

Mayoral Conservation Awards

2019 Nomination pack



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Introduction

Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai – nurture the seed and it will blossom

The annual Mayoral Conservation Awards recognises and celebrates community-powered conservation.

The Awards are an opportunity to acknowledge the significant effort made by mana whenua, communities, households, landowners, youth and schools across the Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland region, to ensure Auckland’s nature thrives.

This year one of the six award categories is ‘Youth’, created to champion the growing enthusiasm and action from young people/rangatahi, for our region’s environment. The 2018 ‘Eradicate’ and ‘Restore’ categories have been combined this year as the work being done often involves both.

Nominations are open to all conservation projects in the Auckland region which occur on private land or public parks and reserves managed by Auckland Council or the Department of Conservation.

This year’s awards ceremony will take place during Conservation week on Thursday 19th September.



1 Pest Free Auckland

Our region boasts three beautiful harbours, vast tracts of forest in the West and South, stunning vistas, diverse natural areas from volcanic to freshwater, and the myriad of plants and animals to match.

We are also the region with the largest population, with an ever-increasing number of Aucklanders getting behind the push to restore Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland's indigenous biodiversity and see it at its very best. It is this commitment, and the hard work that accompanies it, that the annual Mayoral Conservation Awards celebrates.

And the task is challenging with pressures on the natural environment such as urban development, fragmentation of habitats and ongoing degradation of the land and waterways from weeds, pest animals and pathogens.

Whether it's one individual making a huge difference or people collaborating across large areas to achieve more collectively – Auckland's nature needs us all.

Auckland Council's community-centred Pest Free Auckland initiative is going from strength to strength, with funding from the natural environment targeted rate, to support the region-wide effort of community groups, schools, landowners and mana whenua to eradicate pest plants, animals and pathogens, restore and connect ecosystems, and introduce our native species back to where they once were.

The Mayoral Awards are a chance to tell the stories and showcase all the community action in backyards, parks and reserves, on islands and peninsulas, and across green urban and rural corridors in our wonderful region.



2 Categories and judging criteria

There are six award categories:

- Restoration
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Schools
- Youth
- Individual

Applicants can choose the most appropriate category by considering how the project or initiative meets the judging criteria.

The Nomination Form at the back of this document sets out the criteria in the form of general questions to guide your responses.

We welcome photos and/or videos to support your nomination.



Award categories	Overall criteria	Judging criteria
<i>Restoration</i>	<p>This category recognises work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • control invasive plants, animals or pathogens to low or zero density or to contain their spread to other sites in the region and/or • restore, connect or create ecosystems or manage native species to increase their populations and/or distribution in the region. 	<p>The winner of the Restoration Award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inclusion of kaitiakitanga or environmental stewardship principles • the impact the project has made • evidence of best practice • evidence of thorough planning and research eg. into appropriate species for the site / wider area.
<i>Innovation</i>	<p>This category recognises projects that have used creativity and initiative, and/or developed or refined techniques, methods or systems that meet or exceed best practice, to achieve positive results in their restoration work.</p>	<p>The winner of the Innovation Award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evidence of the challenge that stimulated the innovation • evidence of best practice • the impact the innovation has made or has the potential to make.
<i>Collaboration</i>	<p>This category recognises a project that has actively involved or mentored others in their neighbourhood, landscape or network to achieve wider-scale outcomes.</p>	<p>The winner of the Collaboration Award will demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integration of projects and shared outcomes • sharing of resources, knowledge and capacity • a culture of openness and partnership with others.

Award categories	Overall criteria	Judging criteria
<i>Schools</i>	This category recognises schools (including kura kaupapa and early childhood facilities) who use an authentic learning approach to enable and empower students to take conservation action in their community.	The winner of the Schools Award will demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evidence of student engagement in the project • inclusion of the wider community • evidence of conservation outcomes.
Award categories	Overall criteria	Judging criteria
<i>Youth</i>	This category recognises outstanding leadership and achievement by a young individual (under 25 years old) to achieve positive conservation outcomes.	The winner of the Youth Award will demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vision and passion to advance conservation • leadership that inspires their generation • evidence of conservation outcomes.
Award categories	Overall criteria	Judging criteria
<i>Individual</i>	This category recognises outstanding leadership and achievement by an individual to achieve positive conservation outcomes in the Auckland region.	The winner of the Individual Award will demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vision and foresight to advance conservation • leadership that inspires conservation action by communities or individuals • evidence of conservation outcomes.

