

Ecological Society Newsletter

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FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of your NZES newsletter sees the introduction of two new regular features. First, keeping you in touch with NZES membership of the IUCN. Wren Green, NZES' representative on the New Zealand Committee of the IUCN will be regularly informing members of upcoming issues and proposals, and updates of how NZES is influencing both the work of the IUCN and the international community.

The second regular feature is the re-instatement of 'Hot Science'—a column aimed at show-casing newly completed research (from graduates and established ecologists), publications of note or international acclaim and popular science articles. Hot Science is about promoting both the fundamental and applied new ecological research of NZES members. I encourage you to submit your recent thesis or publications abstracts. Also greatly welcomed and encouraged is new research presented as popular science articles. The newsletter is sent to over 600 members—that is quite an audience!

Early-bird registration is now open for Conference 2008—Ecology on our doorstep—which is shaping up to be another great conference. Get in quick and secure your place on the fieldtrip of your choice.

If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, we encourage you to put it in the form of a letter to the editor.

TE TOHU TAIAO – AWARD FOR ECOLOGICAL EXCELLENCE 2007: PROF. MICK CLOUT

In the last newsletter we celebrated the winners of the NZES awards for 2007. In this issue we complete our profiles of the recipients with a summary of Mick Clout's interdisciplinary career to date. Mick was awarded the Te Tohu Taiao – Award for Ecological Excellence.

Mick Clout's primary research speciality is the ecology and behaviour of vertebrates, but he has broad interests in applications of ecological science to national and international problems in conservation and biodiversity management.

In addition to his personal research, he has also had experience in research leadership in three different New Zealand science organisations (DSIR, DOC, and the University of Auckland (UOA)). This sort of role has increased with time.

Mick's research interests are interdisciplinary, which is reflected in his joint appointment (as Professor of Conservation Ecology) to the School of Biological Sciences and the School of Geography, Geology & Environmental Science at the UOA.

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Mick Clout.

Originally from the UK (where he studied Ecological Science at the University of Edinburgh), Mick gained his PhD from Auckland in 1977. He then commenced his science career as a government research scientist with DSIR Ecology Division at Nelson (1977–1989), latterly as section leader of a team of ten ecologists. In 1989 he joined the DOC as Manager (Research), where he supervised 35 conservation scientists, and acted as Director (Protected Species). Since his 1993 appointment to the UOA, Mick has extended his research interests into areas of biosecurity and invasive species management.

He is the founding Chair of the Species Survival Commission Invasive Species Specialist Group of IUCN (the World Conservation Union), Chair of the New Zealand Biosecurity Ministerial Advisory Committee, and Director of the UOA Centre for Biodiversity and Biosecurity.

Mick is the author, or co-author, of about 150 publications, including 96 research papers. His three major areas of research interest are the conservation biology of threatened wildlife, the ecology of introduced mammals, and the international impacts of invasive species on biodiversity, as summarised below.

1. Conservation biology of threatened wildlife

Mick has been closely involved in research on the conservation biology of a variety of threatened vertebrates, but his personal interests in this area have continued to focus on the ecology of New Zealand birds. This commenced with early Nelson-based research on the effects of plantation forestry on bird species. In 1982–83 he was a DSIR exchange fellow with CSIRO Wildlife Research and studied the foraging ecology of glossy black cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*). More recently, he has published work on the critically endangered kakapo (*Strigops habroptilus*), and the ecology of kereru (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*). Mick was one of the first ecologists to consider seed dispersal and avian frugivory in New Zealand forest ecosystems and he chaired an international symposium on this topic in 1990. At the UOA, he has worked with postgraduate students on the ecology of Ouvea parakeets (*Eunymphicus cornutus*) and of a variety of New Zealand species, including bats (*Mysticina tuberculata*), snails (*Powellipanta*), kiwi (*Apteryx*), kokako (*Callaeas cinerea*), and morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*). He continues to have a close working relationship with DOC, which now employs several of his previous students. Since 1995, he has chaired the DOC Kakapo Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, has been closely involved with the recovery of this species, and has authored several scientific papers on kakapo.

Mick's research on threatened species has led to his involvement in a number of current New Zealand initiatives in conservation, including the development of mainland sites for intensive management of invasive species that threaten native ecosystems. Several of Mick's postgraduate students have researched ecosystem processes or threatened species recovery at 'mainland island' sites such as Trounson Kauri Park, Te Urewera National Park, and Wenderholm and Tawharanui Regional Parks. Mick was an early advocate for ecological restoration on the mainland, through intensive pest control, and was instrumental in establishing one of the first 'mainland island' sites, at Wenderholm Regional Park, which has been used for a series of subsequent studies. Mick's interest in ecological restoration effectively combines his work on invasive species, ecology of introduced mammals and conservation biology.

His ornithological research led to Mick's election as a permanent Member of the International Ornithological Committee (IOC) at the 2002 International Ornithological Congress. At the 2006 Congress he was elected to the Executive Committee of the IOC.

2. Ecology of introduced mammals

This research programme has been based around Mick's longstanding interests in the ecology and behaviour of brushtail possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), which was the subject of his 1977 PhD. More recently, it has extended to work on other

introduced mammals, including hedgehogs, cats, mustelids and rodents. A strong recent interest (jointly with postgraduate students) has been the invasion ecology of introduced mammals on islands. This has led to several publications, including recent papers in *Nature* (Russell *et al.* 2005) and *PNAS* (Rayner *et al.* 2007) that attracted international attention.

Mick's own research on brushtail possum ecology (funded by a series of FRST grants) aimed to improve the prospects for biological control of these invasive marsupials through study of their behaviour in the wild, including their mating system and movement patterns. This programme supported two postdoctoral fellows and several postgraduate students, with many resulting publications. A combination of field ecology and DNA profiling revealed that possums have a polygynous mating system; a finding with major implications for any biological control strategy based on a sterility-causing agent transmitted by sexual contact. Other research has sought to improve epidemiological models, and the planning of possum control, through increased knowledge of contact rates between wild possums. To this end novel 'proximity recorders' were developed, for attachment to free-living possums, making it possible for the first time, to remotely measure the timing and duration of close contacts between free-ranging wild animals.

