

Funding and Advice: Options for SNA Landowners

Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) hold high biodiversity values and are important for preventing the extinction of rare species and ecosystems within the Waimakariri District.

We're keen to support landowners who wish to further protect or restore their natural areas. Your valuable piece of habitat may benefit from fencing, weed control, trapping or other restoration work.

On this sheet, you'll find a list of places where you can apply for funding and access free advice to help you look after your significant area.

Waimakariri District Council (WDC)

Waimakariri Biodiversity Fund

- Financial assistance to encourage people in the Waimakariri to carry out work that improves biodiversity in the district.
- Priority given to SNAs currently listed in the District Plan, or as yet unlisted sites with the same ecological values.
- The fund will generally provide up to 50% of the total cost of the project (landowner contributions can be in-kind).
- WDC biodiversity staff can help you with management recommendations for your site and applications for funding.
- Call 0800 965 468 or email office@wmk.govt.nz and ask for the Ecologist - Biodiversity.
- Funding application form – waimakariri.govt.nz/sna

Rates grant/rates relief

- The Council's 'Rates Grant for Landowners of Significant Natural Areas Policy' provides landowners of mapped Significant Natural Areas with annual rates relief, via a rates grant, as an acknowledgement of their contribution to protecting and maintaining the District's indigenous biodiversity.



Photo Credit: Environment Canterbury

- It is a flat rate per rating unit plus a rate per hectare of SNA (or part thereof) calculated in accordance with Schedule A of the 'Rates Grant for Landowners of Significant Natural Areas Policy', which adjusts annually in line with the Local Government Cost Index. In 2022, it was paid at a rate of \$155 per rating unit plus \$30 per hectare of SNA.

Environment Canterbury (ECan)

Waimakariri Zone Committee Funding

- \$50,000 is available annually for projects aligned with the goals of the Zone Committee including the restoration of biodiversity on public and private land in the Waimakariri District.
- The Environment Canterbury Biodiversity Officer for the Waimakariri Zone can help you scope a project and apply for funding.
- Get in touch – 0800 324 636 and ask for your local Biodiversity Officer.
- More info – ecan.govt.nz/your-region/yourenvironment/our-natural-environment/biodiversityfunding/

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Queen Elizabeth II National Trust (QEII)

Conservation covenants

- Queen Elizabeth II National Trust (QEII) is an independent organisation that assists landowners who want to formally protect their land through a covenant on the property title.
- When a covenant is established, QEII contributes towards projects like replanting, trapping and weed control. They will generally match the funding a land owner puts in.
- QEII representatives may also be able to assist covenant owners with funding applications from outside sources.
- Get in touch – 0800 467 367 or email info@qeii.org.nz and ask for your local representative.
- More info - qeiiationaltrust.org.nz/about-us/

Department of Conservation (DOC)

Covenanting, land purchase, predator control

- A conservation covenant with the Department of Conservation can be used to protect biodiversity on private property. The costs of protecting an area under a covenant may be met either fully or partially by the Department of Conservation, especially if the conservation values are of national importance.
- Nature Heritage Fund – This can be used to achieve protection using a conservation covenant where the landowner retains title of the land, or by direct purchase on a 'willing seller - willing buyer' basis at fair market rates.
- Ngā Whenua Rāhui – Supports the protection of indigenous biodiversity on Māori-owned land while honouring the rights guaranteed to landowners under Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- DOC staff may be able to provide advice and other assistance – especially if your significant area provides habitat for a rare species.
- Get in touch – Call DOC Rangiora on 03 313 0820 and ask for a biodiversity ranger.
- More info – doc.govt.nz/get-involved/funding/

Million Metres

Funding for waterway restoration projects

- Million Metres support landowners and communities with riparian planting and weed control.
- They run online crowdfunding campaigns and source donations from corporate sponsors.
- ECan and WDC work with Million Metres – contact either organisation for help scoping a project before you apply.
- Get in touch – 09 836 0394 or email info@millionmetres.org.nz
- More info - millionmetres.org.nz/farmers-land-owners/

Trees that Count

Funding to plant native trees

- Provides funding to plant tree species > 5m tall.
- Will fund up to 50% of trees planted in a restoration project per year.
- Get advice before you plant tree species in or near your significant area – talk to ECan or WDC.
- Trees that Count regional advisers are also available to help you with your project.
- Get in touch – 021 688 953 or email hello@treesthatcount.co.nz and ask for the Community Engagement Manager.
- More info - treesthatcount.co.nz



Find out more at waimakariri.govt.nz, or contact Customer Services on 0800 965 468.