

Mayoral Conservation Awards

2018 Nomination pack





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Introduction

Mā ngā huruhuru ka rere te manu – it is the feathers that enable the bird to fly...

The Mayoral Conservation Awards recognise excellence and encourage quality, collaboration and innovation in community-led conservation.

The Awards are a chance to celebrate success and take pride in the great conservation work mana whenua, communities, schools and landowners are achieving across the Auckland region.

Nominations are open to all conservation projects led by mana whenua, communities, schools and landowners in the Auckland region which occur on private land or public parks and reserves.

To recognise and celebrate this commitment, you can nominate a project in the 2018 Mayoral Conservation Awards. This year's awards ceremony will take place during Conservation week on Thursday 20th September.



1 Pest Free Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau, the betrothed with many suitors, has always been rich in natural resources from the land and sea due to the rich volcanic soils and easy access between the east and west coasts.

Auckland's natural environment is in decline; it's being invaded by weeds, pests and pathogens.

The Auckland region makes up only 2 percent of New Zealand's total land mass but contributes significantly to New Zealand's biodiversity with an array of ecosystems such as coastal and lowland forest remnants, wetlands, extensive estuarine and mangrove communities, volcanic cones and offshore islands.

The extent of loss of wetlands, dune lands, coastal and lava forests; the extent of destruction of lowland ecosystems; the disproportionate numbers of threatened species in the region and the ongoing threats to lowland ecosystems are all known issues adversely affecting Auckland's biodiversity.

Only 27 per cent of the original indigenous land cover now remains in the Auckland region, with several ecosystem types (mainland lava forest, wetlands, coastal broadleaf forest and kauri forest), and several Ecological Districts (e.g. Tāmaki, Te Āwhitu and Manukau) severely depleted.

Mana whenua, communities, landowners and Auckland Council recognise that reversing this loss and restoring biodiversity in the region is a problem greater than any one landowner or agency can address on their own – everyone must play their part.

Auckland Council has developed the Pest Free Auckland programme as a community-centric approach to simultaneously eradicate pests (plants, animals and pathogens) and restore native ecosystems and species in parks and on private land. Achieving a region free of pests is too big a task for any one person, group, community or agency; partnership is the key to success.

Auckland is enjoying a ground-swell of community-led conservation initiatives and these awards are intended to recognise and celebrate this work. Partnerships established with mana whenua, community groups, landowners, schools, the private and philanthropic sectors, Predator Free New Zealand Trust, Department of Conservation, Predator Free 2050 Ltd and others is already showing positive outcomes for our natural environment.

2 Categories

There are six categories to enter a project:

- eradication
- restoration
- innovation
- collaboration
- individual
- schools



3 Judging criteria

Applicants should consider how their project aligns with the chosen category description and how the project or initiative meets the judging criteria.

The Nomination Form sets out the criteria as general questions to guide your responses.

We welcome photos and/or videos being included to support your nomination.



Award categories	Overall criteria	Judging criteria
<i>Eradication</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category recognises work to control invasive plant, animal or pathogens to low or zero density or to contain their spread to other sites in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The winner of the Eradication award will demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consistent application of best practice principles ○ evidence methodologies are fit for purpose ○ the impact the project has made.
<i>Restoration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category recognises work to restore, connect or create ecosystems or manage native species to increase their populations and/or distribution in the region. 	<p>The winner of the Restoration award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ inclusion of kaitiakitanga or environmental stewardship principles ○ the impact the project has made ○ evidence of thorough planning and research into appropriate species for the site / wider area ○ evidence of carbon emissions reduction, sequestration¹ benefits or similar to show broader environmental benefits.
<i>Innovation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category recognises projects that have used creativity and initiative, or developed or refined techniques, methodologies or systems that meet or exceed best practice, to achieve positive results in their restoration or eradication work 	<p>The winner of the Innovation award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ evidence of learning and adapting as they test new technology and methodologies ○ application of best practice principles ○ the impact the innovation has made or has the potential to make.

¹ Carbon sequestration refers to carbon capture through planting initiatives

Award categories	Overall criteria	Judging criteria
<i>Collaboration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category recognises a project that has actively involved or mentored others in their neighbourhood, landscape or network to achieve wider-scale outcomes 	<p>The winner of the Collaboration award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ integration of projects and shared outcomes ○ sharing of resources, knowledge and capacity ○ a culture of openness and partnership with others.
<i>Schools</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category recognises schools (including kura kaupapa and early childhood facilities) who use an authentic learning approach to enable and empower students to take conservation action in their community 	<p>The winner of the Schools award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ evidence of student engagement ○ an effective project with measured outcomes ○ inclusion of the wider community.
<i>Individual</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category recognises outstanding leadership and achievement by an individual to achieve positive conservation outcomes in the Auckland region 	<p>The winner of the Individual award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ vision and foresight to advance conservation ○ leadership that inspires conservation action by communities or individuals in the Auckland region ○ evidence of conservation outcomes.

