



Photo: Eva Mairoll

MAKING THE NELSON HALO SHINE

Our vision for the Nelson Halo is gaining traction, as a growing number of Nelson community groups and residents get involved in controlling introduced predators in parks, reserves and backyards to help our wildlife.

In future we're likely to see larger numbers of birds in the city as they spread from the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary into neighbouring parks and backyards.

Nelson Nature's Nelson Halo is helping to create bird-friendly connections between the Sanctuary and community conservation projects to help native birds spread across the city. We want to make Nelson come alive with birdsong!

To make this happen, we've been working with local community trapping groups and national predator control experts to draw up a comprehensive plan for the Halo.

The Nelson Halo Plan identifies key areas outside the Brook

Waimarama Sanctuary where Council and the community can focus pest trapping and habitat restoration efforts to get the best results. It also provides guidance on which predators to target and how.

The immediate focus is on supporting predator control and native restoration in a core area between the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary and the city.

Nelson Nature is supporting community trapping groups within the Halo area with advice and traps to help groups protect these sites for native wildlife and join up the dots between sites.

Interested in joining a community trapping group in Nelson? Visit nelson.govt.nz/volunteers.

Or starting a community trapping programme in your own neighbourhood? Email nelsonnature@ncc.govt.nz or phone 03 546 0200.

nelson.govt.nz/volunteers

PIPERS RESERVE – A NEW KIWIBANK PREDATOR-FREE COMMUNITY

A Nelson Halo community trapping group has become one of latest Kiwibank Predator Free Communities in NZ.

Pipers Reserve Trapping Group has been trapping at Pipers Reserve, between Toitoi and Tahunanui, since late 2018. The group members are now planning to extend their trapping efforts to their own and neighbouring backyards.

"We all live in the Tahunana Hills/ Pipers Reserve area and our ultimate aim is to bring more birdlife (in particular larger passerines such as bellbirds, tui, kereru) back into the Pipers Reserve/Tahunana Hills area," says group member Stu Hanchet.

As the predator control strengthens in the wider Halo, the Pipers Reserve programme will provide a pest-free, food-rich corridor for birds through to the Tahunana Hills and ultimately the coast.

The funding from Kiwibank will complement the trapping the group

is doing within the Reserve itself by subsidising traps for neighbouring backyards and gardens.

The Group is doing a letter-drop to nearly 300 properties in the area to invite them to take part in the Pipers Halo project. Council's Nelson Nature programme is supporting the group with trapping advice and traps to control rats, stoats and possums in the Reserve. Since the group started in late 2018, they have already removed over 100 rats and a dozen possums from the reserve.

10 new communities were added into the national Kiwibank Predator Free Community Programme this year – taking the total number of communities in New Zealand to 55. The Brook Valley Trapping Group was made a Kiwibank Predator Free Community in 2018.

If you live near Pipers Reserve and want to know if you're eligible for subsidised traps, please contact hanchet@slingshot.co.nz.



SAVE THE DATE – TRAPPING WORKSHOP 2019

Want to learn more about trapping pests to protect native wildlife?

Join community groups and residents from throughout the Top of the South at this year's Regional trapping workshop, to be held on Sunday 22 September 2019, 9am to 4pm, in Picton (Venue TBC).

This year's trapping workshop is being hosted by the Department of Conservation, Picton Dawn Chorus and Kaipupu Wildlife Sanctuary.

The workshop will present two sessions: 'Back to Basics' and

'Monitoring Your Success', so regardless of your trapping experience, the day is for you.

To register your interest in receiving further information, please email Wendy at wsullivan@doc.govt.nz.

