

We have had a year of really good growth thanks to the weather, particularly over the summer period which was not as dry as it sometimes is. This also means the grasses and weeds grow well too but as the trees and shrubs gain height, they outrun the weeds which means less weeding for us to do.

The photo boards that are now in places alongside the tracks give a good indication of progress since we started almost 10 years ago and show what can be done with regular maintenance and perseverance. Most weeks we have 8 volunteers who show up and work for at least 3 hours , and no, we are not paid nor are we PD workers as some seem to think. It is very satisfying to see how much progress can be made as we all work to the same goal although I must say it can be hard to leave a nice warm house in the middle of winter. A big thank you to the team!

As the trees grow we are seeing more birds with several weka, including some chicks, living in the reserve and today a pair of kereru visited briefly which was exciting. As long as dog owners are considerate and we don't have prowling cats the numbers and species will increase and the vision for the reserve will be achieved.

Helen Bibby