3. International Programme on the Biodiversity Impacts of Invasive Species

Finally, since 1993 Mick has chaired the IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), a global group of scientific experts on invasive species that he founded, at the invitation of the IUCN Species Survival Commission. The purpose of the group (now consisting of over 190 scientists from more than 50 countries) is to foster work on the impacts of invasive species on global biodiversity and to provide scientific and policy advice to international conventions, governments and conservation bodies. A twice-yearly international newsletter (*Aliens*) is published by the UOA and ISSG also runs a very active list-server, which has over 650 subscribers world-wide. Mick regularly contributes to international scientific meetings and policies on the impacts of invasive species on biodiversity and has published extensively in this area in recent years. In 2000, a major set of international policy guidelines that Mick initiated, and wrote the original text for, was completed and published. These international guidelines ("*Guidelines for the Prevention of Biodiversity Loss caused by Alien Invasive Species*") produced by ISSG have been formally adopted by IUCN and form the basis for the guiding principles on invasive species of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

From 1997 to 2000, Mick was a member of the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), leading research to help prevent and predict future biological invasions through collation and analysis of data on existing invasive species. The resulting Global Invasive Species Database (www.issg.org/database) (which ISSG continues to populate and maintain) is online and freely available. This is increasingly useful for preventing and managing the adverse effects of invasive species world-wide and the database currently receives over 50,000 'hits' per day.

In 2001, Mick co-organised an international conference on 'Eradication of Invasive Species'. The proceedings were published in 2002 as a peer-reviewed IUCN book, with Mick as co-editor. In 2007 he co-edited another IUCN book, on 'Assessment and Control of Biological Invasion Risks'. Mick continues to publish internationally on invasive species ecology and management and has recently been commissioned by Oxford University Press to co-edit a book in the OUP Techniques in Ecology series, on 'Principles and Techniques of Invasive Species Management'. This book (co-edited with Peter Williams) is scheduled for completion in 2008.

THE LONG ROAD TO SUSTAINABILITY

Phil Novis
Landcare Research

A tale in which two environmental scientists attempt to be environmentalists.

As another stock truck thundered past, I contemplated martyrdom—"impalement of scientist on bull bar as environmental statement". The big rigs between Kaikoura and Blenheim had been pretty incessant, combined with a deafening headwind making them impossible to anticipate. A microsecond later, two container loads of sheep might be hurtling past our elbows. It was Day Two of a five-day cycle trip from Christchurch to a science meeting in Cambridge: 918 km of riding to make a point.

Any scientist jetting off to a conference around New Zealand or the world will be uncomfortably aware that their activities contradict the environmental message that mainstream science sells to the public. When the Royal Society was founded, its members travelled to meetings by foot or horse-power, but their transport options have since expanded along with the technologies that they have helped to create. My career could now be spent attending conferences every week in different parts of the globe, assuming funding from a suitably amenable benefactor.

This queasy feeling had clearly been entertained by my colleague David. Inspired by fellow botanist Hugh Wilson (veteran of many long-distance cycle treks for botanical surveys), we formulated a plan to cycle to our next meeting. Such an effort, we felt, might highlight our concerns over the energy cost inherent in the way we do science. And besides, a five day cycle trip sounded like fun.

Some of it definitely was. A full description* would be tedious, repetitions of "and then another truck went past a bit close". Yet there were some great moments. Barrelling downhill from the Hundalees at 80 kph, I saw the Kaikoura Peninsula and felt a wave of affection for David, our enterprise, and gravity.

In the best scientific tradition, the trip was an opportunity to survey those native fauna known as "boy racers". Wellingtonian: characterised by leering while revving the engine at the lights. Taumarunuiian: barking out the window like sheepdogs on speed. Te Awamutuan: resembling chimpanzees in shopping trolleys, complete with hooting and baring of teeth. Particularly impressive in all cases: the need to call attention to the exhaust pipe (the very fundament of a car). Several theories of evolution suggest themselves—Zahavi's handicap theory of sexual selection, which states that absurd and oversized impediments evolve simply to impress the opposite sex (only a truly fit individual would be able to carry them around). Or, to quote from *New Scientist* on the disproportionate increase in size of certain body parts during evolution, "it has long been known that the visual indicators of reproductive prowess are a special case". As long as flexing an accelerator seems cooler than flexing one's own muscles, it seems we are doomed to an unsustainable future, and definitely an insensitive one.

David believes in a correlation between destination and road rage. I learned this courtesy of an immense, horn-leaning, smoke-belching SUV on the narrow Ashley Bridge at rush hour: "he's expressing what they're all feeling. They're all going to work, and they're all miserable." This reaction to bicycles cries out for a psychological study. Why, for example, does a tractor (taking up more space and going more slowly) engender tolerance rather than impatience and vitriol? Sounding the horn and speeding off to deny me a comeback doesn't seem all that brave. Or was Douglas Adams right, suggesting there is a special moral high ground inhabited only by those on pushbikes?

More psychoanalysis occurred at our destination, as we lost count of those compelled to ask if we were cycling home. David termed this "consistency as the moral high ground". An analogy is the perception that a vegetarian eating a meat pie is "worse" than an acknowledged carnivore doing so. The discussion moved on to sardhus, prepared to test themselves by holding an arm in the air for 10 years. "What sort of person does that?" I asked naively. "Perhaps the sort who bikes 918 km just to get to a meeting," someone replied.

Biking that distance is not news, being done all the time by cycle tourists, but as a commute it had a certain something. Neither David nor I are gun cyclists, yet it seemed surprisingly easy. Biking for eight hours apparently required less energy than the same time in the office. Perhaps we overestimate the requirements of physical exertion, and underestimate how much our jobs take out of us. This could be a future benefit of the sustainability movement: the potential for a slow-down, and reduction of that rush-hour misery.

The energy expenditures of cycling and flying make an interesting comparison. We biked for five days, with an estimated total output of 100 million joules each. Flying from Christchurch to Hamilton costs about 2.5 billion joules per passenger (see www.iea.org/). Put another way, the biking time required to expend as much energy as the plane flight would be prodigious—around four months.

However, this is not to say that all that energy was saved. The plane still flew without us. Some even assert that reducing carbon expenditure is impossible for an individual in a western economy. If a cyclist saves petrol, the money can still be spent on fuel consumption by other means through bank loans, since that is how our economy runs: carbon = fuel = money. Whether or not this is absolutely true is debatable—does every cent we ever spend go to burning oil?—but there is an important principle in it. One advocate of this theory commented: “the only thing you achieve, in carbon terms, by riding a bike is to demonstrate to others that there could be another way”. Therefore, if one makes a statement by cycling, one must publicise, to encourage collective action.

If there is a message, it must be that much of our resource expenditure seems strikingly unnecessary. Roadsides throughout the country—even those miles from anywhere—are littered with discarded plastic, and endemic hoons drive in circles around the CBD of every town. Some Wellington cycleways are covered with broken glass and barely usable; consequently I saw about 200 cars for every cyclist in that area. Imagine the savings if that statistic was reversed! And, of course, there is the shuttling of personnel around the country to attend sundry events at which their presence may not always be strictly necessary.

