

## Fix it Saturday

Nelsonians with rips to mend or a bike to fix can bring a broken household item needing minor repairs to Nelson City Council's trial pop-up repair café.

Called Fix it Saturday, the Council's Rethink Waste programme is hosting the trial with support from Mitre 10 Mega, Habitat for Humanity and the Nelson Environment Centre at the Habitat for Humanity Restore Hub in Tahunanui on Saturday 29 May, 10am-1pm.

Repair cafés are places where volunteers share their skills and expertise to give new life to items that might otherwise be thrown away.

Infrastructure Chair Brian McGurk says repair cafes are a way of reviving the culture of fixing or mending items when they are broken or damaged, rather than replacing them, in line with Council's waste minimisation goals.

"It used to be that when something was broken, you'd have a go at fixing it, and buying a new one was the very last option. Events like Fix it Saturday, and repair cafes in general, are a great opportunity not only to get that broken or damaged item fixed, but see it happen in front of you and have an opportunity to learn how to carry out simple repairs yourself in the future."

Options for items that can be repaired at Fix it Saturday include clothing, small electrical appliances, toys, bicycles, general household items and small pieces of furniture. Visible mending demonstrations will also take place.

### How it works:

- Nelson residents can bring one item per household, including small electrical appliances (not electric blankets or microwaves), bicycles, toys, clothing and miscellaneous household or small furniture items
- Repairs will be assessed and tickets allocated, with people asked to complete a registration form. Repairers will advise if they think an item isn't suitable for repair
- Only minor repairs that can be completed in a short timeframe will be accepted, as we wish to assist as many people as possible
- Where practical, people will be invited to assist in the repair.

The Restore pre-loved store will be open to browse, and refreshments will be available.



## Nelson City Council supports establishment of a Māori ward

Moments of raw emotion filled the chamber on Thursday, as Councillors voted to establish a Māori ward for the 2022 local elections.

Mayor Rachel Reese said this was a step towards fair Māori representation within Nelson Whakatū.

"It has taken years to get here today. We may be a little city in Te Taihū, but everyone plays their part. We must step forward when the opportunity is there."

Ngāti Kuia Chair Waihaere Mason explained why a seat at Council was so significant for iwi.

"I have a simple whakatauki; I look, I see, but if I do, I understand. How can iwi understand the complicated business of councils if we are not part of that scene? We will only learn if we are part of the decision-making process."

Council's kaumātua Melanie McGregor did not expect to see this decision in her lifetime.

"I have shed some tears over the words spoken here today," she said.

"This has been a flawed system for us in Aotearoa since the beginning of time."

Later in the meeting Councillors also voted to establish roles that represent Māori on a range of committees and subcommittees. For the list and story visit:

[our.nelson.govt.nz](https://our.nelson.govt.nz)

## Have your say on Nelson's future transport network

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is working with Nelson City Council (NCC), local iwi and the community to develop a package of improvements to address transport issues in Nelson over the next 30 years.

Last year, the community was asked for feedback on long-term options for Nelson. At a Council meeting on Thursday 13 May, Councillors voted to support Priority Lanes as the preferred long-term solution.

This time, feedback is sought on shorter-term improvements. This includes intersection improvements, walking and cycling paths, and proposed traffic calming to enhance

neighbourhoods and improve safety.

There is opportunity to provide feedback on walking and cycling improvements for Rocks Road. Feedback is also being sought on options for replacing the seawall.

The proposal has been developed to meet the Government's expectations to reduce emissions, connect communities and improve safety, and to align with Nelson City

Council's vision for the future.

No matter how you travel around Nelson, these future plans will be of interest to you.

To find out even more about the activities shown on the map below, please go to:

[nzta.govt.nz/nfa](https://nzta.govt.nz/nfa)

# Brook Stream fish get DNA testing

Nelson City Council's freshwater science team is using a technique known as eDNA testing to investigate the diversity of aquatic species at different sites in the Brook Stream, to help with understanding how barriers to fish passage are affecting stream life.

