Lee addressing the crowd at kākā release in Wairima/Bark Bay. *Robyn Janes*

Ngātīmoti School student Riley Nelson-Knauf and Bruce Vander Lee with kākā box. *Robyn Janes*

Kākā transfer to Wairima/Bark Bay. *Bruce Vander Lee*

Wairima/Bark Bay aviary. *Christie Douglas*

Kākā outside aviary looking in. *Barrie Brown*

Largest ever kākā release

A culmination of years of careful planning was rewarded in September and October 2019 with a record 24 juvenile kākā released at Wairima/Bark Bay.

Project Janszoon have previously released kākā in inland Abel Tasman at Wainui Hut but this is the first time kākā have been released on the coast of the park. Wairima/Bark Bay was chosen because it is in the centre of the park's pest control network and visitors walking the coastal track will get the opportunity to view the charismatic native parrot in the wild.

Twelve of the young kākā were hand raised from eggs taken from wild nests in nearby Kahurangi and Nelson Lakes national parks where there are healthy kākā populations. Another twelve were bred as part of the South Island Kākā Captive Breeding programme to ensure all the birds had northern south island genetics.

This is believed to be the largest release of kākā in New Zealand. A large crowd was there to see the birds released from a purpose-built aviary where they had been acclimatising. Rima Piggott of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua helped bless the manu.

"What we're trying to do as a Māori community is ensure we leave a legacy behind. I want to be a good tupuna, and I want my mokopuna and all my descendants to enjoy seeing taonga species like kākā," she says.

Monitoring showed the kākā initially stayed close to Wairima/Bark Bay. They are now regularly seen further afield, in places like Anchorage and Awaroa, even as far north as Whariwharangi, and most have so far remained within the boundaries of the park. This is important because without the intensive predator control operation within the park kākā have little chance of nesting successfully.

DOC biodiversity ranger John Henderson says the release has been a success. "We have seen a high survival rate and low dispersal so two big ticks," he says.

One of the challenges was ensuring the public left the birds to adapt to life in the wild so signage was erected to remind visitors not to feed and interact with the kākā. Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors, and students from Ngātīmoti School who have adopted Wairima/Bark Bay as part of their education programme, were on hand to talk to visitors about the birds in the first few weeks of their release.

In the main the birds have adapted well to the wild, however one male that had repeatedly broken into the DOC tool and chemical store was taken to Natureland for his own safety where he will become part of the captive breeding population.

Lockdown helped the birds become more independent with only a few people visiting the national park. We were unable to provide supplementary feed for the birds during Level 4 lockdown, however a big thanks to Robbie and AJ from Wilsons Abel Tasman who made the long walk from Torrent to Bark Bay to feed the kākā as soon as we reached Level 3.

The kākā all have transmitters attached so that they can be monitored. Sadly, after lockdown one female was found dead. Currently, 20 of the 24 kākā are known to be living in the park, while the location of two birds is unknown.

What next?

South Island kākā do not breed in the wild unless it is a beech mast year when there is plenty of rimu or beech seed available. However because these birds have no experience with rimu or beech seed, and have been fed supplementary food, there is a chance they might breed this spring. Project Janszoon ornithologist Ron Moorhouse says they will be fed a proprietary parrot breeding food with more protein and calories in the hope this may happen.

"It's worth a try to see if we can encourage early breeding. At Zealandia in Wellington they are fed year round and breed every year," says Ron. Monitoring in the second half of 2020 will focus on finding evidence of breeding, and if this occurs, finding and monitoring nests.

Motupipi School students carry pāteke boxes to release site. *Bruce Vander Lee*

Pāteke release, Hadfield Clearing. *Bruce Vander Lee*

Pāteke release, Hadfield Clearing. *Bruce Vander Lee*

Pāteke release, Hadfield Clearing. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*

Pāteke/brown teal release, Hadfield Clearing. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*

Whio/blue duck. *Bradley Shields*

Ron Moorhouse and John Henderson release whio/blue duck at Falls River. *Joy Shorrock*

The kākā themselves have become media darlings. Featured on television, radio and in newspapers—even the UK Guardian and Air New Zealand's Kia Ora magazine did stories on the release. Visitors to the park love seeing them and report sightings regularly.

"I think the kākā are a wonderful addition to the park. I've seen them at Bark Bay and love how curious and mischievous they are," says Brendan Alborn from AbelTasman.com.

Thanks to Natureland Wildlife Trust, The Dunedin Wildlife Hospital, Dunedin Botanic Garden, Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre, Willowbank Wildlife Reserve, DOC Te Anau, Queens Park Invercargill, Orokonui Ecosanctuary and Bush Haven for their great work rearing the kākā chicks, and to Friends of Rotoiti for supporting the transfer of kākā chicks from Rotoiti to captivity for eventual release in Abel Tasman National Park.

Having a viable kākā population in the park is a Tomorrow Accord indicator of successful predator control.

Pāteke hit by a "perfect storm"

A perfect storm of drought conditions and the Covid-19 lockdown impacted on pāteke/brown teal survival this autumn.

During the Level 3 and 4 lockdown the pāteke feeders at Hadfield Clearing could not be refilled, and the stoat traps could not be checked and cleared. When the team was finally able to return they found five dead pāteke, some of which showed signs of predation.

Until then, there had been no known pāteke deaths by predation other than one instance involving a harrier hawk. When rangers checked trap lines after lockdown they found at least four stoats had been caught. "It shows the risk stoats pose to pāteke," says ornithologist Ron Moorhouse. "Until now we have had very low mortality but the moment we stopped checking the traps we had a spike in deaths. It shows the importance of sustained stoat trapping".

This year 138 pāteke were released, mostly on the Awapoto River at Hadfield Clearing, although for the first time a small number were set free at Tōtaranui and the Awaroa Lodge's estuary. Since 2017, 282 pāteke have been released in the Abel Tasman. These birds have dispersed widely and have been seen as far north as Wainui and as far south as Otūwhero, south of Mārahau.

"Hopefully this episode of predation was a one off, but we can't be sure. We know they are breeding, but we don't know how many ducklings are making it through to adulthood," says Ron.

A survey with a conservation dog is planned for next year and flocks will continue to be monitored to understand how many pāteke are in the park. It is likely there will be one further release of juvenile ducks in late 2020.

Having a viable, sustainable, pāteke/brown teal population in the Abel Tasman is a Tomorrow Accord indicator.

More whio likely to be released

Whio/blue ducks are now being seen regularly on two Abel Tasman rivers. However more birds are required to create a healthy, sustainable population.

Five whio were released this year in the Falls River, joining four others released last year on the Wainui River. In summer DOC biodiversity ranger John Henderson and conservation dog Fenn searched for ducklings and, while they did see a pair on the Falls River, found no sign of fledging.

A pair, which may be brother and sister, are regularly seen near the Wainui Hut. More promisingly, an unbanded whio has been seen with a banded bird at the mouth of the Falls River.

"The success of whio in the park depends on more being released. It's a numbers game, if we can get more in there, we'll get more pairs with genetic diversity and hopefully ducklings," says John.

Project Janszoon and the Department of Conservation are planning to release more whio next year.

Ruth Bollongino installs an acoustic monitor

Acoustic monitor

Kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeet. *Dave Buckton*

Pīpipi/brown creeper. *Nicholas Sherlock www.sherlockphotography.org*

Toutouwai/robin. *Peter Reese, New Zealand Birds Online*

Titipounamu/rifleman. *Ron Enzler, New Zealand Birds Online*

Acoustic monitoring showing promising results

Acoustic monitoring has been used this season as a way to measure change in the distribution of native birds, and to help understand how well predator control is working.