The future seems like a road that turns a bend ahead of us. What is around the corner? Some climate change predictions are dire; some are cautiously optimistic. Some proposed solutions seem sensible, some outrageously improbable. Whichever view one takes about climate change, though, oil availability has to decline sooner or later, and the decline could be steep. Alternative technologies have yet to prove themselves—and face an uphill battle against the efficiency of compressed past millennia that fossil fuels represent. An awful lot of our current behaviour seems to squander our society’s most useful resource, and the environmental problems we face are the results of irresponsible use of it. We should be conserving our strength, because we may be going to need it. A bit like the start of a long day’s cycling really.



A synopsis of the cycling:

Day 1: Christchurch to Kaikoura, 203 km. **Day 2:** Kaikoura to Picton, 164 km. **Day 3:** Masterton to Feilding, 127 km. **Day 4:** Feilding to Taumarunui via Wanganui, 254 km. **Day 5:** Taumarunui to Cambridge, 170 km. **Total:** 918 km of biking. Return was by bike, bus and car.

NZES AND IUCN

Wren Green

The Society has been a member of IUCN, or the World Conservation Union, for several years now, although it is a relationship that may not be familiar to the majority of members. This occasional, hopefully regular column, aims to breed more familiarity while avoiding a rise in contempt. I serve as a Council appointee, representing the New Zealand Ecological Society at the quarterly meetings of the seven New Zealand IUCN members who make up the New Zealand Committee of IUCN. The Department of Conservation, which is the State IUCN member for New Zealand, hosts these meetings in Wellington and provides secretarial services.

A very brief history

The sharp-eyed reader will have noted the mismatch between the acronym IUCN and the name—World Conservation Union. (Try Google, and www.WCU gives you the Workers Credit Union and Western Carolina University). The acronym IUCN appeared in 1956—the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. But IUCN actually started 60 years ago under a different name.

From its beginnings IUCN has had a distinguished scientific pedigree. In 1948, the United Nations was four years young and zoologist (Sir) Julian Huxley was serving as the first Director-General of UNESCO. Huxley thought UNESCO needed a scientific base, one that could address the post-war problems of exploitation of natural resources, educate people about the importance of conservation, and include legislative measures at a national and international scale. Huxley, along with key Swiss naturalists, was an important force that led to the creation of IUPN, the International Union for the Protection of Nature, later to become IUCN.

Sixty years on, it is remarkable how little the basic architecture of IUCN has changed, while its *modus operandi* has evolved to keep pace with the much more complex issues and demands that now challenge us all with respect to environmental degradation, sustainable development and conservation. From the beginning, IUCN has been a unique mix of government and non-government organisations, individuals (scientific and otherwise) dedicated to sharing ecological, legal and other forms of knowledge via IUCN's six commissions. Out of this broad constituency has emerged new thinking and new international tools. These have included: the World Conservation Strategy (1980), the first document to signal 'sustainable development' ideas; the Red Lists of endangered species; CITES; the Convention on Migratory Species and early drafts of what became the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Some of these initiatives came from various Commissions, particularly the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL). Others emerged as resolutions out of the global gatherings of the IUCN members. (These were called 'General Assemblies' up until 1994 and 'World Conservation Congress' since 1996). More on these global gatherings shortly as they provide a major opportunity for our involvement and influence on both national and international ecological issues.

Growth of IUCN

The very first global gathering in October 1948 at Fontainebleau, France, included representatives of just 23 governments, 8 international organisations, and 126 national organisations. Membership is never static. By March 2008, the 1104 members included 84 States, 111 government agencies (including the New Zealand Conservation Authority), 785 national NGOs, 89 international NGOs and 35 affiliates. In addition to the membership, there are over 10,000 volunteer scientists and other experts drawn from 160 countries and spread unevenly between the six commissions.

The third 'pillar' to IUCN (in addition to its members and commissions) is the Secretariat. Although the Secretariat is headquartered in Switzerland, the 1,100 staff are spread between 62 offices around the world. Of particular interest to us

in New Zealand is that two years ago an IUCN Secretariat office was established in Suva, Fiji. The Oceania region of which New Zealand is part (it includes New Zealand, Australia, and most Pacific Island countries) now has a Secretariat that we can work closely with on issues that are relevant to this region, especially in the Pacific, where problems are urgent and local capacity is inadequate.

The World Conservation Congress

The fourth such Congress (they are now held on a regular four-yearly cycle) will be held this October in Barcelona, Spain. In the next newsletter I will cover the major Congress events in more detail. The point I'd like to stress here is that each Congress provides IUCN members (and only members) with a unique opportunity to bring forward proposals, via motions, that can influence not only what IUCN does, but also bring pressure to bear on countries and the international community. A good local example is the motion on alien invasive species that the NZES developed for the 2000 Congress in Amman, Jordan. For the first time it put the issue of invasive species onto the IUCN global agenda for members. The IUCN Council (that I was on at the time) used this resolution to push the Secretariat into putting more resources into its global work on invasive species. This resolution also helped support New Zealand's interests in work on invasive species in the Pacific context.

The Council of NZES has until early June to submit any motion(s) that it might wish to see debated on IUCN's global stage in five months time.

HOT SCIENCE

This article was published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS, 2007, No.104, pp 20862-20865) and attracted international attention.

Spatial heterogeneity of mesopredator release within an oceanic island system

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Predator-prey communities are ubiquitous in ecology, but introduced predators can drive native species to extinction within island systems, prompting the eradication of such exotics. Ecological theory predicts that elimination of top-introduced predators from islands can lead to the counterintuitive decline of native prey populations through the ecological release of smaller introduced species in a process termed "mesopredator release." We show, in accordance with mesopredator release theory and counter to conservation goals for a New Zealand island reserve, that initial eradication of cats on Little Barrier Island led to reduced breeding success of Cook's petrels, which also are vulnerable to predation by a mesopredator, the Pacific rat. The rat's impact on prey productivity varied with elevation within the island. Rat eradication was followed by a rise in petrel productivity, in support of both ecological theory and practical conservation management goals. It appears that interactions among introduced predators, native prey, and environmental gradients can drive counterintuitive and spatially heterogeneous responses to predator eradications from islands. Location-specific, ecosystem-level understanding is essential for predicting the outcomes of such restoration management techniques.

ECOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

City Forest Reserves: refuges for indigenous fauna

Recent visits to two native forest remnants in the Auckland metropolis have confirmed the value of these reserves for conserving indigenous biodiversity.

