

## What's Up DOC – September 2018



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*



### Conservation Week starts tomorrow

15–23 September

We invite you to join in, have fun and help our native plants and animals.

[Get involved](#)

### Take part in an event

Events are run by DOC, local businesses and community groups.



This one might be near you: [Tree planting](#) at Atiu Creek Regional Park in Auckland.

[See all events](#)

## Do an activity

Doing something for Conservation Week is easy. Here are just a few ideas:

**[Find out how 'green' your backyard is.](#)** A thriving backyard ecosystem doesn't just mean native birds! Fantails rely solely on insects for food, and korimako/bellbirds and tūi will also supplement their diet with bugs. The more insects in your garden, the more food for our natives.

**[Set a backyard trap.](#)** Rats are a major predator of our native species, eating eggs and chicks as well as fully grown birds and lizards, while mice compete with our native animals for food, leaving them to go hungry. Build your own trapping tunnel or buy a trap from Predator Free NZ and help

**[Rid your garden of weeds and pest plants.](#)** Our staff are experts in weed removal and not just because we love a bit of gardening. Seeds from weeds and pest plants can be delivered on the wind or by birds from your garden to nearby forests and even islands. Once spread, weeds can prevent native plants from growing. In more remote places they can also harm our seabirds if they become tangled in vines or tree branches.

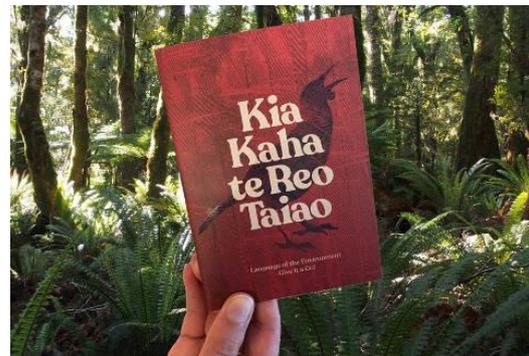
[See all activities](#)

## Practise your te reo Māori

**Māori Language Week** 10–16 September

The next time you go on a hīkoi (tramp) pack this [free learning booklet](#) about the language of the environment and te reo Māori.

This year, Te Wiki o te Reo Māori crosses over with Conservation Week and we want both the Māori language and the environment to kia kaha (be strong).



## See more from DOC

- [Director-General Lou Sanson's latest update](#) includes a joint statement about 1080 by DOC, OSPRI (TBfree NZ), Federated Farmers, Forest & Bird and WWF-NZ
- [Three tracks under consideration to become Great Walks](#)
- [Native frogs still struggling](#)
- [Watch how Antipodes Island was rid of mice](#) in this fantastic short film
- [Watch the search for Sirocco](#) – how we found him when he was “off the grid”

[More news and events](#)