



UPDATE FOR LOVE HUTS CAMPAIGN

3 October, 2024

Kia ora – here’s an update on the Love Our Huts Campaign

We’ve had a fantastic response with 317 huts already registered. It’s really capturing people’s attention, with media, DOC and the wider public all engaged.

We’d love to have even more huts receiving some love this November, and we thought to reach out to our clubs and supporters in the hope you in turn might make contact with people you know who are passionate about the outdoors, and who might want to also get involved.

Also attached is the list of around 600 huts still to be registered – Feel free to reach out to friends and family in your network and invite them to also think of being involved.

Thanks so much for your support. Please don’t hesitate to be in touch with any questions or suggestions.

Kind regards

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PS feel free to share any of this material to your friends and networks

www.fmc.org.nz/loveourhuts
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/501807262360627>

LISTEN: [Interview by Kathryn Ryan with Mick Abbott](#) 19 Sept, 2024

FAQS:

HOW DO PEOPLE GET INVOLVED

It's easy to register for a hut or huts

- Just go to our dedicated webpage at fmc.org.nz/loveourhuts
- We'll send you more details about what to do
- Plan your rip for any time in November
- Involve a group, piece together a route that takes in lots of huts – Imogen from Southland's off to do the Rakiura Northern Circuit which takes in 8 huts!

UPDATE 3 OCT 2024:

318 huts, 225 groups registered so far

- Ranging from Rakiura Stewart Island all the way up to Great Barrier Island in the North.

THE CAMPAIGN IS REALLY CAPTURING PEOPLE'S IMAGINATION 😊

People involved come from all kinds of backgrounds, locations and groups

It's a chance for people to join in making a positive difference.

- FMC Members
- Tramping Clubs – dedicated club trips!
- University Clubs
- Alpine Clubs
- Members of the Public
- Te Araroa Walkers
- NZ Deerstalkers
- Fish and Game
- Scouts
- Rotoract and Odyssey
- Local Search and Rescue Groups
- Also One Nelson school group up in Nelson area

THERE'S STILL LOTS OF HUTS TO SIGN UP FOR!

- Tararuas are almost all signed up, but there's plenty of other places
- All through the month of November

WHAT'S INVOLVED – HERE'S WHAT DO PEOPLE DO

1. SIMPLE SPRING CLEAN – TAKES ABOUT AN HOUR

This involves:

- Sweeping out the huts
- Cleaning the windows (many have the best views in the land!!)
- Wiping benches
- Taking out any rubbish
- And leaving a spare roll of loo paper. We've got a simple checklist that everyone can tick off.
- Putting up a small poster for people that follow to inspire them, and follow the checklist to 'KEEP SHOWING THE LOVE'

2. SIMPLE HUT HEALTH-CHECK

- Wanting to know that doors and windows shut
- There are no leaks (roof and plumbing)
- No problems with mice, rats or possums.

- Again we have a simple form for people to use, which we feedback (along with any photos) to DOC and the various groups and clubs like Backcountry Trust, Greater Wellington Tramping Network & Permolat who help look after them.

3. HUT BOOK REVIEW

- Quick tally-ups of who's using the hut – group size, activities etc.
 - Anecdotes of larger groups, and also more young people venturing out –
- Also identify some of the most interesting entries in terms of how the hut is currently being used
 - Types of activities
 - Supporting conservation
 - Keeping People Safe
- Post-Covid snapshot

4. CELEBRATING OUR EFFORTS

- It's all about celebrating how awesome our network of public huts is
- Sharing what people have been doing through Social channels
- Old school style poster with images of every hut, and each group that was involved

WHY PEOPLE ARE GETTING INVOLVED

OUR HUTS ARE UNDERPINNED BY A KAUPAPA OF LOOKING AFTER NATURE AND EACH OTHER

- Our backcountry huts and tracks are a key part of connecting Kiwis with our amazing places.
 - Many kiwis have had intensely memorable experiences in our back country –
 - Fires, marshmallows, and reading endless copies of Reader's Digest.
 - Check out the forthcoming reprint of Shelter from the Storm.
- They also keep people safe –
 - Wait out a storm rather than cross a flooded river
 - Provide life-saving shelter for people succumbing to cold and hypothermia
- Only place in the world to have such a network.
 - A legacy that's been built up over many years,
 - And one that's been passed onto us thanks to the foresight of the conservation and recreation community and agencies from 50-60 years ago.
 - And ours to care for and carry on to the next generations

