

June 2021

Western Springs Native Bush Restoration



Project Update #3

Why you are receiving this newsletter

We are writing to keep you informed of the progress that is being made on the Western Springs Native Bush Restoration Project.

What is the Western Springs Native Bush Restoration Project?

The project aims to return an area of Western Springs Lakeside Te Waiōrea to native bush by removing the dying exotic pines and planting thousands of native trees including puriri, taraire and tānekaha

The re-established native forest will provide an important habitat for a range of wildlife, including our native tūī, grey warbler and silver eye.

Latest updates

On Monday 24 May, the last of the pines were felled. In total, approximately 200 standing pines and poles were removed. The team are now focusing on site reinstatement, ahead of the start of the planting programme.

From Monday 31 May, our contractors have been focusing on the removal of chipped material as well as the reinstatement of the temporary track.

Tracked morooka carriers have been bought in to transport the chipped material off site, where it will be aged before being used in region-wide planting and landscaping programmes.



Community planting days

We know that Western Springs Lakeside Te Waiōrea is a special place to many and as such, we are encouraging those who would like to be involved with the replanting programme to get in touch.

We have already begun reaching out to local schools and community groups, inviting them to help with the planting programme, which will see more than 8,000 native trees and shrubs planted.

If you would like to take part in one of the planting days, please email westernsprings@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Re-opening to the public

We are hopeful that the site will be ready to be re-opened to the public in next 2 to 3 months. However, this is dependent on several factors including the completion of the pedestrian track and the replanting.

Disturbance of pine stand understory

Now that the tree removal phase of the project is finished, we have asked our ecologists and arborist to perform an exercise to estimate the amount of untouched understory. Their initial observations indicate a much-lesser disturbance to the understorey than the 50 per cent originally estimated. This demonstrates the great care and precision that was taken by our specialists throughout the tree felling operation.



Further information

For further information about the project, you can visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/westernsprings or email westernsprings@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Alternatively, you can contact the Community Liaison team on clc@kotahiprojects.com or call 0272678818

If you're interested in being a volunteer during the planting part of the project, please email westernsprings@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz