



Our Trust

The Mountains to Sea Wellington team have just celebrated our 10th year of operations in the greater Wellington region. It's also our very first year under our new Trust. It's been a busy time and we're excited about what's been achieved with our amazing supporters, volunteers, staff and funders. Thanks for being on this journey with us.

Our Team

The MTSW team are a self-confessed bunch of nature nerds with a passion for sharing the places we love.



From left to right our team is Te Kawa Robb – Te Kura Māori Educator and Comms, Zoe Studd – Executive Director, Sarah Kachwalla (nee Neighbours) – Project Manager (Marine), Liz Gibson – Project Manager (Freshwater) and Jorge Jimenez – Programme Coordinator (Missing: Ben Knight and Ellan Kay Young – Experiencing Marine Reserves Coordinators).

What we're about

Young people and the communities we work with are at the centre of what we do. We believe that building a connection to nature enhances the way people feel about themselves and their local environment. This then ripples out into our communities empowering them to take action to help protect and restore our rivers, harbours and coasts.

Helping create a sense of kaitiakitanga for all that surrounds us is what gets us out of bed in the morning. We do this through our three main programmes; Experiencing Marine Reserves, The Whitebait Connection and Healthy Harbours.



PROGRAMME ENGAGEMENT

More than 20,000 students and community participants have taken part in our programmes and projects since 2008.

From 1 July 2017:

OVER 2584 STUDENTS

from 109 classes and over 41 schools have taken part in our environmental education programmes.

OF THAT:

1504 STUDENTS

explored their local coastlines with in-water experiences through our *Experiencing Marine Reserves and Healthy Harbours* programmes.

1186 STUDENTS

took part in the *Whitebait Connection* and *Healthy Harbours* freshwater programmes in their local streams and waterways.

446

Community participants snorkelled during one of our 6 Free Community Guided Snorkel events in Kāpiti Marine Reserve, Taputeranga Marine Reserve and Whitireia Park.

310

keen community scientists, educators and learners also took part in one of freshwater or marine monitoring training workshops.

OVER 659

volunteer days were donated by the community, assisting us with in-water field trips and contributing to local restoration activities.



Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngā Mokopuna students water testing at Kaiwharawhara stream. Whitebait Connection programme.



Snorkelling at Kāpiti Island Marine Reserve, with this years kaitiaki from Te Awarua o Porirua.



Porirua East school students paint a whitebait mural at spawning grounds



Kāpiti College students at Pukerua Bay. Experiencing Marine Reserves.



Native freshwater fish found on the Tuna (eel) Trails.



Our new marine equipment trailer and volunteer snorkel guides

This year is a milestone for us, with the key highlights being:

- Celebrating our first year as an incorporated charitable Trust after a decade of delivering immersive experiential education for the future kaitiaki of the region's waterways and marine environment. This development has allowed us to grow our programmes and partnerships across greater Wellington.
- Our new purposed-designed snorkel trailer – allowing us to go anywhere, anytime.
- Reintroducing the Experiencing Marine Reserves programme back onto Kāpiti Island, and exploring Wellington's oldest marine reserve with overwhelming support from the local community and schools.
- Holding a record number of FREE Community Guided Snorkel days and our first ever at the Kāpiti Island Marine Reserve.
- Progressing Freshwater Monitoring protocols for schools and community groups to facilitate better community engagement in monitoring and protecting our fresh waterways.
- Launching the Te Kura Moana programme with support from Curious Minds, and in partnership with Te Aho Tū Roa. This project delivers marine experiences in te reo Māori for kura kaupapa Māori, building mātauranga Māori and pathways in science for young learners.
- Holding our first ever art and science collaboration with PĀTAKA Art + Museum. Together we created an outdoor classroom and engaged students in the biodiversity of their local stream, especially highlighting the plight of our native fish. The collaboration culminated in the installation of local artworks and a freshwater event - Tuna Trails.
- Developing and sharing a number of citizen science resources and providing training on Stormwater Monitoring, the Whitebait Connection Inanga Spawning Project and National Freshwater Monitoring Protocols.

