



Friends of
Taupo Swamp
& Catchment

Friends of Taupo Swamp & Catchment Newsletter

8 April 2024

FOTSC Newsletter – Autumn 2024

Tena koutou. Here is the latest news about Taupo Swamp & Catchment

1. Community volunteer work day - Saturday 13th April. Anytime between 9am- 12 noon. Please leave vehicles on the road if you can and meet at the FOTSC container for directions. Spot our FOTSC banner! We will be clearing bindweed from growing trees. Please walk in on the right-hand side of the Composting NZ buzzer so you don't alert the onsite CNZ staff.
2. Our summer work is about done. Many hours spent in the wetlands doing track clearance for site access and so Pest Free Plimmerton volunteers can continue their amazing work. Looking after 15,000 young trees is our priority too. A very dry summer has been challenging. This winter, we will not be doing much planting as we must focus on weed control – particularly bindweed and blackberry.
3. FOTSC engagement with the Plimmerton School "Science in the Swamp" continues. Drone days with the Cratos crew, stunning wetland focussed artwork in the station underpass (thanks Marg Tolland), and opportunities for school children to engage in planting days and water quality testing.
4. Winter planting this year: mid 2024 we will start on our forest enrichment phase by inter-planting good sized kahikatea in groups around the wetlands. Dates to be advised.
5. Feeling out of touch with our updates, planning, latest drone footage, submissions? It's all there at <https://www.tauposwamp.org/>
6. Over recent months, we have made great progress with cutting tracks through previously planted areas. Thanks also to GWRC for cutting a track through the 2-3 m high blackberry on the north side of the industrial area.
7. Predator control is a cornerstone of our work to encourage more biodiversity around the wetlands. We could do with a couple more trappers able to contribute 2-3 hours per month. Full training will be given. A reasonable level of fitness is required as the trap-checking involves scrambling around uneven ground. If you are interested contact us at tauposwamp@gmail.com

Friends of Taupo Swamp & Catchment Society Inc.

Bill McAulay - Secretary - mob 027 9206624

Judy McKoy - Chair - mob 021 2639844