



Quarterly Newsletter

Tena koutou katoa nga uri o Te Roroa. Season's greetings to you and your whanau. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy & safe new year. In this newsletter is an update of Te Roroa trust and business unit's activities over the past three months.

Kaharau Dairy Farm

Michael Crouch, Kaharau Farm Manager, has improved the dairy herd size by 9%. He has also increased the beef herd and maintained an emphasis on growing our own stock. Milk production has been fluctuating due to the demand on milk for the calves and drier than normal conditions on the farm. Year to date production has seen a slight increase in m/s kg on last year with prices lifting.



Pictured above are beef cattle on Bobs Block, Kaharau.

Beef Units.

Earlier this year, TR Beef Units took back Waikara Farm #2. This had been leased out over the past few years but TRBF have been focusing on acquiring the leased farms through a planned process over the next 5 years. Current beef units in TRBF control are Waihoupai North, Waikara Farm #1 and Waikara #2 with a total hectarage approaching 1000ha. Stock numbers are over 1200 head with the sales program on now as we ready the farm for a "dry summer" and look to reduce stock numbers. Pasture management has been excellent over the past few months but the team are cautious at this time of year.



Waikara Beef Farm #1



Te Roroa Dune Lakes

Lake Waingata (pictured above) is situated northwest of Waipoua Forest Settlement and is one of three significant dune lakes on Te Roroa whenua. Lake Te Riu is located near the northwestern end of the Muriwai Swamp with Shag Lake on Waihoupai South Farm.

Kaitiaki Kiwi



Pictured above is Te Roroa Tourism Manager, Jane Matthews, who is a qualified kiwi handler and iwi member, Kahu Moore.

Te Roroa is part Kaitiaki Kiwi which is a collaboration of community groups, schools and agencies with the vision to increase kiwi numbers in Waipoua. There has been a decline in kiwi numbers in Waipoua which previously had some of the highest numbers of Western Brown Kiwi in Northland.

Te Roroa Manawhenua Trust met recently with Nga hapu o Rawhiti members (Ngati Kuta, Patu Keha) to discuss a proposal that was developed in 2015 by Project Island Song and Kaitiaki Kiwi. The idea was to take kiwi from Waipoua Forest and translocate them on Urupukapuka Island where they would breed. The offspring from these kiwis would then be placed back into areas in Waipoua where there has been a decrease in kiwi numbers.

Te Roroa Honey

TRH have continued to increase hive numbers with 317 in total. TRH has continued its relationship with Kai Ora Honey and will be seeking other opportunities in the new year. TRH will be increasing hive numbers in 2017 as well as starting a training program with Kai Ora Honey. Other opportunities include making our own hives and growing queens. Honey production last season saw our honey quality being above the Northland average. Honey continues to be a growth industry with Te Roroa having access to large tracts of Manuka.

Te Roroa Environs

TR Environs are managing a number of contracts with agencies and Roding Specialists. These contracts are;

1. Fulton Hogan – SH12 Vegetation
2. NZTA – Buffer Zone Spraying
3. DOC – Amenities, Tane Mahuta Toilets, Waipoua River Spraying, Pig Monitoring.
4. NRC – Cpt 66 Ginger Spraying, Manchurian Rice Grass, Wilding Pines.



TR Environs Supervisor Chris Frost, Ginger Spraying Cpt 66.

Compartment 66 is located at the Waipoua Forest Settlement. This block has a number of highly significant archeological sites that are covered in Kahili Ginger. TR Environs made the decision to spray the ginger prior to receiving support from NRC. Cpt 66 is part of the area known as Te Toa Whenua and will be retired from production forestry and planted in native trees.



NRC Specialists have visited Cpt 66 to review the spraying operation and were satisfied with the results.

TR Environs Supervisor, Paul Rusden With NRC Biodiversity Specialists, Don Mackenzie, Curtis Harris and Bruce Howse (Environmental Manager)

Te Roroa Forests

TRFL has recommenced forestry operations after a 6 month lay-off. TRFL stopped operations due to poor weather conditions during autumn, winter and spring. Forestry operations were being undertaken at Waikara Beef Farm #3 at time of closedown but work is now happening in Papatia. This is another area within Te Toa Whenua and has significant archeological sites. Papatia (Papatea) is situated in Waipoua Forest Settlement. The trees in Papatia are Pinus Radiata and were planted in 1966 thus making these trees 50yrs old, some of the oldest planted trees in Northland.



