





Honda TreeFund

2018 REPORT On 1st August 2018, Honda celebrated 30 years of being in business in New Zealand. To honour this milestone, Honda committed to funding the planting of 30,000 native trees with Trees That Count over the next year.

At Trees That Count, it's been our pleasure to welcome Honda to our family of tree funders. Honda is engaging with Trees That Count in a number of different ways – by adding trees to our community marketplace for planting groups to apply for; by funding trees for their staff to participate in the planting of; and through the use of our native tree gifting service to new and existing customers.

This partnership epitomizes what Trees That Count is about – increasing native tree planting in New Zealand by providing supporters such as Honda with an easy, high-impact and transparent way to fund trees, in turn supporting the thousands of planters throughout the country who can increase their tree planting work. This support will see thousands of native trees planted throughout New Zealand in projects that have a truly local impact.



Gift certificate



Gifting email



FOUR MONTHS ON FROM THIS PARTNERSHIP, WE'RE PLEASED TO SHOWCASE THE SEVEN PROJECTS WHO HAVE COLLECTIVELY RECEIVED OVER 11,000 NATIVE TREES THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT.



AUCKLAND, WELLINGTON AND CHRISTCHURCH CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS NEW ZEALAND

Founded in 2006, Conservation Volunteers New Zealand offers opportunities for volunteers to join projects throughout New Zealand. Their native tree planting programmes include Atiu Creek Regional Park on the Kaipara Harbour and A Forest at the Heart of Wellington in the central Wellington Town Belt on Mt Victoria. Honda funded 2,000 trees across these three projects this year and it was a delight to have Honda staff participate in planting days at Atiu Creek and Mt Victoria.

AUCKLAND

Atiu Creek Regional Park,

Kaipara Harbour

Officially opened to the public as a Regional Park in April 2008, the park has extensive harbour frontage with large tracts of native forest supporting a range of flora and fauna. In addition to 450ha of easy, rolling grassed land, the property contains a number of significant areas of native forest and wetlands in the gullies and provides habitat for the nationally threatened New Zealand dabchick and brown teal ducks. The park also has intact areas of coastal forest and a stunning coastal area that is now under intensive regeneration.

WELLINGTON

Mt Victoria Town Belt

This project aims to create a 'Forest in the Heart of Wellington'. The project is a partnership of Wellington City Council, Rotary and Conservation Volunteers to see 100,000 native trees planted by volunteers in the central Wellington Town Belt on Mount Victoria. It will create substantial new habitat for native birds which are increasingly venturing away from the city.

CHRISTCHURCH

Kaputahi Creek, Belfast Road, Marshlands This site on Belfast Road looks back onto the Port Hills, which will in time become part of a much wider native forest network across the Styx River catchment and the wider Christchurch City region. The project aims to create new native forest will attract bush birds back to the city, which have become locally extinct over the last 150 years, by restoring habitat for native species. It will provide shade over the creek for endemic species such as long-finned eels. Whilst not yet endangered, there are fewer eels today because of the loss of wetlands and historical commercial fishing practice.





DUNEDIN TOMAHAWK SMALES BEACHCARE TRUST

The Trust has been working to restore the habitat and biodiversity of the sand dune ecosystem in the Ocean Grove Reserve, Dunedin. The Trust contributes to restoration through hands-on participation in nursery activities (such as sourcing seed endemic to our area) and native planting in this area. They have big plans, with a restoration vision until 2035. Trees That Count matched the Trust with 1,000 trees funded by Honda which will be planted in 2019.

WAIKATO Stu Muir and Family

Stu Muir is a dairy farmer who, together with his wife Kim, has permanently retired 40 hectares of his farm to help restore the local Waikato River delta. His Waikato dairy farm has been the sight of native wetland regeneration, which has brought back whitebait and other native freshwater fish. Stu has been working towards this for many years, and has collaborated with local iwi and schools to make this a truly community-led project. More than 40,000 native trees have been planted so far, and Stu has won many awards for his efforts, notably a Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year award and was a finalist in the 2018 Sustainable Business Network Awards. The Muirs are currently building an extensive boardwalk to enable public access so people can better connect, learn and be inspired by the restoration. Honda have funded over 2,000 trees towards Stu's wetlands work which will be planted in 2019.



