



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Short Walks and Day Hikes

Check out our [Short Walks](#) and [Day Hikes](#) - they showcase some of New Zealand's best walking experiences.

No matter where you are, or how long you've got, there's a walk for everyone. Take a break in the outdoors and get in touch with nature.

Discover your next
adventure



Walking the Rangitoto Summit Track
Image: Fraser Clements ©



Coastal views on Te Whara Track
Image: Fraser Clements ©

Update from Lou

In his latest update Director-General Lou Sanson talks about Conservation Week, the Tongariro Alpine Crossing, the Hollyford Conservation Trust, sustainable wealth creation and the opening of the Tāmaki Makaurau Visitor Centre.

- [Read Lou's latest update](#)
- [Sign up to Lou's mailing list](#)



Get involved

Summer volunteering

Get outdoors and volunteer with DOC this summer. There are [campsite hosts](#) and [hut warden](#) positions still available, and a variety of other summer activities all over the country.

[Find a volunteer activity near you.](#)



Recreation

Shuttle services to and from the Tongariro Alpine Crossing

If you're hiking the Tongariro Alpine Crossing this summer you'll need to use a shuttle service from one of the local towns.



There is very limited parking near the access points to the track. Parking restrictions will be in place over summer. See 'Getting there' on the [Tongariro Alpine Crossing](#) page.

Stay at a DOC campsite this summer

We manage more than [200 campsites throughout New Zealand](#). They're places to relax, enjoy and explore the outdoors. Choose from forest settings, lakeshores or sandy beaches.

If you're taking the kids, check out the [Kiwi Guardians camping activity](#).



Our work

Growing conservation

This year we celebrate [30 years of change in our work with communities](#).

We put the spotlight on some of the milestones and challenges over that time and glimpse at the future of this work.

Introducing Miriam and Woody

[Watch a video about Miriam and Woody](#) and learn about what it takes to be a DOC Conservation Dog team.

Thanks to our Conservation Dogs Programme supporting partner, Kiwibank, for the video.

Northern Paparoa pest control completed

[Battle for our Birds predator control](#) in Paparoa National Park will help protect its vulnerable populations of great spotted kiwi, whio, kea, kākā, powelliphanta snails and long-tailed bats.

Our nature

Great news for takahē recovery

The official yearly takahē population count is in, with the highest annual growth rate recorded in almost 70 years.

[More about the Takahē Recovery Programme](#).



Melodic mohua on the move

[One hundred mohua have been translocated](#) from Anchor Island in Dusky Sound to the Eglinton Valley.

They will join a population that's been slowly increasing in the valley since intensive predator control was introduced in 2009.

Illegal release of deer into North Taranaki conservation forests

[Wild deer are a serious pest](#) on public conservation lands, causing damage to native forests by feeding on forest plants, trees and seedlings.

We are working to track down the deer and we urge anyone with knowledge of the [illegal release](#) to contact DOC or New Zealand Police.

Photo of the month

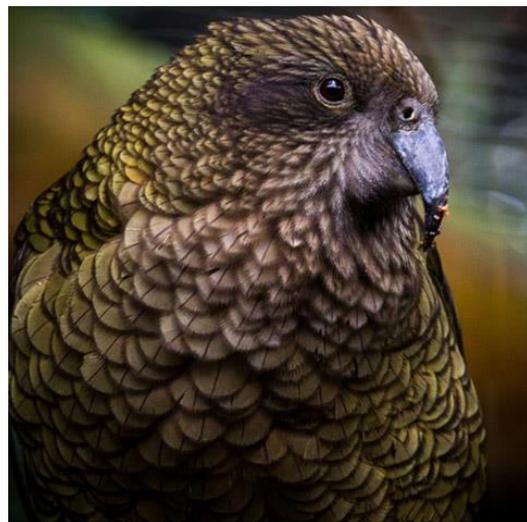
Celebrating Bird of the Year

[The endangered kea](#) is the world's only alpine parrot, and one of the most intelligent birds.

Congratulations to this cheeky parrot for taking out the title of Bird of the Year for 2017!

Photo: Janice McKenna ©

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Department of Conservation

National Office | PO Box 10420 | Wellington 6143 | New Zealand

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