

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES FUND

PROJECTS FUNDED 1 JULY 2023 – 30 JUNE 2024

ABOUT THIS FUNDING ROUND

A total of 33 applications were received in the 2023/24 Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF) round, totalling \$983,142.10 in requested funds. 1 application was ineligible, and 23 applications were declined. Grants totalling \$248,401.81 were made to 9 projects.

COLVILLE JUNCTION CHARITABLE TRUST

Project:	Te Ūmangawha o Ngā Waka Colville Pest Control
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$30,007.09 (\$10,645.77 in 2023/24; and \$19,361.32 in 2024/25)
Duration of Funding:	2 years

Colville Junction was founded in 1997 to support communities in the northern Coromandel. This funding will be used to continue the monitoring and servicing of traps, and for materials to expand predator control into other key ecological sites. They will primarily target possums, rats, and mice.

DRIVING CREEK RAILWAY, ARTS AND CONSERVATION TRUST

Project:	Driving Creek Catchment Conservation
District/Catchment Zone:	Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution:	\$11,221.36 (2023/24)
Duration of Funding:	1 year

Driving Creek Railway, Arts and Conservation Trust was established to protect and enhance the ecological and recreational qualities of the property. This funding will be used to purchase possum, mustelid, and rat traps to place on public conservation land adjacent to Driving Creek Conservation Park to increase the protection of native fauna. It will also go towards pest animal contractor costs.

KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST

Project:	Northern Pureora Trapping Project
District/Catchment Zone:	Otorohanga/Matamata-Piako/Waikato
EIF Contribution:	\$37,429.00 (\$22,650.50 in 2023/24; and \$14,778.50 in 2024/25)
Duration of Funding:	2 years

Kaitiakitanga Charitable Trust works with youth to guide them to find their mana and confidence by introducing them to environmental work and rural job opportunities. This funding will be used to hire trapping contractors to service traps on farms surrounding Pureora Forest to provide a buffer, and to purchase trapping materials for at-risk youth to build traps.

KUAOTUNU PENINSULA TRUST

Project: Pampas Control/Eradication at Black Jack Reserve
(Pukeumu)
District/Catchment Zone: Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$7368.62 (2023/24)
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Kuaotunu Peninsula Trust works toward the protection, restoration, and enhancement of the natural ecosystems in the Kuaotunu area through a range of avenues. This funding will go towards controlling invasive pampas on steep and difficult terrain by using drone technology.

NEW ZEALAND LANDCARE TRUST

Project: Taiea te Taiao Maungatautari to Pirongia Ecological Corridor
District/Catchment Zone: Waipa
EIF Contribution: \$39,927.40 (\$20,201.20 in 2023/24; and \$19,726.20 in 2024/25)
Duration of Funding: 2 years

New Zealand Landcare Trust works towards sustainable land and water management through community involvement. The funding will be used for traps and bait stations to control mustelids, possums, and rats to help establish a natural corridor or native plantings between Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari and Pirongia maunga in the Waikato.

SIKA FOUNDATION CONSERVATION TRUST

Project: Whio Protection Programme
District/Catchment Zone: Taupō
EIF Contribution: \$5970.00 (2023/24)
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Sika Foundation Conservation Trust was formed in 2015 by a collaborative group who actively manage the Central North Island Sika herd to provide benefits to hunters as well as protect the natural ecological habitat in the area. This funding will be used to extend the predator control network beyond the current trapping area with the aim of increasing whio populations.

TONGARIRO NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Project: Kids Greening Taupō
District/Catchment Zone: Taupō
EIF Contribution: \$40,000 (\$20,000 in 2023/24; and \$20,000 in 2024/25)
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Kids Greening Taupō is an initiative that was started in 2015 to connect kindergartens and schools with the work of Greening Taupō. This connects tamariki with nature and encourages the kaitiaki of the future. This funding will go towards a kairuruku reo Māori role to support the environmental programme from a cultural perspective. It will also allow the programme to expand to Tūrangi.

WAIKATO ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

Project: Central Waikato Predator Free Hub
District/Catchment Zone: Hamilton City/Central Waikato
EIF Contribution: \$38,976.00 (\$15,360.00 in 2023/24; \$14,208.00 in 2024/25; and \$9,408.00 in 2025/2026)
Duration of Funding: 3 years

The Waikato Environment Centre has a range of roles, one of which is to connect people to environmental projects, opportunities, and learning experiences across the Waikato. This funding will go towards a coordinator to support predator free groups with funding applications and enhance the success rate of applications.

W.T NICHOLLS TRUST

Project: Ki Uta Ki Tai
District/Catchment Zone: Thames-Coromandel/Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$37,502.34 (\$29,057.38 in 2023/24; and \$8,444.96 in 2024/25)
Duration of Funding: 2 years

The W.T Nicholls Trust was formed in 2011 to align kaitiakitanga with whānau land in accordance with tikanga Māori to protect the future of native flora and fauna. This funding will go towards employing professional contractors to target specific invasive plant species within a high value biodiversity site. It will also be used for upskilling their own knowledge regarding pest plant control and increase their suite of tools for trapping invasive mammals