

# Experiencing Marine Reserves



**EMR**

Where fish are cool and hang in schools



Experiencing  
Marine Reserves



Tautohito Āpure Moana

Experiencing Marine Reserves

# Wānanga 2016





**Tautōhito Āpure Moana**  
pūkōrero · tautōhito · mahia

**Experiencing Marine Reserves**  
info · experience · action



# Our Sponsors





Charity number: CC23406

# Marine and Freshwater Education and Conservation

[www.mtsct.marinenz.org.nz](http://www.mtsct.marinenz.org.nz)  
For all enquiries: [info@emr.org.nz](mailto:info@emr.org.nz)

## Schools and community engagement programmes



[www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz](http://www.whitebaitconnection.co.nz)

Community Riparian Planting Projects

Whitebait Spawning Site and Habitat Restoration Projects



[www.emr.org.nz](http://www.emr.org.nz)

Drains to Harbour (Whangarei)  
National Marine and Freshwater Wānanga

Community Guided Snorkel/Kayak Days



[www.marinenz.org.nz](http://www.marinenz.org.nz)

Reef Savers  
[www.reefsavers.nz](http://www.reefsavers.nz)

'How to' create a marine reserve proposal  
[www.howtokit.org.nz](http://www.howtokit.org.nz)

Marine Biodiversity

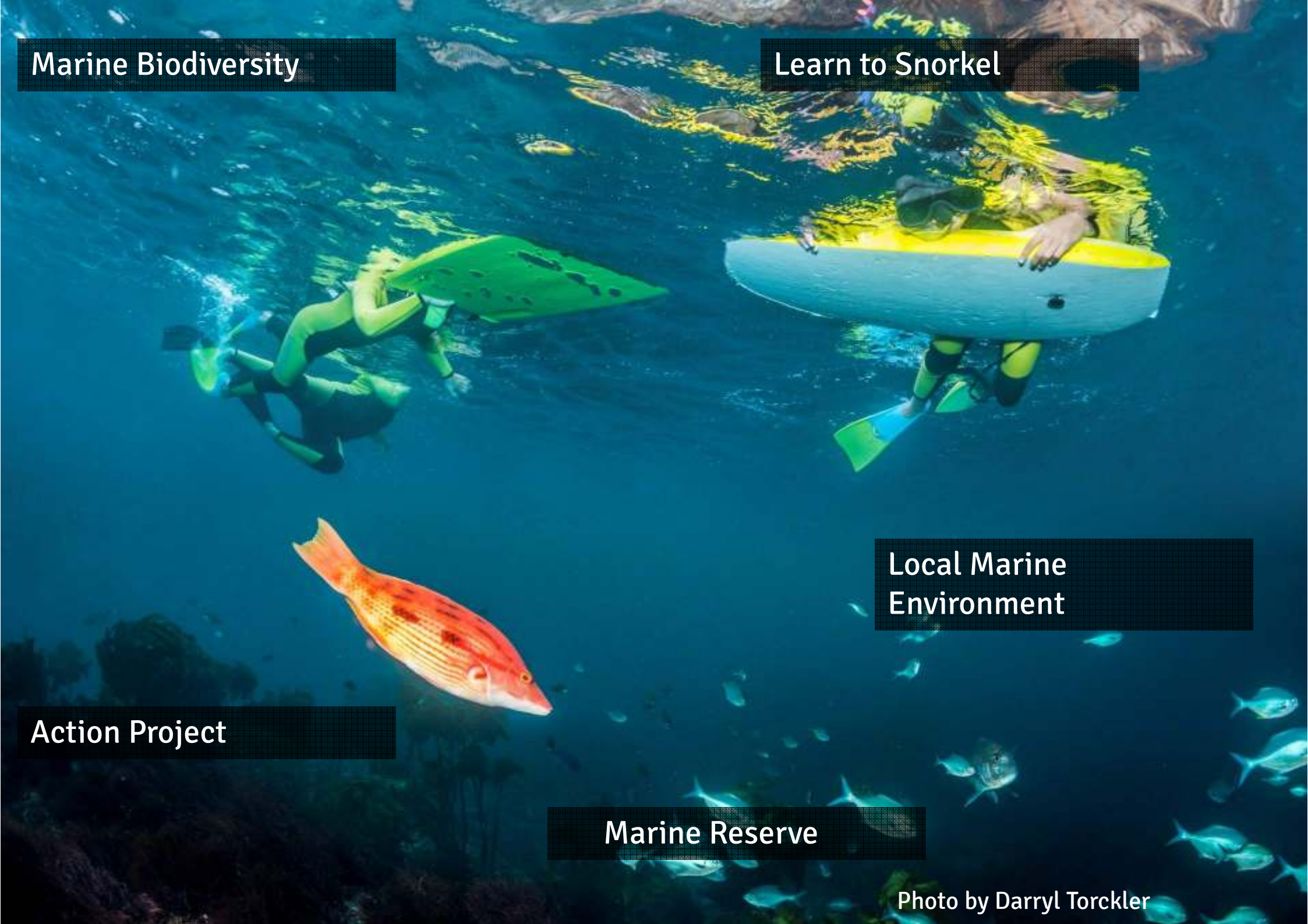
Learn to Snorkel

Local Marine Environment

Action Project

Marine Reserve

Photo by Darryl Torckler



## **EMR Goal**

To raise awareness, understanding and support for marine conservation through dynamic experiential education opportunities





304  
EMR  
Lörna Hefford

## EMR Stats

Since 2002, EMR has guided snorkel experiences for 27834 (39304 including accompanying whanau and community) students through NZ marine reserves.

