

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES FUND

PROJECTS FUNDED 1 JULY 2018 – 30 JUNE 2019

ABOUT THIS FUNDING ROUND

A total of 18 applications were received in the 2018/19 Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF) round, totalling \$454,582 in requested funds. Grants totalling \$281,880 were made to 14 projects.

PROJECT LITEFOOT TRUST

Project:	LiteClub programme expansion
District/Catchment Zone:	Regionwide/All Zones
EIF Contribution:	\$17,560
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Project Litefoot Trust is led by ten prominent sportspeople and since 2008 the ambassadors have been competing against each other to see who can reduce their environmental impact the most. Their lead initiative is LiteClub - a programme designed to help community sports clubs reduce their environmental impact through energy and water efficiency and waste reduction. The EIF grant will allow the LiteClub programme to expand to 17 community sports clubs in the Waikato Region.

TE WHARE TOI O NGARUAWAHIA – TWIN RIVERS COMMUNITY ART CENTRE

Project:	Te Whetu o Tupurangi – kauri tree and kauri dieback workshops
District/Catchment Zone:	Waikato District/Waipā, Lower Waikato & Central Waikato Zones
EIF Contribution:	\$3,934.76
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Te Whare Toi o Ngaruawahia – Twin Rivers Community Art Centre has been operating since 2002 in Ngaruawahia and North Waikato and is primarily a volunteer based organisation. This EIF grant will allow the art centre to run creative workshops in the community and in schools, with a focus on the Kauri tree and its habitat and the need to protect it from Kauri Dieback disease.

THE FRIENDS OF TE WHANGANUI-A-HEI MARINE RESERVE TRUST

Project:	Whitebait Connection Programmes
District/Catchment Zone:	Hauraki & Thames-Coromandel Districts/Waihou-Piako & Coromandel Zones
EIF Contribution:	\$34,440 (\$11,480 each year 2018/19 to 2020/21)
Duration of Funding:	3 years

The Friends of Te Whanganui-A-Hei Marine Reserve Trust was created to protect, maintain, enhance, develop and promote Te Whanganui-A-Hei Marine Reserve and associated terrestrial public reserves at Hahei. The EIF grant will be used to fund tailored Whitebait Connection Programmes to young students to provide a better understanding of

the distribution and the abundance of whitebait and other freshwater fish species in the Hauraki/Coromandel region.

PIRONGIA FOREST PARK LODGE INCORPORATED

Project: Environmental Studies Programme activity sessions
District/Catchment Zone: Waikato District/Waipā Zone
EIF Contribution: \$5,000
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Pirongia Forest Park Lodge delivers outdoor camps to youth and communities living predominantly in the Waikato Region, utilising access to four hectares of native bush, outdoor adventure activities and the amazing walks and tramps on Pirongia Mountain. Interactive nature-based activity kits for Pirongia Forest Park Lodge will be funded by the EIF grant.

MANA MANU TRUST

Project: Control of wilding pines in the Mana Manu Trust area
District/Catchment Zone: Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution: \$21,562.80
Duration of Funding: 1 year

Mana Manu Trust (MMT) is a Whangapoua Coromandel community trust established for the protection and enhancement of the native forests in the Whangapoua area through management and control of animal and plant pests. The project will assist landowners to control wilding pines in the Mana Manu Trust area and the EIF grant will fund labour costs of contractors felling the larger pines and those that are more difficult to access.

WHAINGAROA ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INCORPORATED SOCIETY

Project: Community engagement in coastal and marine health
District/Catchment Zone: Waikato District/West Coast Zone
EIF Contribution: \$24,800
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Whaingaroa Environment Centre is an information, resource and action hub, supporting environmental sustainability with the mission to engage and empower people to take action for environmental sustainability in Whaingaroa/Raglan. The EIF grant will be used to fund a community engagement programme and community rangers stationed at boatramps and beaches will be trained to directly raise awareness of Māui Dolphin conservation.

WHAKAUPOKO (WEST FRANKLIN) LANDCARE GROUP

Project: We Do – Enhancing Our Big Back Yard
District/Catchment Zone: Waikato District/Lower Waikato Zone
EIF Contribution: \$39,999.07 (\$20,170.31 in 2018/19; \$19,828.76 in 2019/20)
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Whakaupoko Landcare is a registered charity formed in 2004 and has over 250 landowners on an email list with people primarily participating in pest control and revegetation activities in the North West Waikato. The EIF grant will help fund a coordinated 'Mainland Island' approach to Predator Free with a focus on rats, possums, mustelids and feral cats. Landowners and volunteers undertake pest control and receive advice and free materials. The project also incorporates comprehensive bird and bat monitoring.