KAPITI COAST FRIENDS OF ŌTAKI RIVER

Friends of Ōtaki River are a dynamic group, planting in excess of 5000 trees each season around the Ōtaki river. Twenty or so people meet every Wednesday to look after the site, and together they've built a strong planting community including the local school. Their plantings and restoration and recreational developments are enjoyed and visited by an ever increasing number of people to the area. Friends of Ōtaki River were regular beneficiaries of support from the Honda TreeFund so it's been a delight to continue to support their efforts with your funding. Over 900 trees funded by Honda were planted by the Friends of Ōtaki River in 2018.



WHANGAREI MOUNTAINS TO SEA CONSERVATION TRUST

The Trust runs programmes with schools as a focal point for communities to come together and see the future of marine and freshwater through the eyes of their children, to motivating meaningful learning and long-term behaviour change in both today's and tomorrow's generations. One of their active programmes is the Waitaua Awa Restoration in Whangarei, which Honda has funded 2,000 native trees towards.

GOLDEN BAY MOTUPIPI RIVER WILLOW ERADICATION AND RESTORATION PROJECT

The Motupipi River is a small spring fed river that flows beside the township of Takaka and out to the estuary. The river is choked by crack willows in several places, dense aquatic weed in other areas, and sediment build up is deep in many areas.

Farmers along this 3.5 km river have been steadily improving the river by removing willows and planting the river. The Motupipi River Willow Eradication and Restoration Project seeks to support them by planting the final areas and complementing their endeavours. Honda have funded over 900 trees towards their efforts which will be planted in 2019.

AUCKLAND SUSTAINABLE PAREMOREMO

The Pare-dise Project is Sustainable Paremoremo's vision to promote and encourage revegetation of native species on private land in the Paremoremo Valley and Lucas Creek escarpment as part of the NorthWest Wildlink.

Their aim is to improve water quality in local streams, estuaries and riparian waterways, and increase the native wildlife throughout the district. Honda have funded over 1,000 native trees towards their vision.



Thanks for supporting Trees That Count in 2018

HOORAY! You funded a forest-load* of trees through Trees That Count this year and we're thrilled that Honda is one of the first businesses to be awarded our new **Committed to Climate** award for 2018.



We wanted to acknowledge the organisations that are particularly invested in tree funding each year, and the Committed to Climate awards have been developed to give value to the contribution you're making towards climate change, biodiversity and communities. The awards are backed up by the strength of the Trees That Count brand, which is becoming increasingly well known for its dedication to the planting of indigenous trees, and the sense of community, sustainability and legacy that Trees That Count represents.

By funding more than 10,000 trees, Honda has qualified for our Kahurangi Award. Kahurangi is a colour that represents honour and value and that will convey the precious investment that you've made towards the New Zealand environment.



*Well, the exact definition of 'forest' is a bit sketchy. But don't let that bring you down, you funded a lot!

Honda and Trees That Count in 2019

We're looking forward to teaming up with Honda staff for more planting events in 2019! We'd also welcome the Honda team at two public planting events we are holding during Matariki 2019. We're working with Auckland Council and Wellington City Council on two large-scale planting events which will be held during Matariki in 2019. These events will be geared at families, and we'll be inviting new parents to come and plant a tree with their families, to honour babies born in 2018, as part of the 'Trees for Kiwi Babies' campaign we ran earlier this year.

In 2019 we'll also be working on more innovative ways for supporters to be engaged with our work, including launching our 'Tree Tracker' which will enable people to be able to track the progress of the planting events they are supporting, or have been given a tree as part of. For Honda, that means that we'll be able to keep your customers updated on where the trees you gift them are planted, and remind them regularly of your gift when we update them on the project.



There's currently no other New Zealand platform building a picture of the restoration efforts of planting groups nationally like Trees That Count. Over 23 million trees have been added to our national count and 230,000 trees funded by businesses and individuals since we started in 2016. A phenomenal figure, but one that we need to keep building over the coming years.

To make a meaningful contribution to the New Zealand environment and climate change, we need to plant hundreds of millions of trees over the coming years. The Government's Billion Trees Programme will support this lofty goal. But government alone can't achieve this – we need to make New Zealanders understand that protecting our environment is a job for us all.

2019 is set to be an even more exciting year, we thrilled you are joining us on our mission to see millions more native trees planted throughout New Zealand and look forward to working with the Honda team again.