4 Judging Panel

A panel of five experienced people has been established to judge the entries. Judges are:

- Penny Hulse (Chair, Environment and Community Committee)
- Alf Filipaina (Deputy Chair, Environment and Community Committee)
- Glenn Wilcox (Deputy Chair, Independent Maori Statutory Board)
- Angela Fulljames (Chair, Franklin Local Board)
- Danielle Grant (Deputy Chair, Kaipātiki Local Board)



5 Judging process

The judging panel will:

- assess each nomination against the criteria of the selected category,
- decide on three finalists and a winner for each category.

The judging panel reserves the right to:

- decline giving an award in any category if they believe there are no exceptional entries in a given year,
- change or move a nomination to an alternate category.

The decision of the judging panel is final.



6 Nomination Rules

To enter:

- please fill in the nomination form attached as Appendix 1
- provide 3 to 6 high resolution photos of one or more aspects of the project.

Rules of entry:

- nominations are open to all community-led conservation projects in the Auckland region which occur on private land, or in public parks and reserves managed by Auckland Council or the Department of Conservation in any of Auckland's environments;
- a new aspect of the project must have taken place since 1 January 2017;
- your nomination can be for the project as a whole or for separate aspects of your project;
- you can nominate the project for any of the six categories;
- you cannot nominate the same project in more than one category, so remember to choose the category that best reflects the project's approach;
- you can nominate more than one project; you will need to fill in separate nomination forms for each.

Nominations are encouraged to be made online [here](#), or email nominations to: pestfree@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or, mail nominations to: Pest Free Auckland, Level 2 South, Bledisloe House, Private Bag 92300, Victoria Street West, 1142 or 24 Wellesley Street, Auckland

By Monday 13 August 2018, no later than 5pm

Nominations received after this date and time will not be included in the judging process.

Note: all applicants will receive a confirmation email to acknowledge the successful lodgement of their entries.

Questions: please contact – pestfree@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

7 Prizes

The awards will be presented at an evening function on Thursday 20 September to which all finalists will be invited.

All finalists will be recognised by receiving:

- a certificate of commendation signed by Mayor Phil Goff.

All category winners will be recognised by receiving:

- \$2000 contribution to their project
- 2018 Mayoral Conservation Awards framed certificate signed by Mayor Phil Goff



MAYORAL CONSERVATION AWARDS

NOMINATION FORM

Project name	
Contact person	
Email	
Telephone	

Award category	Tick one
• Eradication	
• Restoration	
• Innovation	
• Collaboration	
• Individual	
• Schools	

Please answer the questions below to demonstrate how your project meets the judging criteria as outlined in the Nomination Guide. Nominations close at 5pm on Monday 13 August 2018, and should be emailed to: pestfree@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

<p>1. Outline your project background and its purpose/objectives</p>	<p><i>(Max 300 words)</i></p>
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<p>2. Describe how your project aligns with the chosen award category (consider the judging criteria and respond to each point)</p>	<p><i>(Max 500 words)</i></p>
<p>3. Describe how your process was responsive to the community and Māori</p>	<p><i>(Max 200 words)</i></p>
<p>4. Describe your achievements since January 2017.</p>	<p><i>(Max 200 words)</i></p>

<p>5. Describe the outcomes of your project i.e. what changed/improved as a result? What was the impact and how did you measure this?</p>	<p><i>(Max 300 words)</i></p>
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Include a referee for your project. This should be someone who has insight into the project and can speak about the project.

Referee name	
Job title/organisation	
Contact details	
Project involvement	

Nomination checklist – please complete the checklist to ensure you have met all the nomination requirements.

Items	Please tick
Nomination form completed and word count complies	
Nominated community group or person has agreed to be nominated	
2-3 high resolution photos sent as a separate file(s)	
Any supporting documents such as eradication plan, restoration plan) (OPTIONAL)	
Video (OPTIONAL)	
Referee – name and contact details	



Find out more: **phone 09 301 0101**
or visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/pestfreeauckland2050**