



## **Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

### **Performance Report For the year ended 30 June 2025**

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## **Chair report Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust 2024 to 2025**

The emphasis for this financial year was the initial planting in the new Wetland and the final planting push for completing the last of the five stages set up under the MPI project. Follow up care and infill planting for this is scheduled through to 2027.

Between the forest MPI project and Wetland the winter 2024 was the largest and most complex planting the Trust has ever done. 29,383 plants -48 species. We now for the first time in over 60 years have a continuous forest footprint. Future plantings will be significantly smaller and more focused on enrichment. In the immediate short term the focus has shifted toward plant care and plant species enrichment.

The forest west side now has a loop board walk that gives visitors the opportunity to walk through and experience the redevelopment of a unique wetland forest. There is a narrow strip left along the west side of the Makino stream that needed to be left to stabilize stream banks. We have been successful in getting funding for this work, and Horizons River engineers' approval to clear and plant this in August and September 2025 .

The wetland initial planting was started and is now as a mosaic of low wet areas and slightly higher areas reflecting the topography. The wetland design will start become apparent over next two to three years as we continue planting and plants mature. We also now had some small floods testing the construction and landscaping of the wetland and newly opened west side forest channels. All points flooded in the sequence we had hoped they would. The flood waters came up quickly and dropped down very quickly also as we hoped. This should prevent trees drowning in the future. Overall, we believe this is a very successful, but until we have a significant flood, we cannot be sure of all outcomes.

Approximately 70% of the wetland now has some form of native plant coverage. It will take another three to four winters to infill and complete this. The areas near the road by the pump house will not be planted as this still needs infrastructure work related to drainage from across Awahuri Road. This infrastructure work needs to be a collaboration between Manawatu District Council Roding Team, Horizons River Engineers and AF/KPT. This has been raised with MDC and will need to be planned and go through the next Long Term Plan Process.

Phragmites karka is still a significant issue in the forest and has taken a toll on the Trust with continual lobbying and energy to get national and regional focus on this. There are signs that other parties are starting to take accountability. It will take another six months before we can be sure of this.

Chair/Trustee: Bessie Nicholls

## **Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

### **Entity Information**

**For the year ended 30 June 2025**

Legal name of the entity:	Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust
Type of entity/legal basis:	The Trust is a Registered Charity, incorporated in New Zealand under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957. The Trust is also an exempt Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) of the Manawatu District Council defined by the Local Government Act 2002.
Registration Number:	2614107
Charities Commission Registration Number:	CC50858

#### **Entity's Purpose or Mission:**

The Trust has the following charitable purposes:

- (a) To assist in the ecological restoration, management and enhancement of the land at Kitchener Park and for this purpose to maintain a five year plan which, with an annual budget, will be made available to the Settlor for its approval prior to the commencement of each financial year;
- (b) To steer and co-ordinate the raising of funds to assist the restoration, management, enhancement, promotion and further development of the land at Kitchener Park;
- (c) To encourage community access to Kitchener Park, and foster knowledge of and interest in the ecological restoration activity at Kitchener Park;
- (d) To ensure the continued protection and restoration of Kitchener Park where possible and restore biodiversity values;
- (e) To create a safe haven for native plant and animal species, controlled for plant and animal pests;
- (f) To collaborate with other relevant organisations and individuals to reintroduce locally extinct or threatened plant and animal species, to ensure their long term survival;
- (g) To develop self-sustaining threatened species populations which will act as source populations for the creation of future community restoration projects in the Manawatu District;
- (h) To care for some special collections, including the podocarp, epiphyte and lichen collections presently established at Kitchener Park;
- (i) To support scientific and historic research of the Kitchener Park ecosystem or components thereof;
- (j) To educate the general public, especially school children, about the need to conserve and protect native forest environments in New Zealand.

## **Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

### **Entity Information**

**For the year ended 30 June 2025**

Trust Structure:	The Trust Deed states that the number of Trustees shall not be fewer than four and no more than six. From May 24 to March 25 there were three Trustees. Two new Trustees were appointed March 25. There are two Advisory Trustees. Trustees / governance members may lead sub-committees as determined by our annual work plan and priorities.
Operational structure:	The Trust has no employees and operational activities are delivered by Trustees and external contractors. Recreational Services Ltd is the main contracted provider for forest maintenance and restoration activities.
Main Sources of the Entity's Cash and Resources:	The Trust has received its income mainly from local government, grants and donations.
Contact information:	Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust
Physical Address:	C/- Manawatu District Council 135 Manchester St Feilding
Postal Address:	PO Box 527 Feilding 4740
Phone:	06 328 8790
Email:	email: trustee@afkptrust.com

## Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust

### Statement of Financial Performance For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2025 Budget (Unaudited)	2024 \$
<b>Revenue</b>				
General Funding received from Central or Local Government	1	132,581	146,635	259,818
Donations, Koha, Bequests and Other Fundraising Revenue	1	12,589	20,325	2,477
Revenue from Service Delivery Grants.Contracts from Central and Local Government	1	95,024	119,500	126,768
Revenue from Service Delivery Grants.Contracts from Non-Central and Local Government	1	21,846	40,000	54,560
Interest, Dividends and other Investment Revenue	1	1,125	1,800	2,324
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>263,165</b>	<b>328,260</b>	<b>445,947</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Contractor Expenses	2	86,835	76,272	59,339
Other Expenses related to Service Delivery	2	200,028	240,919	384,439
Other Expenses	2	3,250	3,500	3,491
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>290,113</b>	<b>320,691</b>	<b>447,269</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(26,947)</b>	<b>7,569</b>	<b>(1,322)</b>

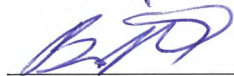
The financial information should be read in conjunction with the accompanying statement of accounting policies, notes to the performance report and audit report

## Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust

### Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and Short-Term Deposits	3	93,146	97,171
Debtors and Prepayments	3	52,626	212,183
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>145,772</b>	<b>309,354</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	23,315	26,565
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>23,315</b>	<b>26,565</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>169,088</b>	<b>335,919</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenses	3	22,012	179,963
Deferred Revenue	3	14,500	0
GST Payable		8,457	4,890
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>44,969</b>	<b>184,853</b>
<b>Total assets less total liabilities (net assets)</b>		<b>124,119</b>	<b>151,066</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Capital contributed by settlor	5	20	20
Accumulated surpluses/(deficits)	5	124,099	151,046
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>124,119</b>	<b>151,066</b>

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES



Date

16 / 10 / 2025

B Nicholls, Chairperson

Awahuri Forest/Kitchener Park Trust

The financial information should be read in conjunction with the accompanying statement of accounting policies, notes to the performance report and audit report

## Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust

### Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Cash flow from Operating Activities</b>			
<i>Cash was received from:</i>			
General Funding received from Central or Local Government		227,911	159,088
Donations, Koha, Bequests and Other Fundraising Revenue		12,589	2,477
Revenue from Service Delivery Grants.Contracts from Central and Local Government		110,858	93,688
Revenue from Service Delivery Grants.Contracts from Non-Central and Local Government		66,596	64,440
Interest, Dividends and other Investment Revenue		1,496	2,324
<b><i>Cash was disbursed to:</i></b>			
Payments related to Service Delivery		(317,553)	(269,173)
Contractors and other related payments		(109,118)	(59,339)
Net GST movement		(3,567)	(904)
<b><i>Net cash flows from operating activities</i></b>		<b>(3,654)</b>	<b>(7,399)</b>
<b>Cash flow from Other Activities</b>			
<i>Cash was disbursed to:</i>			
Payments to acquire Property, Plant and Equipment			(6,110)
<b><i>Net cash flows from Other Activities</i></b>		<b>0</b>	<b>(6,110)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and bank</b>		<b>(3,654)</b>	<b>(13,509)</b>
Opening cash and bank		97,171	110,680
<b>Closing cash and bank</b>		<b>93,517</b>	<b>97,171</b>
<b>This is represented by:</b>			
Bank Accounts and Cash	3	93,517	97,171
		<b>93,517</b>	<b>97,171</b>

The financial information should be read in conjunction with the accompanying statement of accounting policies, notes to the performance report and audit report

## **Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

### **Statement of Accounting Policies For the year ended 30 June 2025**

#### ***Reporting Entity***

Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust is a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) as defined by section 6 of the Local Government Act 2002. Awahuri Forest/Kitchener Park Trust is registered under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 and is a registered Charity under the Charities Act 2005 from July 2014.

#### ***Basis of Preparation***

The entity has applied the Tier 3 (PS) Standard on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses equal to or less than \$5,000,000.

All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting.

The performance report is prepared under the assumption that the Trust will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

#### ***Revenue Recognition***

Funding received from Central or Local Government is recognised as revenue once conditions pertaining to eligible expenditure has been fulfilled.

