

# Tōtara for Tōtaranui Project Newsletter

JUNE 2021



Kia Ora

This is the first of many regular newsletters that will keep you updated on the progress of the project.

We are currently transitioning the project to a new structure to ensure that it is sustainable for the future. There is so much work to do that we needed dedicated staff to work with and lead our army of committed volunteers. Of course, this comes with a financial cost, but this is outweighed significantly by the ability for the team to be in the field each day making a difference.

It will take time, effort, and investment to ensure that Queen Charlotte Sound / Tōtaranui is protected for future generations. As such we have developed a series of sponsorship opportunities to enhance our profile and appeal to a broad range of potential sponsors globally.

One of the key improvements is a full redevelopment and enhancement of the website so that it can showcase all the good work that is done in the area, but also highlight the significant amount of work that remains to be done.

The project is fully aligned with the objectives of the “Top of the South” alliance / Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Strategy. By working together, we can achieve significantly more than we can on our own.

We can help our partners achieve real transformational change.

The project has four main foundations that run throughout all of the work that is done.

**Protect, Restore, Enhance and Educate.**

There have been some significant highlights with wildlife restoration.

As part of Operation Nest Egg Rowi Kiwi were released to predator free islands in Queen Charlotte Sound/Totaranui in April, May and June.

Three months in a row! Go Kiwi!



**We need to protect the Queen Charlotte Sound / Tōtaranui.**

**We need to restore what has been damaged.**

**We need to enhance the environment for future generations.**

**We need to educate people about why this is important.**



### **Did you know:**

Seagrass occupy only 0.1% of the seafloor yet are responsible for 12% of the organic carbon buried in the ocean.

1 hectare of seagrass can:

Absorb 35 times more CO<sup>2</sup> than a pristine hectare of Amazon Forest.

Produce 100,000 litres of oxygen per day.

Support 80,000 fish and 100 million invertebrates.

Absorb 1.2kg of nutrients per year. Equivalent to the treated effluent from 200 people.

In April thirty South Island Saddleback / Tieke were translocated from Motuara Island to Brook Sanctuary in Nelson.

Not bad considering there were only thirty-six left in the world in 1964. A real poster child for what is possible with wildlife restoration.



Project Jonah held a Marine Mammal Medic course in Picton on 1 May.

A good turnout. Well done Project Jonah.



Rein from DOC on the way to the kiwi release checking out the Dusky dolphin

### We hope you got involved in the recent conservation days:

- Earth Day
- World Biodiversity Day
- Arbour Day
- World Environment Day
- World Ocean Day
- Garden Bird Survey
- National Citizen Science - Cetacean Census.

On World Environment Day the United Nations launched a new campaign: Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021 – 2030.

The campaign is a ten-year global push to prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation.

We know an ecosystem that needs your help: Queen Charlotte Sound / Tōtaranui.

Protect, Restore, Enhance and Educate.

### Upcoming dates for your diary:

- 14 July - World Orca Day
- 28 July - World Nature Conservation Day
- TBC - Wharehunga Bay Restoration
- TBC - Resolution Bay Planting







World Environment Day



World Ocean Day



Marlborough Girls College native planting in Victoria Domain on Tuesday 15 June

[www.tft.org.nz](http://www.tft.org.nz) | 03 5735673 | [project@tft.org.nz](mailto:project@tft.org.nz)