

Care for native species



Nestled within Mt Messenger and the wider Parininihi area lies a landscape of profound ecological and cultural significance, deeply valued by local iwi.

Our ecologists have been working in the area since 2017, monitoring and protecting a wide range of species.



North Island brown kiwi

Our ecology experts are looking after the wellbeing of kiwi in the area. During nesting, we establish exclusion zones to ensure they're not harmed. Eggs are uplifted to be hatched safely and chicks are raised and released in pest-managed parts of Parininihi.

Long-tailed bats

Our goal is to protect bats by diverting them to the abundance of suitable mature trees that will not be affected by construction activities. All trees that do need to be felled are thoroughly checked by expert ecologists to make sure no bats are roosting there. Our 3,650ha pest management area is large enough for bats to feed, roost and travel safely.

Lizards

During road construction, our lizard specialists relocate any endangered species encountered to protected habitat. We move non-threatened species to new homes in suitable nearby bush.

Flora

We've established vegetation plot surveys to chart the recovery of native plants following the removal of animal and plant pests. Our programme of restoration planting will help offset vegetation removal.

Freshwater species

Carefully considered design elements and safeguards, such as fish passages and temporary stream diversions, are protecting nearby waterways and the diverse array of fish, eels, and other precious species living in them.

Our ecological mahi is part of a comprehensive environmental programme that includes restoration planting and pest management, as we aim to leave the project area in a much better condition for generations to come.

Te Ara o Te Ata

WAKA KOTAHĪ
NZ TRANSPORT
AGENCY

Mt Messenger Bypass



For project updates please visit nzta.govt.nz/tearaoteata

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government