This season we organised 30 community engagement events involving 2051 people.







STUDENTS GAIN A MORE BALANCED VIEW BETWEEN SUSTAINABLE FISHING AND APPRECIATION FOR VALUE OF MARINE RESERVES FOR LOOKING, LEARNING AND SAFE GUARDING THEIR FISHERIES.

THEY BECOME CONNECTED TO THEIR MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND PASSIONATE KAITIAKI!



3/11

# Conservation outcomes

and experience.  
EMR builds support for marine conservation  
and helps form the foundations for future  
marine reserves and marine protected area  
proposals by creating ground level information

- 



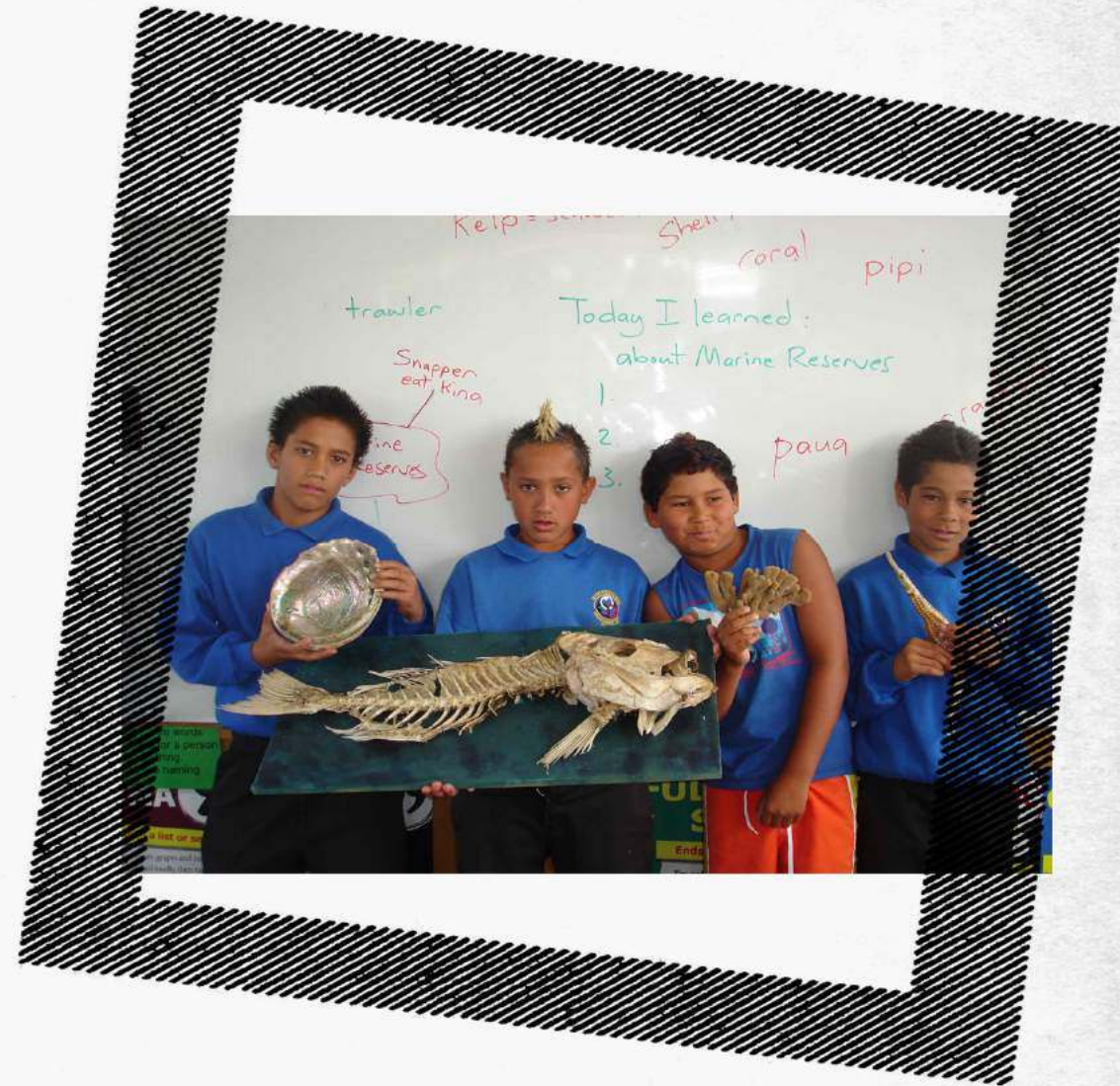
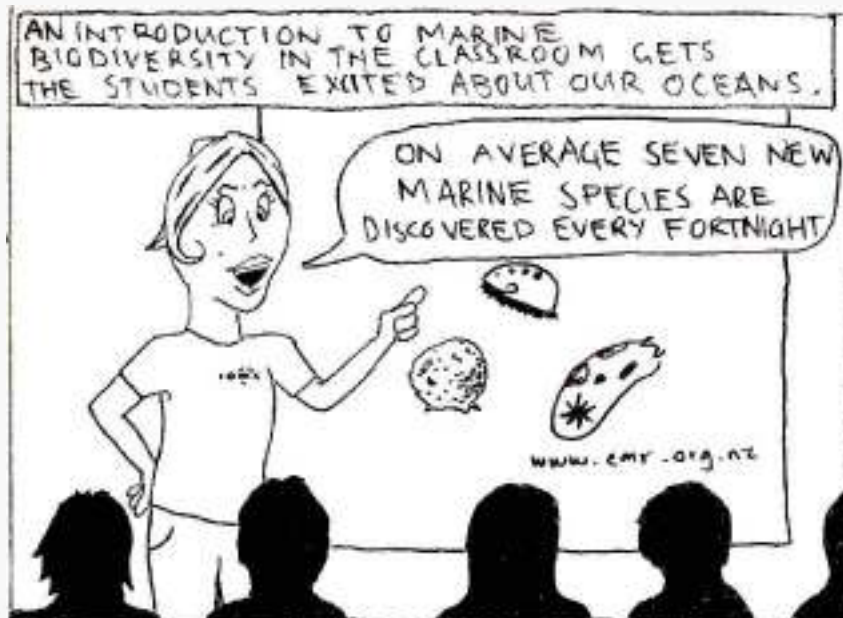
An underwater photograph showing two divers in black wetsuits swimming over a coral reef. A large fish, possibly a snapper, is swimming towards the right, with a smaller fish swimming alongside it. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through from the surface.