A HERITAGE OF PROTECTING NATURE

- Our huts are part of our collective heritage, and also part of our conservation mission.
- The bulk of the network came about from conservation – deer culler hits that were bases for controlling the rampant numbers of deer decimating our forest.
- Our Network of Backcountry Huts are the base used for multiple conservation projects
 - The tracks leading to them are the corridors along which intensive trapping of stoats takes place –
 - Go bush these days and you'll see hundred and hundred of traps, and also more birdlife that was present even 10 years ago
 - Poulter Hut is a base for threatened species work on kakariki karaka – Orange Fronted Parakeet
 - ZIP programmes on the West Coast that are protecting kiwi whio
 - Our public huts and tracks are often where native nature is at its most strong

THE CHANGING NATURE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

- Outdoor recreation has in the past been seen as focused on adventure and testing personal limits.
- However it is increasingly focusing on conservation.
- Most outdoor groups and clubs run traplines, do native planting projects, with such activities an integral part of many outdoor skills courses.
- They are also very active in hut and track maintenance projects

WHAT'S THE FOCUS OF THE CAMPAIGN

- This isn't about protecting a single hut, but the network as a whole.
- We need to keep this network intact.
- DOC seems fully committed to this, but are strapped for funds.

THE RISK

- DOC might feel it has to do everything on its own, and so decide to remove huts or hand them over to outside interests (tourism, private recreation groups etc)
- With this is a risk they become de facto private lodges that the public can't easily use
- Of course this runs counter to the conservation and national park plans and policies we all work within

HOW DOES SPRING CLEANING HELP?

- DOC has about 2,500 people, and their focus is on enabling the conservation and protection of a third of Aotearoa.
 - That's the size of Switzerland and Denmark combined.
 - We know everyone, including DOC, wants to keep our backcountry network intact.
 - It's unreasonable to think that DOC can care for and protect the network on its own.
- This is a chance for everyone who's valued staying in these backcountry huts to say thank you to a hut that's special to them
 - Or go to one that's in a place they've always wanted to go
- It saves public resources by encouraging the public to be part of looking after them, and also to be the eyes and ears of their current condition.
 - Allows everyone to deal with the real – which is most of the huts are in great condition and need little input – Avoids the risk of making decisions on the ongoing viability of our network without an on the ground understanding.
 - As part of the health-check people will bring back photos of their current state, with this being passed on to DOC's Asset management team.
- Gives a post-COVID understanding of who's using them and how they're being used.
 - It's especially helpful to know the mix of international tourists versus locals as we try to balance the level to which conservation lands are geared towards tourism, and that is for us kiwis.

HERE'S THE LIST OF THE 318 HUTS REGISTERED!