Fish and other aquatic life shed cellular material into their environment, called environmental DNA (eDNA). Larvae, faecal matter and scales are all examples of the kind of particles shed into the stream, which can then be extracted by filtering the water through a fine membrane. The particles are then tested for DNA.

Water has been sampled for eDNA at five sites along the Brook Stream, to detect the presence or absence of fish species. Sampling sites were chosen above and below known barriers to fish passage, giving an accurate and efficient way of finding out what creatures are living in specific stream locations.

The diversity of fish species is greatest near the estuary and naturally falls away the further you go from the sea, because the stream environment changes as fish move upstream and they require specific

adaptations to survive.

Some species – like the native eels, bully species, banded kōkopu and kōaro – have successfully adapted to climbing up cascades and waterfalls so can live higher up in the catchments.

eDNA testing enables us to compare what species we would expect to live in any part of the stream, and what is actually found to be there. We can then look at why they are absent, which could be because of fish passage barriers and/or available fish habitat.

The eDNA fish survey is part of a larger collaborative programme of work between Council's Environmental Science and Engineering teams to trial fish passage improvements to the Brook Stream concrete channel and wider catchment, whilst maintaining flood protection.



Keep up to date with the latest news from Nelson City Council

## Recent Council decisions

### Outdoor Dining Licence rent relief

At a meeting on Tuesday, 11 May, Council agreed to provide rent relief on Outdoor Dining Licences for hospitality businesses, street stalls and concession holders. As they recover from the effects of COVID-19, licence and concession holders demonstrating financial hardship can apply for up to 100% rental relief on their Outdoor Dining Licences from 1 March - 1 December 2021. The Outdoor Dining Policy will also be reviewed during this time.

### MEETINGS

The following meetings of the Nelson City Council have been scheduled.

Strategic Development and Property Subcommittee	9am	1 Jun
Infrastructure Committee	9am	3 Jun
Hearings Panel - Other	9am	9 Jun
Environment and Climate Committee	9am	10 Jun
Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit	9.30am	11 Jun
Tenders Subcommittee	8.30am	16 Jun
Community and Recreation Committee	9am	17 Jun
Urban Development Subcommittee	9am	22 Jun
Forestry Subcommittee	1pm	23 Jun
Council meeting	9am	24 Jun
Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit	9.30am	25 Jun
Regional Transport Committee	1.30pm	29 Jun

For a full list of Council meetings go to:

[nelson.govt.nz/meetings](https://nelson.govt.nz/meetings)



To read the latest updates or sign up for Our Nelson by email go to:  
**[our.nelson.govt.nz](https://our.nelson.govt.nz)**

## Regional Event Fund opens

Applications to the new \$1.5 million Te Taihu Regional Event Fund are open now.

The Te Taihu region, which includes Nelson Tasman and Marlborough, was allocated funding from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment for the facilitation and funding of events over the next four-and-a-half years.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Event Investment Panel. For more information, or to submit an expression of interest:

[go to nelsoncitycouncil.govt.nz](https://nelsoncitycouncil.govt.nz) and search "regional event funding"

## Founders Book Fair returns

Founders Book Fair is now accepting donations as it returns to its usual time of year - Queen's Birthday weekend.

Donations to the upcoming book fair can be dropped off at Founders Heritage Park reception seven days a week, between 10am - 4.30pm.

Books, magazines less than five years old, jigsaw puzzles, board games, vinyl records, DVDs and CDs, and audiotapes are accepted.

Past book fairs have shown there is no appetite for encyclopaedias, Reader's Digest condensed books and National Geographic magazines, and these items are recycled at a cost to the Friends of Founders Trust. Therefore, donations of these items will not be accepted.

The Book Fair will take place from Saturday 5-13 June.

## ROAD CLOSURES

**Applicant:** Nelson City Council  
**Location:** Church Street  
**Event:** Youth Lane Event 2021  
**Date and time of closure:** Saturday 28 August 2021, Closed between 1pm - 12am.  
This is in collaboration with the 4 Lanes Festival and a proposed Youth Lane for people under 18 years of age.  
The road will be closed and vehicle access will be unavailable during this time.