**We are all about community engagement in marine conservation**

**We have an active focus on marine conservation**

# Classroom Introduction

Marine biodiversity and conservation presentation



Much of our marine life is endemic



*Paul Caiger* ©

Clown Nudibranch

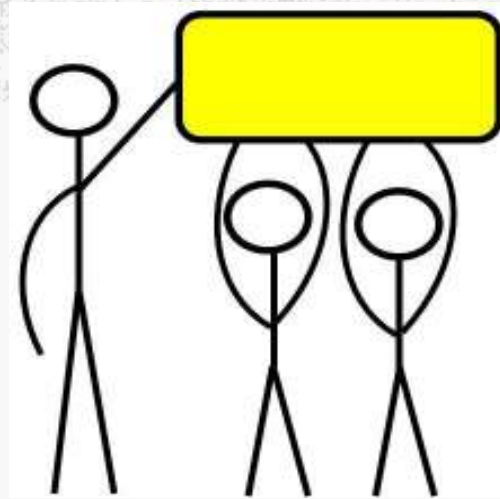




## Snorkel skills

EMR Snorkelling Objectives:

- Experience marine life first hand
- Build water safety & confidence in the real environment
- Encourage snorkelling as a recreational and fun activity
- Instil caring attitudes and passion for the conservation of the ocean
- Encourage emotional connection to marine environment





## Local Investigation

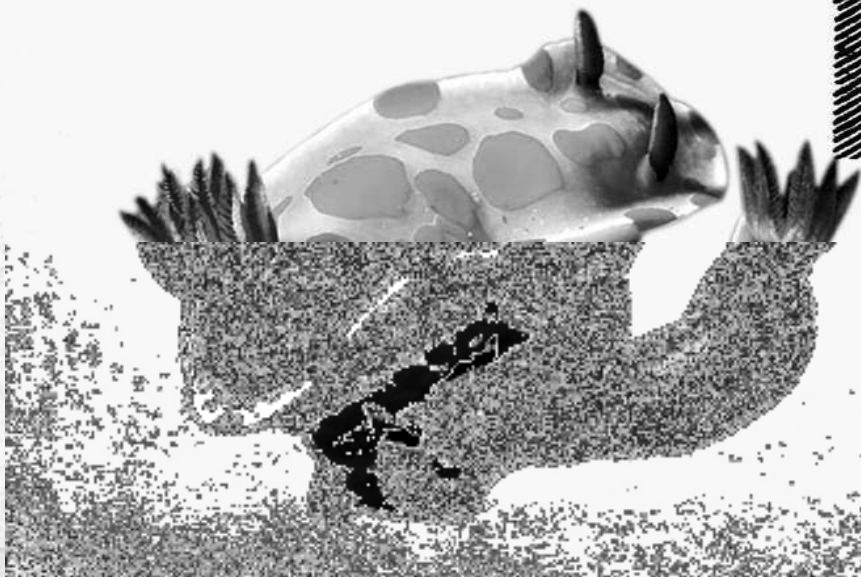
Usually an unprotected area. In Northland we often observe kina barrens.





## Experience a marine reserve!

This is how we inspire our  
students and their guardians  
It's often where the magic  
happens.



# TAPEKA

**T**oo little seaweed  
**A**ll fish hiding  
**P**eople don't see much  
**E**ven though we won't touch  
**K**eeping their distance  
**A**way from us