In the past we have done bird counts along line transects to determine the abundance of native birds like toutouwai/robin, kākā, kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeet, pīpipi/brown creeper and titipounamu/rifleman. However this kind of monitoring suffers from observer bias, and the limited amount of time observers can spend in the field.

Last spring acoustic recorders were deployed over four cycles and a total of 120 sampling points. A stratified sampling approach was used, meaning recorders were evenly distributed over six altitudinal zones. Thirty of these recorders were funded by Air New Zealand for use in the north of the park.

We recorded three hours in the morning and three in the afternoon/early evening, the times when birds are most vocal. A total of 8,000 hours of bird song were recorded.

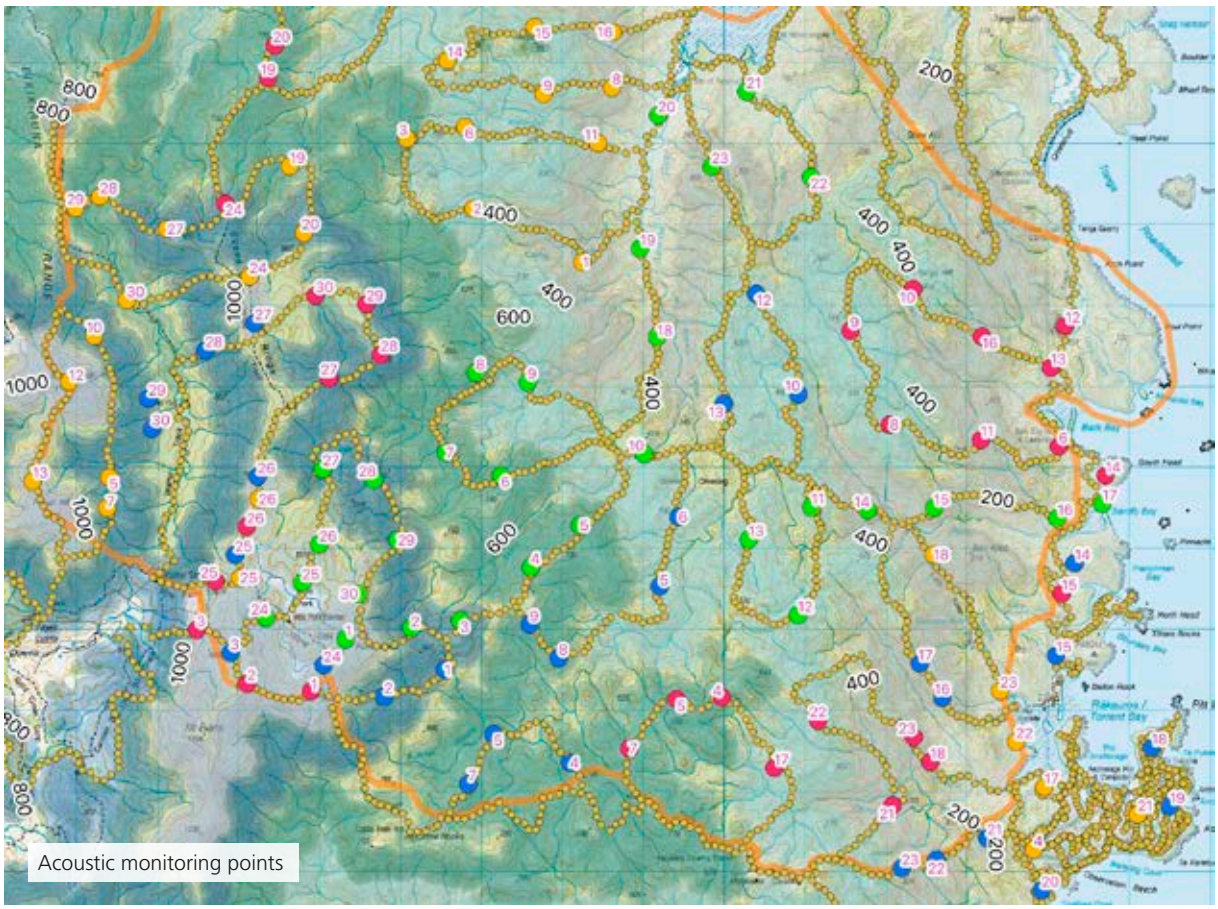
Scientific advisor Ruth Bollongino says she is now working with the AviaNZ project, a collaboration between mathematicians, data scientists, and conservation biologists, to develop a computer programme to identify the particular bird calls using artificial intelligence.

"It takes a long time but I have help from AviaNZ and Victoria University. We need to identify the birds, and then develop filters so the birds can be automatically identified," says Ruth.

Ruth says it is encouraging that preliminary results from the acoustic recorders have replicated the findings from the bird counts by human observers in the previous year.

"We are still working on the final stats, as we prioritised the development of a data pipeline and automatic identifiers for toutouwai, rifleman and kākāriki as case studies. We are confident enough in this approach to use the acoustic monitors again next season," she says.

Thanks to DOC staff from Motueka and Tākaka, and Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust volunteers for helping deploy and collect the monitors, and Wilsons Abel Tasman and Abel Tasman Sea Shuttle for transport.



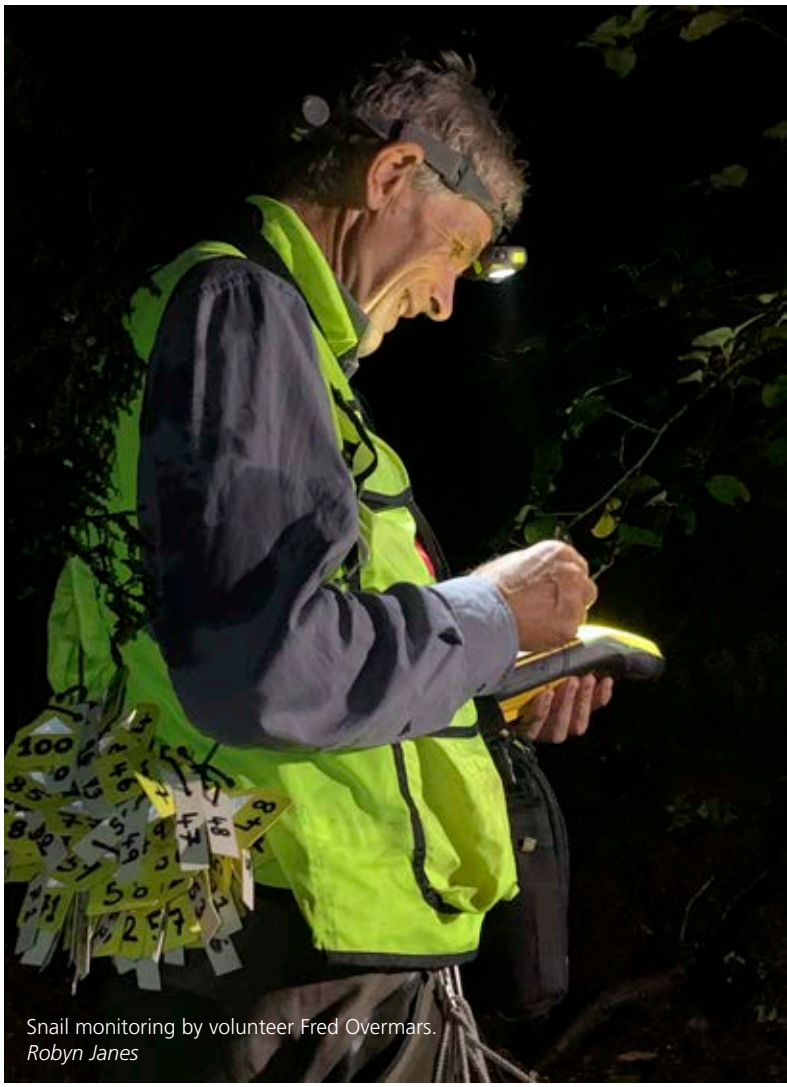
Acoustic monitoring points

Gannet decoy. *Nina Visker*

Gannet decoy repairs and sprucing up. *Rogue Weka*

Snail monitoring near Harwoods Hole, Oliver Steding filming Ruth Bollongino. *Robyn Janes*

Rhytida. Ruth Bollongino. www.fernphotos.com



Snail monitoring by volunteer Fred Overmars. *Robyn Janes*

One more year for gannet trial

A tākapu/gannet has been regularly visiting the decoys at Separation Point. However, if there is no sign of nesting this year, the trial to re-establish a colony in the park will be halted.