3 Judging panel and process

A panel of five experienced people has been established to judge the entries. Judges are:

- Penny Hulse (Chair, Environment and Community Committee)
- Alf Filipaina (Deputy Chair, Environment and Community Committee)
- Glenn Wilcox (Deputy Chair, Independent Maori Statutory Board)
- Adriana Avendano Christie (Waitemata Local Board)
- Nicholas Mayne (Upper Harbour Local Board)

The judging panel will:

- assess each nomination against the criteria of the selected category, and
- decide on three finalists and a winner for each category.

The judging panel reserves the right to:

- decline giving an award in any category if they believe there are no exceptional entries in a given year, and
- change or move a nomination to an alternate category.

The decision of the judging panel is final.

4 Prizes

The finalists of each category will be announced at the Auckland Festival on Saturday 14th September. The category winners and awards will be presented at an evening function on Thursday 19th September to which all finalists will be invited.

All finalists will be recognised by receiving a certificate of commendation signed by Mayor Phil Goff.

All category winners will be recognised by receiving:

- \$2000 contribution to their project
- 2019 Mayoral Conservation Awards framed certificate signed by Mayor Phil Goff.

5 Nomination rules

To enter:

- please fill in the nomination form at the end of this document
- provide 3 to 6 high resolution photos of one or more aspects of the project.

Rules of entry

- Nominations are open to all community-powered conservation projects in the Auckland region
- A new aspect of the project must have taken place since 1 January 2017
- Your nomination can be for the whole project or for separate aspects of your project
- You can nominate the project for any of the six categories
- You cannot nominate the same project in more than one category, so remember to choose the category that best reflects the project's approach
- You can nominate more than one project; you will need to fill in separate nomination forms for each.

Nominations can be submitted in any of the following ways:

Online: [here](#)

Email: pestfree@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Mail: Pest Free Auckland
Mayoral Conservation Awards
Private Bag 92300,
Victoria Street West 1142

Hand delivery: Auckland Council Customer Service Desk
Ground Floor, Bledisloe House
24 Wellesley Street, Auckland
Attention: Environmental Services, Mayoral Conservation Awards

Nominations close on Wednesday 14th August 2019 at 5pm

Nominations received after this date and time will not be included in the judging process.

Note: all applicants will receive a confirmation email to acknowledge the successful lodgement of their entries.

Questions? Please contact – pestfree@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

MAYORAL CONSERVATION AWARDS

NOMINATION FORM 2019



Project name	
Contact person	
Email	
Telephone	
Referee (name and contact details)	
Referee's relationship to the project	

Award category	Tick one
• Restoration	
• Innovation	
• Collaboration	
• Schools	
• Youth	
• Individual	

Please answer the following questions to demonstrate how your project meets the judging criteria as outlined in the Nomination Pack.

Include a referee for your project. This should be someone who can speak knowledgeably about the project.

Nominations close at 5pm on Wednesday 14th August 2019.

1.
Describe the project background and its purpose/objectives

(Max 300 words)

2.
Describe how the project aligns with the chosen award category (consider the judging criteria and respond to each point)

(Max 500 words)

3.
Describe how you,
and/or your group or
Trust, collaborated with
others eg. mana
whenua, other
groups/Trusts, and
community members.

(Max 200 words)

4.
Describe your
achievements since 1
January 2017

(Max 200 words)

<p>5. Describe the outcomes of your project i.e. what changed/improved as a result? What was the impact and how did you measure this?</p>	<p>(Max 300 words)</p>
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Nomination checklist – please complete the checklist to ensure you have met all the nomination requirements.

Items	Please tick
Nomination form completed, and word count complies	
Nominated community group or person has agreed to be nominated	
3 to 6 high resolution photos sent as separate files	
Any supporting documents supplied, such as eradication plan or restoration plan (OPTIONAL)	
Video supplied (OPTIONAL)	
Referee – name and contact details supplied	



Find out more: **phone 09 301 0101**
or visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/pestfreeauckland2050**