Ada Pass Hut, Adventure Bivvy, Alice Nash Memorial Heritage Lodge, Alpha Hut, Anderson Memorial Hut, Aokaparangi Hut, Architect Creek Hut, Arete Forks Hut, Arete Hut, Atiwhakatu Hut, Awatere Hut, Back Basins Hide, Bealey Hut, Bealey Spur Hut, Beebys Hut, Benmore Hut, Big Bay Hut, Big Hellfire Hut, Big Hellfire Hut, Black Hill Hut, Blowfly Hut, Blue Lake Hut, Blue Range Hut, Blyth Hut, Boar Inn, Bob's Camp Bivvy, Bobs Hut, Bog Inn Hut, Boo Boo Hut, Boulder Lake Hut, Boundary Creek Hut, Boundary Creek Hut, Boyd Hut, Broken River Hut, Brown Hut, Bull Paddock Creek Hut, Bullendale Hut, Bungaree Hut, Bungaree Hut, Burn Hut, Buster Hut, Cameron Hut, Camp Creek Hut, Camp Stream Hut, Captains Creek Hut, Carkeek Hut, Carlyle Hut, Cascade Hut, Casey Hut, Cass Saddle Hut, Castle Rock Hut, Cattle Ridge Hut, Cecil Kings Hut, Cedar Flat Hut, Christmas Village Hut, Cobb Hut, Coldwater Hut, Cone Hut, Coppermine Creek Hut, Cow Creek Hut, Crawford Junction Hut, Crosbies Hut, Crow Hut, Crow Hut, Crystal Hut, Daly's Clearing Hut, Dodger Hut, Dog Kennel Bivvy, Dorset Ridge Hut, Double Hut, Doubtful Hut, Doughboy Bay Hut, Douglas Rock Hut, Dracophyllum Hut, Dundas Hut, East Matakaitaki Hut, East Ruggedy Hut, Edwards Hut, Elder Hut, Erceg Hut, Fenella Hut, Fern Burn Hut, Field Hut, Flora Hut, Fosters Hut, Frampton's Hut, Freds Camp Hut, Freshwater Hut, Freshwater Hut, Gerhardt Spur Bivvy, Goat Pass Hut, Gold Creek Hut, Gravity Pass Hut, Greenstone Hut, Griffin Creek Hut, Hacket Hut, Hauhungaroa Hut, Hawdon Hut, Helicopter Flat Hut, Herepai Hut, Highland Creek Hut, Hinerua Hut, Historic Cedar Flat Hut, Hopeless Hut, Horseshoe Flat Hut, Hurricane Hut, Hut Creek Hut, Huxley Forks Hut, Ida Railway Hut, Iron Bark Hut, Iron Gate Hut, Island Gully Hut, Jacko Flat Hut, Jans Hut, Jubilee Hut, Julia Hut, Julia Hut (Old), Jumbo Hut, Kahunui Hut, Kaiaraara Hut, Kakapo Hut, Kapakapanui Hut, Kawakawa Hut, Kelly Knight Hut, Kime Hut, Kings Creek Hut, Kirtle Burn Hut, Kiwi Burn Hut, Kiwi Hut, Kōhanga Atawhai – Manson Nicholls Hut, Komata Biv, Koropuku Hut, Lagoon Saddle A Frame Hut, Lagoon Saddle Hut, Lake Christabel Hut, Lake Guyon Hut, Lake Man Bivvy, Lake Matiri Hut, Lake Morgan Hut, Lake Stream Hut, Lane Cove Hut, Leitch's Hut, Leon Kinvig Hut, Liebig Hut, Liverpool Hut, Lonely Lake Hut, Long Harry Hut, Longview Hut, Lost Stream Bivvy, Lucretia Hut, Lyell Hut, Maclennan Hut, Magdalen Hut, Makaretu Hut, Makino Hut, Mangaehuehu Hut, Mangahao Flats Hut, Mangamuka Hut, Mangatoetoe Hut, Mangaturutu Hut, Manuka Hut, Maori Saddle Hut, Maropea Forks Hut, Mason Bay Hut, Mason Bay Hut, Maungahuka Hut, Mcconchies Hut, Mcgregor Bivvy, Mckinnon Hut, Meg Hut, Mid Caples Hut, Mid King Bivvy, Mid Pohangina Hut, Mid Robinson Hut, Mid Waiohine Hut, Middle Head Hut, Mikonui Spur Bivvy, Mingha Bivvy, Ministry Of Works Historic Hut, Mitre Flats Hut, Mole Hut, Monument Hut, Moonlight And Roses Hut, Morgan Hut, Mount Misery Hut, Mt Bee Bunkrooms, Mt Fyffe Hut, Mt Heale Hut, Nardoo Hut, Neill Forks Hut, Ngamoko Hut, Nina Hut, North Mangahao Bivvy, North Ohau Hut, Oamaru Hut, Old Woman Hut, Ōtamahua Hut, Otamatapaio Hut, Otehake Hut, Packhorse Hut, Pāhautea Hut, Pakihi Hut, Pakituhi Hut, Papatahi Hut, Pararaki Hut, Parawai Lodge, Peach Cove Hut, Pell Stream Hut, Penn Creek Hut, Pfeifer Bivvy, Philip J Cox Memorial Hut, Pinchgut Hut, Piripiri Hut, Port William Hut, Pouākai Hut, Poutaki Hut, Powell Hut, Puketeraki Bivvy, Purity Hut, Rakeahua Hut, Rangipo Hut, Rangiwahia Hut, Raukawa Lodge, Raukawa Lodge, Red Hills Hut, Red Hut, Renata Hut, Richmond Saddle Hut, Riordans Hut, Roaring Stag Hut, Rod Donald Hut, Rodger Inlet Hut, Rodger Inlet Hut (Historic), Ross Hut, Ruahine Corner Hut, Saxon Hut, Sayer Hut, Scottys Bivvy, Sedgemere Sleepout, Sentry Box Hut (Historic), Severn Hut, Slaty Hut, Slip Flat Hut, Smiths Stream Hut, South Ohau Hut, South Temple Hut, Speargrass Hut, Spurs Hut, Stag Flat Shelter, Stanfield Hut, Starveall Hut, Stodys Hut, Stone Hut, Sudden Valley Bivvy, Sutherlands Hut, Sylvester Hut, Syme Hut, Tailings Hut, Taipo Hut, Tangihua Hut, Tarn Hut, Te Matawai Hut, Te Puia Hut (Lodge), Te Whare Okioki, Tent Camp, Thomas River Hut, Top Crooked Hut, Top Gorge Hut, Top Hut, Top Kokatahi Hut, Top Maropea Hut, Top Robinson Hut, Top Waitahu Bivvy, Totara Flats Hut, Trains Hut, Traverse (A-Frame) Hut, Triangle Hut, Trust/Poulter Hut, Turnbull Bivvy, Tutaekuri Hut, Tutuwai Hut, Upper Makaroro Hut, Veil Biv, Waiau Hut, Waiaua Gorge Hut, Waihāhā Hut, Waikamaka Hut, Waimakariri Falls Hut, Waingaro Forks Hut, Waingongoro Hut, Wainui Hut, Waiopehu Hut, Waiorongomai Hut, Waipakihi Hut, Waipawa Forks Hut, Waitawheta Hut, Waitewaewae Hut, Washpool Hut, Weka Burnet Bivvy, Welcome Flat Hut, Whangaehu Hut, Wharepapa Hut,