While there is no breeding colony in the park there are historic reports of gannets breeding in the Abel Tasman and they are often seen flying above or in nearby waters. In 2014 decoy gannets and a bird call system were installed at Separation Point. It was hoped birds passing overhead to a colony at nearby Farewell Spit, which is becoming very crowded and is vulnerable to erosion, might be enticed to begin breeding in the park.

Project Janszoon, DOC and Rogue Weka are working together to see if another colony can be encouraged to establish at Separation Point. Because gannets are more likely to join an established colony, we are attempting to use decoys and recorded calls to convince any gannets looking for nesting site that there is an established gannet colony at Separation Point.

Motion-activated trail cameras spotted a gannet visiting the site 17 times in 33 days this year. Rogue Weka says the behaviour seems to indicate it is the same bird and it has interacted with a number of the decoys. The gannet appeared to come regardless of conditions. On several occasions it stayed overnight and other gannets were occasionally pictured flying below or nearby.

Weka impacting native snails

Monitoring has found native weka and drought are impacting on the park's native snail populations.

Over the last four years we have been monitoring the critically endangered *Rhytida* and nationally declining *Powelliphanta hochstetteri* (yellow based) snails in two sites at Wainui and Canaan. The snails are surveyed at night in 70 m × 70 m plots, with snails marked and recaptured year on year to gauge population size and growth rates.

Rhytida are one of the rarest species in the Abel Tasman, and found in only two sites in New Zealand. In the 2019/20 season, 857 *Powelliphanta* and 509 *Rhytida* snails were estimated to be on the 70 m × 70 m square sites.

However, while numbers of both snails are increasing at the Canaan site, it has been a different picture in the upper Wainui Valley with *Powelliphanta* and *Rhytida* numbers decreasing by 30% and 46%, respectively.

Scientific advisor Ruth Bollongino says while native snail numbers in the park are higher than anyone ever expected, it is concerning to see the sharp decrease in snails at the Wainui Valley site.

"Shell surveys at Wainui have revealed more dead snails compared to the previous year and most show signs of predation by weka. This contrasts with the Canaan plot, where snail numbers are increasing, not because of a lack of weka, but because it is in a rocky karst habitat that provides hiding places for snails during the day where they are safe from weka," she says.

Weka disappeared from the park in the 1980s and 1990s, but were reintroduced at Tōtaranui in 2006 and are now common. They have recently re-colonised the Wainui Valley.

Population trajectories for *Powelliphanta* show the impact of weka on the overall population. Data (graph below) shows that between 2016–2018 the snail population at Canaan would have trended upwards, rather than downwards, without weka predation.

Monitoring will continue at both sites and we are watching the data closely to better understand the impact of weka on native snails. "If monitoring shows snail populations continue to decline we will look at other ways to protect them, like weka proof fencing in population strongholds," says Bruce Vander Lee.

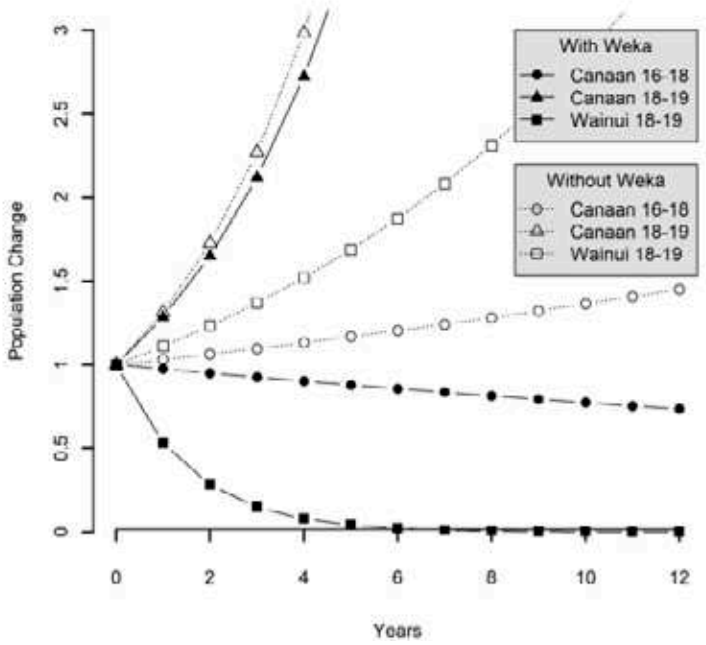
Rhytida. Tenzin Heatherbell

Powelliphanta hochstetteri. Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com

White weka. *Bradley Shields*

White weka. *Bradley Shields*

Powelliphanta Population Trajectories



Theoretical population trajectories for populations of P.h., with and without weka predation. The different trajectories use demographic parameter estimates from intervals between capture-recapture sessions in the Canaan and Wainui plots.

Drought is also thought to be impacting native snails. Monitoring showed that snails didn't grow as much last year, which was relatively dry, compared to previous years. Snails only forage during humid nights, so a drier climate means fewer nights in which snails can forage for food.

Shell showing rodent damage with tooth marks along rim

Shell of snail killed by weka with inner whorls damaged

White weka spotted at Wainui

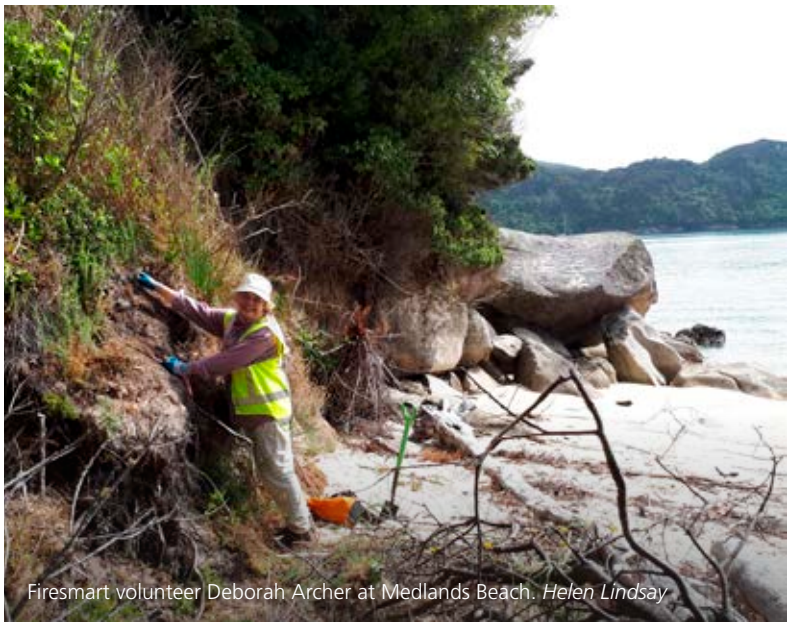
A rare white weka is being seen regularly near the Wainui Hut at the top of the park. The whiteness is caused by a genetic mutation called leucism, which is similar to albinism, where the lack of pigmentation results in pale feathers. It's usually only seen when a species is abundant which reflects the boom in weka numbers in the Abel Tasman in recent years.

