AUCKLAND ZOO

URBAN ARK MANAWA TAIAO

A COMMUNITY-LED LANDSCAPE-SCALE INITIATIVE

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Wildlife Conservation Science at work

We're on a mission to bring people together to enable the survival of our wild world.

Urban Ark Manawa Taiao

- How Urban Ark Manawa Taiao came about
- The Zoo's role in supporting the work
- How local buy-in and expertise is key



Backyard trapping groups -Kiwibank funding & Predator Free New Zealand Trust support

Local Board or Council funding / support

- Predator Free Morningside Western Springs
- Predator Free Westmere
- Predator Free Ponsonby
- Predator Free Grey Lynn
- Predator Free Point Chevalier

- Pest Free Ōwairaka
- Kingsland Econeighbourhood
- Lemington Reserve Planting and Pest Control

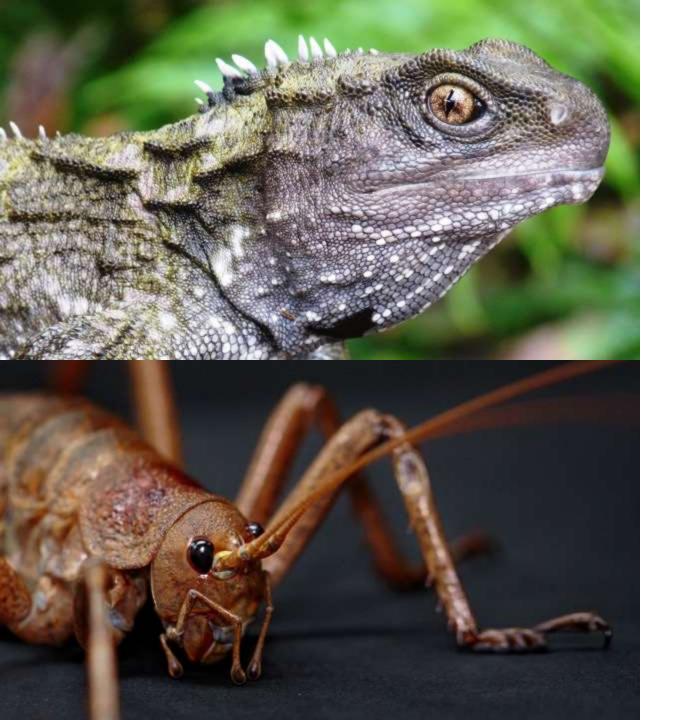
Well established with ongoing funding and legal status

- Friends of Maungawhau
- Friends of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga
- Friends of Oakley Creek Loop Group
- St Lukes Environmental Protection Society
- Forest and Bird
- Auckland Zoo (pest control and restoration on site)



The issues

- Lack of visibility of groups' work & general public engagement
- Volunteer burnout too much taken on by too few
- Lack of consistent approach across the projects – can we make a difference on a landscape-scale by collaborating?



The issues

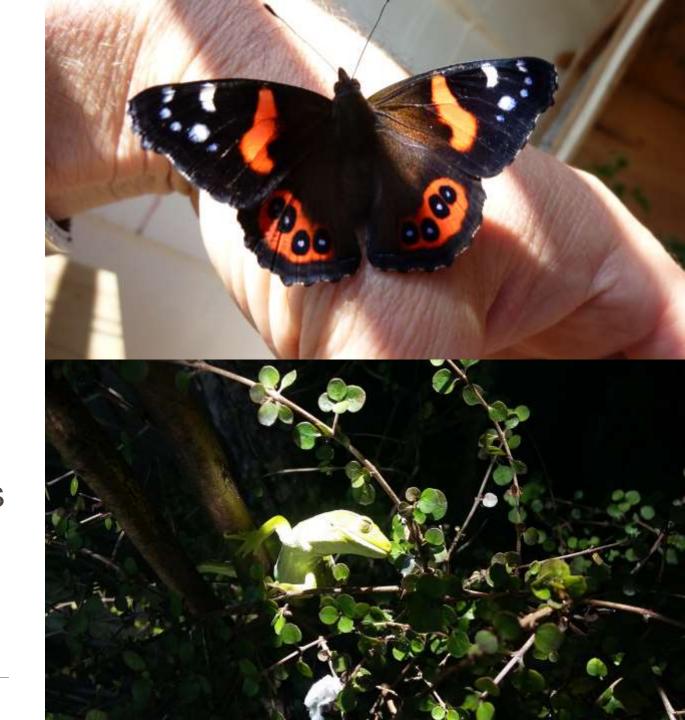
- Lack of strategic approach
- Lack of sustained motivation of general public, especially in backyard trapping, once the hiss and roar of the initial launch has passed
- Ongoing funding and support, and keeping up to date with how to obtain these
- Navigating Council processes

