



**Forest & Bird**

TE REO O TE TAIAO | *Giving Nature a Voice*

**MANAWATŪ BRANCH**

**MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER**

## **F&B MAY 2018 MONTHLY MEETING**

**TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018 @ 7.30 p.m.**

Palmerston North City Library, George Street entrance

**Talk: "The little things in our wetlands:  
a forgotten fauna in a forgotten habitat"**



**Speaker: Professor Russell Death, Freshwater Ecology, Massey University**

This is the second talk in the series about Wetlands. Russell will be talking about the invertebrates and other forgotten fauna that make the Wetlands their home.

They are an important component in wetland ecosystems, contributing to biodiversity, and food web functioning. They convert plant and detrital material to protein, providing food for predatory invertebrates, fish, and birds.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

## FOREST AND BIRD 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM

**Date: Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Sun 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2108**

**Where: Te Papa, Wellington**

- The conference's keynote speaker is the Minister of Conservation Hon Eugenie Sage.
  - It will include an expert panel discussing marine protection, and leaders speaking about the future direction of conservation in New Zealand.
  - Sarah Thompson, who took the New Zealand government to court over their inaction to protect New Zealanders from the effects of Climate Change, is our Sanderson Speaker.
  - [Please click here to register for the AGM.](#)
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### Reel Earth 2018 Short Film Competition - F&B Manawatū's Youth Award



Sam and Sarah Ridsdale, Marie Potthoff (F&B Manawatū Youth Group), Daniel Collins (chair of PNCET)

Reel Earth 2018 film festival opened on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May with the Awards for the Short Film Competition. Sam & Sarah Ridsdale won the Forest and Bird Manawatū 2018 Youth Award for their film 'Jimmy's Garden'.

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## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

**Royal Society's talk:** ['Ornamental to Detrimental'](#)

**Date:** Tues 9 May @ 7:30pm

**Where:** PNCC Library, George Street entrance

**Speaker:** Prof. Philip Hulme, Bio-Protection Research Centre,

The Royal Society presents Prof. Philip Hulme from the Bio-Protection Research Centre, talking about the history of plant invasions in New Zealand, underlying causes and potential future trends. Although new imports are screened at the border for signs of invasive behaviour, New Zealand faces a threat from the 30,000 or so varieties already grown here. What are the tools available to control these current and future threats?

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### The impact of [Kiteboarding and shorebirds](#) at Foxton beach



Figure 1. Map of the Manawatu Estuary showing main reference points used during monitoring.

Dr. Phil Battley of the Wildlife and Ecology Group, Massey University, has just published a paper on the impact of the 2015 national kite boarding championship on shorebird behaviour at the Manawatu Estuary. The monitoring showed that impacts on wildlife from kite boarding are certainly possible, and risks are likely to be site-specific. Check out the paper [here](#).

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## **Pukaha Mt Bruce Wildlife Centre is making progress in the fight against predators.**



Photo: supplied

After modifying, adapting and then doing it again and again, Pukaha Mt Bruce Wildlife Centre is making progress in the fight against predators.

Predator control is a war, and the people on the front line think we can win it.

Those involved with conservation of the kiwi and other endangered species, believe we are making progress in the fight.

After losing 14 kiwi to predation in three years from 2014 to 2016, [Pukaha Mt Bruce Wildlife Centre](https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/103043229/predator-free-nz-the-people-protecting-kiwi-on-the-frontline-of-the-war) didn't lose a single one in 2017 and managed to trap 40 ferrets, 55 stoats and 516 rats. Pukaha conservation manager Todd Jenkinson said that was thanks to the adaptation of new technologies and the diligence of the people who eliminated predators before they had a chance to even smell a kiwi.

To read the full article go to:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/103043229/predator-free-nz-the-people-protecting-kiwi-on-the-frontline-of-the-war>

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## **DoC News: World-leading eradication on Antipodes Island**



Image: WWF-New Zealand and Island Conservation

[Million Dollar Mouse](#) was one of the most complex island eradication projects ever undertaken, and now we know it was successful. Recent monitoring on Antipodes Island has confirmed that native birds and insects can thrive, free from predation and competition from mice and other mammals.

DOC eradicated mice from the subantarctic island with support from our partners the Morgan Foundation, WWF-New Zealand, Island Conservation and the New Zealand public.

## ENVIRONMENTAL/CONSERVATION DATES

### MAY 2018

World Migratory Bird Day – Thursday, 10 May 2018

International Day for Biological Diversity – Tuesday, 22 May 2018

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## F&B MANAWATŪ JUNE 2018 MONTHLY TALK

**Tuesday 12th June, 2018 @ 7.30 p.m.**

Palmerston North City Library,  
George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

**TALK:** "Wetlands birds of New Zealand"



Photo supplied

**Speaker:** Dr Phil Battley, Associate Professor in Zoology,  
Wildlife & Ecology Group, Massey University

Wetlands are host to a suite of distinctive and charismatic bird species in New Zealand, but ones that are often hard to find, and sometimes harder yet to see. In this talk we will explore the diversity and biology of wetland birds in the Manawatu and across New Zealand.

That's all for now – hope to see you at one of our Monthly Meetings

*Anthea*

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