Firesmart volunteers Anne Harwood, Lisa Shymkus, Faye Green and Peter Hansen at Onetahuti. *Helen Lindsay*

Firesmart volunteer Irene Ward at Anchorage. *Helen Lindsay*

Firesmart dune restoration at Anchorage. *Helen Lindsay*

Firesmart volunteer Peter Hansen at Onetahuti. *Helen Lindsay*



Firesmart volunteer Deborah Archer at Medlands Beach. *Helen Lindsay*

Hadfield Clearing restoration faces challenges

The Hadfield Clearing restoration project continues to be challenged by the elements and browsers, but we are on track for planting to be completed by 2024.

Over 70,000 native plants and trees have been planted since 2014. However the combination of drought and harsh frosts, browsers like hares and deer, and infertile soils have meant survival rates have been between 60% and 80%.

Given these conditions, the planting strategy has been adapted with trees being grown in the nursery for longer so they are more robust when planted on site. Flax, mānuka and kahikatea are planted in 'vegetation islands' and as they establish, other species are planted in the gaps. This year volunteers and contractors planted 2,393 trees and 1,772 flax and sedges.

Restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay says she is confident the forest will establish in time, but it will take longer than originally expected because of the harsh conditions. "In normal circumstances we'd get canopy closure in around ten years and that would suppress the grass but because it's happening slower than expected there will be more maintenance work needed," she says.

Despite the challenges the site is progressing well. "Flax is a lot more noticeable and when you walk along the track you see growth, with some patches of mānuka over head hight. Kahikatea are also starting to get quite big," says Helen.

A big thanks to Golden Bay High School students and volunteers who have helped with planting and maintenance. Also Rob Lewis and colleagues from The Landscape Company.

There are plans to control hares on site later in 2020.

Volunteer mahi sees Firesmart programme expand

The large number of volunteers involved in the Firesmart programme has seen an increase in the number of beaches that are being restored.

Twelve Abel Tasman beaches are now part of the programme which sees flammable plants like gorse removed and replaced with natives, most of which have been grown from seed at DOC's Motueka nursery. Fire is one of the biggest risks to the park.

A regular team of volunteers help grow natives at the nursery and restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay says she has nearly 100 volunteers on the books. A core of about 40 regularly head into the park to work on the dunes, one couple comes all the way from Blenheim.

"We have a large team of volunteers who are willing to come and do the maintenance work. They really love being in the park and there's a great social aspect as they work together as a team," says Helen.

This year around 1,860 natives were planted and Goat Bay, Waiharakeke and Onetahuti beaches were added this year. Helen says Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust volunteers are also very helpful and will pull out weeds when they're in the park checking traps.

Students have also been involved in planting and weeding projects; Motueka High School students at Anchorage, Motupipi School students at their site on Wainui Spit, Lower Moutere School at Porters Beach and Ngātīmoti students at Wairima/Bark Bay and Medlands. Other Firesmart beaches are Anapai, Tōtaranui, Coquille Bay and Apple Tree Bay.

The Tomorrow Accord target will be reached when indigenous ecosystems are no longer under pressure from high-risk fire sources.

Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors from Motueka High School Milan Chapman and Saskia Gray planting black beech at Anchorage

Volunteers Dave Wilson and Irene Ward planting rātā at Awaroa. *Helen Lindsay*

Lincoln Uni interns Freya Santana Cubas and Max Sterk planting rātā. *Helen Lindsay*

Abby Butler at Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust planting. *Robyn Janes*

Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust planting between Tinline and Mārahau. *Robyn Janes*

Black beech survival rates pleasing

Despite drought conditions the black beech trees being planted at Anchorage and Motuareronui/Adele Island have shown good survival rates.

This year only 60 beech trees were planted, due to a lower number being available at the right size. Volunteers and Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors from Motueka High School helped with the planting.

The trial is focusing on planting black beech on eroded hills and areas with low fertility where the invasive weed hakea thrives. It is hoped that in time the beech trees will help natives compete with the hakea.

Even with the drought conditions during the past summer, survival rates of the trees planted in 2018 were high. Although those at Anchorage ridge had a lower survival rate in 2019, this year there were no further losses maintaining the survival rate of 66%. At Adele Island we lost six trees which brought the survival rate from 95% to 89%.

175 beech are due to be planted next season. It takes two to three years to get trees to a size big enough for planting. We are now buying plants at root trainer size and growing them on in the nursery at the Department of Conservation's base in Motueka.

Restoring key elements of the park's ecology like beech forest is a Tomorrow Accord target.

Northern rātā doing well

65 rātā trees were planted on a pine control site near Awaroa in August 2019 as part of the northern rātā planting programme.

Not only are its blooming red flowers stunning, rātā also play an ecological role as a source of nectar. Historically, large flocks of birds like tūī, kākā and korimako/bellbirds converged on the Abel Tasman to feed from northern rātā but the trees have mainly gone from the park because of clearance, and browsing by possums, goats and deer.

Restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay says previous plantings are doing well with 100% of those that were alive in 2018 still surviving at monitored sites in 2020.

"These trees are a vulnerable to drying out if there is a dry season in the first year but after that it appears from our monitoring that they are robust enough to continue to survive in following years as long as they are not subject to harsh browsing," she says.

Project Janszoon have planted rātā since 2015 at sites at Shag Harbour, Wallaby Creek, Wairima/Bark Bay and Mosquito Bay, Awaroa, Onetahuti, and near Wainui and Gibbs Hill.

Once target numbers have been planted and trees have survived through to cage release the Tomorrow Accord target will have been reached.

Southern planting project underway

The Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust has begun a planting project to bring back birdsong to the southern end of the track between Mārahau and Tinline.

The area was previously farmed and Karina Amey, who is leading the restoration project, says the group cut pockets into the existing bracken and gorse to plant the natives. This year, volunteers planted 300 coastal species including rimu, flax and kawakawa to attract birds. The plan is to continue planting every year so the vegetation pockets join up.

Volunteer Rod Stuart from Abel Tasman Charters says the planting programme will improve the experience for visitors to the park. "We've been operators in the park for 20 years and it's nice to give something back, we're benefiting from the park being awesome."

Helen Lindsay cutting ribbon at DOC Motueka Nursery

Helen and Mel sowing sticky *Tupeia antarctica* seed on Motuareronui/Fisherman Island. *Roger Gaskell*

Helen Lindsay admires peppercress *(Lepidium banksii)*. *Roger Gaskell*

Helen Lindsay at peppercress *(Lepidium banksii)* nursery. *Roger Gaskell*

Helen Lindsay at Coquille Bay doing first weed check after Covid-19 lockdown

Nursery helping planting projects around the region

The ribbon was cut on an upgraded community nursery in Motueka in September, helping to provide plants for the Abel Tasman and other community projects.

The nursery is situated at the Department of Conservation's Motueka base and was extended with funding from DOC, Project Janszoon, the Abel Tasman Tree Collective and the Motueka Community Store. The nursery was ahead of its time when it was established 30 years ago, and remains one of the few DOC community nurseries in the country.

Every Monday a regular group of volunteers meet at the nursery to care for and propagate plants destined for restoration projects around the Tasman district. The nursery also provides an opportunity for individuals to volunteer and learn about caring for native plants.

Project Janszoon's restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay says the enlarged space was being used to grow many natives which would be planted in the Abel Tasman and places like the Otūwhero estuary.

"We would like to thank the amazing group of volunteers at the nursery who help nurture the natives and also propagate plants for other conservation projects. They are making a real difference to the biodiversity of the Abel Tasman and other areas," she says.

