

**Forming a native, green corridor**  
**-> Linking the Moutere Inlet and Waimea Estuary <-**



# **Te Mamaku Drive Native Corridor Project**

consistent with the outcomes of the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Strategy

**Star Sponsors: RĀTĀ Foundation, Lottery Environment & Heritage,  
Restoring the Moutere /(TET), Nelson Building Society NBS,  
Pub Charity, NZMCA, Trees That Count, Landcare Trust-OneTree  
Rā Rākau Tītapu - King Charles III Coronation Plantings  
Sponsor and Supporters: TDC, Network Tasman,  
David Easton, Whenua Iti Outdoors**



**coastal Tasman** - experience our unique location

### What we want:

- \* restoring biodiversity and providing a native bird corridor between the estuaries
- \* beautifying the popular Dicker Ridge Track for walking & cycling
- \* defining the gateway to Motueka & the Abel Tasman National Park
- \* creating opportunities for community involvement to learn and take care of our local environment
- \* providing a medium for Nelson/Tasman businesses to offset their carbon footprint

### Who we are:

- \* dedicated locals caring for our environment
- \* organised under the umbrella of TACA (Tasman Area Community Association)

### Why we are doing it?

- \* the corridor is mainly surplus crown land, covered in gorse and wilding pines, 10km along SH60
- \* an eyesore at the gateway to Motueka and Abel Tasman National Park
- \* poor fauna and flora with no benefits for our environment and local folks

### What are we doing?

- \* clearing the land
- \* spraying the weed regrowth
- \* planting 200,000 native plants on 11 blocks of 22 hectares
- \* improving public access for walkers & bikers

### How are we doing it?

- \* working in stages
- \* getting expert advice
- \* using contractors and volunteers
- \* growing own seedlings
- \* monitoring growth success

### Who is paying the bill?

- \* funding organisations like RATA etc
- \* Tasman District Council
- \* companies, Nelson Building Society
- \* volunteer work
- \* donations

**\* YOU! Please!**



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# Te Mamaku Drive Native Corridor Project

**Tasman-South Island connecting Waimea Estuary and Moutere Inlet, with native planting along State Highway SH60 between Tasman Village and Mapua.**

The Te Mamaku Project is a project of a subcommittee of TACA (Tasman Area Community Association), one of whose main stated aims in its constitution is to improve the environment of Tasman.

There is a stretch of unused land of about 10km in length on the eastern side of State Highway 60 (SH60) between Tasman and Māpua. It is visibly overgrown with gorse, broom, wattles and wilding pine trees. It is our plan to convert this to a green corridor linking the estuaries with mainly native shrubs and trees. This would restore much needed biodiversity alongside the Coastal Highway, reduce the fire risk and provide a new habitat for birds & insects and a corridor for them to move between the estuaries and nearby wetlands.

Public access already exists for the whole length, starting in the north from Tasman village with the popular Dicker Ridge walkway leading into Stagecoach Road, which finally connects to Māpua. On the left and right hand side of this track is a jigsaw of private and public land. Public land consists of two legal roads, Dicker Road and Stagecoach Road owned by TDC and a number of crown land titles administered by Waka Kotahi NZTA. NZTA and TDC are supportive of the plan and have agreed that we can clear and plant out the land in native trees and shrubs.

We have drawn up a plan for the whole length of the corridor, with identified priority blocks to start with. We envisage this as a long term project to run over years, if not several decades!

