#### Kaniwhaniwha Restoration Project

The Kaniwhaniwha Restoration project, led by Te Pahu Landcare Group and supported by DOC, has been operating for over ten years.

The project goal is to create a buffer zone between the adjacent farmland and Kaniwhaniwha Stream. The hope is that water quality in the stream will improve. The plantings for Conservation Week are alongside the Nikau Walk. Volunteers welcome.

When Sunday 12 September, 9am - 1pm.

- Where Assemble at Kaniwhaniwha car park (Limeworks Loop Road Te Pahu).
- Bring Good robust footwear, wet weather gear, fluids & snacks, lots of energy. Sausage sizzle provided for volunteers.
- Contact Elisa Karwowski, 07 850 8378 or ekarwowski@doc.govt.nz



The Nikau Walk is an easy walk suitable for families. Bell Track, which branches off the Nikau Walk, leads to the summit of Priongia and is a more strenuous tramping track. However, a short way along the track you can find some small limestone caves and further on again is a massive kahikatea, the tallest measured native tree in New Zealand.



#### **Whangamarino Restoration Project**

This restoration project is led by DOC with strong support from Te Kauwhata Primary. This Conservation Week event is a planting day focusing on regenerating a former grazing concession that is now retired. For further information about the Whangamarino project, visit DOC website www.doc.govt.nz

- When Wednesday 15 September, 9am 1pmWhere Participation is limited to students and parents from Te Kauwhata Primary.
- Contact Elisa Karwowski, 07 850 8378 or ekarwowski@doc.govt.nz



For more information on Conservation Week events contact:

Jack de Thierry Community Relations - Programme Manager jdethierry@doc.govt.nz 07 850 8438

Or check out: www.conservationweek.org.nz

tment of Conservation <u>newzealand.govt.nz</u>

## WAIKATO AREA EVENTS



# CONSERVATION WEEK 2010

# **12-19TH SEPTEMBER**



**AROHAINA I A** 

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#### **Guiding Workshop**

Te Papa Atawhai (Department of Conservation) will lead guided walks on Karioi Maunga and a historic coastal walk from Te Toto Gorge car park. This workshop will provide guidance for people assisting the department in a support role on the guided walks. A good level of fitness is necessary. Lunch provided.

#### It will cover the basics of:

- First aid and emergency management
- Use of DOC radios
- Communication
- Bird identification
- Physical fitness requirements

When Saturday 11 Sept, 9am - 1pm
Where Raglan Area School staffroom.
Booking Max. 12 participants. Registration essential.
Contact Elisa Karwowski, 07 850 8378 or ekarwowski@doc.govt.nz



### **Guided Walks**

#### Karioi maunga

There will be two walks traversing the maunga (mountain) at the same time, one leaving from each road end. Both options involve a steep climb and a strenuous walk but the views are spectacular. On a clear day, many surrounding landmarks (e.g., Pirongia maunga, Rangitoto Ranges, Kawhia & Aotea harbours, Mt Taranaki) can be seen.

When Saturday 18 Sept. 9am start. 5-7 hours.

Where Walk one departing from Te Toto Gorge car park on Whaanga Road.

*Walk two* departing from Swanns Farm carpark on Karioi Road.

Return transport to both starting points will be provided by DOC.

#### Historic coastal walk

The walk descends from the road to the coast and traverses south past three spectacular steep-walled amphitheaters – relics of past volcanic eruptions. Other features of the walk include evidence of ancient Maori settlements and sculptured manuka forests. An Iwi representative will be involved to provide a cultural perspective on the walk.

WhenSaturday 18 Sept, 9am. Allow 5 hoursWhereDeparting from Te Toto Gorge car park.

#### For all walks:

- Bookings Max. 30 participants on each walk Registration essential Directions to car parks will be given on registration.
- Contact Elisa Karwowski, 07 850 8378 or ekarwowski@doc.govt.nz
- Difficulty Participants must have a good level of fitness.
- Bring Good strong footwear, warm clothes and be prepared for rain or sun. Take plenty of food and water.

Contingency date September 19 (in case of bad weather on Saturday)

For more information on Conservation Week check out: www.conservationweek.org.nz



# More about Karioi

- 💣 The summit is 756m
- Karioi forms part of Pirongia Forest Park and is administered by Te Papa Atawhai (DOC).
- In July 2010, DOC contracted EcoFX Ltd to undertake a pest control project for possums on Karioi and adjoining public conservation land.

#### Why control possums on Karioi?

Monitoring indicated possum numbers had increased significantly since the 2004 pest control operation. Possums are a threat to plants and native animals on the maunga. The more possums, the quicker the population will build to a point where they have a noticeable and destructive impact.

#### **Operational success**

Two weeks after the possum control operation was completed, independent monitoring by Qualmons Ltd showed possum numbers have fallen from the 11% residual trap catch (RTC) to 1.06% on public conservation land, significantly below the 3% target. Monitoring also showed an impressive reduction in the rat density from 87% to zero. These significant results will greatly benefit and enhance the flora and fauna on the public conservation land.

Register for the guided walks and learn more about the success of this operation

# What's an RTC?

A residual trap catch index (RTC) gauges the quantity of pest, such as possums. A lower number indicates fewer possums and that control has been more successful. The index comes from the number of possums caught per 100 traps set.