Helen Lindsay receives prestigious award

Helen Lindsay was a "thoroughly deserving" winner of a prestigious national conservation award in 2019. She received the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network individual award for her outstanding contributions to native plant conservation in New Zealand.

As well as overseeing planting projects in the Abel Tasman and Otūwhero wetland, she has been in charge of restoration planting and weed control on Motuora Island in the Hauraki Gulf/Tīkapa Moana since 1998 with the Motuora Restoration Society. Helen is also a trustee of the Native Forest Restoration Trust, a national organisation which purchases and manages land for conservation purposes.

"Helen is hugely experienced and we are lucky to have her as part of the Project Janszoon team. She is always sharing her knowledge with others and her enthusiasm for all the projects she works on inspires others to get involved," says Project Janszoon's Bruce Vander Lee.

Hardly surprisingly Helen was keen to acknowledge others' work when accepting the award. "Anything that I have achieved in conservation has been with a lot of help from others. It is a privilege to work with so many people dedicated to helping preserve our natural treasures," she says.

Peppercress defying the odds

Rare coastal peppercress plants on the South Head coastline are defying the odds despite drought and storms.

Coastal peppercress *(Lepidium banksii)* is one of New Zealand's most endangered species and found only along the Top of the South coastline. During the Abel Tasman summer survey, Helen Lindsay and DOC biodiversity ranger Roger Gaskell were thrilled to find five large plants cascading over rocks near South Head.

Roger says the plants are three years old now and seem to be a lot more robust than last year despite the drought conditions. "We seem to have stumbled upon the ideal habitat. A bit like Goldilocks' porridge; not too weedy, a little bit of penguin and no seal activity, not too dry and sunny, just the right amount of shade and enough moisture and on a section of shoreline where high wave action is deflected by the angle of the coast and nearby South Head."

Unfortunately the survey found other plants north of Onetahuti were struggling in the dry conditions but there were still plenty of seedlings. Roger says he hopes, like the South Head plants, three years may be required for slow progression to adult plants.

Roger Gaskell with peppercress *(Lepidium banksii). Helen Lindsay*

Roger Gaskell sowing mistletoe on Motuareroiti/Fisherman Island

Roger Gaskell with peppercress *(Lepidium banksii)*

Persistence pays off for Roger

Check out the word persistence in the Oxford English Dictionary and it pretty much sums up DOC's senior biodiversity ranger Roger Gaskell: 'the fact of continuing in an opinion or course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition'.

Coastal peppercress *(Lepidium banksii)*. DOC

A staunch advocate for threatened plants, Roger has spent the last 30 years championing some of the lesser known of Aotearoa's species. He's credited with helping save coastal peppercress *(Lepidium banksii)*, one of the ten most endangered species in New Zealand. Now he's planning his retirement in 2021, hopeful in the knowledge there are others who will continue his work.

"You don't realise the value of persistence unless you have been persisting for 20 years and you look back and see you have made a difference," says Roger.

Surprisingly, Roger didn't train as a botanist, instead he says his knowledge was gained by osmosis. He acknowledges mentors like DOC's Shannel Courtney and collegial support from people like Project Janszoon's restoration supervisor Helen Lindsay.

"In recent years Roger has single-handedly helped save coastal peppercress from extinction. His incredible knowledge and enthusiasm for conservation and getting things done despite the hurdles will be sorely missed," says Helen.

Roger began his conservation career with jobs like track cutting, hut wardening and even ski patrolling in Aoraki/Mount Cook and Westland national parks. It was weeds that brought him to work with plant species, he did some summer weed surveys in South Marlborough back in 1988. Other than a couple of year off, he's been working for DOC ever since.

Roger says remnant habitats and species are often overlooked and forgotten and they need advocacy and championing to hold their own. "I used to feel isolated and lonely. When I first started working in the Abel Tasman there was no biodiversity work going on and peppercress was on the brink of extinction. I feel hopeful now that there is knowledge and there are people who are hungry to learn."

Coastal peppercress is one of his most loved plant because of where he finds it. "I love fossicking about along the shoreline of the Abel Tasman and it's an absolute treat going to Tonga Island."

Roger has also been the catalyst behind the formation of many restoration groups, providing advice and help. He shoulder tapped locals to form the Otūwhero Trust and has worked for years with the NMIT trainee rangers to restore the Eves Valley Scenic Reserve, which miraculously survived the Pigeon Valley fires.

"There are really important little taonga habitats that need a local team of champions. It's just so fantastic how people have taken things on," he says.

Bringing people together to protect threatened native plants is one of Roger's unique skills says DOC Motueka operations manager Chris Golding. "Roger has a great eye for opportunities to connect people with a common goal of restoration. He has a life time worth of local knowledge, which will be hard to replace."

Roger calls himself a temporary custodian. He's a custodian who has given so much and he will be sorely missed when he retires next year.

"A big thank you to all of the volunteers and those behind the scenes, the various organisations and commercial sponsors and of course the youngsters that are showing so much interest in the park, and more particular the efforts and involvement that a number of them are putting in. Well done to all."

Robert & Sarze Kay and family, bach owners

Motupipi School planting at Wainui sandspit. *Brooke Turner*

- 1225 students engaged in education programme
- 47 classes involved
- 130 students earned NCEA credits
- 48 days with student leaders
- 7,281 people downloaded Abel Tasman App
- 511 new Facebook followers
- 46,526 views of Project Janszoon videos

(2019/20 financial year)

Future proof

Robyn Janes from Project Janszoon, Renee Thomas from Ngāti Rārua and Matt Kelly by the waharoa. *Mark Townsend*

Motueka High School ATYA students at Anchorage lagoon. *Brook Turner*

Motueka High School students planting at Anchorage. *Helen Lindsay*

Waharoa tells the story of the tūpuna

The waharoa at the southern gateway to the park tells the story of a group of whānau and hapū who journeyed to Mārahau on a hekenga (migration) from the North Island in the 19th century.

Erected in December 2018, it celebrates the tūpuna (ancestors) and their hīkoi (journey), alongside references to the atua (spiritual ancestors) and the natural elements that contribute to the special place that is Mārahau (windy gardens).

Manawhenua of Mārahau, Ngāti Rārua and Te Ātiawa, are collaborating with Ngāti Tama and the Department of Conservation to erect interpretation signs alongside the waharoa. Project Janszoon is delighted to also contribute to the project by assisting with editing and design of the signage.

Renee Thomas, of Ngāti Rārua, is facilitating the process and says it is wonderful to see everyone work together. "Our tūpuna travelled together down here on the hekenga and this collaboration reflects how we can work together," she says.

The signage will give visitors a better understanding of the history of manawhenua and Project Janszoon is also helping to tell these stories through video, which can be viewed on websites and the Abel Tasman App. Last year Project Janszoon worked with Te Ātiawa to produce a video telling the story of Hohaia Rangiauru, whose pou whenua stands at the gateway to Medlands Beach. As more pou whenua are erected, we will continue to collaborate to bring these stories to a wider audience.

Education programme thriving

This year has seen the five Adopt a Section schools find new and exciting ways to utilise the park for conservation education. Despite the disruption from Covid-19, students and teachers used lockdown time to reflect on how they use the park and were eager to return when restrictions eased. Each school utilises the park for education in different ways.

"The willingness and adaptiveness of the teachers in the programme is inspiring. We are seeing innovative approaches, lots of sharing and a keenness to get into the park for a range of topics," says education coordinator Brooke Turner.

The success of this project relies on the support of teachers, so a big thank you to all the lead teachers and their principals; Mark McKenzie, Heidi James, Jude Cullen, Jane Sorensen, Ross Fitzsimmons and Lauren Milnes.

