



A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

WWCCG Newsletter - December 2010.

Along with our WCG newsletter we bring Christmas greetings with best wishes and prayers for a significant New Year.

We have shortened our name to WCG, as it is less of a mouthful! , but report four significant advances in wilding control. Interestingly they all begin with “C”

Community support: A huge thank you to the growing number of people in our community who recognise the wilding problem and who donate time, interest, vocal support, and volunteer energy. At our bi-monthly meetings we discover fresh reports of practical support.

Whereas a year or two ago some voices called for the retention of all pines we now hear supportive calls to control their rapid spread. Our task is helping to highlight the problem, the community is responding. Examples are, nearly 80 volunteers cutting wildings at the Ben Lomond volunteer weekend, a “walk group” adopting an area on Queenstown Hill. One person will adopt an area on Skippers Saddle. If you, your group, or as a family would like to adopt an area please contact us.



Volunteers - Ben Lomond on Sunday 21st Nov- with our new tools supplied from the Community Trust of Southland

Corporate support: Skyline Enterprises have set a marvellous benchmark with their annual 50k input into control on Ben Lomond and Bowen Peak. NZSki cleared Coronet Peak Ski reserve. Dunstan Sprayers are donating time and men to adopt an area. Nomad Safaris will tackle an area above the Queenstown spray line.

WCG continues to invite other businesses or individuals to adopt an area of conifers to control either with a donation (as WCG is a Charitable Trust all donations are subject to a 33% refund) or a staff day. We will advertise all support.

If you or you know of a business that is willing to adopt an area please contact us.



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Communication: Our local papers, QLDC's Scuttlebutt, and the media in general are catching the groundswell and reporting the concern over conifers taking over our pristine environment. "The Threat" a three minute DVD is being used and is available to show at any of the groups you belong too. WCG member Nikki Gray is introducing educational programmes to school groups and Grant Hensman is producing some interesting banners.

Co-operation with, and from land owners, lessees, DOC, LINZ brings energy, time and finance into conifer control. Two contractor gangs and a DOC volunteer group, a total of 25 people, were helicoptered around areas on Cecil Peak station and took out thousands of large coning and small pines. Another significant area under control by Soho Enterprises on Mototapu, Soho and Glencoe stations is extremely encouraging.

Other work in progress this summer includes:

- Arrowtown Faces – 100m has been cleared off the ridge top using hand tools
- Ben Lomond Ridge -, hand tools- three days completed
- Arrow River – Coronet Peak Station – Boom Spraying
- Long Gully Plantation – Coronet Peak Station – Boom Spraying containment of plantation
- Loch Linnhe faces – hand tool clearing scattered trees



Spread around Long Gully plantation on Coronet Peak Station – the spread was boom sprayed 9 Dec 2010

With thanks to you all and seasons greetings,

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