



Project Mōhua Strategic Plan – Summary

Connecting people with nature conservation in Mōhua

Our Vision:

Project Mōhua is supporting community conservation groups, enabling them to maximise ecological gains. We are supporting new initiatives to enhance the mauri of our rivers, the wellbeing of the coastal wildlife and the removal of pest predators and plants. All these are contributing towards ecological corridors connecting fragmented ecosystems ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea).

Climate change is affecting Mōhua and we recognise that resilient biodiversity and ecologies build resilience to climate change impacts.

In five years, the Mōhua community is increasingly active and focussed on restoring its rich and diverse natural environment. Funders see progress in environmental projects and are actively supporting the work in Mōhua. The community and businesses are being celebrated for the great work they are doing. Our young people have hope for the future and actively participate in shaping it. All this contributes to connecting the community with nature

Goals for the next five years - 2020 to 2025

A. Supporting existing projects to be even more effective

In September 2019 Project Mōhua hosted a community forum and asked what support community conservation groups wanted. The main requests were:

- Help us get people to help us
- Promote what we do
- Help with resources like funding applications and connecting us together

Priorities:

1. Community conservation groups are supported

Project Mōhua will:

- Support existing community conservation projects, which connect people in the community and grow the capability of the people involved.
- Help volunteers with the tasks that community groups struggle with such as admin, health and safety and funding applications.
- Minimise the bureaucratic load on volunteers and maximise the funds reaching conservation work.
- Proactively seek further funding to support others' conservation efforts, including large scale integrated restoration projects.

B. Ecological restoration is progressing rapidly

Priorities:

2. All Mōhua rivers are healthy and have high water quality

We want Mōhua awa/rivers to be renowned for their strong mauri/life force, recreational beauty, health, and ecological richness of species - such as inanga, tuna, other native fish and river and wetland vegetation. We will focus on supporting riparian planting and wetland restoration

3. Coastal Habitats are protected

Coastal habitat, comprising of shorelines, dunes, estuaries, and intertidal zones, is an important ecological feature largely outside the protection of National Parks and containing taonga species. A focus for Project Mōhua is to support projects that provide coastal wildlife with safe places to live and breed

4. Mōhua is free of pest predators

Having Mōhua without mammal predators is a long-term goal to take a huge pressure off our native wildlife. We see this as incremental extension of mammalian predator and wasp control on areas adjoining large scale pest control operations to connect them to lowland Golden Bay.

5. Pest plant control is supported

C. Our community is collaborating well to achieve ecological restoration

Priorities:

6. Tasman Environmental Trust is assisted with the administration of the Cobb Valley Mitigation Fund which provides for projects enhancing the Tākaka Valley catchments

7. Work closely with Manawhenua ki Mōhua to include cultural values into visioning, planning and project delivery

8. Young people are actively supported in restoring the health of the local ecology

9. Our communities are aware of the local ecological issues and can easily become involved

10. Existing national and regional strategies and reports are used to guide decisions