Golden Bay High School—Hadfield Clearing

The school's youth ambassadors ran the first ecoblitz in the Abel Tasman in September as a way of learning more about the ecology of their site. Students and teachers from Golden Bay High School and Waimea College spent two days with experts investigating birds, plants, river health and stream invertebrates. They also looked for invertebrates that would provide a food source for both kiwi and fish. It was a great opportunity to work beside scientists collecting data.

Motueka High School—Anchorage to Watering Cove

Motueka High School continues to use the park for a wide variety of learning. Teachers are confident in using their site for a variety of classes with little support needed from Project Janszoon and DOC. This year Motueka High School signed a community agreement with DOC to allow the school to build on the education project to use their site into the future for integrated learning and action. Youth ambassadors continue to monitor the Anchorage Lagoon using a data logger and are planting and monitoring beech trees on the ridges above their site.

Ngātīmoti School at Wairima/Bark Bay. *Meagan Goodman*

Ngātīmoti School and Lower Moutere School ATYA, planting at Porters Beach. *Brooke Turner*

Ngātīmoti students at kākā release, Wairima/Bark Bay. *Ruth Bollongino*

Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors 2019–2020 at Te Āwhina Marae. *Robyn Janes*

Motupipi Primary School—Wainui sandspit to Taupo Point

Motupipi School have continued to help restore the Wainui sandspit dunes through the Firesmart plan. This summer was very dry, so after the Christmas break, the whole school visited the site to hand-water the plantings. Youth ambassadors continue to monitor invertebrates and the plantings. The school is also utilising the kahikatea swamp beside their school as an outdoor classroom and linking activities from the swamp to their adopted section in the park.

Lower Moutere School—Mārahau to Apple Tree Bay

Lower Moutere was keen to extend its adopted section to Apple Tree Bay, allowing them to section areas for each year group. The whole school visited the site during the year and students continued to weed and plant at Porters Beach as part of the Firesmart programme. The schools' youth ambassadors are investigating options for overnight stays at Tinline and Apple Tree Bay, while the older students installed wētā motels and wooden disks throughout the site so students can see first hand invertebrates at their site.

Ngātīmoti School—Wairima/Bark Bay

Ngātīmoti School embraced the kākā released at their site, with teachers adapting the curriculum to focus on the native parrot. This resulted in a wonderful resource being created by students on kākā that can be now found at the Bark Bay Hut and on the Project Janszoon website. The youth ambassadors also presented a video on how to let the kākā be wild. The whole school visited the park over the year and Ngātīmoti continues to support their site by planting and weeding at the dunes as part of the Firesmart programme. They have also installed wooden discs to support invertebrate learning.

Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador programme

"ATYA has not only helped me in gaining knowledge in environmental areas but also has helped me to be more confident in myself, speaking to large audiences, develop better leadership skills and has definitely contributed to shaping me into the person I am today."

Saskia Gray, Te Awhina Marae representative

Four representatives from each school and representatives from Onetahua and Te Āwhina Marae are chosen each year as Abel Tasman Youth Ambassadors.

Every year, with the backing of teachers and Bev Purdie from Manawhenua ki Mohua, the ATYA programme is refined and modified to suit the growing interest from student leaders for hands-on experiences in the park. This year with the disruption of Covid-19 lockdowns the youth ambassadors missed two field trips, but took the opportunity to plan two extra trips in school holidays to make up for those. There is a genuine interest and willingness from the ambassadors to take on real projects and investigations. Ambassadors took on roles to help with the release of the kākā and we are seeing more student-led action in school and on site, allowing for schools to engage in the programme at a higher level.

Thanks to Abel Tasman Sea Shuttle which supports the education programme by providing transport into the park for the ATYA team and Adopt a Section schools.

Whio/blue duck. *Bradley Shields*

A keen eye produces stunning images

It's hard to believe Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador Bradley Shields has only been photographing birds for four years. His keen eye, patience and tenacity has resulted in fantastic images of native wildlife, many of which you will see in Project Janszoon's annual report.

Seventeen-year-old Bradley is in his second year as a youth ambassador, representing Golden Bay High School. He says he joined ATYA as a way of experiencing more of the national park and to forge connections with people who are working in the same field that he would like to work in himself one day.

"I am having an amazing time, this programme is so much more than I ever expected it to be. I have loved spending lots of time with like-minded students and adults and have also really enjoyed learning from all these people as well as sharing the knowledge I have gained over the last four years," he says.

Bradley became first interested in photographing birds on a family trip to Australia in 2016, where he used the family point and shoot camera to take shots of blue-faced honeyeaters at Australia Zoo. When he got back to New Zealand he began noticing more birds and a year later he became hooked. "I had an unbelievable encounter with a kārearea/New Zealand falcon that was hovering about 30 cm above me. It was a really special experience."

As an avid bird watcher, Bradley has put in some serious time studying and photographing native wildlife. He even produces his own native bird calendar.

Last year Project Janszoon arranged for him to spend ten days working with DOC studying crakes and Australasian bittern on Lake Ellesmere (Te Waihora). Along with three other researchers he waded through waist high mud, kayaked in gale force winds and crept through towering beds of raupō to monitor the elusive and endangered birds.

Getting close to a bittern was an absolute highlight. "It was so close I could even notice the subtle blue hue to the skin around the eye, which is a characteristic of a breeding male."

An enthusiastic ambassador, Bradley also led an ecoblitz at Golden Bay High School's adopted site at Hadfield Clearing in 2019. The students collected and analysed data about the flora and fauna at their site.

"Bradley has come into the project so capable, already monitoring birds in the park and across the Tasman region and attending the Birds New Zealand Youth Camp. We are trying to find opportunities to take him to the next level," says Education coordinator Brooke Turner.

Bradley is currently planning on going to Otago or Victoria University to study either zoology or ecology. "I am not sure whether photography will come into play at any point in my university education but I will undoubtedly continue with wildlife photography regardless of carrier opportunities," he says. We certainly hope so.

Conservation takes to the skies

An eye-catching depiction of the Abel Tasman and its rare species is bringing the conservation work happening in the Abel Tasman to the attention of a wider audience.

Helicopters Nelson's chopper pod has been adorned with stunning photos of the conservation work happening in the park. It is proving to be a talking point with visitors, triggering conversations about how they can contribute to conservation efforts.

The pod wrap highlights stunning images of the Abel Tasman and native birds like kākā and pāteke/brown teal which have been returned to the park by Project Janszoon and the Department of Conservation. It was designed by local Motueka company Image Creators.

Fairy Club *(Clavaria sulcata). Deb Price*

Chlorociboria procera. Robyn Janes

Icicle fungus/coral tooth fungus *(Hericium novae-zealandiae). Simon Walls*

Black jelly roll/black witches butter *(Exidia sp). Deb Price*

Golden scalycap *(Pholiota aurivella). Deb Price*

2020 scholarship recipient studies environmental management

This years' Project Janszoon Conservation Education Scholarship recipient will use the funds to study environmental management.

19-year-old Hana Mason-Williams will use the $1,000 scholarship towards gaining her National Certificate in Diving, which is part of the New Zealand Diploma in Environmental Management. She plans to then study for a degree in Marine Biology.

Hana attended Golden Bay High School and was the Manawhenua ki Mohua and Onetahuti Marae Abel Tasman Youth Ambassador (ATYA) representative in 2016.

Being a contributing member of ATYA prompted her to plan pathways for her future. When she left school she travelled to China and Europe which was an eye opener. "Even in some small towns in Switzerland where it seemed so clean, there would be rubbish floating down rivers where we would be swimming. Being in China was a complete shock as I had never experienced such bad air pollution. It made me realise how lucky I am to have grown up in New Zealand where it's clean, unpopulated and green. I never want New Zealand to become like the rest of the world and I want to help in any way I can," she says.

