

What's Up DOC – August 2018



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Meet Sirocco in Dunedin this September

Sirocco the kākāpō has had a few years out of the spotlight, but now the Spokesbird for Conservation is ready to meet his adoring public once more. Just one look into those big beautiful eyes will have you [adopting a kākāpō](#).

Would you like to book a date to meet Sirocco at Orokonui Ecosanctuary?

[Yes please](#)

Update from Lou

Lou talks about the DOC Treaty Partner Summit, Critter of the Week, sustainability, visits with Taranaki and Whanganui Iwi, Te Rarawa, Te Roroa, Predator Free 2050 updates, the Great Walks booking service, the Nature Heritage Fund committee, Transpower, myrtle rust and the New Zealand Conservation Authority.



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

Get involved

Conservation Week is coming

15–23 September

Take a look at the [cool conservation activities](#) you can take part in this year.

Can't wait? Use our ideas to [get your kids outdoors now](#).

Drone rules

Birds-eye views of beautiful places can be stunning, but drones disturb wildlife and pose threats on conservation land.

You must have a [concession from DOC](#) to fly a drone on any public conservation land – no exceptions.

How dog owners can protect kiwi

- Find out about [controlled dog access areas](#) and get a permit if required.
- Enrol your dog for [kiwi aversion training](#).
- Add a DNA sample to the K9 register via [Moehau Environment Group](#).

Why? Dogs can easily maul kiwi to death – as they have recently at [Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary](#).

Nature

Protecting the Tekapo Triangle

The only place you'll find the robust grasshopper is the braided river habitat of the Mackenzie Basin.

Its home is now safer after LINZ [transferred a triangular 440 ha area of land to DOC](#).

The scouts ridding pests from Manawatu Gorge

Groups and individuals all around New Zealand are protecting native wildlife by giving introduced predators the boot.

Milson Scout Troop received DOC Community Funding to start their own predator trapping



Image: [Andrew Xu](#) | [Creative Commons](#)



Image: Wendy Spörle ©



project in the Manawatu Gorge. [See what they're up to.](#)

Whitebait season

It's the start of the whitebait season and we're asking you to [follow the rules](#) if you decide to take part.

Whitebait is made up of the juvenile forms of six different native fishes – some of them At Risk or Threatened. Even when they avoid the frying pan, whitebait face a lot of threats: [there's more to whitebait than fritters.](#)

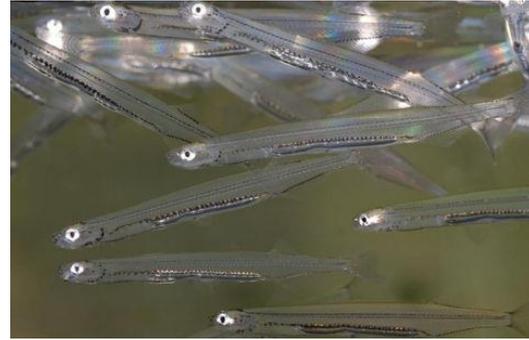


Image: EOS Ecology

Our work

Treaty Partner Summit

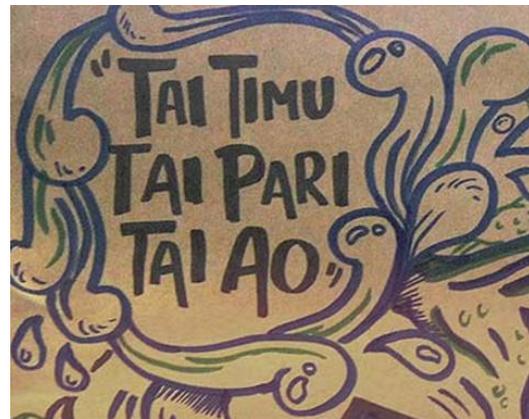
Whānau, hapū and iwi representatives from around the country attended DOC's Treaty Partner Summit in July.

The theme was tai timu, tai pari, tai ao – the ebbing tides of conservation.

[View content from the hui.](#)

A new uniform

We work in tough and diverse conditions, from the mountains to the sea. [World Ranger Day](#) seemed a suitable date to launch our [new and improved uniform.](#)



About that piano

You might have heard how DOC requested an antique piano have its ivory key tops removed.

We take the responsibility of protecting other countries' taonga as seriously as protecting our own. Our Director-General Lou Sanson explains in our blog: [we don't play fast and loose with the law.](#)



Photo of the month

Dale Wowk captured the beauty of historic Arrowtown in winter in this beautiful photo.

Arrowtown is one of 12 [Landmarks](#) in Otago that tell the stories that shaped Aotearoa New Zealand and defined our culture.

[Follow DOC on Instagram](#)



Image: [dalewowkphoto](#)

See more from DOC

- [Reckless off-road driving damages fragile area](#)
- [Second Kaikoura sperm whale found dead](#)
- [Indigenous fish conservation bill introduced](#)
- [Nominations open for New Zealand Conservation Authority members](#)
- [See the kākāpō T-shirt design winners and buy the winning one to wear!](#)

[More news and events](#)