Capital Grants and Grants from Non-Government Organisations are recognised as revenue when the funding is received unless there is an obligation to return the funds if conditions of the grant are not met ("used or return condition"). If there is such an obligation, the grant is initially recorded as a liability and recognised as revenue when conditions of the grant are satisfied.

#### ***Interest revenue***

Interest revenue is recorded as it is earned during the year.

#### ***Cash and Short Term Deposits***

Cash and Short Term Deposits comprise of cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

#### ***Goods and Services Tax (GST)***

All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.



## **Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

### **Statement of Accounting Policies (continued) For the year ended 30 June 2025**

#### ***Debtors***

Debtors are initially recorded at the amount owed. When it is likely that the amounts owed (or some portion) will not be collected, a provision for impairment is recognised and the loss is recorded as a bad debt expense.

#### ***Property, plant and equipment***

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses (if applicable). Depreciation is charged over the assets useful life.

#### ***Depreciation***

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis on plant and equipment at rates that will write off the cost of the assets to their estimated residual lives over their residual lives. The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed and adjusted, if applicable, at each financial year end.

The depreciation rates applied to the major class of assets have been estimated as follows:

Signage	21.0%
Lighting	6.0%
Cat Traps	20.0%
Doc 200 traps	20.0%
CC TV system	14.3%
Park Benches	8.5%

#### ***Donated assets***

Revenue from donated assets is recognised upon receipt of the asset if the asset has a useful life of 12 months or more and the value of the asset is readily obtainable and significant.

#### ***Creditors and accrued expenses***

Creditors and accrued expenses are measured at the amounts owed.

#### ***Income Tax***

The Trust has been granted charitable status by the Inland Revenue Department and is therefore exempt from income tax.

#### ***Changes in Accounting Policies***

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year.

# Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust

## Notes to the Performance Report For the year ended 30 June 2025

### Note 1 Analysis of Revenue

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>General Funding received from Central or Local Government</b>		
Honorarium Funding	1,418	0
Manawatu District Council Operating Grant	125,330	135,530
Flood Protection Grant	0	28,305
Education Grant	5,833	10,000
Signage Grant	0	5,840
Boardwalk Seating Grant	0	7,890
Wetland Landscaping	0	51,610
Wetland Boundary Fence	0	5,225
Wetland Awahuri Access Track	0	4,250
Disability Walkway Access	0	8,818
Corduroy Road Marking Grant	0	2,350
<b>Total General Funding received from Central or Local Government</b>	<b>132,581</b>	<b>259,818</b>
<b>Donations, fundraising and other similar income</b>		
Gifting	10,000	-
Kilwining Lodge Signage Donation	1,639	-
Park Bench Donations	500	1,500
Give A Little Donation	-	352
Education Booklet sales	-	236
Other Donations	450	389
<b>Total Donations, fundraising and other similar income</b>	<b>12,589</b>	<b>2,477</b>
<b>Revenue from Service Delivery Grants/Contracts from Central and Local Government</b>		
Horizons Regional Council	9,000	-
Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI)	7,256	46,637
Horizons Regional Council - Phragmites Grant	78,768	80,131
<b>Total Revenue from Service Delivery Grants/Contracts from Central and Local Government</b>	<b>95,024</b>	<b>126,768</b>
<b>Revenue from Service Delivery Grants/Contracts from Non-Central and Local Government</b>		
COGS Grant	3,500	3,500
Trees that Count	18,346	51,060
<b>Total Revenue from Service Delivery Grants/Contracts from Non-Central and Local Government</b>	<b>21,846</b>	<b>54,560</b>
<b>Interest, Dividends and other Investment Revenue</b>		
Interest Received	1,125	2,324
<b>Total Interest, Dividends and other Investment Revenue</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>2,324</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>263,165</b>	<b>445,947</b>

**Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

**Notes to the Performance Report  
For the year ended 30 June 2025**

**Note 2 Analysis of Expenses**

		2025	2024
		\$	\$
<b>Contractor Expenses</b>			
	Contractors	86,835	59,146
	Contractors (Seed Gathering)	-	193
<b>Total Contractor Expenses</b>		<u>86,835</u>	<u>59,339</u>
<b>Other Expenses Related to Service Delivery</b>			
	Accounting support	4,230	4,489
	Administration Support	1,100	1,045
	Animal Pest Control	550	-
	Arborist	-	10,470
	Audit Fee	9,614	3,750
	Bank Fees	95	95
	Chemicals and Pest Control	-	1,354
	Disability Access Pathway	-	8,818
	Education Expenditure	7,282	16,023
	Flood Protection		33,375
	Horizons BioDiversity	38,365	45,415
	Horizons Stream Phragmites	4,784	39,897
	Kilwinning Lodge Signage	3,745	-
	Legal Expenses	-	1,995
	Makino Biodiversity	35,611	-
	MDC Boardwalk Seating	-	7,890
	Miscellaneous Trust Expenses	44	128
	MPI Grant Expenditure	4,653	47,158
	Plant Pest Control	2,193	
	Plant Purchases	39,355	84,767
	Postage	243	244
	Printing and Stationery	-	396
	Property Insurance	-	626
	Repairs and Maintenance	2,885	729
	Signage	2,031	5,927
	Software Subscription	632	480
	Trustee Honorarium	1,418	-
	Trustee Meeting Expenses	474	1,770
	Trustee Insurance	1,663	1,330
	Website	959	578
	Wetland Infrastructure	-	58,365
	Wetland planting	8,614	-
	Wetland prep & planning	29,489	7,325
<b>Total Expenses related to Service Delivery</b>		<u>200,028</u>	<u>384,439</u>
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
	Depreciation	3,250	3,491
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>		<u>3,250</u>	<u>3,491</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u><u>290,113</u></u>	<u><u>447,269</u></u>

**Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust**

**Notes to the Performance Report  
For the year ended 30 June 2025**

**Note 3 Analysis of Assets and Liabilities**

		2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Bank accounts and cash</b>	BNZ Current Account	20,462	40,612
	BNZ On Call Account	72,684	56,559
		<u>93,146</u>	<u>97,171</u>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>			
	MPI Grant	-	24,728
	Horizons Phragmites Grant	34,823	28,304
	Trees That Count	-	34,787
	Manawatu District Council	-	111,047
	Manawatu District Council - Honorarium	1,418	-
	Prepayment - Plant purchases	13,413	-
	Prepayment - Recreational Services	2,972	13,152
	Prepayment - Nyx Software/Wizard in a Can	-	165
	<b>Total Debtors &amp; Prepayments</b>	<u>52,626</u>	<u>212,183</u>
<b>Creditors and accrued expenses</b>	Trade Payables	12,450	161,248
	Credit Card	10	1,515
	Audit Fees	8,064	3,750
	Green Fencing accrual	-	6,888
	Uzabus accrual	-	345
	Nga Kaitiaki o Ngati Kauwhata Inc accrual	-	6,217
	Room Hire	70	-
	Trustee Honorarium	1,418	-
	<b>Total Trade Creditors &amp; Accruals</b>	<u>22,012</u>	<u>179,963</u>
<b>Deferred Revenue</b>			
	Air New Zealand Grant	14,500	-
	<b>Total Deferred Revenue</b>	<u>14,500</u>	<u>0</u>

## Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust

### Notes to the Performance Report For the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 4

#### Property, Plant and Equipment

This Year					
Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/Disposals	Current Year Depreciation and Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Plant and Equipment	26,565	-	-	3,250	23,315
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,565</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,250</b>	<b>23,315</b>

Last Year					
Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/Disposals	Current Year Depreciation and Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Plant and Equipment	23,946	6,110	-	3,491	26,565
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,946</b>	<b>6,110</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,491</b>	<b>26,565</b>

#### Note 5

#### Accumulated Funds

This Year			
Description	Capital Contributed by Settlor	Accumulated Surpluses or Deficits	Total
Opening Balance	20	151,046	151,066
Surplus/(Deficit)		(26,947)	(26,947)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>124,099</b>	<b>124,119</b>

Last Year			
Description	Capital Contributed by Settlor	Accumulated Surpluses or Deficits	Total
Opening Balance	20	152,368	152,388
Capital contributed by owners	-		-
Surplus/(Deficit)		(1,322)	(1,322)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>151,046</b>	<b>151,066</b>

## Awahuri Forest / Kitchener Park Trust

### Notes to the Performance Report For the year ended 30 June 2025

#### Note 6: Commitments and Contingencies

##### Commitments

At the end of the 2025 financial year the Trust has plant purchase commitments to Manawatu District Council Nursery of \$36,263 (2024: \$25,880) and Totara Glen of \$5,303 (Last Year: Manawatu Native Plant Nursery \$25,880)

