



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

# Project Makarora

**- Makarora Natural and Cultural Protected Landscape -  
*Protecting and enhancing one of the world's finest natural heritage areas  
and experiences.***

This project will be grounded in the "protected landscape approach" and is a fore-runner of its type in New Zealand, linking the conservation of nature and culture and fostering stewardship by people that are living, working and recreating within the landscape. It is more far-reaching than a single protected area designation and will encompass 132,000 hectares from the top of Lake Wanaka, through the entire Makarora catchment to the Haast Pass.

## Benefits:

- Environmental: Landscape scale ecosystem restoration and biodiversity increase within private and public lands; predators and other pests reduced to very low numbers; increased stream and river water quality and habitat restoration allowing for reintroduction and protection of existing rare native wildlife
- Economic: Increased tourism and environmental education; an Environmental Education Hub will create long-term sustainable funding for the project and year round employment and additional business opportunities for the local community. Longer stays and Project involvement from tourists and visitors
- Educational: Enhanced environmental awareness and community involvement, leading to behavioural change and higher social value for the local area; the local Schools will be supported to increase learning around conservation values, ecosystems and biodiversity in their backyard; conservation of the history, culture and way of life of the community

## Progress to date:

- We have been running a volunteer Predator Control program for the last 18 years in the Park
- Initial weekend community consultation workshop run with funding help from the Mohua Trust
- A \$7,000 grant has been secured from WWF to complete the Management Plan
- Currently drawing up guidelines for a Feasibility Report re purchasing the Makarora Tourist Centre for conversion into an Environmental Education Hub

## The transformation:

Over the next 15 – 20 years we will create a self-funding, predator free environment for our endangered and rare native animals and plants to once again thrive in. The forests and riverbeds will be restored, free of predators and full of bird and plant life, with a vibrant healthy local community who work alongside the Project partners and realise the importance and uniqueness of their environment. Multiple stops along SH6 with Haast Eagle sculptures denote places to explore walking tracks and experience rare flora and fauna. An Environmental Hub with accommodation and catering facilities (which generates its own power) will host educational groups and tourists. It will provide opportunities to become involved in Project Makarora and will be a long term sustainable funding mechanism for the Project. There will be increased employment opportunities for local families and their teens and a much stronger community sense of pride, respect for and awareness of the local environment, history and culture.