Dingle Dell, in St Helliers, Auckland City is located close to the east coast. The flora of the reserve includes many mature and regenerating houpara (*Pseudopanax lessonii*), trees. A visit in February 2008 found the moth stem miner (*Acrocercops panacicorticis* (Watt 1920) (Gracillariidae)) to be abundant. A few leaf mines typical of a weevil (beetle) were also noted. This is only the third place this weevil has been found.

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The presence of the moth stem miner was interesting for three reasons:

- This was a new host plant association. Previous known hosts are five-finger (*P. arboreus*) and mountain five-finger (*P. colensoi*).
- Although the moth is widespread it is not usually abundant in lowland forest, suggesting that some of its parasitoids are absent.
- Although houpara is widely planted in gardens and parks, the moth stem miner has only been found in native forest and shrublands.

Houpara can also host a moth leaf miner, *Acrocercops panacivagans* (Watt 1920), but this leaf miner was not found in Dingle Dell.

The second reserve, Smiths Bush on Auckland's North Shore was the setting of the April 2008 Auckland BioBlitz. This reserve contains huge mature kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*) and puriri (*Vitex lucens*) trees. Unfortunately, a motorway cuts through one end of the reserve. The herbivore fauna was interesting for both what was present and what was absent. For example, the silver fern (*Cyathea dealbata*) and *Asplenium* leaf mining flies, (*Phytoliriomyza cyathea*, & *P. flavopleura* (Diptera: Agromyzidae) respectively) were present, but the leaf mining fly hosted by mahoe (*Melicytus ramiflorus*) was absent despite the abundance of the host plant. The latter is often present in native forest remnants located within the city.

Clearly, reserves with fragments of native forest have value for conserving native invertebrates, but they usually only contain a proportion of the fauna found in nearby larger forests. Urban forest remnants, may however, be a suitable resource for the study of 'island' biogeography and the consequences of habitat fragmentation.

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Are kaka predatory?

In January 2005 while visiting Kapiti Island, our party observed and photographed a nest of three North Island robin chicks. The adult robin pair was in close attendance. Our interest in the nest also aroused the curiosity of a kaka. Our party moved further up the track to return within a few minutes to find the nest empty, two distraught parent birds, and a kaka nowhere to be seen. When kaka are "socialised" in places like Kapiti or Karori Sanctuary are they predatory and opportunistic feeders, or is there evidence that they are naturally predatory?

Kea have well known carnivorous feeding and in passing I note Travers (TNZI 4, 1871) reports that kaka are fond of raw flesh (sheep offal).

I would be pleased to know of any evidence or references that kaka predate on other bird nests.

NZES ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2008

Ecology on our doorstep



New Zealand Ecological Society Conference Auckland 2008

28 September – 2 October 2007

Mel Galbraith
Conference Organising
Committee

Introduction

The 2008 conference of the New Zealand Ecological Society is set for 27 September – 2 October, hosted by the School of Natural Sciences, Unitec New Zealand, Carrington Rd, Auckland. We look forward to the comprehensive range of papers spanning research, issues and solutions within the discipline of ecology that we associate with our conference.

The principle theme of the conference, *Ecology on our doorstep*, acknowledges that we will be gathering in New Zealand's largest city where iconic ecological systems are indeed on the doorstep and visible from every high point of the city—though their ecological significance may not always be fully recognised. These systems include the vegetated ranges west and south, estuarine habitats, and gulf islands that are now refugia for biodiversity. The city is typical of urbanised areas worldwide—characterised by environmental degradation and fragmentation, and where the natural world and its associated ecological attributes are, more often than not, obscured and/or ignored. Auckland, however, does have many examples of projects, initiatives of both local government and community groups, which seek to redress this ecological degradation. Such initiatives will be highlighted through an *Urban ecology* symposium, representing a significant element emerging within the discipline of ecology.

One of the Auckland projects that has benefited from a community of willing volunteers is Tiritiri Matangi Island. The ecological restoration of this island started in 1984. A symposium *Tiritiri Matangi – 25 years of ecological restoration* offers an opportunity to reflect on the successes and issues, research findings and future direction for the project. A special edition of the *NZ Journal of Ecology* in 2009 focusing on Tiritiri Matangi Island will be an outcome of this symposium.

As with any discipline, it is the contribution of individuals that maintains the profile and progress of knowledge, often through the involvement in professional organisations such as NZES. One such individual is long-standing NZES member Associate Professor John Ogden. John is retiring this year after 29 years at the University of Auckland, and a third symposium at the conference will acknowledge his contribution to ecological research and scholarship.

Timing and dates

Registration and the call for papers are now open:

- The final call for paper abstracts close on Tuesday 1 July
- The early-bird cheaper registration closes on 31 July

However don't leave it too late as all the field trips and the conference dinner have limited places and will be closed off once full. So register early!

During the conference, the main talks will run for three days, **Monday 29, Tuesday 30 September, and Thursday 2 October**, with the field trips running on Wednesday 1 October. As usual, the student day will run on the preceding Sunday, 28 September.

The AGM will be on **Tuesday 30 September at 5.00 pm.**

Tentative programme

Time	Sunday 28 Sep	Monday 29 Sep	Tuesday 30 Sep	Wednesday 1 Oct	Thursday 2 Oct
Day	Student day 9.30am	Welcome Plenary session Tiritiri Matangi symposium & contributed papers Poster session: 5.00 – 6.15pm	John Ogden symposium & contributed papers AGM: 5.15pm	Field trips (full day or half)	Urban Ecology symposium & contributed papers Conference closes 3.30pm
Evening		Informal mixer from 6.30pm		Conference dinner 7.30pm	

Scientific programme

The theme of the conference *Ecology on our doorstep* reflects the importance and role of ecological processes and systems in and around the city. We invite papers on all aspects of the application of ecology. The **call for papers closes on 1 July.**

There are three symposia proposed for the conference. These are:

1. **Urban Ecology:** Reflecting the hosting of the annual conference in our largest urban area, this symposium will focus around the ecology of organisms within an urban setting. If you would like to contribute to the symposium, in the first instance please contact Bruce Burns (burnsb@landcarereserach.co.nz).
2. **Tiritiri Matangi – 25 years of ecological restoration:** This symposium will review the island's ecological restoration journey and the lessons learned. If you would like to contribute to the symposium, in the first instance please contact Mel Galbraith (mgalbraith@unitec.ac.nz).
3. **John Ogden:** This symposium will acknowledge the contribution to the discipline of ecology by Prof. John Ogden, University of Auckland, on his retirement. If you are interested in this symposium please contact Peter Bellingham (bellingham@landcareresearch.co.nz).

Registration costs and how to register

www.newzealandecology.org/conf2008/

The conference fees this year are:

- \$280 for early-bird full registration for ordinary NZES members, and
- \$150 for student members.