#### Note 7: Related Party Transactions

The Trust is a Council Controlled Organisation of the Manawatu District Council, the following related parties transactions occurred during the financial year:

	This Year \$	Last Year \$	This Year \$	Last Year \$
	Value of Transactions	Value of Transactions	Amount Outstanding (INCL GST)	Amount Outstanding (INCL GST)
<b>Revenue</b>				
Operating Grant	125,330	135,530	-	-
Flood Protection Grant	-	28,305	-	32,550
Education Grant	5,833	10,000	-	-
Signage Grant	-	5,840	-	1,702
Boardwalk Seating Grant	-	7,890	-	-
Wetland Landscaping	-	51,610	-	53,055
Wetland Boundary Fence	-	5,225	-	6,008
Wetland Awahuri Access Track	-	4,250	-	4,888
Disability Walkway Access	-	8,818	-	10,140
Honorarium Grant	1,418	-	1,418	-
Corduroy Road Marking Grant	-	2,350	-	2,703
<b>Total Related Party Revenue Transactions</b>	<b>132,581</b>	<b>259,818</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>111,046</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Plant Purchases	37,688	36,128	-	10,549
<b>Total Related Party Expenditure Transactions</b>	<b>37,688</b>	<b>36,128</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,549</b>

#### Note 8: Events after balance date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report.  
(Last year: Nil)

#### Note 9: Prior year Comparatives

The Prior Year Comparatives have been restated due to the transition to the new reporting framework Tier 3 (PS) Standard.



## Statement of intent

Council's Expectations	Comment to Trust for preparation of their SOI 2024 - 2027
Maintain the forest / park, within the existing boundary, as an area of unspoilt nature (scenic reserve) for the benefit of the community and visitors	<p>KPI's describe the Trusts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pest control activity for plants (i.e. phragmites) and animals</li> <li>• native planting activity (enhancement or replaced planting)</li> </ul>
<p>Actively pursue third-party funding opportunities for forest / park investment</p> <p>(to invest in the activities within the forest/park and development of the forest/park)</p>	KPI developed on an agreed minimum number of third-party funding applications lodged by the Trust per annum (on top of any Council based funding)
Plan to develop further walking and cycling tracks within the forest/park to connect to the "loop track concept" described in Council's Walking & Cycling Strategy	KPI developed to agree on a timeline for the Trust delivering a plan for new walking and cycling tracks in the forest/park that connect to Council's loop track development
Minimise future flooding impacts to the forest/park through appropriate design and planting	KPI developed that describes the Trust's flood protection activity vs Horizon's flood protection activity
Make the forest / park available for educational opportunities	KPI developed that describes the education activity delivered by the Trust vs the education activity delivered by Enviroschools, or other providers within the park/forest.

## PERFORMANCE TARGETS and Report

**Expectation 1. Maintain the forest / park, within the existing boundary, as an area of unspoilt nature (scenic reserve) for the benefit of the community and visitors.**

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output	Status
To continue the pest plant programme	2020	Zero density control of Old Man's Beard by 2027	In Progress & On Track
		Continued management 3 large vines identified and eradicated. Multiple small seedlings removed. We are seeing small seedlings particularly in area along Kawakawa Rd fence line. The infestations in the Henson block across the road has had some treatments and hopefully in a year or two we will see less and less seedlings. Note Henson is not in the control of AFKPT.	In Progress & On Track
		Manage Bind weed, Jasmine and dock weed by 2027	In Progress
		West side 3.5 hectares weeded and cleared of all visible bind weed jasmine and dock for planting prep. Three rounds of post planting care has taken place. This seems to be under control at this point but will reappear in spring.	
		Achieve control mechanism for Phragmites by 2028	
		Reduced funding for R&D for year 2024-2025. Plot management continues but the investigations into chemical penetration into rhizomes has to be deferred until funding available. The significant plot being managed through cut and spray method has been abandoned after 7 spray cycles has shown this does not slow or limit growth in any way. This site will now be managed through the cut and inject methodology evolved. See Notes at end doc	