Wharfedale Hut, Whariwharangi Hut, Wildlife Hut, Wills Hut, Woolshed Creek Hut, Yankee River Hut, Yeats Ridge Hut, and Zekes Hut.

AND THESE ARE THE NAMES OF THE OVER 220 PEOPLE WHO HAVE REGISTERED GROUPS:

Naomi, Katie, Amanda , Andrew, Andrew , John, Mikayla, Sarah, Aisling , Derrick, Imogen , Mark, Honora, Alasdair, Frank, Nadine, Nic, Andrew, Liam, Megan, Paul, John, Ruth, Jessica, David, Della, Regan, Lynsey, Curtis , Sally, Clare, Brian, Neil, Chris, Harley, Martin, Bill, Dale, Derrick, Chris, Blair , Warren, Dan, Matt, Dennis, Ernie, Fiona, Rebecca, Geoff, Geoff, Peter , Andrea, Sharon, Tony, Margot , Roselle, Nick, Tony, Mick, Shell, Gregory , Lucy, Vincent, Campbell , Evzen, Dwayne, Joshua , Anne, Evzen , Quentin, Michelle, Tyler, Tony, Jub, Aine, Roselle, Benie, Sara, Julia, Renae, Aster, Lynda, Elly, Greg, Jeanna, Keri, Keri, Graham , Chantal, Amanda, Beverley, Rebecca, Guy, Symon, Andre, Inge , Mark, Peter, Harry, Kirsten, Cath, Joke , Linda , Hedley, Tom, Matt, Roel, Richard, Geoff, Helen, Courtney, Jono, Kerry, Brendan , Daniel, Matt, Jana, Susan, Dion, Linda, Alice, Jack, Gilda, Kieran, Sue, Justin, Mark, Stephen , Katie, Melanie, Sergai, Chris , Kane , Tobias, Chris , Peter, Kerry, Louise, John, Blair, Keith, Jan, Sam, Iain , Marg, Peter, Penny, Alasdair, Nadya, Ian, Georgina, Zita, Laessa , Dave, Hayden, Catherine, Simon, Debbie, Gentiane, Julie, Angelique, Jean, Angelique, Samantha, Geoff, Tony, Sarah, Selwyn , Mike, Zofia, Tegan, Mat, Lorraine & wayne, Donna, Cate, Jenny, Keri, Keith , Stacey , Stuart, Cate, Cate, Christine, Justin, Sophie, Emma, Nicky, Tim, Megan, Emily, Garth, Aria, Jason, Megan, Robb, Chris, Leigh, Lois, Kath, Jonathan , Justin, Jaci, Kelly , Pam, Nick, Soren, Gentiane, Stephen and Louise, Brendon, Clark, Barbara , Ann, Eilish , Davi, Pearse, and Don.