Our programmes are about creating action

Over the past year our programmes, delivered with the support of many other organisations, have inspired and assisted students and community to take many actions to help their local environment.

Students have been involved in improving freshwater fish passageway, waste minimisation and tracking trash, biodiversity blitzes, stormwater education and harm reduction, tree planting, freshwater monitoring, seaweed projects and through their own sphere of influence as kaitiaki – sharing their knowledge and care through many avenues – be it art, letters, speeches and submissions to councils. We applaud their amazing efforts!



Night spot-lighting with Korauuni School.



Shellfish surveys at Porirua with Ngāti Toa.

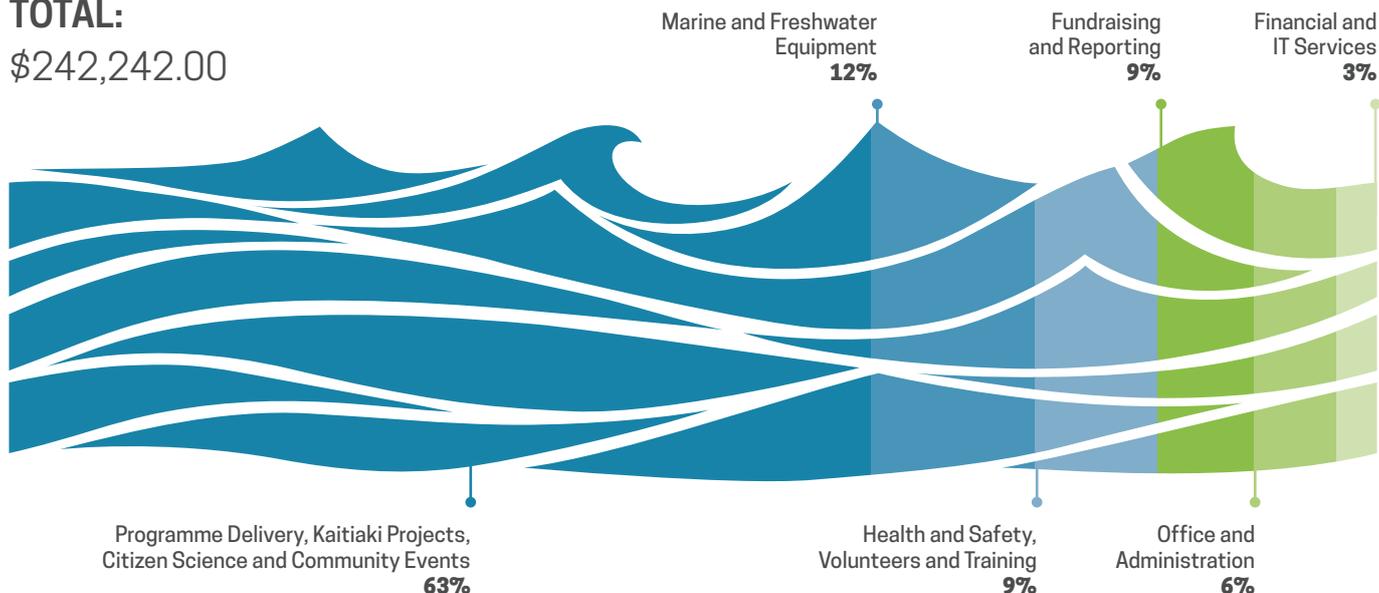


Identifying freshwater biodiversity.

How we use our funding

TOTAL:

\$242,242.00



Thank You!

A huge thanks to all of our amazing volunteers, collaborators, supporters and funders who make our work possible. We also wish to thank mana whenua and the community groups, organisations, businesses, students, teachers, science providers and central and local government agencies whose work inspires and supports our collective mahi.

Our Funders



Find out more

Please visit our website at MountaintoSeaWellington.org or visit us at [facebook/MountainsToSeaWellington](https://facebook.com/MountainsToSeaWellington). Our full performance report for 2017-18 has now been submitted to the Charities Commission and is available on their website at <https://www.register.charities.govt.nz/Charity/CC54455>

Keen to get involved?

If you would like to help support our work please contact us at info@mtsw.org.nz