Number of traps vs kill catch animal pests	2013	<p>Encourage buffer zone upstream to prevent new infestation.</p> <p><b>Forest 16 possums</b>  <b>Nursery 9 possums</b>  <b>Waste water treatment 35 possums</b></p> <p>Three traps were lost in floods and two destroyed by vandalism. One has just disappeared.</p> <p>Eight new traps to be purchased early new year</p> <p>Trapping Continues each week. We are seeing an increase in possum numbers caught as the year progressed and damage is evident in forest.</p>	Ongoing
Number of Native species planted	2024/25	<p>41 species, 30,000 plants by 30 June 2025</p> <p><b>Planted from July to December 2024 25,450 - 48 species planted Nil planting from Jan to June 2025. Not good planting conditions.</b></p> <p><b>Planted in Calander year 2024 29,383 -48 species</b></p> <p>2000 plants held by nursery not mature enough to plant by season end these will be planted late July early August 2025 when conditions are favourable.</p> <p>The new wetland development has now had it first planting. Approximately 70% of the wetland footprint has now been planted with the first wave of plants.</p> <p>14,500 plants ordered for next financial year. Planting numbers will start to decline as the forest footprint is now almost replanted with Natives. Planting will start to move toward enrichment as new ecosystems are formed from the major restoration push we have now carried out.</p> <p>The planting push now moved more toward plant maintenance over the next few years.</p>	Completed on track

New plant survival rate	80%+	<p>80%+ over 2½ year period 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2026</p> <p><b>90% survival Dec 2024. We lost some plants over the summer in the high areas of the wetland. The remaining plants are all now mature enough to survive if we keep them weed free for another year.</b></p> <p><b>Lost an estimated 250 cabbage trees and flax plants to Pukekohe in wetland. (100 new plants planted to replace some of these)</b></p> <p><b>6 of the 19-swamp maire re- introduced into forest are likely to not survive. These are a difficult plant to establish and as we had no surviving swamp maire we are guessing from other external sites as to the best place to plant them.</b></p> <p><b>Increased the numbers of Pokaka trees by 16 with seed collected from the original 3 trees. Took 4 years to get to planting size.</b></p> <p><b>We have now reintroduced all original large tree species from the 1928 list back into the forest and now focus will start to move to enrichment and balancing numbers. There are still significant sub canopy, shrubs, herbs and ferns missing that will have to be sourced over the next few years.</b></p>	On track
Numbers of big trees lost	2023/24	<p>Nil per annum</p> <p><b>No big trees lost this financial year. Two are at risk and showing signs of deterioration. These may take many years to die. One is close to a walkway and will be reviewed 6mnthly for Health and safety issues.</b></p> <p><b>Three sick medium sized trees fell during wind storms.</b></p> <p><b>The surprise is we have found two more very large black maire in west side of the forest.</b></p>	On Track

**Expectation 2. Actively pursue third-party funding opportunities for forest / park investment**

**(to invest in the activities within the forest / park and development of the forest / park).**

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output	Status
Maintain appropriate third party funding for the activities and development of the forest / park	2022/23 MDC \$23,000 + other \$139,476	<p>Relevant funding applications are lodged to maintain the funding level required</p> <p><b><u>Successful Approved funding achieved for next year 2025-2026</u></b></p> <p><b>Horizons R&amp;D Phragmites karka \$45k -(asked for \$87K)</b></p> <p><b>Horizons Makino Flood mitigation Phragmites \$40k.</b></p> <p><b>Horizons \$23k wetland. Plants planting and plant care (\$14k added to existing \$9k)</b></p> <p><b>Fonterra \$25K Plants planting and animal pest management Wetland</b></p> <p><b>Air New Zealand \$14k Stream side mini project</b></p> <p><b>Trees That Count \$30,841</b></p> <p><b><u>Total \$ 177,841</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Unsuccessful funding</u></b></p> <p><b>Manawatu District Council -education \$10k - \$4167 * see education</b></p> <p><b>Department of Conservation Phragmites \$1.2million.* see Phragmites</b></p> <p><b>Over all apart from the need for Phragmites the Trust has been more successful than expected in obtaining new funding for the next financial year.</b></p>	On Track Achieved more funding than thought we would.
Measurement of 'In kind' support	<p>2022/23 estimated hours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trustee 1,100</li> <li>• Stakeholders 200</li> </ul>	<p>Maintain relationships and measure the resulting significant 'in kind' support</p> <p>Trustees 800</p> <p>156</p>	

**Expectation 3. Plan to develop further walking and cycling tracks within the forest / park to connect to the “loop track concept” described in Council’s Walking & Cycling Strategy.**