A solution was needed to bring people together

Some common challenges were evident across all projects, so coming together and employing a coordinator was a significant step to assisting with these

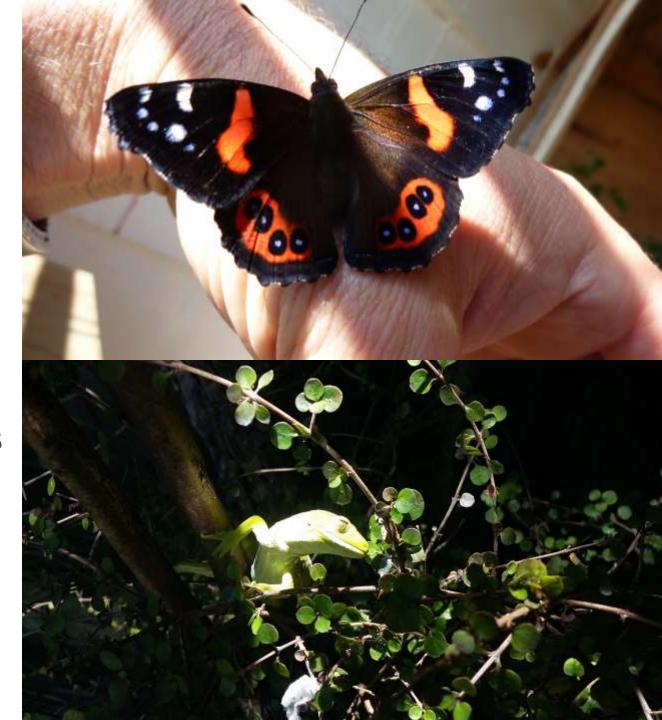
Finding solutions by coming together

- Identify the gaps between the areas where work is being done
- Catalyse and facilitate new groups to fill those gaps
- Apply for funding e.g. for contractors to carry out work as necessary to close the gaps
- Share best practice information
- Improve biodiversity monitoring



Finding solutions by coming together

- Enhance communication
- Improve data management
- Networking opportunities: exchange of knowledge, technical support and resources
- Use the zoo as a nexus for education and engagement
- Channel community support / volunteers to existing groups





UAMT

UAMT Steering Group

Mandate, specifically in start-up phase

- Defines legal structure, purpose and vision
- Develops action plan for Year 1, including basic infrastructure for existing and future community groups
- Establishes / strengthens network with external parties
- Submits any grant or sponsoring request to secure funding into the future
- Guides and supervises community coordinator

UAMT Community Groups

Ideally one rep for each community group in our area

- Supports SG as critical friend and sounding board
- Meets regularly (6x pa?) for knowledge exchange

UAMT Community Coordinator

As per job description; supports SG and community groups

Zoo support

- Liaising with Council / contractors
- Venue provision
- Materials and support for events and restoration activities
- Map to show the areas where groups are working
- Ad hoc advice / information / support / connections









