



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 ngā tangata Ngā 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.

visit www.emr.org.nz and www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz and www.mountaintosea.org.nz or email us at info@emr.org.nz

Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust Annual Report 2018

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.

www.mountaintosea.org.nz

www.howtokit.org.nz

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.

EMR focus

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

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.

57 people attend our annual 'Mountains to Sea' Wananga at Te Awhina marae, Motueka



Experiencing Marine Reserves - EMR

Te Kura Moana 'School of the Ocean'

www.emr.org.nz | [www.facebook.com/emr.mtsct](https://facebook.com/emr.mtsct)

Since 2002, EMR has expanded to eight regions, with a team of up to 28 coordinators, EMR has guided snorkel experiences for 35547 (53866 including accompanying whanau and teachers) students in NZ marine reserves and over 18447 people have been engaged in EMR organised marine conservation events. The total number of kiwi's engaged in EMR is now 71192!

Summary of achievements in 2018

Expansion and continuation of the EMR programme in 8 different regions including: Gisborne, Northland, Wellington, Coromandel, Nelson, Auckland, Taranaki and Otago. Facebook 'likes' now at 3508. 35 Community Guided Snorkel and Kayak days throughout NZ, involving 2578 participants. Continued exposure in the media nationwide, such as this one about our annual Poor Knights competition trip.

The annual national EMR [Poor Knights Competition trip](#) has engaged a total of 274 schools and 408 students to date. Around the country for the 2017 year we had 591 action projects to address marine issues! We have now had community engagement events in ALL of Auckland's marine reserves check out the video [here](#). A highlight of the year was supporting the Young Blake Expedition to the Kermadecs.

Special thanks to our funders

The Tindall Foundation, Department of Conservation, Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation, Foundation North, DOC Community Fund, Whangarei District Council, Lotteries, Auckland Council and the Lion Foundation. Welcome to our new corporate sponsor Henderson Reeves!

Images by Darryl Torckler

EMR Contact

Samara Nicholas- National Coordinator
info@emr.org.nz



WBC Contact
Kim Jones - National Coordinator
kim@whitebaitconnection.co.nz

Whitebait Connection – WBC

www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz

Since 2002, WBC has expanded to be sustainable and active in 7 regions, with a team of 23 coordinators, WBC has guided over 83,000 New Zealanders on journeys of discovery and conservation action in their local freshwater environments and catchments, helped to plant over 80,000 native plants next to waterways and restore over 36 kilometres of riparian habitat. Over 69 whitebait spawning habitats have been identified and adopted. The wider community has been reached via over 200 printed media articles and over 75,000 volunteer hours have been contributed!

Summary of achievements in 2018

Continuation of the WBC programme in five regions including: Northland, Auckland, Gisborne, Wellington and Canterbury as well as expansion into two new regions; Hauraki/Coromandel and Nelson/Tasman.

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 monitoring workshops.

Gaining the support of a new corporate sponsor MTF!

Collaboration with NIWA to upgrade the SHMAK and provide a comprehensive training course. Involvement in national DOC led Whitebait Working Group.

Special thanks to our funders

Department of Conservation, Foundation North, Northland Regional Council, MPI, Whangarei District Council, Auckland Council, 2plus, MTF, Choc Fish Co, Community Waitakere. GBC Winstones, Kaipara District Council, Water Outlook, The Forest Bridge Trust, Tindall Foundation

Thanks to the support of

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