This is the second year of the scholarship which was launched for students involved in ATYA and Project Janszoon and DOC's education programme to further their learning in the conservation, ecology or leadership fields.

ATYA iwi representative Beverley Purdie says Hana's experience with the Project Janszoon Student Advisory Group (as ATYA was known in 2016) provided the avenues and opportunities for her to learn new skills and knowledge as she grew in confidence as a leader. Hana doesn't have a specific career path in mind but wants to utilise the skills and experience she gains to help New Zealand's marine environment and contribute to iwi and their marine business operations.

Fungi Friday popular on social media

From humungous fungus to fluoro fungi, with a bit of Velvet Earthstar and Black Witches Butter thrown in, Friday's are now an exciting day for fungi fans.

Friday Fungi was started during lockdown and has become a popular weekly post on the Project Janszoon Facebook page. The idea, whereby a different fungi from the Abel Tasman is highlighted each week, was 'borrowed' from fellow conservation project Taranaki Mounga.

Department of Conservation Tākaka ranger, and fungi enthusiast, Deb Price already had an impressive library of fungus photos when we approached her about becoming the Fungi Friday specialist.

Deb hopes visitors to the park will become more curious about the fungal kingdom. "I've always been fascinated by the colours, shapes and textures of fungi, and the sometimes surprising places they grow. In the past this was an aesthetic appreciation and since working for DOC this interest has grown to encompass the factual and scientific side of fungi," she says.

The Abel Tasman's diverse landscapes means there is a lot of variety in fungal life.

Project Janszoon's social media platforms continue to be popular with 3,300 people following and engaging with the Facebook page and 690 Instagram followers.

Rainbow over Sawpit Point, Awaroa Inlet. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*

Project Janszoon board

Kim McGlashen – Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust observer, David Flacks – Director, Roy Grose – DOC Director Operations Northern South Island, Gillian Wratt – Chair, Bruce Vander Lee – Project Director, Barrie Brown – Director, Devon McLean – Director, Dr Philip Simpson – Director

Jarrod Buchanan
Director

Project Janszoon team

Bruce Vander Lee
Project Director

Andrew Macalister
Operations Manager

Ron Moorhouse
Ornithologist

Marika Kingan
Executive Assistant

Helen Lindsay
Restoration Supervisor

Brooke Turner
Education Coordinator

Robyn Janes
Communications

Ruth Bollongino
Scientific Advisor

Rosemary Vander Lee
Aviculturist

Department of Conservation team

Thanks to all the Department of Conservation staff who provide their expert knowledge, energy and support to restoring the Abel Tasman National Park. You are too many to list individually but special thanks to DOC Tākaka staff and those listed below.

Chris Golding
Motueka Operations Manager

Jim Livingstone
Senior Biodiversity Ranger

Helen Otley
Biodiversity Ranger Supervisor

John Henderson
Biodiversity Ranger

Dan Chisnall
Biodiversity Ranger weeds

Ian Cox
Biodiversity Ranger goat control

Josh Preston
Biodiversity Ranger

Dan Arnold
Biodiversity Ranger

Rhan Hurst
Biodiversity Ranger

Kahikatea, Hadfield Clearing. *Bradley Shields*

Financial Statements

Project Janszoon Trust
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Contents

Independent auditor's report

To the Trustee of Project Janszoon Trust

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020;
- the statement of comprehensive revenue and expenses for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in Trust Funds for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include a statement of accounting policies.

Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of Project Janszoon Trust (the "Trust"), present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as at 30 June 2020, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)) and International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We are independent of the Trust in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Trust.

Information other than the financial statements and auditor's report

The Trustee is responsible for the financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information included in the financial statements and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Trustee for the financial statements

The Trustee is responsible, on behalf of the Trust, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime, and for such internal control as the Trustee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustee is responsible for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustee either intends to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the External Reporting Board's website at:
https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards-for-assurance-practitioners/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-8/
This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Who we report to

This report is made solely to the Trustee. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trustee for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Karl Deutschle.

For and on behalf of:

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Chartered Accountants
30 September 2020

Auckland

Entity Information

Project Janszoon Trust
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Charities Registration Number
CC47879

Nature of Business
Charitable Trust

Settlor
Hutton Wilson Nominees Limited

Trustee
Project Janszoon Trust Company Limited

Banker
BNZ Bank

Solicitor
Bell Gully
Auckland

Auditor
PricewaterhouseCoopers
15 Customs Street West
Private Bag 92162
Auckland 1142

Entity's Purpose or Mission
To address the ecological restoration of the Abel Tasman National Park

Main Sources of Entity's Cash and Resources
The restoration of the Abel Tasman National Park has been made possible by the generosity of a philanthropic Trust in partnership with the Department of Conservation.

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses

Project Janszoon Trust
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 $	2019 Restated $
Revenue			
Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions			
Grants Received	7	1,800,000	2,100,000
Donations		18,225	18,721
Other Revenue		27,010	25,000
Revenue from Exchange Transactions			
Interest Received		254	278
Total Revenue		**1,845,489**	**2,143,999**
Expenses			
Accountancy Fees	7	19,563	27,841
Audit Fees		10,500	10,500
Bank Charges		127	81
Board Fees		24,000	24,000
Communication & Media		50,897	48,061
Consultancy	7	478,094	522,542
Consultancy - Department of Conservation		756,785	1,154,287
Donations Paid		7,000	-
Entertainment & Events		7,319	10,895
General Expenses		23,296	21,349
Hadfields Direct Costs		47,614	68,378
Kiwi/Zoo Program		-	5,503
Legal Expenses		190	190
Pest Eradication		-	150,360
Printing & Stationery		3,302	4,380
Rent		6,240	6,240
Repairs & Maintenance		815	983
Revegetation		22,584	69,454
Subcontractors		16,454	-
Telephone, Tolls & Internet		1,100	1,212
Travel - National	7	16,217	36,543
Website Costs		24,281	61,669
Total Expenses		**1,516,378**	**2,224,468**
Net Surplus/(Deficit) before Depreciation		**329,111**	**(80,469)**
Amortisation & Depreciation			
Amortisation	4	20,246	38,931
Depreciation	4	11,638	4,928
Total Amortisation & Depreciation		**31,884**	**43,859**
Total Comprehensive Revenue and (Expenses) for the Period		**297,227**	**(124,328)**

Statement of Changes in Trust Funds

Project Janszoon Trust

For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 $	2019 Restated $
Trust Funds			
Funds Settled			
Opening Balance		100	100
Total Funds Settled		**100**	**100**
Retained Earnings			
Opening Balance		(197,454)	(73,125)
Total Comprehensive Revenue and (Expenses) for the Year		297,227	(124,328)
Total Retained Earnings/(Losses)		**99,774**	**(197,453)**
Total Trust Funds		**99,874**	**(197,353)**

Statement of Financial Position

Project Janszoon Trust
As at 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 $	2019 Restated $
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	167,336	157,203
GST Refundable		47,411	129,448
Other Receivables		36	2,000
Total Current Assets		**214,783**	**288,651**
Non-Current Assets			
Fixed Assets	4	104,456	43,611
Intangible Assets	4	22,120	39,555
Total Non-Current Assets		**126,576**	**83,166**
Total Assets		**341,359**	**371,817**
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	7	66,737	160,495
Accrued Expenses		174,748	408,675
Total Current Liabilities		**241,485**	**569,170**
Total Liabilities		**241,485**	**569,170**
Net Assets		**99,874**	**(197,353)**
Equity			
Funds Settled		100	100
Retained Earnings/(Losses)		99,774	(197,453)
Total Equity		**99,874**	**(197,353)**

For and on behalf of the Board:

Director

Date: 30/09/2020

Director

Date: 30/09/2020

pwc

Statement of Cash Flows

Project Janszoon Trust
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 $	2019 $
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Grants Received		1,800,000	2,100,000
Donations Received		18,225	18,721
Interest Received		218	278
Other Income Received		27,010	25,000
GST Refunds		28,360	113,594
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,787,335)	(2,099,044)
Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities		**86,478**	**158,549**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment		(76,345)	(54,281)
Total Cash Flows from Investing Activities		**(76,345)**	**(54,281)**
Net Increase in Cash		**10,133**	**104,268**
Bank Accounts and Cash			
Opening cash		157,203	52,935
Closing cash	2	167,336	157,203
Net change in cash for period		**10,133**	**104,268**

pwc

Notes to the Financial Statements

Project Janszoon Trust

For the year ended 30 June 2020

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

The financial statements presented here are for the entity Project Janszoon Trust ("the entity"), a registered charity under the Charities Act 2005.