**Block 0 has been planted in June 2022 with 1,800 plants, gratefully funded by TET and Restoring the Moutere. Block 9 is being undertaken as an initiative on private land, Block 10+11 is work in progress through private individuals, while work on Block 5 has also commenced.**

**Block 1 and Block 2 have been cleared in October 2022 literally merging the two Blocks into one. Thanks to our numerous sponsors planting of 12,000 trees has been done July/August 2023!.**

**Block 3 has been cleared ready for the 2024 planting season on 3.7 hectares in November 2023**

**Working bees with local volunteers have potted up nearly 2000 native seedlings, ready for planting in 2024 through the generosity of Whenua-Iti Outdoors. Volunteers have installed 14,000+ plant guards so far!**

**The Rā Rākau Titapu - King Charles III Coronation gift through Trees that Count is donating the planting of 7,000 plants: 1,224 on Block 2 in 2023 and 5,800 on Block 3 and Block 5 in 2024!**

**Contact us for Information about current sponsorship details.**

To personally donate, individuals and businesses can go to: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/te-mamaku-drive-ruby-bay-bypass-planting-project>

Michael Markert & David Short, Tasman, January 2024

Contact: [michamarkertnz@gmail.com](mailto:michamarkertnz@gmail.com) 022-389-2240

Tasman Area Community Association, [www.tasmancommunity.org.nz](http://www.tasmancommunity.org.nz)

## Summary of identified Blocks (North to south)

### Block 0 “The Ridge” **planting COMPLETED 2022!**

Owner TDC, legal road “Dicker Road”, ca 500 meters, 0.5 hect.

### Block 1 “Glen Mhor” **Planting 2023 COMPLETED!**

Owner TDC, legal road “Dicker Road” + Owner NZTA/Crown  
size: 1.5 hectares

### Block 2 **Planting 2023 COMPLETED!**

Owner TDC legal road “Dicker Road” + Owner NZTA/Crown  
size: 1.4 hectares

### Block 3 **2024 more Sponsors needed**

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + Owner NZTA/Crown  
size: 2.7 hectares

### Block 4 “The Organic Block”

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + Owner NZTA/Crown  
size: 1.3 hectares

### Block 5 **He Rā Rākau Titapu – King Charles III Coronation Plantings**

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach”, size: 0.4 hectares

### Block 6 partly private land **Sponsor to be found 2024/25**

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + part of private title  
size: 0.9 hectares

### Block 7 **will be merged with block8 probably**

Owner NZTA/Crown  
size: ca 3 hectares

### Block 8 private land, work in progress

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + parts of Block 7 + part of  
private title  
size: ca 6 hectares

### Block 9 “Alpaca” **all done by private owner**

Owner TDC legal road “Dicker Road” + part of private title  
size: ca 0.5 hectares

### Block 10 “Wild Totara” **work in progress by volunteers**

### Block 11 “Manuka Track”

Owner NZTA/TDC, end at underpass SH60  
size 3.5 hectares

Further south is the link to the existing Chaytor Walkway and Māpua Dominion Flat & Estuary.







Block 0 from this



to this, great growth results in 2022!



Blocks 1 & 2: from this to this



via contractors



potting our own seedlings



### Letters of recommendation and support:

“This is to confirm the department’s support for the Te Mamaku Drive Native Corridor Project. The project aims to revegetate a corridor of land between the Moutere and Waimea Inlets in Tasman. The aim of this is consistent with goals of a number of other community groups such as Battle for the Banded Rail and Kina Birdsong as well as broader goals of local government. It also helps to get one step closer to providing a more connected native landscape between more significant natural areas such as Kahurangi National Park and Richmond Ranges. It will take many groups such as this to achieve this.

This project has good exposure, being alongside a busy highway, and will profile a conservation project in action that will hopefully foster support for this project or others. The progress to date is very noticeable along the highway, showing the great capability and support this project has. We wish this project well.”

**Department of Conservation DOC,  
Chris Golding, 18.08.2023**

“.... Forest & Bird supports the project because it will deliver environmental and biodiversity benefits and because the project organisers are demonstrating their ability to achieve this project. Forest & Bird encourages your support of this project....”

**Scott Burnet, Forest & Bird  
22.12.2022**



“The Mamaku Project also links well with the Waimea Estuary plantings of 75,000 native plants and a massive trapping programme and also Kina Birdsong who both trap along the shoreline. This will result in a increase in sea and bush native birds requiring good habitat and food sources. ... This will create a wildlife corridor between the Moutere Inlet and the Waimea River estuary. .... It will also enable an enjoyable public walking and cycling route....I am happy to support this project”

**Annette Litherland, NZ Landcare Trust, 07.02.2022**

“Congratulations on the success of the planting in the first two blocks, the results so far have been very impressive. Waka Kotahi is pleased to continue to support the next phases of this project along the road reserve adjacent to State Highway 60.”

