

## **FMC monthly update August 2019... from Waikato TC and FMC Exec member Alan Grant**

Hi all,

I'm now 6 weeks into my Federated Mountain Clubs 'adventure' and am steadily coming up to speed on FMC's people and activities. I have now met face to face 15 of the 16 members of the Executive and all 3 part-time staff. There's a wealth of knowledge, passion for the cause and lots of voluntary time being spent throughout this team.

In this monthly "WTC Exclusive" column I will list some of the current issues being worked on by FMC to show you the breadth of our activities, and then I will expand and update on some of them in future columns. This is a list below is just some of what has come to FMC in the last week!

- DOCs new Biodiversity strategy
- Walking Access, the need for pathways to connect North Waikato towns
- Coronet Peak's Concession application, wanting 30 years
- Reports of several mountains' names reported missing off a recent topo map reprint
- Updates from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
- A partial review of Conservation and National park policy to give better effect to Treaty principles
- Cairns and snow poles in the Tararua range
- DOC's lack of consultation on huts being added to the booking system
- Island Hills station tenure review result
- NZ Recreation's Outdoor activity fund now open for applications
- FMC's plan for a Recreation Transition campaign to help members with positive fun ways to lessen their carbon footprint
- Kauri Dieback, liaising between affected parties and the bureaucrats busy closing tracks, and the scientists trying to understand what is happening and how to combat it.
- Leadership training planning, with FMC offering to organize training for member Clubs
- MSC (Mountain Safety Council). FMC has given 12 months' notice of resigning our membership (more on this in a future column)
- Tourism volumes and options to restrict future growth, manage it better, or encourage more
- Phew....

In next month's column I will be able to update you more on Kauri Dieback as I will be attending some meetings on this issue in late August. FMC is trying hard to safeguard trampers access to walking opportunities through the upper North Island, while doing all that is necessary to reduce the risk of spread and effect of this disease.

If you have any queries on any of this or would like more info, please contact me on 0274 501 530 or at [alan.grant@fmc.org.nz](mailto:alan.grant@fmc.org.nz) Have a good month out there.

Alan