

We are sending you this special edition of our Mahurangi West Pest newsletter to update everyone on the forest restoration community project at 35 Jamieson Road.

Around five years ago, the Mahurangi West Pest executive committee learned about the Mahurangi Land Restoration programme and undertook an analysis of all the land issues within our community. We were looking for projects where we could use the funding from the Mahurangi Land Restoration programme to help restore and protect the native flora and fauna on the peninsula.

After looking at all properties, it was determined that 35 Jamieson Road had the greatest potential for land restoration. Some of the old stand of pine trees were collapsing into Huawei Bay, and in the process, pulling large chunks of the cliff face away. This causes a major erosion problem and increases sedimentation of the harbour. In addition, bits of broken pines floating around the harbour create navigation hazards. The pine needles and pollen from the trees cause major headaches for local residents and there are fears that the pines and macrocarpa along Jamieson Road could fall over the road. In addition, there is a major invasive weed issue that is affecting the entire community.

Thus, the committee decided to apply for funding from the Mahurangi Land Restoration Trust. After substantial efforts, the project stalled and appeared to be a lost cause. However, shortly thereafter Peter Doolin took on the project and has done an incredible job under very difficult circumstances to see it to the cusp of completion. He was later joined by Hugh Kininmonth and others to continue to move the project forward. With the help of the Morehu whanau as landowners and many local community members, funding to complete the project has now been secured.

With a resource consent being required, total project costs have ballooned to over \$200,000. Costs will be covered by the Morehu whanau, the Mahurangi Land Restoration Trust, the community and through the sale of logs. Very generous and concerned members of our community have donated over \$50,000.

The MWP executive would like to give a very big thank you to Peter Doolin for his incredible persistence in moving this project forward. Without him, this would never have happened. Also, huge thanks goes out to Hugh Kininmonth and all those members in the community who have provided donations to make up the short fall. There is still time to contribute a funding addition to the project if you would like to support this community restoration success story. Make your tax-deductible donation to Mahurangi West Pest referenced as 'Trees'.

Brian Bramell
Chair




Above: Brian Bramell surveys pines littering the Huawei Bay foreshore, 2022. Credit: Nada Cottrell.

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