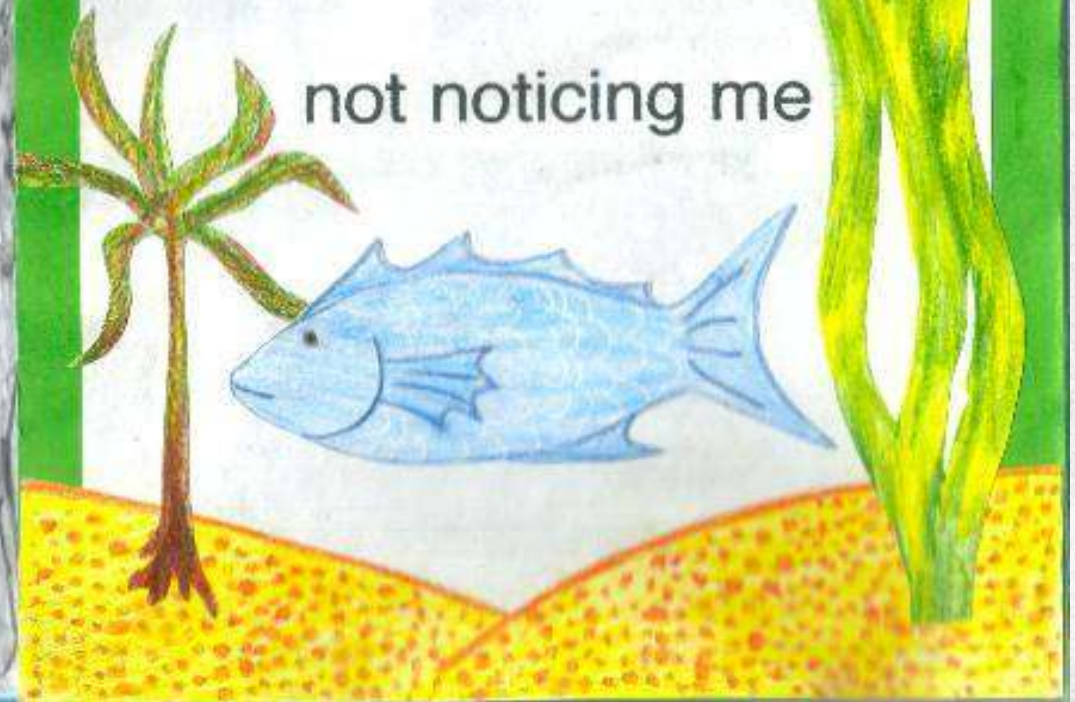
how are we meant to learn



# LEIGH

**L**ovely waters and wonderful fish  
**E**very where you look  
**I**n and out of seaweed  
**G**liding through the water  
**H**appy as can be

not noticing me

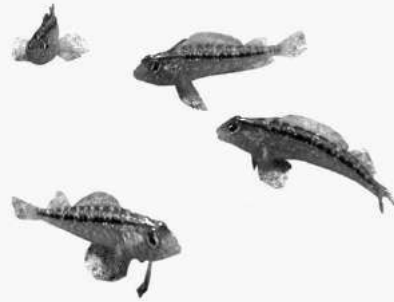


# Taking ACTION!

The most important part of EMR!

We are kaitiaki!

We can make a difference









# Programme Action

*ideas*

- Letters to politicians & local papers
- Marine monitoring projects
- Community engagement events
- Public presentations at marae
- Public marine awareness signs
- Coastal & riparian planting events
- Stormwater awareness projects
- Fundraising projects for marine conservation
- Supporting local marine conservation community or iwi/hapu groups
- Initiating marine reserve or other marine protection projects
- Addressing local marine issues
- Making submissions to conservation projects
- Public marine conservation displays
- Promotion of marine reserve biodiversity, compliance & boundary awareness

Students become kaitiaki of the sea and together they make a difference!

[www.emr.org.nz](http://www.emr.org.nz)