Early-bird registration closes on **31 July**, but don't wait or you might forget—register now!

Note that there is no subsidised registration rate for students who are not members. If you are a student and you want to take advantage of the cheaper student rate, you must sign up as a member (\$45) first—you can do this via the NZES website www.newzealandecology.org/join.html.

Student Day

The traditional Student Day will be held on Sunday 28 September in the School of Natural Sciences at Unitec. This is an opportunity for students to share their research, network and socialise with their peers from other institutions.

Presentations will commence at 9.30 am, with morning tea and lunch provided at the venue. Any student registered as a conference attendee may offer an oral presentation. The presentation to the student audience can be the same as that being offered for inclusion in the main conference programme, and should therefore follow the same format guidelines. The student day is free, but only students registered as conference attendees may attend the presentations. Please register for the student day on the conference website.

Student Prizes

The New Zealand Ecological Society will be offering awards for the best student presentations (oral and poster). Please tick the box on the registration form if you are presenting in the main conference and wish to be eligible for best student presentation awards.

Student Travel Grants

Travel grants are awarded annually to encourage student participation at the Society's annual conference. Four grants of \$250 each are available and priority is given to those presenting papers at the main conference and those who have furthest to travel. All *bona fide* students enrolled at a secondary or tertiary educational institute are eligible. Membership to the society is not required (but see note above, it is worth joining to save on registration). Applications should be submitted by email to Chris Bycroft (chris@wildlands.co.nz). Applications for the grant **close on 15 August 2008**.

Your application should include full details of:

- your course of study (name of degree, title of project, years of enrolment, name of primary supervisor, and email address of primary supervisor),
- where you are travelling from,
- whether you have any other funding confirmed towards your trip (e.g. from your department), and

- whether you have applied unsuccessfully for funds (this is viewed positively).

The four grants will be made available to the successful students prior to the conference.

Social events

Three social events are planned in the programme—the poster session on Monday afternoon, an optional informal mixer Monday evening, and the conference dinner on the Wednesday evening:

Informal mixer

Monday evening following the poster session, **\$30 per person** (light meal, cash bar available). An opportunity to unwind and network at *Carringtons*, the on-campus café/bar in an historical setting. Tickets available through the registration process.

Conference dinner

The conference dinner will be held from 7:30 pm on Wednesday 1 October at the on-campus Carringtons Restaurant. The dinner (\$80 per person) will be a buffet with hot and cold dishes (including vegetarian options) and desserts. We will also provide the equivalent of 2 glasses of wine per person of wine per person, and additional drinks can be purchased from the cash bar. Numbers are strictly limited for this venue, so please register early.

Field trips

There are six choices of field trips on Wednesday 1 October: four full-day trips and two half-day trips. Community groups are integral in the management of many of the field trip destinations. The trips are all subject to limited numbers and will be closed off when those places are taken—so, again, register early.

Full-day trips

1. Tiritiri Matangi Island – \$80 per person

After 25 years of ecological restoration, Tiritiri Matangi has gained both a national and an international reputation as a wildlife experience. A community group, Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi, plays a significant role through contributions to the island's infrastructure and biodiversity management. The field trip will provide an opportunity to assess the successes and issues of this restoration project. (websites: [DOC](#) and [Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi](#))

2. Tawaharanui Regional Park – \$50 per person

Tawaharanui Regional Park is a mainland island, with a 2.5 km predator-proof fence isolating it from the surrounding environments. Park management is supported by a community group, Tawaharanui Open Sanctuary Society (TOSSI). The field trip will focus on the biodiversity successes and predator management issues within the park. ([Tawaharanui Regional Park website](#))

3. Ark in the Park – \$50 per person

This a Forest and Bird mainland island project in partnership with the Auckland Regional Council. The project aims to reduce significantly animal and plant pests in a 2000ha area of the northern Waitakere Ranges, west of Auckland City. Urban ecological mitigation initiatives of Waitakere City will also be visited en route. ([Ark in the Park website](#))

4. Rangitoto Island – \$40 per person

Rangitoto Island is an Auckland icon, dominating the skyline from the city and the Hauraki Gulf alike. Past restoration actions have included the eradication of possums and wallabies from the island and neighbouring Motutapu Island. The Department of Conservation is now investigating the removal of the last seven mammalian pests—Norway rats, ship rats, mice, rabbits, stoats, feral cats and hedgehogs. The field trip will explore the complex issues associated with this eradication target. ([DOC Pest eradication website](#))

*Half-day trips (morning)***5. Estuarine restoration—wading birds (morning)– \$25 per person**

Technological advances in land-based wastewater treatment has allowed the ecological restoration of 500 ha of estuarine habitat of the Manukau Harbour and 13 km of shoreline. This has had significant benefits for wading birds — the field trip is an opportunity to view the birds on the high-tide roosts.

6. Chelsea Park (afternoon) – \$25 per person

A visit to Auckland's most recent park—37 ha of vegetated land and lakes purchased this year, located within sight of Auckland's CBD. The park is a significant addition to the protected of a section of the Waitemata Harbour coastline recognised as having regional environmental importance.

T-shirts

The conference t-shirt will be black with a white logo, available only by pre-ordering through the on-line registration process. Price \$20, sizes S-XL.

Conference bags

As per the 2007 conference, there WILL NOT BE A CONFERENCE BAG given out. Please reuse your favourite bag from a previous conference.

Sustainability

As per the 2007 conference, there WILL NOT BE A CONFERENCE BAG given out —please reuse your favourite bag from a previous conference. We will offer an opportunity to donate to a local ecological restoration project as a means of offsetting the carbon emissions of your travel to the conference.

Accommodation options

There are many options for staying in Auckland, though the options for accommodation within close proximity to the campus are limited. However, Unitec is situated on a main bus route, and only 10 mins walk from the Mt Albert train station. For those intending to commute to Unitec from the city by private vehicle, most of the trip may be counter to peak commuter traffic—it may not be as traumatic as you think!

The website has a range of accommodation options available for those that wish to book through the registration facility.

See you at the end of September!

NZES AWARDS 2008

Nominations for the 2008 NZES Awards are now open. Please send nominations for:

- Te Tohu Taiao – Award for Ecological Excellence
- NZES Award for Best Publication by a new researcher
- NZES Ecology in Action Award, and
- Honorary Life Membership

to Chris Bycroft (Chris@wildlands.co.nz) by 30 June 2008. For full details of the Awards and nomination criteria please see the last newsletter (Issue No.123).

