

Annual Review 2020



The Forest
Bridge Trust

'protect, enhance, connect'

[Contact details](#)

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Who we are

The Forest Bridge Trust (TFBT) is a farmer-initiated environment trust that supports outstanding land stewardship across the narrowest part of the tail of Maui's fish (the North Island) – from west to east as a bridge of green from the Kaipara to the Pacific Coast.

The Trust's mission is to support farmers and other land owners in the ongoing restoration of their native forests and wildlife, and to protect their rivers, streams and wetlands, all within a productive, profitable and sustainable farming landscape. This is done for the benefit of the wider Auckland and New Zealand communities.

Our Vision

A connected landscape with healthy forest and flourishing indigenous wildlife from the Kaipara Harbour to the Pacific Coast.

Our Values

Respect



Integrity

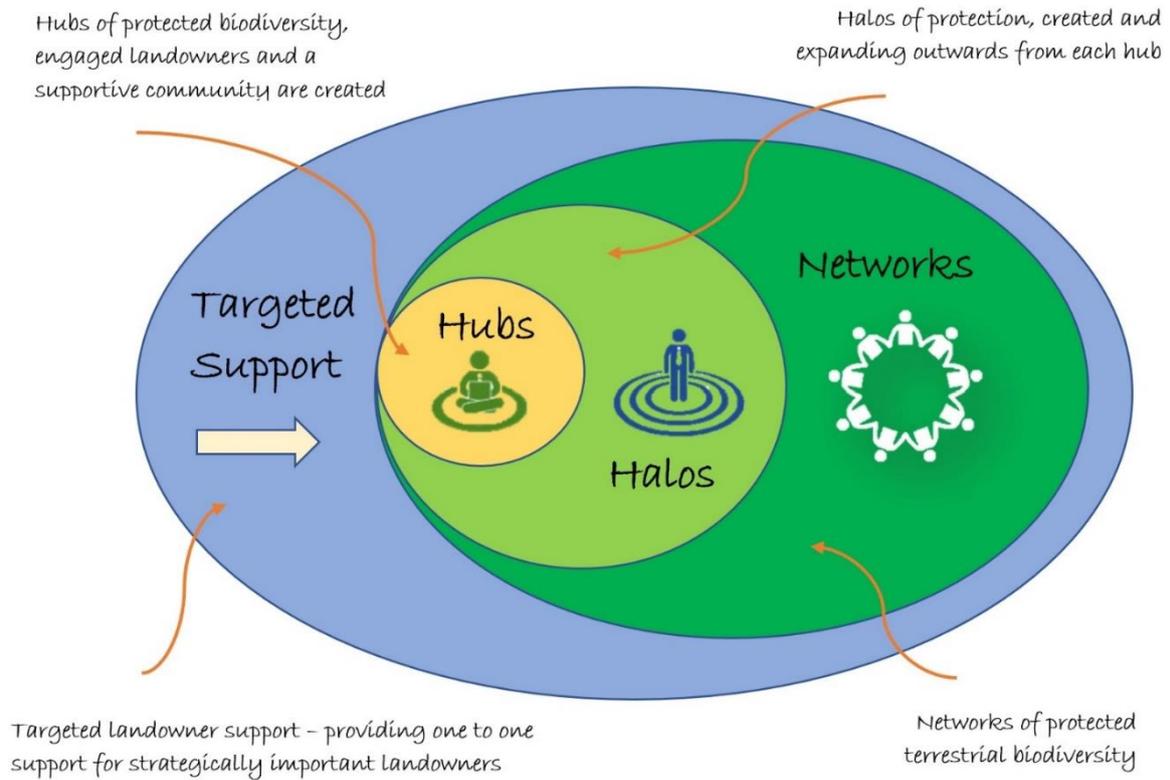


Empathy



How we Build The Bridge

We create and support interconnected networks of engagement and action that expand from clusters of landowner engagement and commitment to landscape-scale predator control and habitat creation.



2020 Summary

As for most organisations 2020 was a tumultuous year for the Trust. Covid-19 presented challenges, with lockdowns delaying much of our work. However Covid-19 also presented unexpected benefits such as new opportunities for funding and partnerships.

Despite the challenges we were able to still accomplish many of our goals. We also took the opportunity to review the way we operate both at a Trustee and Management level, to be able to expand the work programme for 2021.

Our special thanks must go to Chris Roberts and Shona Myers for their support in establishing the Trust. We wish them well as they retire as trustees.

The resilience of the trust in working through the challenges of 2020 has shown the benefit of a strategic approach and robust programmes and processes. It has also been an amazing testament to the great team of people who are committed to achieving our vision.

Thank you to all of you who gave your time or resources to protect, enhance or connect the forest and wildlife of the Forest Bridge. Together we are achieving great things.



Kevin Adshead
Chairperson



Tracy Tristram
Executive Director

ACHIEVEMENTS

BUILDING THE BRIDGE

- ✓ 3 schools engaged in trapping through the CatchIT schools programme
- ✓ 2 pest control workshops held for parents
- ✓ Support has been provided for the translocation of kiwi to Mount Tamahunga
- ✓ Implementation of phase 2 of the Eastern Connectivity Programme has begun with 3 workshops completed
- ✓ 6 existing hubs supported and halos of protection grown around one of these
- ✓ 2 new hubs supported
- ✓ One to one pest control support provided for 3 strategically important landowners
- ✓ 16.8 kilometres of fencing completed to protect riparian and bush areas from stock

GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

- ✓ The TFBT strategy was reviewed
- ✓ A strategy for how we engage with landowners and volunteers has been developed
- ✓ The organisational structure of the Trust has been reviewed and changes put in place
- ✓ One new trustee has been appointed
- ✓ A review of policies and procedures is underway
- ✓ Two newsletters have been completed
- ✓ The website has been upgraded
- ✓ A partnership with Kiwis for kiwi has been developed
- ✓ The CatchIT Schools programme has been reviewed with plans to make it more family focused in 2021
- ✓ One new long term funding platform has been secured
- ✓ TFBT representatives have attended local conferences and networking events
- ✓ A monitoring framework for the work of TFBT has been developed



THE FOREST
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Highlights 2020

180



new students
participated
in the Catch IT
programme

2



Pest Control
Parent
Workshops

8



Community workshops

support
continued
for

6 existing
hubs



5 new hubs
initiated

16.8kms
of fencing completed



556

Traps deployed

6,031

volunteer hours
donated



59ha

Protected
from
stock



3,163

Pests Caught

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Auckland Council
Auckland University
CUEhaven
Department of Conservation
Farmlands
Foundation North
Geographic Business Solutions
Gotcha Traps
Hunting & Fishing
Jobs for Nature
Kiwis for kiwi
Mataia Restoration Project
NZ Landcare Trust
NZ Lotteries Grants Board
Puanesia
Reconnecting Northland
Rodney Local Board
Sustainable Business Network – Million Meters stream project
Turners Hopkins Lawyers
Waikato University
Whitebait Connection
Wharehine Group
Withers and Co

.....and the wonderful schools, landowners and communities who have jumped on board.

LOOKING FORWARD

What we want to do in 2021

- 20% of the Central Bridge is included within predator controlled networks (10 800ha)
- 10% of key landowners are involved in the programme
- 13 kilometres riparian and bush margin protected from stock
- Support the translocation of kiwi to Tamahunga
- The TFBT team is grown with skilled people delivering the Hubs, Targeted Landowner Support and revised CatchIT Schools programmes