**Applicant:** Nelson Arts Festival 2021  
**Location:** CBD Roads - Morrison Street including Morrison Square, Part closure of Montgomery Square Carpark, Entrance to Montgomery Square Car Park from Bridge Street and Hardy Street, Trafalgar Street from Bank Lane to Hardy Street, Park Street, Hope Street, Church Street, Hardy Street from Montgomery Square Carpark to Collingwood Street, Trafalgar Square, Selwyn Place from Trafalgar Square to Sussex Street  
**Event:** Nelson Arts Festival - Mask Parade and Carnival 2021  
**Date and time of closure:** 9am Friday 29 October to 3am Saturday 30 October 2021. Specific roads have different start and end times. View website for further details.  
The roads will be closed and vehicle access will be unavailable during this time.

**Feedback for proposed closures to be given by:** Wednesday 2 June 2021  
**Email:** [enquiries@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries@ncc.govt.nz)  
**Post:** Nelson City Council, PO Box 645, Nelson 7040, Attention: Gillian Dancey

For all road closure information visit:

[nelson.govt.nz/road-closures](https://nelson.govt.nz/road-closures)



# Project Mahitahi



## Project Mahitahi is a collaborative programme of works aimed at restoring the ecological health of the forest ecosystems of the Maitai / Mahitahi / Maitahi Valley

The River is taonga for iwi of Te Tau Ihu, and all iwi in the region have statutory acknowledgement over this special place. You will see the river and surrounding area referred to by different names, as this reflects the history of the many peoples who have travelled here and made it home.

From the Dun Mountain Range at the top of the catchment, to the sea, the Maitai catchment is home to a range of different plants, birds, and other fauna such as the Nelson green gecko and the giant land snail – some of which are found nowhere else but here. Work to reduce the presence of invasive pest plants and animals and enhance existing native bush with further planting, is being carried out by staff employed through the Government's Jobs for Nature Programme.

You may see evidence of this work, such as the removal of pest trees including sycamore and wilding pine trees, and control of vines like old man's beard. Trees that are being removed are those which have found their way here through seed spread, or when there was less awareness of their potential to invade native habitats. This work will take time and there may be dead trees left standing to decay in situ before we start planting. The exciting part will be new plantings appearing and taking the place of invaders.

The Ministry for the Environment and the Department of Conservation have granted \$3.7 million towards this work. Project Mahitahi builds on existing work that Council and other landowners are doing in the catchment, such as the retirement of some of the plantation forestry blocks, weed control on esplanades and in conservation reserves, and enhancement planting.

Of the 125,000 plants being planted over

the next five years, at least 1500 each year will be iconic, canopy species which would have once dominated the slopes and valley floor of the Maitai/Mahitahi catchment – for example Tanekaha, Rata, and Matai.

Project Mahitahi is co-governed and co-designed by members of the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance, with representation on the Project Governance Group by Ngāti Koata Trust, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua, Te Ātiawa Trust, Nelson City Council, and the Department of Conservation.

A range of contractors have agreed to be employers of Jobs for Nature staff, funded by the Government grants, including Kūmānu Environmental, Fulton Hogan, Easy Trails, the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary, and Ngāti Koata Trust.

Mahitahi means to work together, which is an accurate description for this Project, the first of its kind funded under the Kamahi for Nature programme. To capture the spirit of this work, Maya Speers (Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Kuia) has designed a beautiful logo which she describes as representing "working together in a partnership to achieve a common goal. The lower half is the awa. The three lines repeated between represent the water. The image contains the mangopare – symbol of strength, courage, and will. This combines with the flax weaving and other patterns to show strength in unity. The mangopare is facing/moving up indicating progression. The upper

half is the land, native plants, valley. The koru and nodes coming off the sides illustrate the life and new growth of the project and the Maitahi. Weaving of harakeke describes the collaboration between the project partners and the wider community to deliver the restoration of the mauri of the Maitahi."

Maya, a former Nelson College for Girls student, is a second-year engineering student at Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau. Maya says, "My journey connecting with my whakapapa has been aided by an interest in mahi toi Māori, and I have recently been learning about correct context and meanings behind all the many types of designs within traditional mahi toi Māori."