**Tiakina Tangaroa**

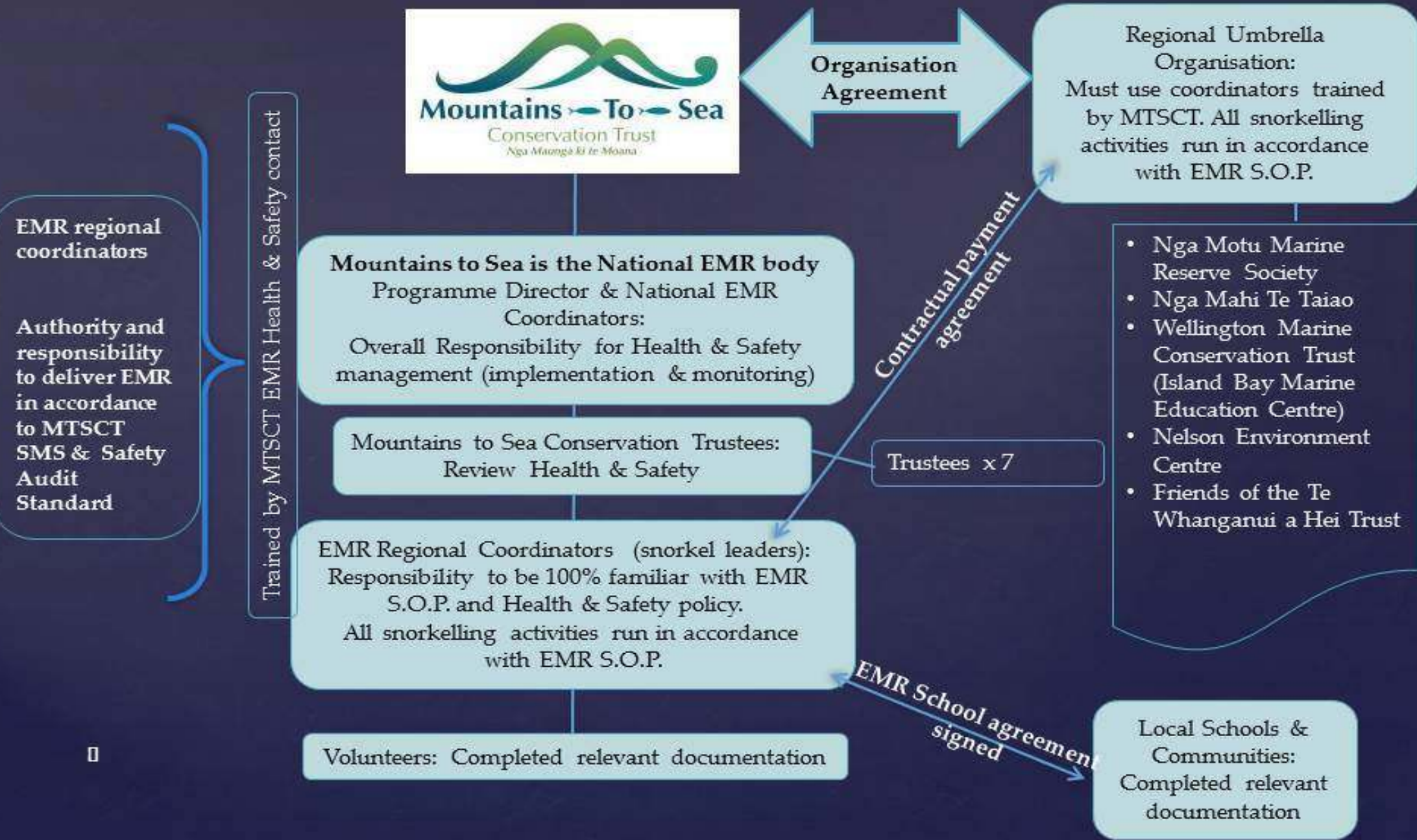




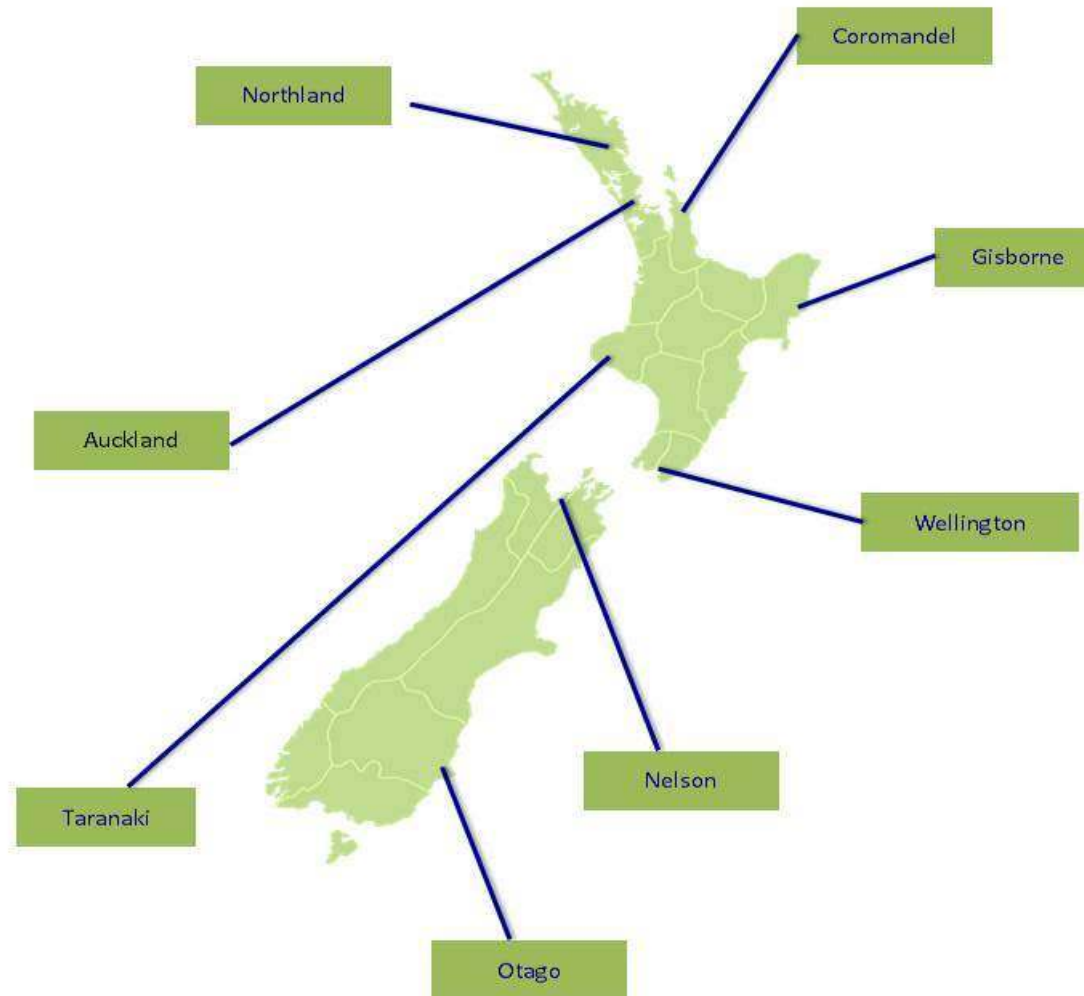


# Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR) Franchise Concept

## Health and Safety Hierarchy diagram and national expansion model



The Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust has a team of Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR) regional coordinators based in the following regions. Regional coordinators have authority and responsibility to deliver EMR according to the Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust's Safety Management System (SMS), EMR snorkelling Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Safety Audit Standard (SAS):





**Northland**  
*Kim Jones, Samara  
Nicholas, Ble Gibson and  
Harriet Thomas*



**Coromandel**  
*Amber Boyd*



**Gisborne**  
*Joe Palmer*



**Auckland**  
*Lorna Hefford*



**Wellington**  
*Julian Hodge, Zoe Studl, Liz  
Gibson & Sarah Neighbours*



**Taranaki**  
*Pat Swanson & Mike  
Tapp*



**Otago**  
*Andrew Penniket*



**Nelson**  
*Megan Wilson  
Jude Heath*



# EMR Hauraki

## School coast project impresses MP

When students at Te Puru School on the Thames Coast wrote to their Member of Parliament to ask him to support more marine reserves in New Zealand, they were surprised but delighted when Coromandel MP Scott Simpson turned up in person armed with lots of information for their studies.

The students in Class Rata had spent time at Gemstone Bay in Hahei witnessing firsthand the comparison between marine life in the reserve with that in unprotected waters. They wrote to Mr Simpson describing their findings and appealing to him to support the creation of additional reserves around New Zealand's coast.

"I was really impressed at the initiative shown by the kids. Not only had they identified and studied in detail a very important environmental initiative but, by writing their letters, they had considered what steps they could take to promote further change. The project is an example of the high quality learning experiences happening in our primary schools and it is great to see," Mr Simpson said.

The Coromandel MP visited Te Puru on Tuesday and presented the class with two large laminated maps for their classroom showing the location of the country's 34 marine reserves. He discussed the process involved in establishing a marine reserve and the Conservation Department's proposals for future protected areas.

"It was great to see you studying our marine reserves and get-



**FUTURE LEADERS:** Students at Te Puru School talked to Coromandel MP Scott Simpson about their study on the Cathedral Cove Marine Reserve.

ting the chance to see directly how they work to help protect our marine life. This month the Department of Conservation is starting the public consultation process in relation to five new marine

reserves which are proposed along the west coast of the South Island.

"Over the next two months members of the public will have the chance to write or email the Department to tell them what

they think of the plans so I'm pretty sure that over the next few years we will certainly see a few more reserved being created," Mr Simpson said.

Over the past three years nine

new marine reserves have been established around New Zealand.

Twelve per cent of the country's twelve-mile sea territory is now reserve which equates to 0.3 per cent of all New Zealand's waters.

# EMR Wellington



# EMR Gisborne



# EMR Nelson



# EMR Auckland





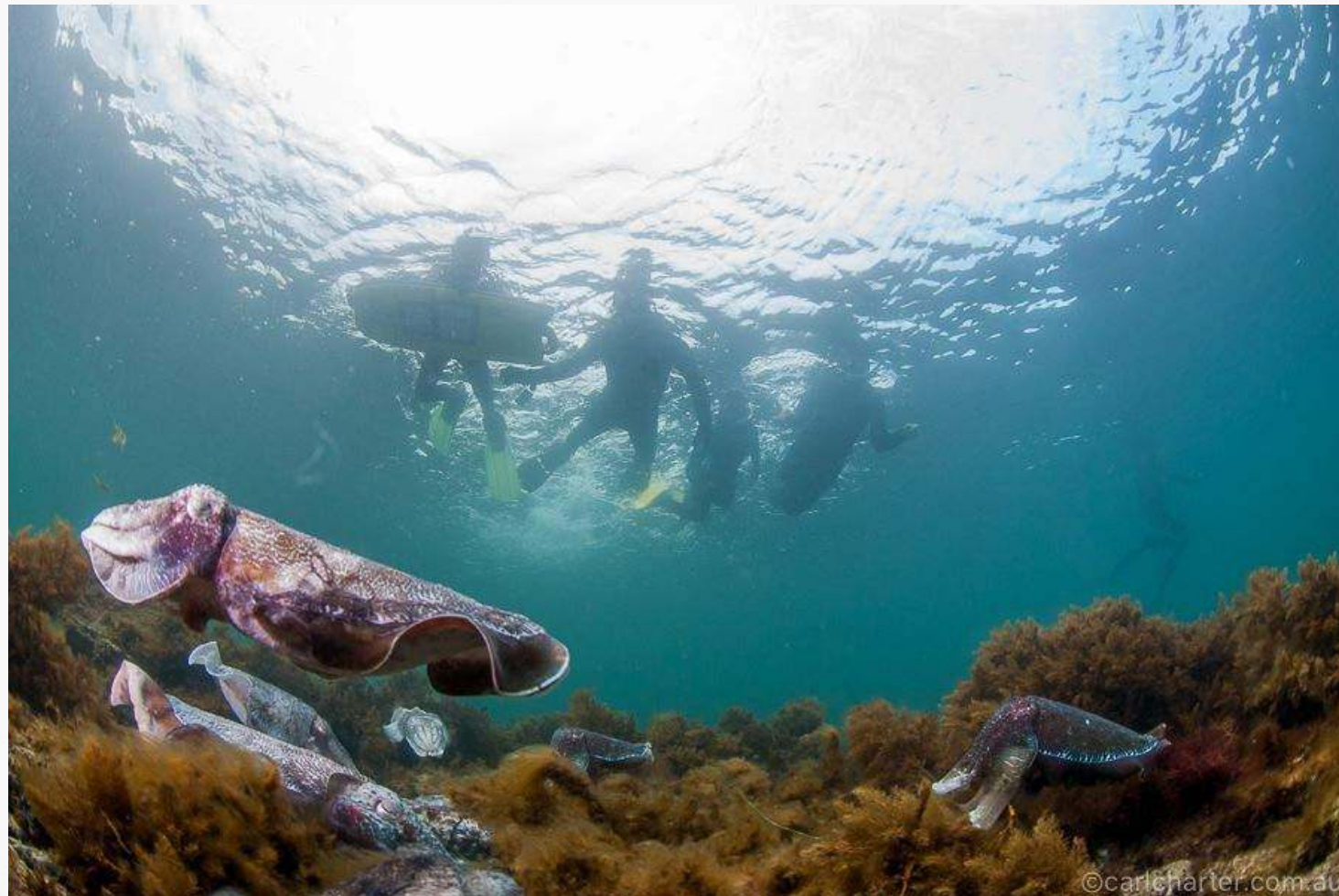
# EMR Taranaki



**EMR Canterbury....coming soon**

# EMR South Australia

## Experiencing Marine Sanctuaries - EMS



# EMR Annual Poor Knights Comp



To be eligible for the EMR action prize, annual Poor Knights competition, students must be involved in a group action and/or an individual action project *for* the marine environment.

# Spot The EMR

Experiencing Marine Reserve

MARINE Reserve Fishing

# The Difference!

Not A Marine Reserve



Protect and

Preserve

Otago's Precious

Marine Life

We need a  
Marine Reserve!

To tatou tahatai, to tatou taonga  
Our coast, our treasure





# In the media

4

NEWS

The Star, June 4, 2015

## Marine adventure for pair

GRETA YEOMAN  
@thestar.co.nz

Creative conservation awareness landed two Dunedin pupils a trip of a lifetime to the Poor Knights Islands.

King's High School year 11 pupils Oliver Niblock and Arlo Munro (both 13) attended an after-school class on marine biology and entered the competition to win a trip to the islands, off the coast north of Whangarei, by either making art or writing about the importance of marine reserves.

As Otago was the only region without a marine reserve, both boys presented reasons why it should have one, with Oliver creating a banner and Arlo writing a letter.

Oliver, whose banner took five hours to sew, said he thought marine studies was "really cool".

"I really like marine biology stuff, seeing fish and sharks and, like, underwater creatures."

He said marine life was really important.

"We couldn't really survive without it."

Arlo agreed.

"Well, the ocean kind of covers more surface of the earth, so it's just as important as saving the land life," Arlo said.

Arlo and Oliver won the trip for themselves and a parent each, for their contributions to marine conservation through a competition run by marine education programme Exploring Marine Reserves (EMR).



Marine explorers . . . Exploring the Poor Knights islands are (from left) parent Hannah Molsky, her son and competition winner Arlo Munro, competition winner Oliver Niblock and his dad Simon Niblock.

PHOTO: GREG TWEED

King's High was the first school in Otago to receive the EMR marine education package, which included talks, fish identification session, snorkelling practice at Dive Otago and then a guided snorkel in the open sea.

There are plans to roll out the programme in six more Otago schools next summer.

Arlo said marine studies was "a cool topic", and though his first thought of entering the competition was to go diving, "because it sounded like fun", he came to realise how interesting it was.

He wrote a letter as his entry, explaining all the reasons why Dunedin should gain a marine reserve, focusing on tourism,

saving the marine life and how it could bring people to Otago.

Arlo said diving at the Poor Knights was "really cool".

"There were like so many fish compared to when we did it down here."

They had dived at Aramona Spit in preparation for putting together their proposals on marine reserves.

"At Aramona there's lots of rocks and seaweed, that kind of stuff, but at Poor Knights there's, like, sponges and moray eels, and we saw a sun fish — and jellyfish as well."

Oliver hoped Otago would gain a marine reserve, and as the South-East Marine Protection Forum is discussing the idea, he could soon know.



# Other things we do...Innovative ways to engage communities – Marine Reserve human chain event



# Community Guided Snorkel Days









# Community Guided Snorkel Day – Goat island



# Community Guided Snorkel Day – Hoirorangi Marine Reserve



# Ocean Experiences for Community Groups

## Adventurous seniors dive into marine programme



Residents of June Mander Retirement Villages took to the water last week.

They are the latest students of the Experiencing Marine Reserves programme at Heotahi Marine Reserve.

The brave seniors' comments included "I feel like a penguin" and "I tried to put my feet in the arms".

There was a lot of mirth as Merle Briggs and Anne Scott donned wetsuits for the first time, relishing the opportunity to explore the underwater world.

"You don't have to bend down, we've got helpers to do that," programme director and national coordinator Samara Nicholas told the group of nine as she tried to encourage more of the elderly folk to join in.

The marine education programme provides a snorkelling experience to build more awareness in the community of marine reserves and their boundaries.

■ Up close with fish P16

**Thumbs up:** Department of Conservation workers Lyrrie Gibson, left, Mattu Metairi and Dianne Kerr offer support to Merle Briggs in yellow wetsuit, left, and Anne Scott, alongside "spotter" Samara Nicholas, in pink.