**NZTA, Phil Hamblin, 18.08.2023**

“..... For Ngāti Rārua, this is an area of cultural significance and we consider that the mahi carried out by the Tasman Area Community Association will assist in restoring the mana and mauri of this site. .... “

**Shane Graham, Pouwhakahaere Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua, 29.08.2023**

## Block o “The Ridge”

# Completed in 2022 !!

“Dicker Road” part of Dicker Ridge Track  
owned by TDC

**Planting had been done in June 2022!! A big thanks to TET/  
Restoring the Moutere for organising and funding, also to our  
volunteers helping with planting!**

Part of Dicker Ridge Track, starts at the small gate (north),  
very narrow strip. The steep bank of the Mamaku Drive is  
sprayed to the top of the track on the western side, no need  
to do anything.

Eastern side is a sheep fence of the neighbouring property.  
South end where Block 1 starts.

There is a bit of gorse growing, which can be sprayed on  
yearly maintenance of the track.

A number of oak trees are growing and can provide future  
shade on the track without interfering with the expansive  
views towards the Arthur Range and Nelson.

On the Eastern side is some room to plant low growing  
natives to cover the area to avoid future grow of grass and  
weeds

Total length: ca 500 hundred metres  
Width: from zero metres to 10 metres

Number of plants needed: 2000, dense planting  
Sort of plants: wind-prone grass, flax,  
Funding of plants: “Restoring the Moutere”  
Method of clearing: through yearly maintenance of track  
Funding of clearing: TDC, TACA  
Method of planting: Contractor  
Funding of planting: “Restoring the Moutere”  
Safety issues: none

Steward: TACA  
Permit: given by TDC

Notes: exposed to wind, dense planting needed

Costs: fully funded by “Restoring the Moutere” of TET,  
Fertiliser: David Easton, working bees.



## Block 1 “Glen Mhor”

**Completed July 2023!**

“Dicker Road” owned by TDC + Crown title --> **Rātā Foundation,**

### Restoring the Moutere

**Tree felling, clearing & mulching completed 10/2022 ! Planting July 2023**

There is dense gorse growing, some pine trees on the western side.

On the Eastern side of the Dicker Track on legal road there are many medium to tall sized pine trees with some gorse under-grow

Planting area: 14,900sqm+

Total length: ca 425 metres

Width: from 0 metres  
to ca 40 metres

Number of plants needed: 6000+

Sort of plants: shrubs 2-8m high

Funding of plants:

Method of clearing: **Pine tree felling  
on legal road  
Mulching  
10/2022 completed**

Funding of clearing: **RĀTĀ** and others

Method of planting: contractor

Funding of planting: **Restoring the  
Moutere 5,000 trees!**

Safety issues: trees to fell too big  
for DIY

Steward: Michael Markert (neighbour)

Permit: TDC, Crown yes

Notes: Contractor Aaron Baigent  
Riverstone Contracting

Budget: ca \$120,000

Timing: **October 2022 till July 2023**





## Block 2 Pub Charity, Lottery Environment & Heritage (LEH), NBS – Nelson Building Society, NZMCA , Trees That Count, Rā Rākau Tītapu - King Charles III Coronation Plantings

### Completed July/August 2023!

Owner TDC legal road “Dicker Road” + Owner NZTA/Crown

Site has been mostly cleared and mulched 10/2022 together with Block 1, re-spray 2022/2023 and planting July 2023.

Dicker Road turns into Stagecoach Road, the latter with access to SH60.

A platform is used for storage of roading material like gravel, culverts etc

There is dense gorse growing, some pine trees and wattels on the western side.

On the Eastern side of the Dicker Track on legal road there are some medium to tall sized pine trees with some gorse under-grow.