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output	Status
Boardwalk walking track	May 2024	West side Board walk. Completed by 20 October 2024  <b>Completed Oct 2024. Rails now completed and job finished</b>	Completed
Work with Council on a cycling track design	Not yet commenced	Understand MDC’s vision and work together on a cycling track design.  <b>Have received new proposed plan from Manawatu District Council Parks and Reserves team. The new loop cycling track will not go through the forest. It will run parallel to the forest from the Rata Street track and walkers can continue into the forest as usual. There may be a need to have a lockable bike rack installed at this junction. The Trust will assist in enhancement and blending this into the forest biodiversity. The Trust cannot progress this until MDC actions this project.</b>	In Progress

**Expectation 4. Minimise future flooding impacts to the forest / park through appropriate design and planting.**

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output	Status
Take opportunities to provide feedback to Council and Horizons concerning flood management activity.	February 2024  Infrastructure for wetland planting,	Report on feedback provided to Council and Horizons  <b>Wetland infrastructure apart from the area by the pumphouse corner now completed. Small floods have tested it. One area needed minor changes to protect side of corduroy road in big floods.</b>	On Track

Maintain relationship with Horizons	Makino stream side re-modelling	<p><b>70% of wetland now had first planting.</b></p> <p>Discussions for Makino stream removal of willows over next 10 years started. Horizons has now developed a draft wide ranging permit application to manage willows along the stream infrastructure and Awahuri paddock. This is to go to the Horizons compliance team in August 2025. At this stage we don't believe this will need to go to public consultation.</p> <p>The Trust has now formalised and gained permission from Horizons to have Cameron Reid (local river engineer) appointed as an Advisory Trustee for hydrology and flood mitigation. This action integrates the Trust more seamlessly into the overall Horizons flood planning while protecting the interest of the forest.</p> <p><i>See other Additional notes below in other issues</i></p>	
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**Expectation 5. Make the forest / park available for educational opportunities.**

Description	Starting Point	Target / Output	Status
Maintain the Trust's children's education programme	2022/23 17 sessions, 913 students involved, 11 schools	<p>Maintain 80%+ of 2022 / 23 level of local school involvement</p> <p><b>Education programme Reviewed</b></p> <p><b>Not working well since death of contractor. Children's programme not getting volume of engagement from schools.</b></p> <p><b>Manawatu District Council reduced funding from \$10 k to nil next year. Believe we are same as enviro schools and this is duplication. Enviro Schools</b></p>	Closed

		<p>is a franchise and we have never used their model. Our target was mainly schools that were not envoi schools</p> <p>As the Trust has reduced the degraded areas and increased the forest restored areas we are having more and more difficulty in accommodating education activities off the board walks.</p> <p>Programme at end of Jan 2025.</p> <p>Education resources have been gifted to Enviro Schools programme. - Work books, books, posters, diorama's, bug kits etc The Trust has returned residual unused 2024- 2025 Education funds to Manawatu District Council. The Trust will start to work toward producing education materials on their website linked to the forest.</p>	
<b>Maintain the Trust's adult education programme</b>	<b>Adult education events occur</b>	<p>3 x adult related engagements / events pa (this may include university student visits)</p> <p>Continued Massey university and hydrology flow events took place. Still planning the forest weed management programme with Landcare Trust .</p>	On Track

### Other issues and Updates

Minimise future flooding impacts to the forest/park through appropriate design and planting	KPI developed that describes the Trust's flood protection activity vs Horizon's flood protection activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This forest floods naturally. If it stops flooding it is no longer a wetland/lowland forest.</li> <li>2. The issues that damage the forest with flooding are about velocity causing shingle to be swept into forest and weed management from upstream infestations.</li> <li>3. These issues are caused by stream structural straightening in the 1960-70s and plant types (willows) on the edges of the stream.</li> <li>4. The Trust already manages the plantings of new plant types based on low and high ground, but we cannot without Horizons permission alter or change stream sides</li> <li>5. The Trust is working with Horizons to explore the removal of willows and substitute with natives along the stream sides over the next 10 years. This is a complex issue that can only be done in incremental stages as the integrity of the stream channels needs to be retained.</li> </ol>
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		<b>6. The Trust has with the support of Horizons appointment Cameron Reid River engineer as an advisory Trustee to the Trust,</b>
Health and safety	Manage and Reduce health and safety risks to contractors and public	<b>2 Workers stung by wasps. Nests destroyed</b> The Trust is starting to review its Health and safety policy. Particularly in relation to contractors who are required to have their own health and safety policies' before they can work in the forest, This will also relates to a new policy on purchasing the Trust has started to work on. We heard anecdotally there was an incident with a dog fight and biting of a person. No formal or verifiable compliant was made.
The Trust	Trustee numbers  Ten years of Trust functioning	The Trust very briefly had six Trustees.. Two newly appointed Trustees resigned within months of coming onto the Trust. One was for personal reasons and the other was their work role changed not allowing them to continue. Two further Trustees have now been appointed and the Trust has a compliment of five. With one vacancy.  Jill Darragh Chair trustee resigned in December after 10 years of service with the Trust Bessie Nicholls agreed to do one year as the interim chair until Dember 2025.  The Trust celebrated the 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Trust in November.
Community and Forest profile	<b>Local Manawatu Districts Making a difference awards. 2025</b>	The Trust was approached by Green by Nature to partner with them in two of the award categories. Environmental and Innovation