INTEREST COMES FROM ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY:

People registered are based in the following centres: Ashhurst , Auckland, Banks Peninsula, Blenheim, Cambridge, Canterbury , Christchurch , Curra, Queensland., Dannevirke , Dunedin, Featherston , Flatbush, Geraldine, Gerringong, Glen Eden, Auckland , Greymouth, Haast, Hamilton , Hastings , Invercargill, Johnsonville, Kaiapoi , Lake Hawea, Lawrence, Leeston, Lower Hutt, Lyttelton, Manakau , Manawatu , Mapua, Masterton , Motueka, Muriwai Beach, Napier , Nelson, New Plymouth, Oamaru, Ohaupo, Ohope, Otago, Owhiro bay, Pahiatua, Palmerston North, Paraparaumu , Picton , Porirua, Port Chalmers, Queenstown, Rangiora, Raumati Beach , Richmond , Riverton, Rolleston, Ross, Rotorua, Somerfield , Springs Junction, Stewart island , Stratford, Taradale, Tasman, Taupo, Tauranga , Te Awamutu, Timaru, Upper Hutt, Upper Moutere , Wadestown, Waikato , Wanaka, Wellington, Westport, Whakatane, and Whangarei.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE GROUPS INVOLVED

When asked if they are a member of an outdoor groups 120 people mentioned they were part of one of the following groups. The other 100 are keen outdoors people not part of any group:

- Auckland Baptist Tramping Club
- Auckland Tramping Club
- Auckland University Tramping Club (AUTC)
- BSR Wellington
- Buller Tramping Club
- Canterbury Whitewater club
- Canterbury Mountaineering Club
- Christchurch Tramping Club
- Craigieburn Valley Ski Club
- Dunedin LandSAR
- FMC
- Geraldine Scouts
- Geraldine Tramping Club
- Greater Wellington Backcountry Network
- Hamilton Tramping Club
- Hokitika Tramping Club
- Horowhenua Hunting Club
- Huntsoc
- Hutt Valley Tramping Club
- Kaimai Hut Users
- Kiwi and Kōkako Trust
- Korokoro Environmental Group
- Manawatu Tramping And Ski Club
- Marlborough Deerstalkers
- Massey University Alpine Club
- Motueka Tramping club
- Napier Tramping Club
- Nelson MTB Club
- Nelson Ski Club
- Nelson Tramping Club
- New Plymouth Tramping Club
- New Zealand Conservation Trust
- New Zealand Deerstalkers Association
- Nga Tapuwae o Taneatua
- NZAC
- NZDA
- NZDA Wellington
- Odyssey
- OFTC
- Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club
- Oxford Land Search and Rescue
- Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc
- Peninsula Tramping club
- Permolat
- PRANZ
- Pukekohe Tramping Club
- Rangiora Tramping Club
- Rotaract
- Ruahine Whio Protectors
- Scouts Aotearoa
- Search and Rescue Nelson
- South Canterbury Tramping Club
- Southland Section NZAC
- Taranaki Alpine Club
- Tararua Tramping Club
- Taupo Tramping Club
- Te Anau Tramping Club
- Te Araroa Trail
- Tongarairo Tramping Club
- Upper Clutha Tramping Club
- Upper Clutha Tramping Club
- Victoria University of Wellington Tramping Club
- Wahine tramping and hiking club
- Waikato Tramping Club
- Waimea Tramping Club
- Wakatipu Tramping Club
- Wellington Tramping & Mountaineering Club
- West Coast Alpine Club