FOREST AND BIRD UPPER COROMANDEL BRANCH

Project:	Restoration of the islands of the Nga Motu Aroha Trust
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$11,250
Duration of Funding:	1 year

The Upper Coromandel Branch of Forest and Bird was formed in 1972 and has been actively engaged in promoting the conservation of the fauna and flora of the Coromandel Peninsula. The EIF grant will help fund the preparation of a restoration/management plan for the Nga Motu Aroha Islands Restoration Project, which is a proposal to remove pests and predators from 11 privately-owned islands on the west coast of the Coromandel Peninsula.

HABITAT TUATEAWA INCORPORATED

Project:	Enhancing predator trapping effort at Tuateawa
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$39,143.68 (\$19,571.84 in 2018/19; \$19,571.84 in 2019/20)
Duration of Funding:	2 years

Habitat Tuateawa is a voluntary community group on the northern Coromandel that has been in existence for over 20 years and has been undertaking pest control from the outset to protect native bush and birds. The EIF grant will be used to fund a coordinator's time and also the purchase of GoodNature traps to extend the pest control effort over the full year and to create further restoration opportunities.

OTAMA RESERVES GROUP

Project:	Saltwater paspalum mapping/two year pilot control project
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$2,127.50
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Otama Reserves Group (ORG) was established by local residents and landowners in order to partner with DoC to protect and enhance the unique natural environment of Otama. This project will seek to control saltwater paspalum, the most significant invasive species in the DoC owned Otama estuarine wetland. The EIF grant will fund the spatial mapping of the 30 hectare wetland using an UAV, and subsequent report.

W T NICHOLLS TRUST

Project:	Ki Uta Ki Tai – establishing a trapping network in Koputauaki Bay
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$28,386.24 (\$26,993.24 in 2018/19; \$696.50 in 2019/20; \$696.50 in 2020/21)
Duration of Funding:	3 years

The W.T Nicholls Trust was formed in 2011 to align Kaitiakitanga with whanau land in accordance with tikanga Maori to protect the future of the ngāi tipu (flora) and ngāi kīrehe (fauna). The EIF grant will assist in funding labour and material costs of establishing a trapping network in a 250 hectare land block north of Koputauaki Bay. Trapping and monitoring will occur over a three year timeframe.

THAMES COAST KIWI CARE INCORPORATED

Project:	Helping Kiwi Thrive through Community Collaboration and Education
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$34,500 (\$11,500 each year 2018/19 to 2020/21)
Duration of Funding:	3 years

Thames Coast Kiwi Care Incorporated was formed in 2006 to protect and enhance the remnant southernmost population of Coromandel Brown Kiwi. The EIF grant will be used to fund more hours for the predator control coordinator role to include community engagement and education and to grow and upskill the group's volunteer pool.

WAIKATO ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION TRUST

Project:	Waipa Rerenoa Riparian Management
District/Catchment Zone:	Waipa & Otorohanga Districts/Waipā Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$14,175.55 (\$5,075.85 in 2018/19; \$4,549.85 in 2019/20; \$4,549.85 in 2020/21)
Duration of Funding:	3 years

The Waikato Ecological Restoration Society is an organisation formed in 2016 with the purpose of environmental restoration in the Waikato region. They run the Tamahere Community Nursery and have instigated a number of Weedbusters groups. The Waipa Rerenoa Riparian Restoration project involves willow removal, 10 metre riparian setbacks and planting along 6km of the Waipa River upstream of Otorohanga. The EIF grant will fund weed control materials and equipment along with contract labour costs.

PLASTIC-BAG-FREE COROMANDEL TOWN

Project:	Plastic-Free Coromandel
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel District/Coromandel Zone
EIF Contribution:	\$5,000
Duration of Funding:	1 year

The Plastic-Bag-Free Coromandel Town group was formed in 2017 with a mission to make Coromandel Town at least 80% free from single-use plastic bags by the end of 2018. The EIF grant will be used to purchase large reusable jute shopping bags and stainless steel straws to distribute to community members.
