

Who are Save The Kiwi and what do we do?

Saving the Kiwi

Bringing kiwi back from endangered to everywhere is the purpose of Save the Kiwi (STK). We focus on the strategic investment in community and Māori-led conservation groups to reverse the decline of kiwi and start growing the population by at least 2% every year.

One of the focus areas of Save the Kiwi (while we work to reverse this decline), is to increase large-scale predator control around the motu to grow safe habitat for kiwi and other species. We know kiwi thrive in plantation forests as well as native forests and in partnership with native and plantation forest owners across the North Island we would like to explore the possibilities to develop safe spaces for kiwi to be returned to the wild.

In areas where there is predator control, the rate of decline is slowing, and some populations are even increasing. But much of Aotearoa forests remains unmanaged and therefore kiwi remain at significant risk due to predators.

Most New Zealanders have never seen a kiwi in the wild – we're lucky if we've seen one behind glass. Despite it being an icon that we've become internationally recognised for, the kiwi is at very real risk of disappearing from the wild within a few generations ... and many of us have no idea. We work to bring increased awareness to the kiwi's plight, how important this taonga is to our identity, and what people can do to help. We also run a kiwi breeding and repopulation programme in partnership with dedicated incubation, brooding, and crèching facilities around the North Island.

Collaboration is key to everything Save the Kiwi does. We cannot do our work alone – and nor would we want to. Save the Kiwi works alongside iwi, conservation groups, communities, organisations, and the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai to reverse the decline of the national kiwi population and create more kiwi-safe habitat all over Aotearoa. And we would love to work alongside NZIF and its members to continue to reverse the decline of this treasured taonga.

If you are interested in being a part of our mission to help us in our fight to save our national icon and simultaneously increase the biodiversity in your forest, please contact Craig Balsom our Forestry Specialist at craig@savethekiwi.nz