



Cultivating Understanding & Enlightenment

www.cuehaven.com

Bringing Back the Natives by Getting Rid of the Imports

Mini Green Jam Y
5 September 2017

CUE Haven Background

- 2003 – purchased property - 60 acre (24 ha) former dairy farm, overlooking Kaipara Harbour
- Original intent to build a retreat to bring people together to share ideas to Cultivate Understanding & Enlightenment
- *But..... we got occupied with other things.....*
- 2003 - 2008 property leased to local farmer grazing dry stock



Restoration Project--2008

- Informed of degraded wetlands & stream in 2007 due to cattle runoff from ours and neighbouring properties
 - Contacted Auckland Council's -Trees For Survival - to assist with planting in 2008
 - Learned of massive housing development plans in area
 - Decided instead to replant entire property to create a nature reserve for the community
 - We knew NOTHING about environmental stuff!
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- Contacted the Rodney Council Enviro staff
 - Council staff very helpful -took a strong interest in our concerns and explained resources available – funding through Council & DoC
 - With a grant from DoC's Biodiversity Advice Fund – got ecologist, Rodney Straka, to develop a restoration plan.

Restoration Objectives

- To create a native New Zealand forest in rapidly developing Auckland for the community to enjoy into perpetuity
- To create a space where diverse groups can come together to enjoy nature, exchange ideas, learn and develop a better understanding about themselves, each other and their place in this universe
- To be a space where the community, business and government organisations can all work together to create something good and lasting for the wider community

Progress and Plans

- Planted the first 550 trees in 2008
 - Since then our fantastic volunteers have planted over 165,000 trees!
 - And constructed 4 kms of walking tracks!!
 - Over 4,000 student & community volunteers from all over NZ and overseas have contributed
 - Unitec, Westlake Girls, Westlake Boys, Takapuna Grammar, Orewa College, students doing DoEHA gold award – have done various projects – plant trees, walking tracks, design info signs, build benches, weta hotels, art work etc.
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- March 2017 – CUE Haven Community Trust established
 - 1 July 2017 – CUE Haven formally becomes a community asset
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- Post 2017— 3-4 more years of canopy tree planting, ongoing maintenance of bush and walking tracks, infrastructure development and QEII covenant

CUE Haven 2008 - 2017



Back to 2008--What We Had





Planting Alone Was Not Enough

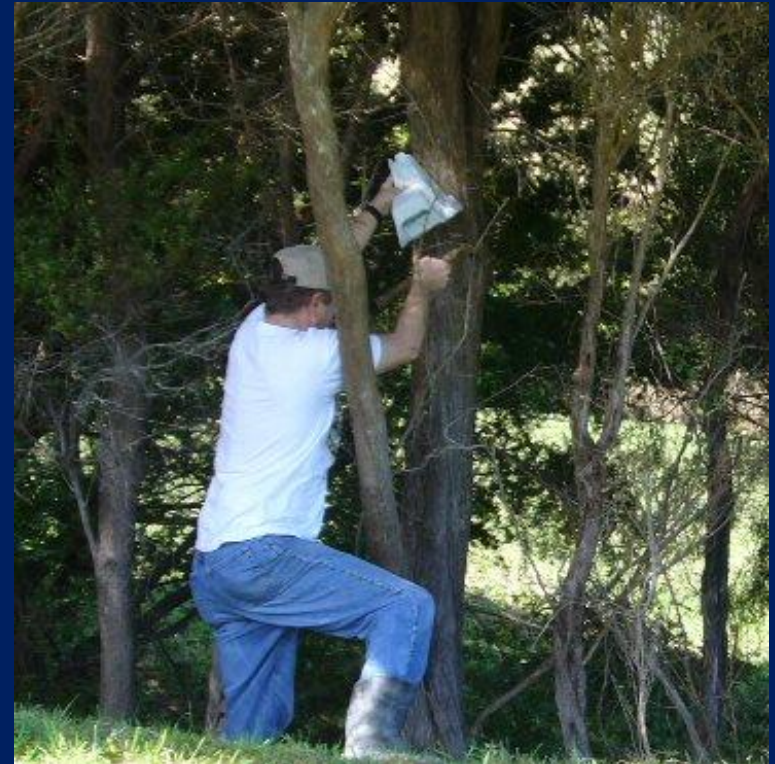
Because introduced pests attack
native plant and animal life.

First Task—What Pests Are We Dealing With?



EVERYTHING!! – possums, rats, stoats, weasels, hedgehogs, mice, cats, rabbits

Weapons Deployed



Bait Boxes—Rats & Possums

Traps — Timms, DoC 200, Good Nature



Do They Work?

