

# Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust

## #CC23406

### Annual report 2016

The Northland-based Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust was established in 2002, as a charitable umbrella and support organisation for the Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR) marine education and Whitebait Connection (WBC) freshwater education programmes.

These are both leading models in education for sustainability in New Zealand and available nationally. This year we launched a partnership with Northland Foundation.

#### Trust vision

Our goal is to empower and support communities to achieve marine and freshwater conservation through science based experiential programmes, resources, projects and community engagement.

*Whakamana te maunga  
Whakamana te wai  
He mauri o nga tangata  
Nga mea katoa he pai*

*If we look after the water from the mountains to sea, it will look after us.  
It is our life force.*



# Experiencing Marine Reserves- EMR

www.emr.org.nz

## EMR focus

To get as many kiwis as possible to learn from and experience marine reserves!

Since 2002, EMR has expanded to eight regions, with a team of 20 coordinators, EMR has guided snorkel experiences for **27834** (39304 including accompanying whanau and teachers) students in NZ marine reserves and over 14889 people have been engaged in EMR organised marine conservation events. The total number of kiwi's engaged in EMR to **49532**.

### Summary of achievements in 2016

Expansion and continuation of the EMR programme in 8 different regions including: Gisborne, Northland, Wellington, Coromandel, Nelson, Auckland, Taranaki and Otago. We are also planning a pilot study for Akaroa (Christchurch).

Facebook 'likes' now at 1640

31 Community Guided Snorkel and Kayak days throughout NZ, involving 2174 participants.

55 people attend our annual 'Mountains to Sea' Wananga in Whangara, Gisborne.

Continued exposure in the media nationwide, including our story about EMR in South Auckland schools on Newshub <http://www.newshub.co.nz/nznews/auckland-kids-wanted-for-close-encounters-with-marine-life-2016083021>

The annual Poor Knights Competition trip involved all 8 regions of EMR this year, thanks to the Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation and on-going support from Dive Tutukaka. Since 2002, a total of 223 schools and 347 students have participated in this trip. Around the country we have had 773 action projects to address marine issues.

### EMR Contact

Samara Nicholas - Programme Director

Email [samara@emr.org.nz](mailto:samara@emr.org.nz)



### Special thanks to our funders and partners:

The Tindall Foundation, Department of Conservation, Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation, Foundation North, DOC Community Fund and the Whangarei District Council

**Thanks to the support of:** Wette, Dive Tutukaka, Bennett & Associates, Orbit Audits, Henderson Reeves Lawyers, Fast signz, Level, Dean Wright (website) and Darryl Torckler (underwater images) and Schnappa Rock and Midas Whangarei

Many thanks to the schools who support our services and the many generous donations



# Whitebait Connection – WBC

www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz

## WBC focus

To get as many New Zealanders as possible understanding the links between land and water and taking action to help restore and protect those areas

Since 2002, WBC has expanded to be sustainable and active in **5 regions**, with a team of **16 coordinators**, WBC has guided **67071 New Zealanders** on journeys of discovery and conservation action in their local freshwater environments and catchments, (6550 more than last year), helped to plant **57374 native plants** next to waterways and restore over **24 kilometres of riparian habitat**. **38 whitebait spawning habitats** have been identified and adopted. The wider community has been reached via over 114 printed media articles and over **64,027 volunteer hours** have been contributed!

### Summary of achievements in 2016

Continuation and expansion of the WBC programme in five different regions including: Northland, Auckland, Gisborne, Wellington and Canterbury.

Inspiring action for the environment - many diverse action projects have been reported from regional coordinators this year including inanga spawning site adoption, riparian planting, whitebait spawning habitat restoration, stream clean ups, presentations to local politicians, artwork on display in schools and letters to the editors of local newspapers about local freshwater conservation issues.

Over 1000 people have participated in our local free events including whitebait spawning site monitoring, community planting days, native fish spotlighting nights and community group freshwater biodiversity workshops.

Gaining the support of a new corporate sponsor 2plus!

### WBC Contact:

Kim Jones - National Coordinator

Email: [kim@whitebaitconnection.co.nz](mailto:kim@whitebaitconnection.co.nz)



### Special thanks to our funders:

Department of Conservation, Foundation North, Northland Regional Council, MPI, Rata Foundation, Whangarei District Council, Landcare Trust, Auckland Council, 2plus, Southern Trust, Tane's Tree Trust, MBIE Unlocking Curious Minds

### Thanks to the support of:

Bennett & Associates, Orbit Audits, Henderson Reeves Lawyers, Fast signz, Level.