

Waihora Ellesmere Trust Annual Report 2015/16



The Trust

- Steady membership of around 100 – 120 individual/family members plus 4 organisations
- 371 subscribers to the newsletter/ 250 Facebook followers
- 2 staff members - General Manager and Finance Manager
- Several active volunteers, working on specific projects and events
- MOUs with ECan, DOC, CCC, SDC and TAK
- Funding & support from SDC, ECan & Ngāi Tahu, and Living Water (DOC & Fonterra) and others
- Regular website updates, newsletters and articles in local media



Some highlights for the year.....





2015 Living Lake Symposium

The fifth biennial symposium hosted by WET, providing an opportunity for those with an interest in the lake to come together to discuss the health of the lake and management interventions.

2015 State of the Lake Report

Published in November 2015, reporting on a range of values associated with the Lake and catchment.



And establishing the **Waihora Ellesmere Trust Living Lake Research & Monitoring Fund** to support additional monitoring that will contribute to future reporting on the state of the lake.

Te Waihora Agencies Group

WET is contracted to facilitate meetings of the organisations with an interest in governance and management of the lake and environs, and the projects the group identifies, such as the Lake Margin Working Group. This group is looking at options to improve management around the lake margin to address issues such as vehicle damage.



Integrated Monitoring Strategy for Te Waihora

We supported Ken Hughey (Lincoln University/WET) in developing a strategy to improve the monitoring across range of values. This has included working with LU staff and students, and advocating for 0.5FTE position to be created to implement the strategy.



Living Water

MOU with DOC and contract (from May 1) to assist with community engagement



Talking to Groups

Schools, university groups, U3A



Restoration Projects

Green Footprint, Canterbury Plantout



What's coming up for 2016/17

- Working with the Fonterra Ngāi Tahu Partnership on a number of projects around the lake, including on-farm riparian restoration
- Working with the Living Water partnership (DOC/Fonterra) to support their work in the Ararira/LII catchment
- Planning for the 2017 Living Lake Symposium and State of the Lake Report
- Field trips for members and supporters
- Working to promote recreational opportunities at the lake, including with DOC and others to provide interpretation at Harts Creek
- 2016 bird survey (Feb 2017 – date tbc)
 - Promoting our Living Lake Research & Monitoring Fund
 - And lots more.....