ANNUAL APPEAL FOR KAURI FUND FOR ECOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Help send students to INTECOL 2009

We invite you to help grow the science of ecology in New Zealand by contributing to the NZES Kauri Fund. This fund was established in 2001 to provide resources for initiatives that assist the development of ecology and ecologists in New Zealand. As the Fund grows, it will play an increasingly critical role in advancing the Society's goals and fund exciting new initiatives for New Zealand ecology.

In its initial phase, the Fund has simply been accumulating capital but the Council now wish to start using this resource. A fast approaching need is to assist graduate student travel to the 10th International Congress of Ecology (<http://www.intecol10.org/>) to be held in Brisbane, Australia on the 16–21 August, 2009. This will double as the NZES annual conference for next year. The Council wish to use interest generated from the Kauri Fund over the next year to support students to attend this important event.

Please consider a contribution, whether \$10, \$20 or \$50, to the Kauri Fund now to help send our students to Brisbane.

You can make your contribution to the Kauri Fund in two ways:

Send a cheque made out to the "NZES Kauri Fund" to the New Zealand Ecological Society, P.O. Box 25 178, Christchurch 8144.

Use internet banking, to credit your donation to NZ Ecological Society, bank account 06 0729 0465881 00, identifying the payment as "Kauri Fund".

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 20 MOST OUTSTANDING RESTORATION PROJECTS IN AUSTRALIA

The Ecological Management and Restoration (EMR) journal and its parent organisation the Ecological Society of Australia (ESA) is proud to announce a new partnership with the Society for Ecological Restoration International (SERI).

The project is to find the 20 most outstanding on-ground ecosystem restoration projects in Australasia (land, water and atmosphere) and feature them via a weblink to SERI's Global Restoration website (www.globalrestorationnetwork.org/) in time for 2009's international conferences of SERI and INTECOL (which will be held for the first time in Australia).

SERI is the world's oldest and most dynamic restoration organisation with high relevance to Australasia—but many projects in Australasia have also developed ideas and techniques of high relevance to the rest of the world. The time is right for international and regional cross-fertilisation!

A project can be nominated if it:

1. is an outstanding Australasian example of on-ground ecological restoration for a particular biome or ecosystem (as described in the SERI primer http://www.ser.org/content/ecological_restoration_primer.asp)
2. has broken new ground in terms of ecological or on-ground philosophies or techniques
3. is based on sound ecological principles and clearly stated goals
4. exhibits high quality on-ground implementation standards
5. has demonstrated results over many years
6. is of significant scale or with potential to be adopted on a larger scale
7. has been soundly monitored and evaluated and has had at least one peer reviewed article published on it
8. has sound social underpinnings and sufficient support from stakeholders to be sustained into the future

[If you do not meet all these criteria, please send a nomination form anyway in case we can help you spread the word about your project.]

NOTICEBOARD

Kauri Fund appeal

Outstanding restoration projects in Australia

Nomination forms

Available from Tein McDonald
teinm@ozemail.com.au

Closing date

2 JUNE 2008

The selected project managers will gain the right to tag their winning project with an EMR/Global Restoration Network 2009 'badge' and will be encouraged to develop an online report (guided by EMR's committee) for hyperlinking to an interactive map on the GRN website by 2009.

Nomination forms: available from Tein McDonald teinm@ozemail.com.au

Closing date: 2 JUNE 2008

Any questions regarding applications should come to Bruce Clarkson (b.clarkson@waikato.ac.nz) as the New Zealand representative on the Global Restoration Network Working Group.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Ecological Society of Australia Conference 2008

ESA 08
Sydney 1-5 December 2008



Interactions in Science, Interactions in Nature

33rd Annual ESA Conference

Interactions in science, interactions in nature

University of Sydney, New South Wales

1–5 December 2008

The organising committee now welcome suggestions for symposia topics from NZES members, please send these to Clare McArthur at claremc@usyd.edu.au

www.ecolsoc.org.au/2008SydneyConference.htm

Fourth Biennial Conference of the International Biogeography Society

Fourth Biennial Conference of the International Biogeography Society

Mérida, México,

8–12 January 2009

Invited symposia will feature talks on the biogeography of disease, patterns and processes in biotic transition zones, disjunct distributions in Asia and America, and the biogeography of species extinction. Attendees are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations. The conference will also include workshops, field excursions, and social events.

Registration, contact, and additional information may be found at: www.biogeography.org.

International Wetland Conference – INTECOL

The 8th INTECOL Wetland Symposium

Cuiabá, Mato Grosso, Brazil,

20–25 July, 2008

Hosted by: the Federal University of Mato Grosso (Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso) and the Pantanal Research Centre.

This is the first meeting of the Wetland Working Group (WWG) in South America and it will be the largest international meeting on wetlands in Latin America. The conference will stimulate international and continental-scale interactions and promote wetland education, research and management throughout the region. A major field attraction is the Pantanal of Mato Grosso, an excellent example of international cooperation in research and development of wetlands, bordered by three countries. The city of Cuiabá is the gateway to the Pantanal, the capital of Mato Grosso state.

www.cppantanal.org.br/intecol/eng/venue_cuiaba.php.

Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) Conference

The World Conference on Ecological Restoration: Making Change in a Changing World
Perth, Western Australia, Australia,
23–27 August 2009.

Scientific Programme

The three-day scientific program will feature topics of global interest with debate on “Our restoration capabilities within a changing world”. Topics that are relevant, of high focus, and contemporary in Australia will also be highlighted during the scientific program.

Field Trips and Social Programme

Given Perth’s stunning location in a global biodiversity hotspot, the pre- and post- conference multi-day field trips are guaranteed to be conference highlights, showcasing some of Western Australia’s unique flora and fauna, ancient landscapes and striking coastline. One-day field trips will highlight Western Australia’s biodiversity conservation issues and forest, woodland, coastal, wetland, and mining restoration programs; while the social program will include a welcome cocktail party, sunset drinks and conference dinner, with special evening speakers and entertainment.

Preliminary themes and general conference information can be found at: seri2009@bgpa.wa.gov.au.

INTERCOL downunder 2009**Ecology in a Changing Climate:****Two Hemispheres – One Globe**

The 10th International Congress of Ecology (INTECOL) will be held in Brisbane in August 2009. [INTECOL](#) is an international society founded in 1967 which has organised major scientific meetings, in particular the International Congresses of Ecology.

The Brisbane meeting will be the first INTECOL congress to be held in the Southern Hemisphere. The bid was fully supported by the [Ecological Society of Australia](#) and the New Zealand Ecological Society. It will include fieldtrips in New Zealand as well as Australia.

INTECOL promises to be a great opportunity for NZ ecologists to attend a major international conference.

Call for symposia proposals is now open

For more information on INTECOL 2009, visit: www.intecol10.org.

