NATURAL HERITAGE FUND PROJECTS FUNDED IN THE 2024 FUNDING ROUND

ABOUT THIS FUNDING ROUND

A total of 10 applications were received in the 2024/25 Natural Heritage Fund (NHF) round, totalling \$3,376,101.25 in requested funds. Five applications were declined, and one application was deemed ineligible. Grants totalling \$1,341,616 were made to the following four applications.

A ROCHA AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Project:	Te Whakaoranga o Karioi – The Karioi Project
District:	Waikato
NHF Contribution:	\$393,000
Duration of Funding:	4 years

This group has been working together with the Raglan community for over 15 years. It undertakes a landscape scale pest control programme on the Karioi maunga, a backyard trapping programme in the surrounding rural and urban landscape, supports an iwi-led kākā reintroduction project, supports an iwi-led wetland restoration project at Toreparu Wetland, and runs an environmental education and awareness programme.

The funding will go towards:

- Labour pest animal control, seabird/coastal ranger and volunteer coordinator
- Mātauranga Māori cultural health monitoring
- Health and safety materials and expert guidance.

MOEHAU ENVIRONMENT GROUP INCORPORATED

Project:	Caring for Native Biodiversity in Northern Coromandel
District:	Thames-Coromandel
NHF Contribution:	\$445,593
Duration of Funding:	3 years

This group has undertaken community led, landscape scale pest control and biodiversity management projects for over 20 years. The project area comprises a significant number of private properties, including QEII National Trust covenants along with areas of public conservation land. The group oversees a network of traps for a kiwi sanctuary, pest animal and pest plant control at Waikawau Wetland, a coastal forest pest animal control sub-project, and education and advocacy programmes in both schools and the wider community.

The funding will go towards:

- Labour pest animal, pest plant control and community and school engagement programmes
- Materials traps and consumables.

PIRONGIA TE AROARO O KAHU RESTORATION SOCIETY

Project:	Kia Mau Tonu Kaitiakitanga o Pirongia
District:	Waipa, Waitomo
NHF Contribution:	\$303,023
Duration of Funding:	3 years

This group was established in 2002 as a community-led initiative to support, protect and enhance the native flora and fauna on Mt. Pirongia. It is expanding pest animal control operations on Mt. Pirongia to protect the spreading population of kōkako. This work also protects and enhances threatened native flora including *Dactylanthus* (wood rose). The group also has pest control operations at Okahukura in northern Pureroa, with a particular focus on protecting kōkako and long-tailed bat (pekapeka) populations.

The funding will go towards:

- Labour pest animal control and administration support
- Materials traps and consumables
- Track maintenance
- Biodiversity outcome monitoring.

MANAAKI KAIMAI MAMAKU TRUST

Project:	Kaimai Mamaku Restoration Project
District:	Hauraki, Matamata-Piako, South Waikato, Rotorua
NHF Contribution:	\$200,000
Duration of Funding:	2 years

This group was formed to manage Jobs for Nature funding secured from central government. It operates as a subregional hub, currently providing capacity and capability building for eight iwi/hapū pest control subprojects, including four from the Waikato region. The funding will only be applied to Waikato based activities supported by this trust.

The funding will go towards:

- Labour subregional hub to support capacity and capability of the iwi/hapū led subprojects
- Health and safety support
- Data and monitoring platform support.