



Our Vision:

The forests and beaches of Abel Tasman are once again filled with the birdsong that awakens and delights visitors.

*Kia whakaoho te mauri o te Ata-hapara.
Kia rongu, Kia Kite, Ki te reo koro tui o Te Tai tapu*

Kia ora everyone,

We've certainly seen an increase in the number of visitors to our region this summer and businesses have been buzzing!

Education and Advocacy

Education Kits in Huts

We've started supporting DOC and Project Janszoon in the education space and recently installed some targeted Education Kits into the huts in the Abel Tasman.

These kits are accessible for school groups staying at the main huts and have been designed to extend both learning and conservation appreciation at these sites.



Brooke (PJ) and Sally (DOC) putting the finishing touches on one of the storage boxes. (Photo credit – A McCall)

Some of the fun activities and games include:

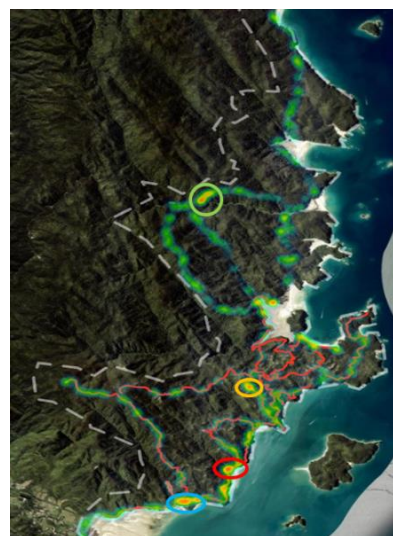
- Stoats and Rivers - a version of Snakes and Ladders
- Plant and Fungi bingo
- Spotlight
- A scavenger hunt
- Microscopes to look at the finer details of objects
- Footprint tracking tunnels to set up overnight to see what comes out when the sun goes down
- Marine Meter Squared equipment to look at the critters that are present in the coastal environment.
- Information about the pou and local history of each site

Predator Control

Trapping

Volunteers have been busy trapping with a total of 571 mustelids and 13,222 rats removed since October 2010.

We store our data in TrapNZ and detailed reports and maps can be generated from this system. We utilise both wooden box traps targeting stoats and A24 traps targeting rats.



A heatmap showing kill locations. The circled areas are hotspots (Image credit – A Sheat)



Our latest [Predator Control Report](#) is an interesting read. Data and these heatmaps highlight predator hotspots in the Abel Tasman and reinforce knowledge that rats have habitat preferences. Data like this will help us optimise our trapping network in the future.

We give a huge thanks to those who have transported volunteers into the park over the last few months. There are a lot of passengers to move at times! This includes [Aquataxi](#), [Sea Shuttle](#), [Wilsons](#), and DOC.

Biodiversity News

Forest Birds

We're still getting some great forest bird sightings along the coast. South Island Robin / Toutouwai are showing up in more and more places so our predator control is having a positive impact!



A healthy South Island Robin / Toutouwai (Photo credit: B Kitson)

Restoration

Our Planting Project

We have had another planting maintenance day and our trees are looking fantastic. The growth from previous years is becoming really visible as you walk this part of the coastal track.



It won't be long before the trees can out compete the bracken (Photo credit - A McCall)

Thanks to [Trees that Count](#) for funding the native trees for this project. The trees we plant are all grown from eco-sourced seed which is very important for the Abel Tasman ecosystem.

Tinline Nature Walk

Recently we were joined by DOC staff and local iwi representatives to assess the wonderful Tinline Nature Walk. Our goal is to enhance this walk so that it becomes an educational feature for families, school children and day visitors to the park.



The ATBT team who are focussed on improving the Tinline Nature Walk. (Photo credit - R Cudby)



The Tinline Nature Walk is only 30 min along the coastal track from Marahau and has been described as probably the best remaining example of lowland valley forest in the park with the well-developed structure in distinct layers: beech canopy, emergent podocarps, an understorey, scrub species and ground species, all interlinked by climbing and epiphytic plants (Ref. Philip Simpson).

We're excited about this project and how it fits in with our other restoration work in this area of the Abel Tasman. Bringing birdsong back!

Pine Busters

In 2011 we started a large pine control programme in the Abel Tasman. There still are dead spars visible on the skyline from this early control. The focus has moved from the coning trees to the seedlings (which are plentiful!) and we now have a dedicated group of volunteers tackling the problem in the more accessible Stillwell area. We are undertaking this work with the support of DOC who have taken over the wider programme.



Some great views from the site. *(Photo credit - J Preston)*

Our Trust Board

We recently said farewell to long-standing Trustee and previous Chair Kim McGlashen. The Trust is continuously evolving and Kim has been an integral part of the journey.

Our Trustees are all quietly working in the background ensuring everything runs smoothly for

the Trust and its volunteers. There have been a few changes recently and you can review our [current Trustees](#) on our website.



Current Chair Alistair Sheat (pictured standing) was one of those thanking Kim for his valuable input. *(Photo credit -A McCall)*

Our Volunteers

Volunteers are the backbone of all we do. This smile says it all!



Fran and her trap checking gear *(Photo credit -N Pavey)*



Donate to make a difference

Please go to the [‘Give-a-Little’](#) website, search ‘Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust’ and follow the instructions. Pass this on to friends you think might like to donate to our cause! Every contribution assists us greatly.

Acknowledgments

Our positive conservation gains wouldn’t be achievable without support from the following groups, so we give them heartfelt thanks:

- The local business operators who support us with our annual Birdsong Levy and volunteer transport into the Park
- The visitors to the Park who always show an interest in what we do and contribute a small part of their ticket fare to our restoration work
- All our full and associate members
- Pic’s Peanut Butter for our A24 lure
- All recent donors
- DOC and Project Janszoon for their excellent partnership support
- Abel Tasman Tree Collective
- Trees that Count.

The biggest thank you is reserved for our amazing volunteers – with their assistance we are removing pests, restoring ecosystems, and giving our native species a fighting chance!

Whakarongo ki te tangi a te kākā

Whakarongo ki te tangi a te pāteke

Ka tangi hoki ahau

Tihei mauri ora!

No reira kia ora tatou katoa