THE BOOKSHELF

Natural History of Canterbury

Landmark volume a must-have for natural scientists

Natural scientists throughout the country had better make some space on their bookshelves as the expansive third edition of *The Natural History of Canterbury* is launched this month by Canterbury University Press.

The 924-page volume provides a comprehensive, up-to-date account of knowledge of Canterbury's flora, fauna and environment.

Written with a broad audience in mind, it will be an invaluable resource for natural scientists, students, environmental managers, and interested lay readers from Canterbury and throughout New Zealand.

Emeritus Professor Michael Winterbourn, one of the book's four co-editors, described the book as a "landmark volume" in biological sciences publishing and said his hope was that it would be as well-used as the previous edition (published in 1969) that shared the same title.

Professor Winterbourn said the publication of the new edition, effectively a new book given the enormous increase in new information it contained, was very exciting.

"This huge book has been a long time in gestation and it will be really good to see it out at last."

The book's 27 chapters draw on the wide-ranging experience and expertise of more than 40 scientists and academics. With so many authors, pulling the book together had been a mammoth project for the four co-editors—Emeritus Professor George Knox, Dr Colin Burrows, Associate Professor Islay Marsden and Professor Winterbourn—and Canterbury University Press editors Rachel Scott and the late Richard King.

Professor Marsden said the majority of authors were Canterbury residents or had strong links with the region. More than half of them have University of Canterbury connections, with current, former and retired staff, and past and present students having contributed to chapters in the book.

"There is also a lot of previously-unpublished information, for example from student theses, so the book makes it all available and places it in context. We hope the book will allow people to get into the literature very easily in all sorts of areas as each chapter is very thoroughly referenced," Professor Marsden said.

Chapters cover the geology, geomorphology and geography of the region, its climate and soils, and the history of Maori colonisation and life. Vegetation, past and present, is dealt with in detail, as are fossil and present-day faunas, including birds, amphibians, reptiles and marine mammals.

The ecology of terrestrial, marine and freshwater habitats is comprehensively examined and timely and thought-provoking chapters deal with ecological restoration, conservation issues and environmental management.

Extensive use of colour photographs enables the reader to visualise many of the remarkable plants, animals and landscapes found in the region.

The Natural History of Canterbury will be launched at the University of Canterbury's University Bookshop (UBS) on Thursday 29 May. It was published with the support of the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand and the Canterbury Community Trust.

The Natural History of Canterbury, edited by Michael Winterbourn, George Knox, Colin Burrows and Islay Marsden, published by Canterbury University Press, May 2008, RRP NZ\$195.00, Hardback with slip case, 260 x 190 mm 924 pp, 661 photos, colour throughout. ISBN 978-1-877257-57-5.

For further information
please contact:

Maria De Cort

Publicist

Canterbury University Press

c/-Communications &

Development

University of Canterbury

Private Bag 4800

NEWS FROM YOUR COUNCIL

Membership update

New members as confirmed by Council on 23 May 2008:

Quin and Janica Amoore (New Plymouth District Council)
 Glenn Davis (Davis Environmental Services)
 Hagan Kocksch
 Rupert Lewis (Te Ngahere)
 Anna Ryken and Richard Mairs
 Blake Murden (Port Blakely Tree Farms, Tumwater, Washington)
 Kate Whyte

The resignation of the following members was also accepted:

Brett Gilmore	Slaven Kljucanin	Gabriella Beans Picon
Sean Husheer	Kate Orwin	James Russell
Halema Jamieson	Janet Owen	Kim Weitjmans

Do you know these people?

We have lost touch with the following members. If you know of the whereabouts of anyone, or indeed you find your own name listed below, please steer them towards/ contact the secretariat at info@nzes.org.nz to update contact details.

Esta Chappell	Rebecca Eivers	Jayden O van Horik
Joy Comrie	Darren Kriticos	

We need your help!

The NZES Council is currently assessing how best to communicate with members, and to maximise the value of the newsletter. Now the newsletter is electronic, and in combination with the valuable function of the Society web page, there is a lot of potential for a new approach to the newsletter format. But first, we would like to hear from you! Please email your replies to the following questions to newsletter@nzes.org and help us improve the newsletter.

1. Do you read the newsletter?

Always sometimes hardly ever never

2. How much of the newsletter do you read?

All of it selected bits anything that looks interesting just the events

3. What do you/would you find most interesting (choose as many as apply)

Feature articles	Hot Science	Upcoming Events	Book reviews
Council News	Ecological Observations	Popular science articles	Applied ecology
Resource Management	Current environmental issues	Council Minutes	Other

4. What do you/would you find least interesting (choose as many as apply)

Feature articles	Hot Science	Upcoming Events	Book reviews
Council News	Ecological Observations	Popular science articles	Applied ecology
Resource Management	Current environmental issues	Council Minutes	Other

5. What would you like to see in your newsletter?

MINUTES OF THE NZES COUNCIL MEETING

Abridged and edited minutes of the Council meeting held at Auckland Regional Council, 23 May 2008

Present:

Shona Myers, Bruce Burns, Clayson Howell, Chris Bycroft, Fleur Maseyk, John Sawyer, Mel Galbraith, Jacqueline Beggs, Ruth Guthrie.

Apologies

Peter Bellingham

Membership report

The membership of the society is currently 623 members.

The Secretariat provided a list of members who are GNA and others that have been on hold for a while. John moved that we publicise GNA paid up from 2007 in the newsletter to try to get new contact information; the others to be struck off the database. Seconded: Shona. Moved.

The Secretariat also provided a list of people who are 2 years or more in arrears who are therefore due to be struck off as members. These people have had numerous reminders. Bruce moved that people more than 2 years in arrears to be struck off membership; Seconded Mel. Moved.

Treasurers Report

Summaries of accounts as of 22/5/08:

Cheque:	\$1316.38
Cash flow:	\$62 250.33
Barlow Fund:	\$53 29.50
Kauri Fund:	\$36 920.97
Westpac Cheque:	\$13 952.78.

The Westpac account has been kept for credit card transactions for membership subscription payments because the National bank fees for this service are very large. Clayson will approach the National Bank and try to negotiate a no-fee service for us. Clayson will investigate an investment strategy for the various funds to maximise the interest earned by our accounts (e.g. term investment options).

Clayson moved that treasurer's report be accepted. Seconded by Bruce. Moved.

The Society has received a bequest from the estate of Dr Kenneth Allan who died earlier this year at the age of 97. He was the inaugural president of the NZES. Mel moved that bequest be put into the Kauri fund. Seconded by Bruce. Moved.

