

Re: Waimea Moutere Parks & Reserves Review

1 message

Pat Russell <patrussell61@gmail.com>
To: Marion MDCA <info@ourmapua.org>
Cc: Pat Russell <patrussell61@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 10, 2020 at 7:45 AM

Hi Marion,

I'll put in my submission, thank you.

To let MDCA know, I was successful in securing the future of the tiny remnant forest along a steep bank boundary of my property. QEII National Trust's Tom Stein came on Monday and did GPS location and photograph records for 15 trees, mainly Totara and Beech, that will have 'life-of-tree' preservation orders. They asked for a statement to complete the order and I sent the following - so MDCA has it somewhere in the archives. I don't understand TDC's absolute lack of integrity to honour and protect parts of nature that will long outlast their concerns.

My personal Trust statement -

Humans are fallible. We tend to think and plan in terms of months or a short number of years while trees stand silent regard through centuries of change. Perhaps that very stalwart silence and steadfastness has imperilled them as we as a species, I believe, cherish their presence less and less in our urban lives. Many who have the power to preserve or destroy also have personal histories of suburbia - of small trees, shrubs, arranged beds, subdivision living. Our blessing of magnificent native trees has been, and is steadily being, lost to thoughtlessness and ill-informed decisions. It seems that only when a precious bit of native forest, or a magnificent loner, is lost do people notice and - perhaps - speak of that loss. New Zealand has bartered away so very, very much of her native beauty in exchange for uniform, allegedly productive, unnatural commercial pine tree plantings. Or clearcut for housing subdivisions.

The large trees, mainly Totara and Black Beech, edging this garden that I have been exceptionally privileged to - I hesitate to say own - to live with for seven years, have been a constant joy. They not only are beautiful and daily inspire awe, they give protection from the strong sun and winds, they provide a sense of privacy and intimacy - a place of great beauty. I have always felt, as my father before me, that mature and ancient trees are one of the greatest gifts of nature.

This garden is very much alive. It swoops, it soars, run, hops and it chirps, it sings in every scale imaginable every single day. There were 26 species of birds identified in this garden over three days in 2018 -

Grey warbler, Song thrush, Red billed gull, Waxeye, Shining cuckoo, Dominican gull, House sparrow, Kingfisher, Cormorant, Starling, Little owl, Welcome swallow, Fantail, Tui, Spur winged plover, Goldfinch, Bellbird, NZ harrier, Chaffinch, Pukeko, Skylark, Greenfinch, Paradise duck, Fairy prion (sadly lost), Blackbird, California quail

Recently a stand of trees was lost, including some large Rimu, on a steep bank just above Aranui Park and many in Mapua were alternating sad and enraged by this thoughtless thuggery. In my garden a 300 year old Black Beech was threatened for an unnecessary footpath with not a passing thought or concern. This attitude, this behaviour by Tasman District Council is not acceptable and must be thwarted whenever possible. And so I made a request to QEII National Trust, on the advice of Forest & Bird and Michael North, to safeguard the future of these trees, especially for those on the leading edge of the property by Seaton Valley Road. Magnificent natives in diminishing habitats through the vagaries of man, and yet they need such minimal protection to survive, to scatter, to thrive. Thank you so much for your care to do this.

Kind regards,

Pat

On 9/12/2020, at 8:49 PM, Marion MDCA <info@ourmapua.org> wrote:

[View this email in your browser](#)



MDCA - Special Member Notice Waimea/Moutere Parks & Reserves Review

Dear MDCA members, TDC Councillors & other Community Associations:

This notice is being forwarded to you separately from the meeting notice due out in a few days time to ensure this information gets your direct attention rather than being swallowed up in all the other information that will come out with the meeting notice.

TDC are in the second community consultation phase of the review and there are two items that MDCA are requesting amendments to, that so far, have not been taken on board. MDCA Exec. are now seeking further support from the community to ensure TDC take notice of the communities wishes. See the button below to view "MDCA Exec. Public Notice" document.