



Makara Peak
Mountain Bike Park

Forest restoration

Goal

To facilitate significant progress towards the restoration of Makara Peak to a healthy native forest.

Aims

- Reduce and maintain possum numbers to a residual trap catch rate of less than 5%.
- Control the goat population to less than five goats in total in the park and maintain a 200m wide goat-free buffer zone around the park.
- Re-establish missing/threatened native canopy trees - rimu, rata, titoki, white maire, kohekohe, hinau, tawa, kahikatea, miro, pukatea, matai and totara.
- Encourage kereru (wood pigeon) and other native birds into the park to help distribute seeds by planting - tree fuschia, pigeonwood, cabbage tree, tree lucerne, ngaio, lemonwood, flax, kapuka and kowhai.
- Remove pest plants and plant out the riparian zone alongside Karori Stream within the park.
- Plant out high fire-risk areas with fire-resistant native species (eg: flax and ngaio).
- Control the spread of key weed species such as old mans beard, wandering willy, African club moss, buddleia, German ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, pampas and pine trees.
- Reduce mustelid numbers across the whole park.
- Eliminate feral stock and pigs from the park.
- Gain a better understanding of the restoration process on Makara Peak.
- Improve the legal protection of land in the park

Note: The Makara Peak Supporters have a philosophy of planting one tree for every metre of track through regenerating native bush.

Key Strategies and Actions

- Supporters fill possum bait stations throughout the park in February, July, August, September and December.
- Support neighbours efforts to control possums and goats on their land.
- Encourage the hunting of goats in the Park by WCC contractors. Supporters offer a bounty for goat control on neighbouring land in buffer zone.
- Plant 1000-1500 native trees in the park each winter (see planting list) with increased emphasis on missing species. .
- Release seedlings in November/December.
- Have WCC engage a weed control contractor to eliminate old mans beard and control other key weed species. Small control measures to be undertaken by Supporters.
- Maintain mustelid trap lines across the park providing habitat for native birds.
- Have WCC engage as required hunters to eliminate pigs and feral stock from the park.

- Monitor and record the results of pest control and planting efforts. (WRC to monitor possum numbers every 2 to 3 years)
- Work with the WCC to secure legal protection (with Reserve status) for all land in the Park.
- Work with Greater Wellington to establish a Stream Care group for South Karori Stream.
- Ensure WCC keeps fencelines intact and cleared for fire mitigation.
- Establish green break areas clear of gorse 10-20m from roads on NW boundary.