

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES FUND

PROJECTS FUNDED IN THE 2026 FUNDING ROUND

ABOUT THIS FUNDING ROUND

A total of 34 applications were received in the 2026/27 Environmental Initiatives Fund (EIF) round, totalling \$1,109,976.85 in requested funds. 13 applications were ineligible, and 9 applications were declined. Grants totalling \$371,088.87 were made to 12 projects.

HABITAT TUATEAWA INCORPORATED

Project: New Technology for Increased Biodiversity
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$20,990.42
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Habitat Tuatēawa is a community group in the northern Coromandel undertaking pest control for biodiversity since 1997. This funding will be used to purchase trapping materials and support the part-time coordination of Habitat Tuatēawa's trapping volunteers.

RINGS BEACH WETLAND GROUP INCORPORATED

Project: 2026 Wilding Pine Regrowth Control
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$40,000
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Rings Beach Wetland Group was established in 2008 by volunteers to restore the 270 hectare Matarangi Bluff Scenic Reserve with community-led pest plant and pest animal control. This funding will go towards the removal of wilding pine trees within the reserve.

MAHAKIRAU FOREST ESTATE SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Project: Mahakirau Sanctuary: Pathways to Protection
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$26,869.16
Duration of Funding: 1 year

Mahakirau Forest Estate Society runs a predator control programme on behalf of 24 landowners on 580 hectares of QEII protected native forest between Coromandel and Whitianga. This funding will support ground-based predator control and biodiversity monitoring.

PIAKO WAIHOU CATCHMENT TRUST

Project: Multiple community-led habitat restoration and education projects and resources
District: Matamata-Piako, South Waikato and Hauraki
EIF Contribution: \$36,813

Duration of Funding: 2 years

The Piako Waihou Catchment Trust was established in 2016 to improve the unique biodiversity and ecosystems within the Piako Waihou catchment including lowland forest remnants and wetlands. This funding will support the management and administration of restoration activities and the purchase of predator control materials.

TE MOATA CHARITABLE TRUST

Project: Predator Free Te Moata
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$39,629.90
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Te Moata Charitable Trust manages 344 hectares of regenerating native bush protected by a QEII covenant since 1987, with the aim of protecting indigenous biodiversity and a key focus on kiwi protection. This funding will support ground-based predator control and biodiversity monitoring.

COLVILLE JUNCTION CHARITABLE TRUST

Project: Te Ūmangawha o ngā Waka/Colville Pest Control
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$39,549.93
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Colville Junction was founded in 1997 to support communities in the northern Coromandel. This funding will go towards the expansion and servicing of their predator control network as well as supporting biodiversity monitoring and targeted pest plant control.

KAITIAKITANGA CHARITABLE TRUST

Project: Northern Pureora Trapping Project
District: Ōtorohanga
EIF Contribution: \$40,000
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Kaitiakitanga Charitable Trust works with youth to guide them towards finding their mana and confidence by introducing them to environmental work and rural job opportunities. This funding will be used to support ground-based predator control on farms surrounding Pureora Forest to provide a buffer to a high value biodiversity area.

THE COLVILLE PROJECT TRUST

Project: The Colville Project Ecological Restoration and Weed Management Programme
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$12,420
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Colville Project Trust was formed in 2017 with the aim of purchasing a 35 hectare land block to build a multipurpose community facility in northern Coromandel. This funding will be utilised to support targeted pest plant control throughout regenerating podocarp-broadleaf forest.

AWAROA KI KARIOITAHU LANDCARE GROUP

Project: Pest Control Expansion
District: Waikato
EIF Contribution: \$40,000
Duration of Funding: 1 year

Awaroa Ki Karioitahi Catchment Landcare Incorporated is a community-led Incorporated Society based in the northwest Waikato and south Auckland dedicated to controlling predators. This funding will support the management and administration of community hub events and the purchase of predator control materials.

WAITOMO CATCHMENT TRUST

Project: Predator control within the Waitomo Catchment
District: Waitomo
EIF Contribution: \$36,581
Duration of Funding: 1 year

The Waitomo Catchment Trust is a community-led organisation established in 1992 committed to the long-term protection and restoration of the Waitomo catchment's globally significant karst landscape, waterways, and indigenous biodiversity. This funding will support the purchase of predator control materials.

THE GLADES OWNERSHIP SOCIETY INCORPORATION

Project: The Glades Biodiversity Protection Project
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$16,772.61
Duration of Funding: 2 years

The Glades Ownership Society is a collective of landowners committed to protecting and restoring 36 hectares of predominantly intact native forest and coastal habitat on the Coromandel Peninsula. This funding will support the purchase of predator control and ecological monitoring materials.

KARUNA FALLS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Project: Karuna Falls Pest Control Project
District: Thames-Coromandel
EIF Contribution: \$21,462.85
Duration of Funding: 2 years

Karuna Falls Co-operative Society communally owns 297 hectares regenerating native forest in northern Coromandel between Colville and Waikawau Bay. This funding will be used to control wilding pine trees and to support predator control throughout the project area.