Planting Area:	14,000sqm+
Total length:	ca 320 metres
Width:	from 40 metres to 65 metres

Number of plants needed: 6000  
Sort of plants: shrubs 2-4m high  
Funding of plants: ??  
Method of clearing: **tree felling on legal road fell & mulching**  
**Clearing completed 10/2022**

Funding of clearing: Lottery Environment & Heritage, Rātā  
Method of planting: Contractor  
Funding of planting: NBS & Pub Charity, NZMCA, Trees That Count

Steward:

Permit: TDC, Crown: yes  
Budget: \$ 100 000



Te Mamaku Drive Native Corridor Project, version 20 Page 9

## Block 3

Owner TDC legal road "Stagecoach" + Owner NZTA/Crown

**More sponsors needed: Rātā Foundation,  
Lottery Environment & Heritage, NZMCA.**

## Planting 2024/25 season

There is dense gorse growing, many pine trees and wattles on the western side.

Trees had been felled and the land cleared and mulched November 2023, Fulton Hogan sponsored the traffic management.

Size: 3.7 hectares

**Lottery Environment & Heritage** & kick-started the clearing, more funders are needed!

Planting 2024: **5,800 trees by Rā Rākau Titapu - King Charles III Coronation fund**  
**+ 1,200 trees through Trees That Count.**

**Plants still needed: 9,000**  
**Cash funds needed: \$90,000**

At least 6,400 trees will be planted in the winter of 2023, more if not all will be planted as further funding allows.

Permit: TDC, Crown  
Budget: \$200,000



## Block 4 The Organic Block

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + Owner NZTA/Crown

There is dense bush of mature wattle trees. Currently it provides some good nesting opportunities for birds who lost their territory with the clearing the neighbouring blocks.

On the eastern side of the Dicker Ridge Track is a fence of the neighbouring property.

Size: 0.45 hectares  
Total length: 140 metres

Number of plants needed: ??

Sort of plants: ?

Funding of plants: ??

Method of clearing: Interseeding on  
gorse, partial  
clearing with  
contractors

Funding of clearing: xx?

Method of planting: working bees

Funding of planting: ?

Safety issues: trees too big for DIY

Steward: xx?

Permit: TDC, Crown

Budget: small-ish budget needed for  
some spot-clearing and some plants





## Block 5 Volunteers Block

no contractors needed!

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach”  
size: ca 0.4 hectares

Legal road only, Stagecoach Road.

Relatively clean section, some trees and  
gorse at southern end. The spraying of  
SH60 reaches Dicker Ridge track.

Total length: 200 metres  
Width: from 5 to 10 metres

Number of plants needed: 1,000

**Gorse west of the track had been  
mulched (10/2022) and sprayed in May  
2023.**

We have 1,000+ trees/Flax/Manuka at  
Whenua-Iti Outdoors nursery which are  
ready for planting in the winter of 2024.

Working bees needed to clear the site  
with cutting down dead gorse and  
broom.

Planting of Flax and Manuka can be  
done at this site without plant guards,  
also release spraying can be done with  
volunteers.

Steward:  
Permit: TDC

Notes: neighbour Keith G has planted  
between his fence at the track and his  
legal boundary ca 600 plants in 09/2022  
donated by Restoring the Moutere,  
about 1,000 more plants needed to  
cover the land towards the fence +  
ca 1000 plants on the west side of the  
track.



## Block 6

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + part of private title

**Track has been widened in 10/2022, funded by TACA.**

Legal road: Stagecoach Road plus part of private property.

The road runs partly through the neighbouring, privately owned land, west of the road is part of the title of that private land.

Size: 0.9 hectares  
Total length: ca 90 metres  
Width: from zero metres to ca 30 metres

Number of plants needed: 3500-5000

Sort of plants: ?

Funding of plants:

Method of clearing: interseeding or clearfelling

Funding of clearing: xx?

Method of planting: ?

Funding of planting: ?