Waipoua Kaumatua Dave Paniora planted these tree's 50yrs ago.

Prior to the start of logging in Papatia a karakia was held and attended by a number of whanau from the settlement. Michael Taylor, iwi archaeologist was also in attendance and is overseeing the operations to ensure minimal disturbance happens on sites of significance.



Archaeologist, Michael Taylor beside the first tree to be felled.

Robbie Paniora, son of logging contractor Boy Paniora and grandson of Dave Paniora, was given the honor of felling the first tree.



Robbie Paniora pictured here getting ready to fell the first tree in Papatia. Robbie works for Paniora Logging as a Skidder Driver and followed his father, grandfather and great-grandfather into the forest industry.

Te Toa Whenua

In 2015, the Te Roroa Centre of Excellence team of Eamon Nathan and Will Ngakuru explored the idea of a cultural, social and environmental initiative that sets out to activate expressions of mana atua, mana tupuna and mana whenua of the Te Roroa people through the restoration of a 900ha area along the Waipoua River corridor. This would include the retirement of exotic forestry blocks, replanting in native species, protection & preservation of sites of significance within this corridor and the enabling of traditional gardening practices. The restoration process will involve intensive plant and animal pest management followed by native reforestation.



Will Ngakuru speaking about TFW at Wairangahau Junction, Waipoua.

Te Toa Whenua has engaged multi-stakeholder participation from govt. agencies, local govt. CRI's and educational organisations to achieve a broad range of benefits that will improve environmental, social, cultural and economic outcomes for the region.

In 2015 the COE team applied for funding through Conservation Community Fund for Te Toa Whenua. On Tuesday, 20 December, 2016 Te Roroa met with Department of Conservation Director General, Lou Sanson who announced that Te Roroa had been successful in its CCF application. Reconnecting Northland has also contributed to TFW and 2017 is shaping up to be an exciting year.



Waipoua River Valley showing TFW. Photo taken from Paremata, Waipoua Forest Settlement.

2016 GEM Awards

The Te Roroa Environs team were selected as finalist for NZ Transport Agency GEM (Going the Extra Mile) award in the environmental section. This award celebrates contractors' successes in delivering outstanding examples of diverse range of activities on the state highway network.

On Thursday, 22nd September 2016, Tasha Birch and Paul Rusden from TR Environs attended the awards ceremony at the Auckland Maritime Museum, Viaduct Basin. TR Environs and Fulton Hogan were eventual winners for 2016.



Paul Rusden, Tasha Birch from TR Environs and Kaylee Wilson from Fulton Hogan with the GEM trophy. TR Environs won this award for their outstanding standards on SH12 through Waipoua Forest.

Activities in brief.....

Tane Mahuta Ambassadors continue to share information at the "Big Tree" on Kauri Dieback, Tane Mahuta and Te Roroa.

NZ Landmarks is a collaboration between Ministry of Culture & Heritage and DOC focusing on highlighting well known NZ Icons to visitors. Tane Mahuta was chosen to be part of the pilot but Te Roroa did not support the project due to lack of initial consultation and signage concerns.

Ancient Kauri Trail By-Way is a collaboration with tourism operators in the Kaipara district that has an emphasis on tourism sites. The pilot project is being funded by Northland Inc with Te Roroa participation in two by ways. **Wandering with the Ancestors By Way** has been developed by the Chinese descendants of those ancestors that were on the SS Ventnor that sunk off the west coast of Northland 114yrs ago.

Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the following kaumatua, kuia and others that have passed away this year. Whetu Naera, Lawrence Mackie, William Patuawa, Maria Parore-Larsen, Manu Te Rore, Marion Nathan, Betty Nathan, Mary Harrison. Haere nga matua, nga whaea kua wehe atu ki te po, ki tua o te arai. Haere ki okiokinga I o tatou tupuna. Moe mai I roto I to ringaringa o to tatou matua I te rangi.