(a) Statutory Base

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices in New Zealand ("NZ GAAP"). The entity is a public benefit not for profit entity for the purposes of financial reporting and complies with the Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (PBE Standards RDR) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and is not defined as large (i.e. does not have total expenses over $30 million).

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars ($), which is the entity's functional currency. All financial information presented in New Zealand dollars has been rounded to the nearest dollar.

(b) Measurement Base

The measurement base adopted is historical cost.

(c) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period. Certain amounts in the comparative information have been restated (see Note 8 Restatement of Comparatives).

(d) Revenue Recognition

The specific accounting policies for significant revenue items are explained below:

Revenue from non-exchange transactions

Non-exchange transactions are those where the entity receives an inflow of resources but provides no direct consideration in return. They include the following types of transactions:

(i) Grants Received

Grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there is an obligation in substance to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met. If there is such an obligation, the grants are initially recorded as grants received in advance and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grant are satisfied. Grants revenue is categorised as non-exchange where there is no obligation in substance associated with the funding provided.

(ii) Donations

Donations are recognised as revenue when they are received.

Revenue from exchange transactions

Exchange transactions are those where the entity receives an inflow of resources and provides approximately equal value to another entity in exchange.

(iii) Interest Income

Interest income is recognised on a time-proportion basis using the effective interest method.

pwc

Notes to the Financial Statements

Project Janszoon Trust

For the year ended 30 June 2020

1. Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Expenses
A liability is accrued for expenses incurred in the year estimated at the future cash outflows for the goods and services provided and yet to be billed.

(f) Goods and Services Tax (GST)
The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

(g) Income Tax
The entity is a registered charity under the Charities Act 2005 and accordingly is not subject to income tax.

(h) Receivables
Receivables are stated at their estimated realisable value. Bad debts are written off in the year in which they are identified.

(i) Fixed Assets
The entity has the following classes of fixed assets;

Plant & Equipment	8.5% - 50% DV

All fixed assets are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation, if any. Depreciation of the fixed assets has been calculated at the rate which reflect the expected useful life of the asset. Fixed assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis.

(j) Intangible Assets and Amortisation
The entity has the following classes of intangible assets;

Website Design & Development	50% DV

All intangible assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortisation, if any. Amortisation of the intangible assets has been calculated at the rates which reflect the expected useful life of the asset. Intangible assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis.

(k) Accounts Payable
These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the entity prior to the end of the financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured.

(l) Financial Instruments
The entity's financial asets comprise cash and cash equivalents and receivables. All of these financial assets are categorised as "loans and receivables" for accounting purposes in accordance with financial reporting standards.

The entity's financial liabilities comprise accounts payable and accrued expenses which are categorised as "financial liabilities measured at amortised cost" for accounting purposes in accordance with financial reporting standards.

pwc

Notes to the Financial Statements

Project Janszoon Trust
For the year ended 30 June 2020

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents	2020 $	2019 $
BNZ cheque account	106,493	125,135
BNZ 01 account	60,843	32,068
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	**167,336**	**157,203**

3. Financial Instruments

The carrying value of financial assets and liabilities in each of the financial instrument categories are as follows:

	2020 $	2019 $
Loans and Receivables		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	167,336	157,203
Accounts Receivable	36	2,000
Total Loans and Receivables	**167,372**	**159,203**
Financial Liabilities Measured at Amortised Cost		
Accounts Payable	66,737	160,495
Accrued Expenses	174,748	408,675
Total Financial Liabilities Measured at Amortised Cost	**241,485**	**569,170**

4. Intangible and Fixed Assets	2020 $	2019 $
Intangible Assets		
Website		
At Cost	390,722	387,910
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(368,602)	(348,355)
Total Website	**22,120**	**39,555**
Total Intangible Assets	**22,120**	**39,555**
Fixed Assets		
Plant and Equipment		
At Cost	122,314	49,831
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(17,858)	(6,220)
Total Plant and Equipment	**104,456**	**43,611**
Total Fixed Assets	**104,456**	**43,611**
Total Intangible and Fixed Assets	**126,576**	**83,166**

Reconciliation of the carrying amount at the beginning and end of the period:

As at 30 June 2020:	Website $	Plant and Equipment $
Opening net book value	39,555	43,611
Additions	2,811	72,483
Disposals	-	-
Depreciation	(20,246)	(11,638)
Closing net book value	**22,120**	**104,456**

Notes to the Financial Statements

Project Janszoon Trust
For the year ended 30 June 2020

5. Contingent Liabilities
At balance date there are no known contingent liabilities.

6. Commitments
There were no future capital commitments at period end (2019, nil).

7. Related Parties
Hutton Wilson Nominees Limited, Hutton Wilson Charitable Trust, Prow Consulting Limited, Te Manahuna Aoraki and Taranaki Mounga Project are related parties that have key management personnel in common with Project Janszoon Trust.

During the period, Project Janszoon Trust received grants of $1,800,000 (2019: $2,100,000) from Hutton Wilson Charitable Trust.

During the period, expenses amounting to $24,047 (2019: $16,480) were paid to:
- Prow Consulting Limited, a company that is owned and operated by a director of the Corporate Trustee: $16,811 (2019: $16,480) for consultancy services. $207 (2019: $1,384) was owed at year end;
- Hutton Wilson Nominees, the shareholder of the Corporate Trustee: $7,236 for accounting services (2019: nil). $41 (2019: nil) was owed at year end.

During the period Project Janszoon Trust was reimbursed $2,492 (2019: $7,235) for travel related costs from:
- Hutton Wilson Nominees Limited: $2,289 (2019: $nil);
- Te Manahuna Aoraki: $203 (2019: $243);
- Taranaki Mounga Project: $nil (2019: $6,992).

8. Restatement of Comparatives
Prior year comparatives for Expenses and Accrued Expenses have been restated to include transactions that relate to the year ended 30 June 2019 but were recorded in the year ended 30 June 2020. These changes are:

	Original 2019 $	Adjustment $	Restated 2019 $
Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses			
Pest Eradication	72,230	78,130	150,360
Total Comprehensive Revenue and (Expenses) for the Period	(46,198)	(78,130)	(124,328)
Statement of Financial Position			
Accrued Expenses	330,545	78,130	408,675
Retained Earnings at 30 June 2019	(119,323)	(78,130)	(197,453)

9. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
No subsequent events occurred after balance date requiring disclosure within the financial statements.

10. COVID-19 Impact
There have been no material negative impacts on the entity as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The entity will continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future and deliver its programme of work as planned.

pwc

Cascade Falls, Tregidga Creek. *Ruth Bollongino, www.fernphotos.com*