Safety issues: partial TM needed

Steward: xx?

Permit: TDC

Notes: Neighbour is not really supportive of our project due concern about noise from SH60.

Budget: \$70,000



## Block 7

### This block is likely to be merged with Block 8

Owner NZTA/Crown

size: ca 3 hectares, ID and title same as Block 4, neighbouring Block 8

This block runs alongside Block 8 and beyond.

Total length: 1.8 km  
Width: from zero  
to ca 25 metres

Number of plants needed: ??

Sort of plants: ?

Funding of plants: ??

Method of clearing: ?

Funding of clearing: xx?

Method of planting: ?

Funding of planting: ?

Safety issues:

Steward: owner of neighbouring property?

Permit: Crown, yes

Notes: work to be done of this block should be included in Block 8

However the owner of Block 8 cleared their land without the crown title. As the result there are some tall, weak pines left which represent a health hazard for SH60.





## Block 8

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach” + part of private title + Block 7

## Private work in progress

Legal road, Stagecoach road plus part of private property.

The road runs partly through privately owned land, west of the road is part of the title of that private land.

All work to be done should include Block 7.

Size	ca 6 hectares
Total length:	1.3 km
Width:	from zero metres to ca 100 metres

Number of plants needed: ??

Sort of plants: ?

Funding of plants: ??

Method of clearing: clearing of the  
block started August 2021

Funding of clearing: xx?

Method of planting: ?

Funding of planting: ?

Safety issues:

Steward: owner subdivision?



Permit: TDC for legal road

Notes: it is understood that there is an upcoming application to subdivide this big title.

**Clearing has started and the owners might want to plant this with natives in the winter of 2024!?**

## Block 9 “Alpaca”

### Done, thank you!

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach Road” + part of private title  
size: ca 0.48 hectares

Legal road only, Stagecoach Road  
plus part of private property.

The road runs partly through  
privately owned land, west of the  
road is part of the title of that  
private land.

Total length: 92 metres  
Width: from zero metres  
to ca 30 metres

Number of plants needed: done  
Sort of plants:  
Funding of plants:  
Method of clearing: clearing of  
the block  
Funding of clearing:

Method of planting:  
Funding of planting:  
Safety issues:

Steward: Owner

Permit: TDC, Stagecoach Road

Notes: **picture perfect!**

The owner has already done what  
we are aiming for with the Te  
Mamaku Corridor Project

Clearing and planting was done by  
<http://www.revegetation.co.nz/>



## Block 10 “Wild Totara”

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach Road” + NZTA  
size: ca 1.3 hectares

Legal road Stagecoach Road plus NZTA.

The road is now maintained by TDC to the south. Below the road is road reserve and NZTA title. Overgrown with gorse, blackberries and pines. A small track is maintained by locals through the bush until the end to the water tanks and down the hill towards SH60.

Some wilding Totara has been detected under the dense pine trees.

Total length: ca 400 metres  
Width: from 20m metres  
to ca 80 metres

Number of plants needed: 3500

Sort of plants:

Funding of plants:

Method of clearing: a track is cut through the bush, some natives have been planted below the tanks.

Funding of clearing:

Method of planting:

Funding of planting:

Safety issues:

Steward: Mark Forward

Permit: TDC, NZTA

Notes: initiative by local person with some native bush and trees already planted.





## Block 11 “Manuka Track”

Owner TDC legal road “Stagecoach Rd”, NZTA  
size: ca 2.20 hectares

Mainly Road Reserve NZTA/TDC

A long, small strip along SH60, a small track has been maintained by local person

Total length: 1,200 metres  
Width: from 10m metres  
to ca 30 metres

Already planted: 1500

Number of plants needed: 4000

Sort of plants:

Funding of plants:

Method of clearing: spot spraying,  
interplanting

Funding of clearing:

Method of planting: by hand

Funding of planting:

Safety issues:

Steward: Mark Forward

Permit: NZTA

Notes: initiative by local person; some native bush and trees have been planted, quite a bit of them are Manuka.



