



Video showcases Sounds pine success

A video highlighting the work of the Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust has been released.

The film features the Trust's programme manager Andrew Macalister, chair John Hellstrom, Mayor Nadine Taylor and landowners talking about the highly successful wilding conifer control work in the Sounds.

The Trust has spent the past 15 years getting on top of wilding pines in the Sounds, through a programme of injecting herbicide into tree trunks which kills them.

John Hellstrom said he got a strong sense of achievement when he saw dead trees on the hillside. "We're regenerating the place - we're making a difference and that's a good feeling for all of us."

Andrew Macalister said tens of thousands of trees had been killed and their demise was creating space for young natives including tawa to regenerate.

"Getting funding from the National

Wilding Conifer Control Programme has been transformative especially on large areas such as Arapaoa Island."

While it was a community-led initiative with landowners actively involved, Mr Macalister said it couldn't have taken place without government and Council support.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said the dead and dying trees on the landscape made people realise how prolific the conifers were in the Sounds.

"Every dying pine is a road marker to the success of this programme," she said.

Local iwi, the Lotteries Grant Board, the Rātā Foundation and the Interislander are strong supporters of the project. Funders include Council, Biosecurity New Zealand and the Department of Conservation, who are all partners in the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme.

To see the video go to Council's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MarlDistCouncil



From left, Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust chair John Hellstrom, landowner Phil Wright, Mayor Nadine Taylor with the Trust's programme manager Andrew Macalister on Arapaoa Island

Springlands work progresses

Works are progressing well on water main upgrades in Springlands, Blenheim.

The \$1.7m project started in McLauchlan Street with work timed for school holidays to cause minimum disruption to students, teachers and parents.

The upgrade of the old water main is part of Council's continued upgrade of services, planned in several phases and scheduled to finish in October 2024.

Contractors Fulton Hogan worked hard during January and achieved more pipe laying than expected, Council's Project Engineer Graeme Jackson said.

"McLauchlan Street has been sealed and tidied ready for the new school term," he said. "Work is now focused on Old Renwick Road, between Waipuna and McLauchlan streets, for the next couple of months. There will be stop-go traffic lights in place."

The new water main provides for growth to the north of Old Renwick Road to cater for the future expansion of housing in that area, Mr Jackson said. "The pipes in McLauchlan Street are old so it's a timely upgrade. The new PVC pipes will be bigger and much more resilient."

Motorists are encouraged to take alternative routes where possible.

Ferry Bridge carpark upgrade

A much-needed redevelopment of the car park area at Ferry Bridge just outside the Spring Creek township was completed before Christmas for the summer season.

The area is a popular swimming spot with locals and the upgraded carpark provides off road parking for river users.

Accessibility has been enhanced with paths and further plantings will take place in the upcoming autumn planting season.

Council's Small townships Programme provided the funds for this development as part of the

wider Growing Marlborough Strategy.

Councillor Barbara Fauls, the chair of Small Townships Committee, said the carpark had been well used.

"With the recent temperatures and the great summer we are having, it's wonderful to see this riverside asset being so well used by the community," she said.

Before swimming in rivers, it's advisable to check the following websites.

<https://www.safeswim.org.nz/>

<http://www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/swimming/>



The revamped Ferry Bridge carpark

Water restrictions ease in Picton and Waikawa

As water restrictions ease in Picton and Waikawa, residents and visitors are still encouraged to save water and make 'every drop count.'

Picton and Waikawa residents can use sprinklers again on alternate days as well as hand-held hoses. Flushing of boat motors is permitted and light boat washing is now allowed but should be kept to a minimum. Reduced Council irrigation continues at Endeavour Park.

The popular water play area on the Picton Foreshore will also reopen on weekends and public holidays from 9am to 9pm, Council's Operations and Maintenance Engineer Stephen Rooney said.

"We thank the community for their efforts over the past few weeks but do encourage continued conservation of water to avoid a return to tighter water restrictions. With warm and dry weather still ahead of us it makes good sense to still make every drop count," he said.

The revised restrictions are:

- Hand-held hoses permitted for watering gardens
- A property with an even numbered street address may use sprinklers only on even numbered calendar days
- A property with an odd numbered street address may use sprinklers only on odd numbered calendar days



- Only one tap may be used at a time to run a sprinkler or sprinkler systems
- The term sprinkler means any hose which is not held and directed by hand
- Boat motor flushing and light boat washing is permitted but should be kept to a minimum
- Reduced Council irrigation at Endeavour Park
- No water use by cruise ships

The restrictions apply to all properties on the Picton and Waikawa supply until further notice.

For more information go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/utilities/water-supplies/picton-water-supply/2024-pictonwaikawa-water-restrictions

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
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