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## APRIL 2021

To F&B Manawātū Members –

Our AGM on Tuesday will start promptly at 7.15p.m. On entry to the Library there is a sign-in sheet and I should be grateful if you would sign-in. Also, to be environmentally friendly, we will not be printing the AGM documents, if you wish your own personal copy, please bring it with you. The AGM documents will be on the notice board in the meeting room. Looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday - Anthea

**F&B Manawatu Branch Annual General Meeting**  
**Tuesday 13th April 2021 @ 7:15 p.m. (Please note earlier time)**

**following immediately after with**  
**April 2021 Monthly talk**  
Palmerston North City Library,  
George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

**Talk:** New Zealand's native freshwater flora: Living the life aquatic

**Speaker:** Paul Champion, NIWA, Principal Scientist - Freshwater Ecology



Compared with our forests and alpine areas, our native freshwater flora is little known. The aquatic environment is fundamentally very different to growing on land and poses major challenges to the plants that grow in this habitat. Paul will discuss the different strategies that plants have evolved to survive in water. He will give an overview of the range of native freshwater plants of New Zealand, highlighting some nationally threatened species. Globally freshwaters are the most threatened ecosystems, with approximately 30% of our aquatic plants being nationally threatened or at risk of extinction. He will look at the threats affecting these uniquely adapted plants and some potential ways to conserve them.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated  
If you would like to stay in touch, please sign up to our  
Mailing list on our website: [www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz](http://www.naturesvoicemanawatu.org.nz)

For more information about Forest & Bird go to:  
[www.forestandbird.org.nz](http://www.forestandbird.org.nz)

## **F&B Manawatū April 2021 Monthly Trip**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2021**

**Aquatic weeds at Mangaone Stream**



We will go for a walk along Mangaone Stream in Palmerston North. We will be guided by Kelsi from Horizons, who will introduce us to the different kinds of aquatic pest plants growing here.

**Depart:** 9.00 a.m. (Sharp) at the meeting point

**Leader:** Jorinna Prinz & Kelsi Hoggard

**Meet:** Meeting point - To be confirmed

**Fitness Level:** Easy grade track

**What to bring:** Please bring snacks, Lunch, water, raincoat and stout and walking poles if you usually use them.

Going down the bank is optional. Bring gum boots if you wish.

For more info & Register:

**Contact:** Jorinna Prinz

**Email:** [Manawatu.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz](mailto:Manawatu.Branch@forestandbird.org.nz)

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## **FOREST AND BIRD 2021 NATIONAL AGM/CONFERENCE**

### **2021 Council Meeting, AGM & Conference**

These have been scheduled for the **weekend of 26-27 June**. The Board has decided to again hold the Council meeting and **AGM online** (as we did last year) and work is currently under way to also bring the conference online.

This has the important benefit of removing our Covid-19 risk, but it will also allow more of you to participate in the event while reducing carbon emissions. It's also a great chance for us to try something new.

We'll be sharing more details about the programme, as well as information on how to register

soon. For now, don't forget to save the date!

## WORKING BEES

Click on the link to find out more information about April Working Parties. Environmental Network Manawatū has a calendar of events for the Month: <https://enm.org.nz/event>

## CONSULTATIONS

### Have Your Say

#### Long-Term Plans

##### *City, district and regional councils*

Long Term Plan consultations are now starting in our city, district and regional councils. Environmental Network Manawatū will be submitting to some of these plans on behalf of the network. We are also helping to host public meetings on these Plans. Please [email Madz](#) if you are interested in being involved in this process.

#### Palmerston North City - 2021-2031

**Opens 14 April, closes 14 May.**

PNCC is also inviting the **environment sector** to a [consultation meeting on 28 April](#) to discuss this Plan.

#### Horizons Region 2021-2031

**Closes 23 April**

The Horizons Region extends from Ruapehu to Horowhenua, Whanganui to Tararua. Horizons Regional Council's responsibilities include managing natural resources, land transport planning, passenger transport services, and natural disaster response.

#### Horowhenua District 2021-31

**Closes 19 April**

The Horowhenua District extends from the Tararua Ranges to the Tasman Sea.

#### Nature Calls - Palmy's Wastewater Future

**Opens 6 April**

What will we do with our wastewater for the next 35 years or more? After the first round of public consultation in 2020, PNCC will bring selected options to the public for consideration in a second round of public consultation.

ENM has been extensively involved in this consultation process from the beginning, and is helping to host a community [Wastewater Forum](#) on Wednesday 14 April.

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## Esplanade Day

**New date Sunday 18 April**

Because of the COVID-19 Alert, [Explore Esplanade Day](#) was postponed in March. The new date is Sunday 18 April,



### **Sorting Stream Litter Apr 27-30**

Te Manawa - times to be confirmed. Join Palmy's Plastic Pollution Challenge to help sort, categorise and measure the litter that's been found in stream sampling sites this autumn. Learn about urban litter in our waterways, and the process of collecting and recording scientific data.

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### **May 2021 Monthly talk Tuesday 11th May 2021 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Palmerston North City Library,  
George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

#### **Talk: What NZ sea lion whiskers tell us about by-catch**

**Speaker:** Prof Louise Chilvers, Wildlife Ecology, School of Veterinary Science



New Zealand sea lion (*Phocarctos hookeri*) female face close up underwater.

Sandy Bay colony, Enderby Island, Auckland Islands

Dr Louise Chilvers will talk about her research on the whiskers of sea lions which confirms that the endangered species is at risk from changing environmental conditions, including climate change. The research also points out yet again that the fishing industry remains a significant threat to NZ sea lions.

She collected whiskers from 35 adult female sea lions on the Auckland Islands and used stable isotope analysis to uncover their lifelong diet. Using whiskers was "faster, less invasive and more cost-effective method" of observing diet

than other methods, Dr. Chilvers reported.

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