# Continuation of the corridor via existing Chaytor Road Walkway, Māpua Dominion Flat Reserve & Higgs Reserve

## “Chaytor Road Walkway”

Private Owner, easement on title for the track.

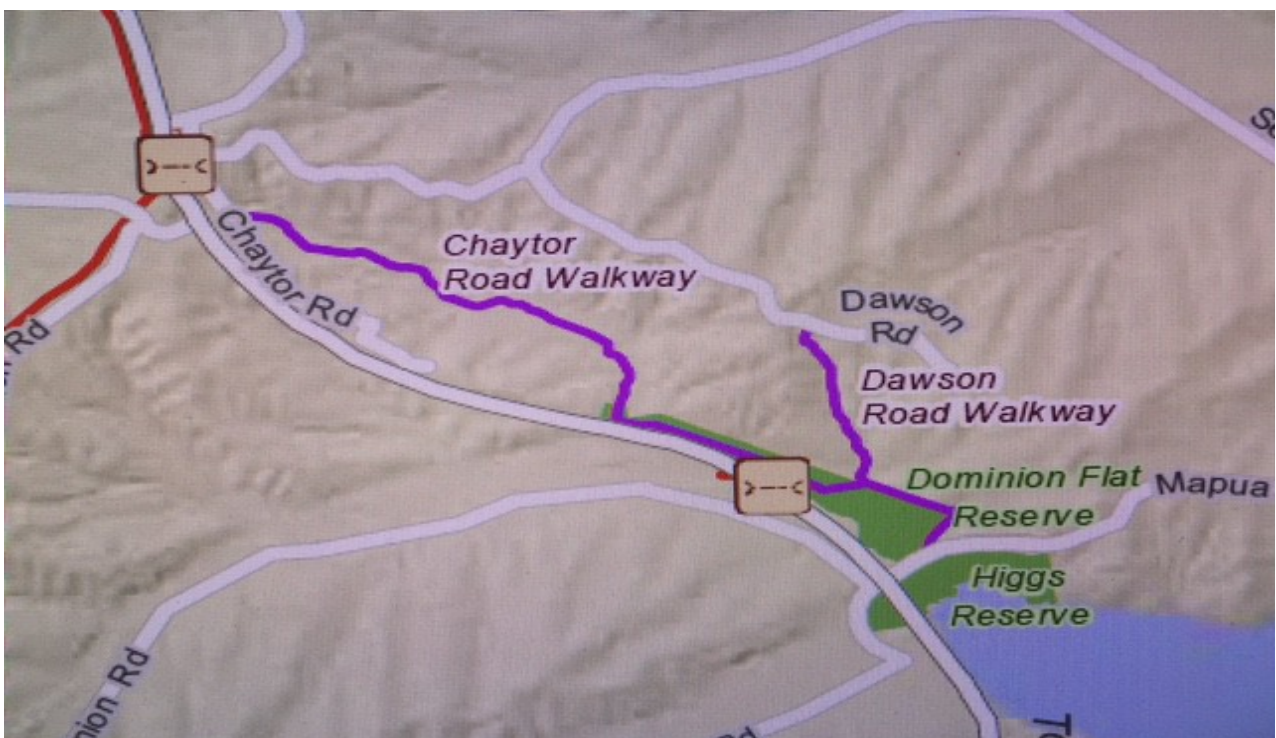
Mainly on Private Property

Successful restoration of native bush

TDC is actively promoting in their list of public walkways in the district this walking track , which was created and maintained by private property owner(s).

Total length: 1 km

Steward: McBride Family



# “Mapua Dominion Flat Reserve/Higgs Reserve”

The Māpua Community have transformed bare land to a thriving new native bush block in the last ten years, since 2012/2013.

Newly created walkways and bridges guide through various stages of replanting with the oldest planting dating back to 2014.

Information signage educates about the project and pictures show the the land prior to planting and the work being done.

Total length: ca 700 metres

Size: ca 5 hectares

Steward: Māpua Community