The design, which was selected by the Ngāti Koata Kaumātua Council and the Project Mahitahi Governance Group, is an inspiring visual representation of the river and what it means to all people in Whakatū Nelson.



Community Planting Programme

This upcoming planting season will see the first 26,000 plants of the total 125,000 being planted throughout the catchment, including through a series of commemorative plantings funded through the Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI) Matariki tu Rakau programme.

Matariki tu Rakau supports tree planting to commemorate the contribution that people and their work have made to our region. There are some remarkable stories to be celebrated.

Bring your family and friends along to plant a tree for the future and help restore the mighty forests of the Maitai. Project Mahitahi is grateful for the assistance provided through MPI, and our community partners who are commemorating the people and events that have helped shape the place we live in today.

Saturday 29 May 1.30 – 3.30pm

Where: Maitai Mahitahi Wetland, adjacent to the Maitai Campground

What: In partnership with Multicultural Nelson Tasman and Friends of the Maitai, this planting will commemorate the journeys that many people have made to a new home in Nelson Whakatū and celebrates the vibrant community that we are today. This is year one of a three-year project.

We will provide food and warm drinks to volunteer planters and will have some games and educational opportunities for the younger participants.

Sunday 11 July 1 – 3pm

Matariki is the name given to the cluster of stars, also known as Pleiades, that rise in midwinter. It is a time to remember those who have passed in the previous year, and to celebrate new beginnings. It is a time to plant for the future.

Where: Sunday Hole

What: This three-year project will commemorate Kākati, the common ancestor of six of the iwi of Te Tau Ihu, and who lived approximately 20 generations ago. Kākati is immortalised in the name of the Wharenuī (Meeting House) of Whakatū Marae. This Matariki event, which will be held here over the next three years continuing the planting down the river esplanade, will commemorate this connection between people and land. This commemoration was chosen by the Ngāti Koata Kaumātua Council.

Food, education, and entertainment will be provided to volunteer planters. Keep a look out for more details on this commemorative event closer to the time.

[www.theprow.org.nz/assets/Kakati.pdf](http://www.theprow.org.nz/assets/Kakati.pdf)



Other commemorative events happening

The Cawthron Institute will also be undertaking a commemorative planting to celebrate 100 years of science in Nelson, and the contribution of Thomas Cawthron as part of their centennial year. Nelson College for Girls students will plant a commemorative planting, near Nile Street, acknowledging the contribution of Kate Edgar, the first principal of Nelson College for Girls and the first woman in the commonwealth to receive a Bachelor of Arts – a commemoration of women in education in a place of long standing significance to the generations of students at the College.

To receive early notification of these planting events, and to keep up to date with any changes to these events because of weather or unforeseen circumstances, sign up to our mailing list. From time to time we will also send out a short newsletter to let you know about what we have been doing and how work is progressing across the next five years of this restoration project.

Email [project.mahitahi@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:project.mahitahi@ncc.govt.nz) or call Alesia on 03 546 0232.



Sunday 5 September 9am – 4pm

Where: Smiths Ford

What: Get in touch with Project Mahitahi and sign on for a ticket to this event! Commemorating our botanical heritage, in partnership with Friends of the Maitai, join the bus tour to learn more about the Maitai / Mahitahi / Maitahi and the plants and wildlife that can be found here.

We will begin our journey near the Haven,

to learn about the importance of the estuarine environment for the fish and plants that live in the mixing zone. Continue up the catchment to hear about an exciting wetland project and the importance and functioning of wetland systems. At the Maitai Reserve, learn about the forest canopy, and enjoy a picnic lunch (and get a rare peak inside the workings of the Maitai Dam). We will then head back down stream to Smiths Ford where 1200 plants will extend the existing riparian margins along the river.

Finish up with a warm drink at Sunday Hole. Along the way, you will hear insights and perspectives on the cultural significance of the Maitai, the ecological values, and the history of botanical knowledge – there are some great stories!

The seats will be limited, so sign up and save a place. Children are welcome, but note the length of the day so it may be a more suitable event for older children, who are keen amateur naturalists.