Newsletter report

Fleur inquired if the minutes (edited version) could go on the website rather than in the newsletter. A link to the minutes section of the website could be added to the newsletter along with a few bullet points of the highlights; if members wish to read the minutes they can then check the website. New members and resignations will still go into the newsletter as acknowledgement. Fleur moved that minutes go onto website. Seconded Ruth. Moved.

Bruce provided the ESA publication "Frontiers in ecology and the environment" as an example of how society newsletters have moved more into a journal format with an emphasis on science news. It seems that our newsletter is more bureaucratic rather than providing up and coming science/ecology news. Shona noted that this is part of the communications strategy of making the science more accessible.

IUCN content for newsletter

Wren has written a comprehensive introduction about IUCN for newsletter and discussion about what is going on and NZES role.

Website and logo design

Redesign of the website and logo is an important part of the NZES communications strategy. John suggested that a redesign of the front interface page of the website would not cost very much and we could revamp the society quickly. Mel pointed out that the communication strategy needs investment for it to work. Council agreed to investigate the cost of the website and logo redesign and present new logo options to members at the AGM.

Conferences

INTECOL

Amount of activity has ramped up, Bruce now on three subcommittees. The call for symposia has gone out and the call for abstracts will go out in September 08 and will be open till March 09. The field trips, events and programme are currently being finalised.

The registration costs are going to be \$800-1000 dollars Australian. This is partially due to the venue being in central Brisbane. The British Ecological Society has put aside £15000 to assist their members in getting to the conference; Bruce suggested that we could (to a limited extent) free up some funds to assist members attending/presenting at the conference. This is a key opportunity for New Zealand ecologists to be a part of global ecology. We are expecting to make some profit from the conference – and therefore potential exists for us to underwrite some of this profit to help members going to the conference. The goal would be to see members at the conference rather than making profit for the society.

Bruce moved that in principal we set aside \$20k as a starting point (40 members @ \$500 grant) to assist with members attending INTECOL. Shona seconded. Moved

Shona and Bruce are now directors of the company set up for INTECOL.

Conference 2008 – Auckland

Call for abstracts has gone out. Call for Registrations should go out by the by the end of May pending a couple of financial decisions. The web pages for registration from the last conference are still available and will be updated and made live for registration this year. This should be maintained and used every year as a saving to each conference.

Shona moved the council provide funding for 2 community members to attend the conference, those people to be decided by the conference committee. Seconded Jacqueline. Moved.

Mel moved that we apply to charitable trusts to support community members attending the conference. Seconded Shona. Moved.

Barlow Fund

The Barlow Fund will be at a level next year where grants can be awarded. Council began discussion about how the fund can be administered and how to target the fund for best effect. A trust document needs to be set up around how the fund will be administered. Agreement that it would be good to kick this off next year for the inaugural scholarship due to the profile around INTECOL.

Kauri Fund

This fund will reach a point where grants are able to be awarded with the addition of the bequest from the estate of Kenneth Allan. Any interest accumulated over the next year will go into INTECOL funding (for members to attend) and then profit from INTECOL can go directly back to fund. Council needs to think about criteria for administering the fund based around the criteria in the trust document.

Next meeting on Wednesday 13 August in Christchurch.

NZES LISTSERVER

Dave Kelly

Dave.Kelly@canterbury.ac.nz

RULES FOR THE NZES LISTSERVER

This listserver is for “issues of general interest” to NZ ecologists (conferences, jobs, etc).

The list has three key guidelines:

1. Only messages of genuine general interest. No ads for things being sold (this does not include job ads which are OK) and no fringe interests. If in doubt check with me first.
2. If you want to reply to a posting, the default is for you to reply only to the sender. Do not reply to the whole list unless you are sure your point will be of “general interest”, which most replies are not. Please check what “To” field you have set before pressing “Send”. Remember this listserver is primarily for announcements, not discussions.
3. No attachments—put your message in plain text, with if necessary a link to a pdf on a web page.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

To subscribe to this server, e-mail a message to the automatic Mailserv processor at: nzecosoc-request@it.canterbury.ac.nz following text in the body of the e-mail:

SUBSCRIBE NZECOSOC
END

To unsubscribe from the listserv, send this message to the same address above:

UNSUBSCRIBE NZECOSOC

Once subscribed, you will receive instructions on how to send messages, unsubscribe etc. PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS AND FOLLOW THEM.

TO SEND A MESSAGE

To send a message to everybody on the list, use the address, nzecosoc@it.canterbury.ac.nz. Only people subscribed to the list are able to post to it. If you are not on the list and don't want to subscribe, but want a message, send it to me (Dave.Kelly@canterbury.ac.nz) to forward on.

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

If you change your email address, you have to unsubscribe from the old one, and subscribe from the new address. The easiest way to unsubscribe your old email address is to send a message while you are logged on at the old address; if the old email address is dead you will not be able to unsubscribe it because the system sees you as someone else. In that case email me and I can do it for you.

Office Holders of the New Zealand Ecological Society 2007/2008

(Effective from December 2007)

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This Newsletter was produced by Fleur Maseyk and Jeremy Rolfe.

Contributions for the newsletter—news, views, letters, cartoons, etc.—are welcomed. Please e-mail to editors (newsletter@nzes.org.nz) with document attached (Word formatted for Windows) or post. If posting, if possible, please send articles for the newsletter both on disk and in hard copy. Please do not use complex formatting; capital letters, italics, bold, and hard returns only, no spacing between paragraphs. Send disk and hard copy to:

Fleur Maseyk

Horizons Regional Council

P.O. Box 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North

Next deadline for the newsletter is Friday 27 June 2008.

Unless indicated otherwise, the views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Ecological Society or its Council.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the society is open to any person interested in ecology and includes botanists, zoologists, teachers, students, soil scientists, conservation managers, amateurs and professionals.

Types of Membership and Subscription Rates (2008)

Full (receive journal and newsletter) . \$75* per annum

Unwaged (with journal) \$45* per annum

Unwaged membership is available only on application to Council for full-time students, retired persons etc. Unwaged members may receive the journal but must specifically request it.

Joint..... \$75* per annum

Joint members get one copy of the journal and newsletter to one address.

Overseas Full \$95* per annum

Overseas Unwaged..... \$65* per annum

School..... \$12 per annum

Educational institutions may receive the newsletter at the cost of production to stay in touch with Society activities. By application to Council.

There are also Institutional Rates for libraries, government departments etc.

Overseas members may send personal cheques for their local equivalent of the NZ\$ amount at current exchange rates, for most major overseas currencies.

For more details on membership please write to:

NZ Ecological Society

PO Box 25 178

Christchurch

NEW ZEALAND

or e-mail: info@nzes.org.nz

* There is a \$10 rebate for members who renew before Feb 15 each year, and for new members