



## Our Vision:

The forests and beaches of Abel Tasman are once again filled with the birdsong that awakens and delights visitors.

*Kia whakaoho te mauri o te Ata-hapara.  
Kia rongu, Kia Kite, Ki te reo koro tui o Te Tai tapu*

Kia ora everyone,

After a quiet couple of years we can certainly say that the visitors have returned and we are back to advocating for all things wonderful in our Abel Tasman National Park!

Here are some highlights from our activities since our September newsletter:

## Our Volunteers

Volunteers are the backbone of the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust. The pandemic and last year's storm damage has really challenged access to our traplines. We stayed positive and we are grateful that such passionate people choose to be part of our organisation.



Enjoying the commentary about the local coastal features (Photo credit -D Wilson)

We recently took a cruise together to give thanks and celebrate the shared love for this area. We journeyed along the coastline to Adele/Motuareronui Island where we enjoyed an evening BBQ onboard one of Wilson's boats.

He aha te mea nui o te ao

What is the most important thing in the world?

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people

Māori proverb.

## Education and Advocacy

### 1 - Local conservation talk

We enjoy sharing our story in the community and recently presented at a Motueka Probus meeting. Many members of this group have close ties to the Abel Tasman and report huge improvements in the bird life and biodiversity since we began trapping and bird releases. It was a pleasure to hear this and gives us a real boost!



Abby speaking to the Probus group (Photo credit - Y Hawken)

### 2 - Improving educational resources

Sharing knowledge and engaging tamariki is so important! Recently we collaborated with Brooke at Project Janszoon and Helen and Sally at DOC to upgrade and expand the educational resources available to students visiting the Abel Tasman. The local MenzShed are also involved, building the lockable structures for each location.



The resulting educational kits will be located at the DOC huts in the Park and also at the Marahau Education Centre (which is a base for many schools visiting the area). Lots of games and activities to keep keen students busy!



Collaboration is the key (Photo credit: M Keenan)

## Tinline Planting Project

We planted 500 native trees last year and these always need their annual maintenance. Bracken and blackberry can swamp new plants so we go in and remove any growth. We appreciate our volunteers helping us with this follow-up work. It takes two years until the trees are big enough to push through!



Pocket before bracken pulling! (Photo credit – A McCall)



Pocket after bracken pulling! (Photo credit – A McCall)

Thanks to [Trees that Count](#) for contributing to this project.

## Predator Control

### Trapping

Volunteers have been busy removing pests from the Park - with a total of 550 mustelids and 11,887 rats removed from our traps since October 2010.

We give a huge thanks to those who have transported volunteers into the park over the last few months. There are a lot of passengers to transport at times! This includes [Aquataxi](#), [Sea Shuttle](#), [Wilson's](#), and DOC.



Look at all our volunteers travelling on Sea Shuttle! (Photo credit: S Lucas)



## Biodiversity News

### Whio

A total of 41 whio have been released into the Wainui and Falls catchments as part of Project Janszoon's restoration programme. The release areas are very well protected from predators. Soon after release the latest cohort were happily diving, feeding, and preening in their new home.



Settled in their new home! (Photo credit – C Crick)

### Pāteke/brown teal

Our wonderful website and IT support person Rick was out in the Abel Tasman and spotted this pāteke/brown teal family at Sandfly Bay.

Pāteke/brown teal have been released into the Park as part of Project Janszoon's restoration programme. A total of 358 birds have been released, at either Hadfields Clearing or Anchorage Lagoon, and it is heartening to see breeding in this new catchment.

We undertake intensive predator control in this area and this makes it all worth it!



Out for a dabble! (Photo credit – R Coleman)

### Kākā

Some of the female kākā were monitored closely for nesting success this breeding season. They were fitted with backpack transmitters. Our volunteers are still involved with the supplementary feeding of the birds remaining in the Bark Bay area. Keep an eye out for noisy juveniles when visiting the park.



Kākā interactions like this are regularly enjoyed by visitors (Photo credit: J Kennaway)

## Donate to make a difference

Please go to the ['Give-a-Little'](#) website, search 'Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust' and follow the instructions. Pass this on to friends you think might like to donate to our cause! Every contribution assists us greatly.



## *Acknowledgments*

Our positive conservation gains wouldn't be achievable without support from the following groups, so we give them heartfelt thanks:

- The local business operators who support us with our annual Birdsong Levy and volunteer transport into the Park
- The visitors to the Park who always show an interest in what we do and contribute a small part of their ticket fare to our restoration work
- All our full and associate members
- Pic's Peanut Butter for our A24 lure
- All recent donors
- DOC and Project Janszoon for their excellent partnership support
- Abel Tasman Tree Collective
- Trees that Count.

The biggest thank you is reserved for our amazing volunteers – with their assistance we are removing pests, restoring ecosystems, and giving our native species a fighting chance!

*Whakarongo ki te tangi a te kākā*

*Whakarongo ki te tangi a te pāteke*

*Ka tangi hoki ahau*

*Tihei mauri ora!*

*No reira kia ora tatou katoa*