Outreach Conservation Education





WATER QUALITY

PEST MONITORING

MOTH PLANT





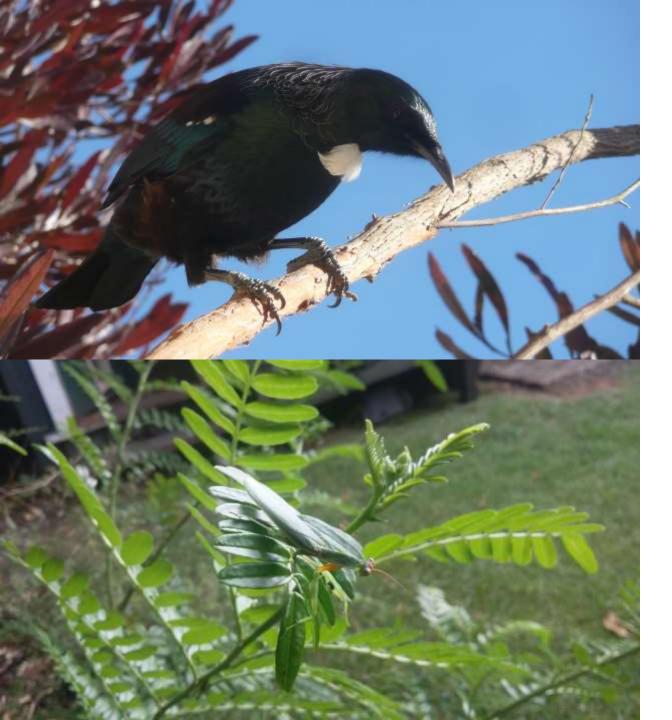


"To inspire all our communities to care and take action"



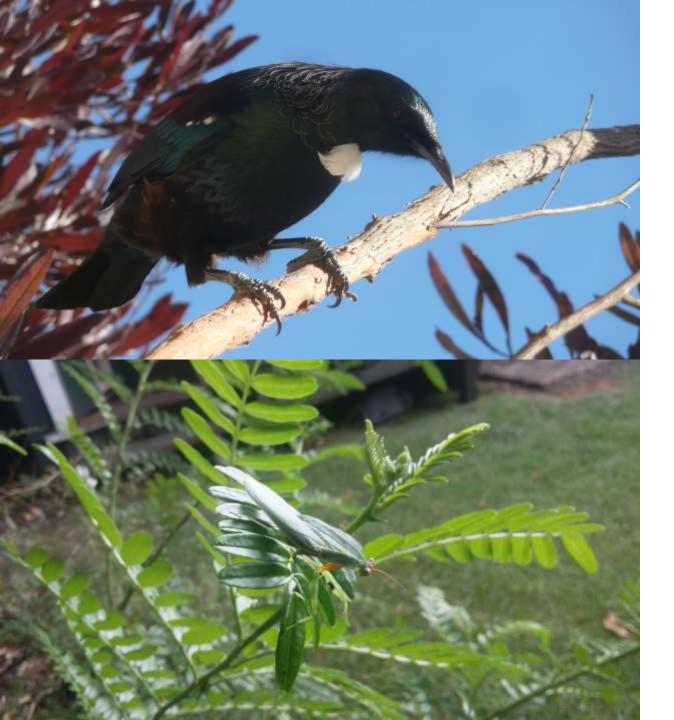
Volunteers with diverse skill-sets and connections, and a shared passion for conservation

- Media / communications
- Environmental planning
- Project management
- Pest management
- Human resources
- Sustainability
- Commerce
- Education
- Ecology
- Design
- Law



Expanding our reach

- Build relationships with property owners, e.g. Kiwirail, Auckland motorways, Foodstuffs, Housing NZ, Watercare
- Continually make link between backyards, green spaces and Council
- Campaign for improved planting on public land



Expanding our reach

- Increase public engagement
- Work with suburban business associations
- Develop relationships with local schools
- Help establish new groups
- Run training sessions

Future actions

- Monthly Steering Group meetings
- Finalise UAMT strategic direction and operational plan
- Establish UAMT as a legal entity
- Apply for further funding
- Develop communications plan
- Finalise logo, Facebook page, collateral and develop website



Future actions

- Liaison with partners / stakeholders, e.g. to start filling gaps between projects
- UAMT Networking event / hui
- Presence at Grey Lynn Festival
- Events to provide opportunities for wider community to connect with nature



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Thank you!