Viewer Discretion is Advised!!

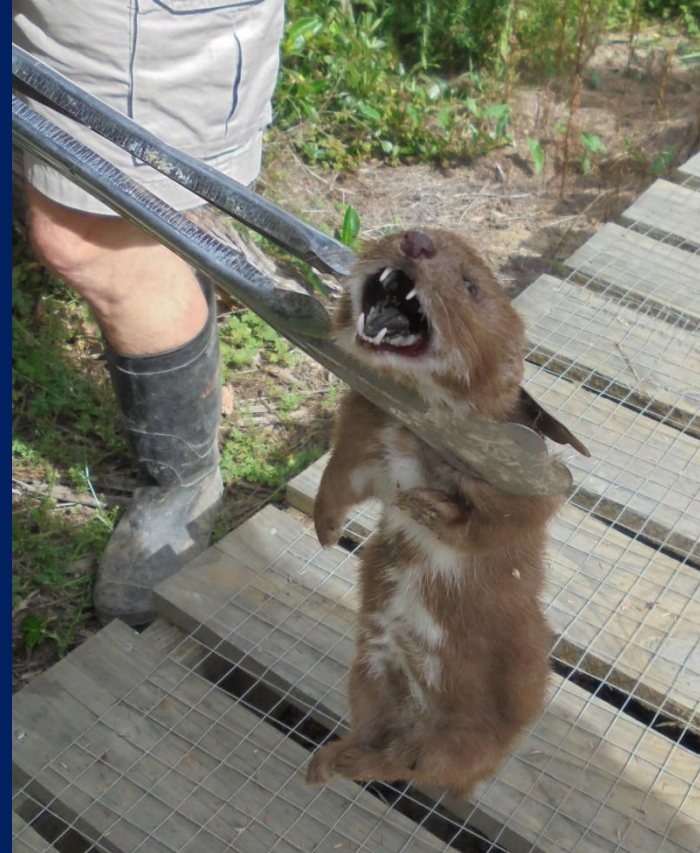




YES – you are never too young to be a
pest controller!



Why We Don't Like Them



What Is The Benefit of All This Carnage?

(It's OK To Look Now)

Natural Regeneration—No Rats



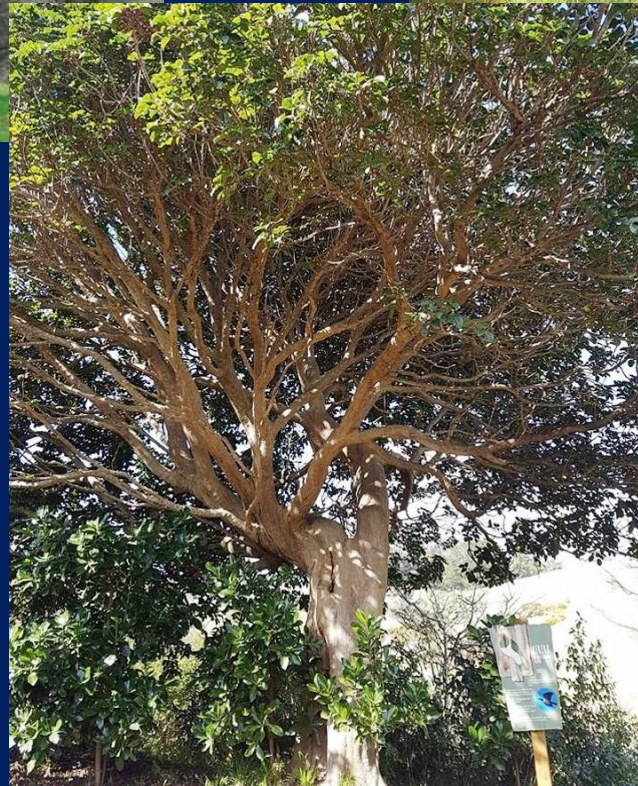
Covenanted bush – no grazing since the 1980s but no regeneration till pest control program started in 2008





All planted areas now naturally regenerating

Puriri tree – 2008 – 2017 pre & post pest control



Pest control –
flourishing puriri
– increase in
kereru numbers–
karaka seeding

Controlling Pests Has Helped Restore Habitat

Results--













And hopefully one day



Another big benefit of environmental restoration

– Banded Kokopu



Koura





Wetas living in their
Hotels at CUE Haven - Thanks
to Westlake Girls students!

Simply notice beauty,
and your life will
be simply beautiful



Pudce
design

Make a difference, change the world