Photo: JO BELWORTHY



# Community Guided Kayak Days

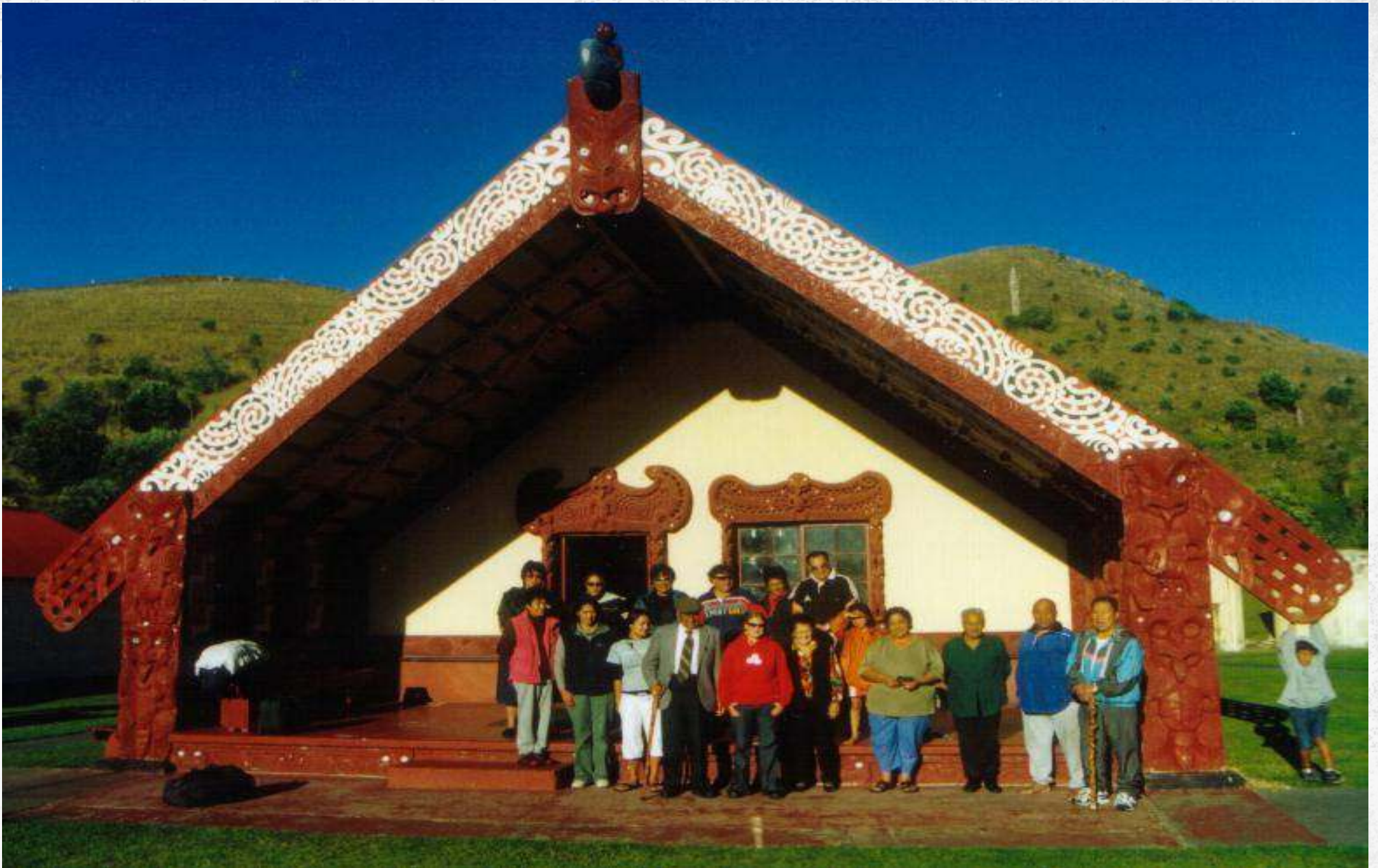


# Wānanga



**EMR/WBC Wānanga provides professional development and networking opportunities  
Essential training for coordinators**

# Adult EMR experiences



Northland community trip to Whangara, April  
2004

# Snorkel Courses

Schools must obtain a  
consent to assess.



# 2012 Young Blake expedition to the Kermadecs

30 young people joined the Sir Peter Blake Trust and Experiencing Marine Reserves programme for the ultimate marine reserve experience





- HOME ABOUT EMR CURRICULUM EMR AREAS SNORKEL DAYS EVENTS GALLERY NEWS GET INVOLVED SHOP CONTACTS

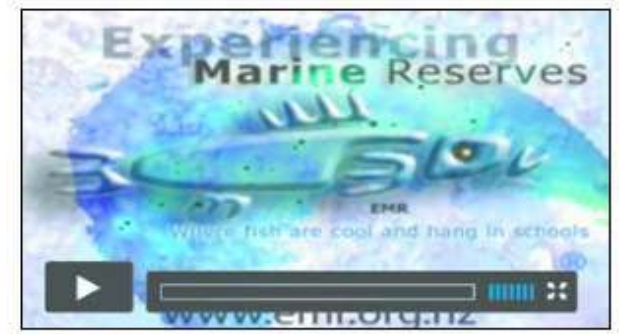
THE EMR PROGRAMME



The aim of EMR is to raise awareness, understanding and involvement in marine conservation through participation of diverse...

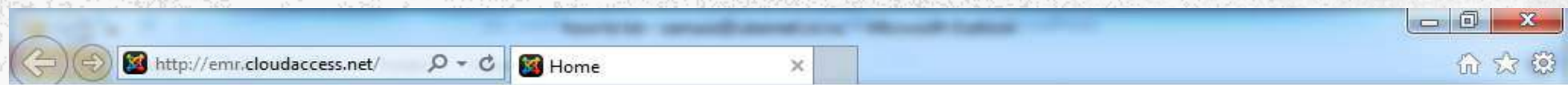


WATCH US IN ACTION



MEET THE TEAM





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How to create a marine reserve proposal for  
a marine protection planning forum in your region

HOME

ABOUT

MARINE CONSERVATION

PROTECTION TOOLS

CREATE A RESERVE

HANDY HINTS

CASE STUDIES

EDUCATION

LIBRARY

Welcome to the nzMarine reserves "How To Kit". This resource has been created to inform all New Zealanders about our highest form of marine ecosystem protection: no-take marine reserves. New Zealand has enjoyed an international reputation of marine science and conservation excellence. We have legislation and policies that enable NZers to contribute towards marine reserves and other marine protected areas. By using this resource you can be a part of continuing this legacy through:

- learning about our marine environment and why marine reserves are needed (link to 2),
- becoming involved in local marine conservation efforts (link to 8g), or,
- getting into action and starting the process towards submitting marine reserve applications (link to 4).

We strongly believe there is an urgent need to create an effective network of marine reserves for New Zealand. We hope this resource puts in your hands the tools to make a difference in your area.

By following your nose you will have access to a comprehensive library (link to 8) of documents and media to help you along your way.