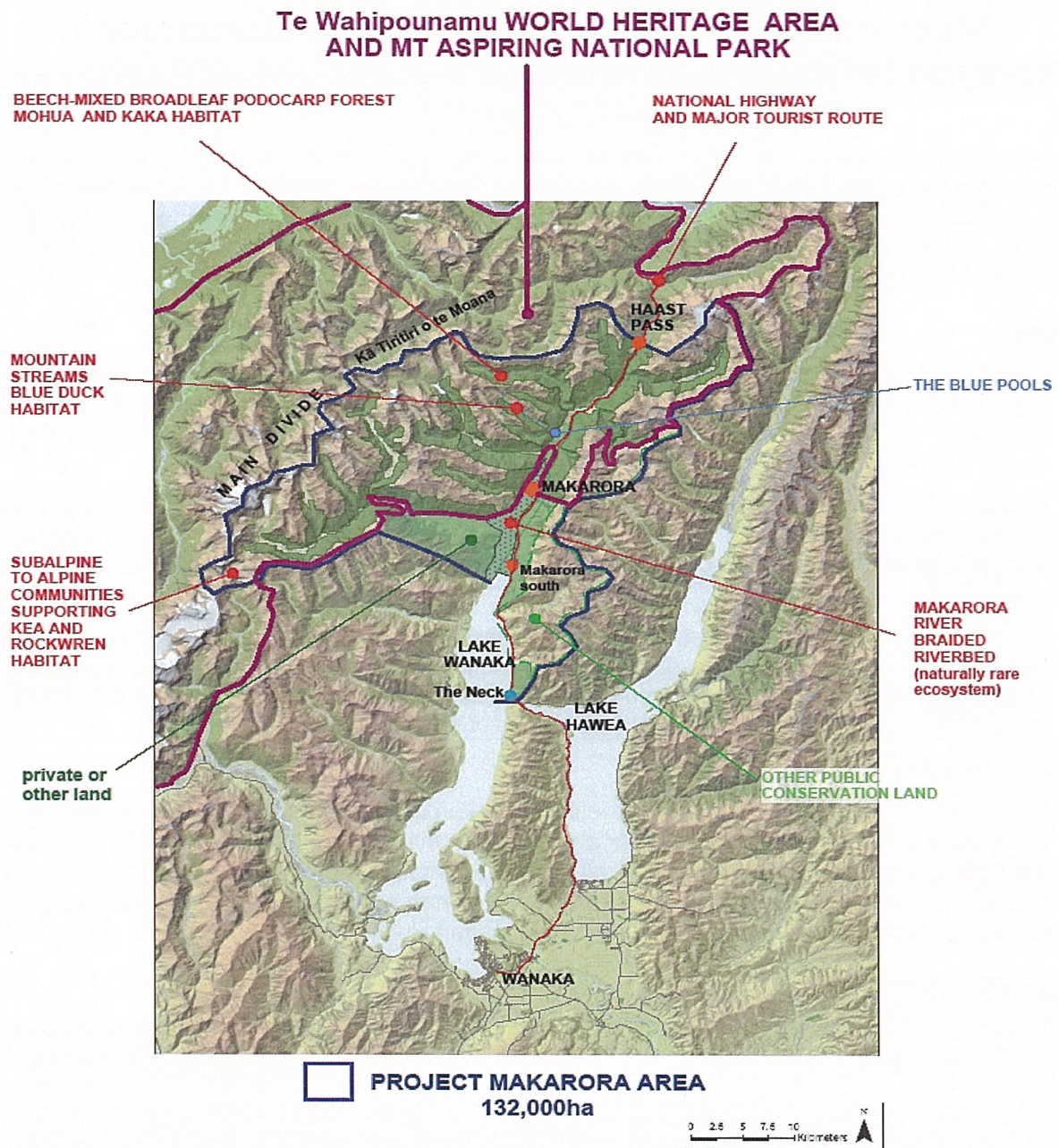


## The primary partners of Project Makarora:

- Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society Inc. (Forest and Bird)
- Makarora Valley Community Inc. (businesses and local residents)
- Department of Conservation
- The Mohua Trust

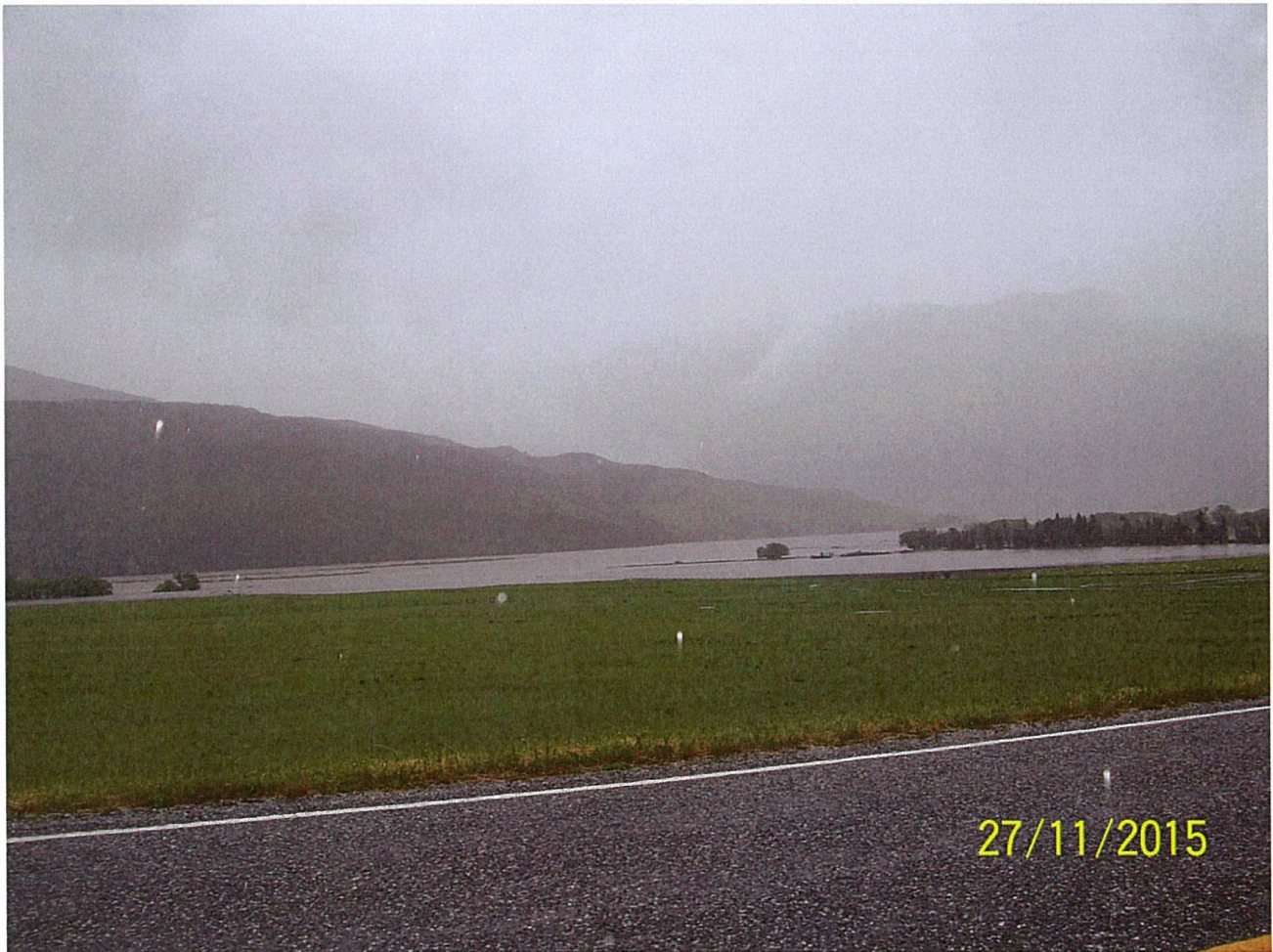
## Rare Taonga already in the Project area:

Mistletoes, Long tailed Bats, mature lowland Podocarp forest, Wrybills, Banded Dotterels, Black Billed Gulls, Mohua, Whio, Rock Wren, Kea, Kaka, Fern Birds, Black Fronted Terns, the NZ Falcon and several unconfirmed sightings and recordings of the South Island Kokako over the past 40 years.





**MAKARORA VALLEY - FLOODING AFTER RAIN**



Extensive pasture flooding north of Flaxmill Creek – after 4 hours of rain (100mm) – a fairly regular occurrence at Makarora!



(After 30mm rain over 20hrs) – river up already over river flats!



Fleather Pennycook (200). 5/15/16.