#### **Phragmites Karka**

Trust is continuing to try to manage Phragmites karka. We have now completed another year of applied forest research inside the forest boundary. The outcomes are we now believe we can eradicate smaller areas with three treatments. Treating very large areas is a logistical issue

The oddity of this plant not being a registered weed is still causing significant issues. The non registration of this weed forces us into competitive funding rounds. What funding we do get is to be applied to R&D and this doesn't cover resources to manage all the forest each season.

It is five years since the Trust started to investigate what this plant was. It is now four and a half years since we had it identified by MPI. Through that Time there has been constant research on how to manage this plant. Alongside this research and management activities we have made five separate submissions to Horizons and Ministry of Primary Industry to get this recognised as a weed. Once recognised the chances of attracting resources to manage this increase significantly. .

In addition to the submissions there has also been numerous lobbying activities, media coverage and an education event to try and get some focus on this weed. These events and submissions have forced the Trust to work more widely than the forest footprint. We have been reasonably successful in getting awareness around this weed, but the upshot is we the Trust have become out of necessity the lead in management of Phragmites karka across NZ. This is taking its toll on the Trust time resources and energy. Unfortunately, if the Trust stops doing this Phragmites karka will just continue to expand in the forest and continue to be reintroduced from the Makino stream in floods.

The Trust made a funding application to DOC for \$1.2 million over three years. **This was unsuccessful**

A document was written by the Trust for Simon Upton the Environmental Ombudsman. This we understand has been taken to Ministry for Primary Industries in July

[A monumental failure in weed pest management and control in the Manawatu-Whanganui region](#) is an article **written by Barry Scott**

This is now available on the Trusts website. [Phragmites - Awahuri Forest - Kitchener Park](#) The Trust provided information on their activities and key links to individuals and entities we have worked with during our journey on Phragmites karka.

Barry Scott -taught Molecular Genetics and carried out research on Plant-Microbe symbiosis. A Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand/Te Apārangi and was a founding Board Member of the Environmental Risk Management Authority. Barry also wrote the scientific article on Caulerpa that eventually got \$10m funding for research.

Trust to present on Phragmites karka at the National NETs (biosecurity) conference in July. The theme is a community entity being forced into competitive funding rounds for research is not working and the structures in our legislation for weed management don't make sense when we have such an invasive issue with no known management techniques.

Chair Trustee



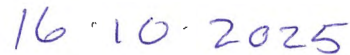
Date



Trustees



Date





## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE READERS OF AWAHURI FOREST KITCHENER PARK TRUST'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park Trust (the Trust). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Vivien Cotton, using the staff and resources of BDO Manawatu Audit Limited, to carry out the audit of the financial statements of the Trust on his behalf.

We have audited the financial statements of the Trust on pages 3 to 12, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of financial performance, and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of the Trust:

- present fairly, in all material respects:
  - its financial position as at 30 June 2025;
  - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Tier 3 (PS) Standard.

Our audit was completed on 16 October 2025. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

#### Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of the Trustees for the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible on behalf of the Trust for preparing financial statements that are fairly presented and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Trustees are responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements that are free from misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible on behalf of the Trust for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Trustees' responsibilities arise from the Local Government Act 2002 and Charities Act 2005.

### **Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of the readers, taken on the basis of these financial statements.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Trustees and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on

the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.

- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

### **Other Information**

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all of the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the statement of intent and other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Independence**

We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards)* (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Trust.



Vivien Cotton  
BDO Manawatu Audit Limited  
On behalf of the Auditor-General  
Palmerston North  
New Zealand