

# Project raises \$50,000 for wetland

A three-month-long crowdfunding project successfully raised \$50,000 to restore Rangihoua Wetland. The funds are going directly to the ongoing restoration and protection of the Rangihoua Wetland.

Eco household brand Seventh Generation, online fundraising platform Million Metres and the Waiheke Resources Trust teamed up to raise the money to support the wetland and developed some creative projects to reach their goal.

Aerosol and stencil artist, Flox was employed to create a vivid, one-of-a-kind wetland mural in Britomart's Takutai Square.

Every person who donated received a Seventh Generation laundry detergent to take home and with each donation, Flox further embellished the vivid mural of a restored wetland.

Once complete, each bespoke panel was auctioned on TradeMe, and the money raised went towards the restoration project.

lion Metres Stream Project.

"This is the first step on our Million Metres' journey to restore the country's wetlands, starting at Rangihoua.

"We now look towards preparing the land for planting mānuka, kānuka, tōtara,

the impact of the next seven generations to come," says Pat Mignogna, global brand manager for Seventh Generation.

"Through the Rangihoua project we can see this fundamental value is intrinsic to Kiwis as well. On behalf of Seventh



\$50,000 has been raised to regenerate Rangihoua Wetland. Wetlands play a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. Matt Dowdle Photography



Artist Flox created a vibrant mural in Britomart to support the funding drive.

pūriri, kōwhai and harakeke. This array of varieties will ensure a mixture of native plants will call the Rangihoua Wetland home."

Planting will take place during winter next year and will create a buffer between the waterway and the land. The new plants will help to filter contaminants and reduce erosion that can be harmful to fish. They will also provide habitat for the rare moho-pererū (banded rail) and other birds.

Waiheke Resources Trust has worked with experts to develop a comprehensive planting plan and budget for the work.

The funds raised will cover the cost of buying the plants, preparing the site for planting, volunteer coordination and maintenance of the planting area to ensure the trees and shrubs thrive.

"At Seventh Generation we believe that in every deliberation we must consider

Generation, I would like to thank each and every person who donated and made a concerted effort to nurture the health of our world for generations to come."

Now, the team is aiming to go even further and is aspiring to raise an additional \$25,000 for Rangihoua Wetland.

"If we can meet our stretch goal, we can restore more metres, get more plants in the ground, and give more love to Rangihoua this year," says a spokesperson.

New Zealand's wetlands play a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. They improve water quality, regulate carbon levels and provide habitat for plants and animals uniquely adapted to living in wet conditions.

Many wetland plants and animals are found nowhere else in the world. Visit [millionmetres.org.nz](http://millionmetres.org.nz) to get involved • *Sophie Boladeras*

Donations were also made via [millionmetres.org.nz](http://millionmetres.org.nz) and, for every contribution received, Seventh Generation matched the funding dollar for dollar up to \$25,000.

"The enthusiasm Kiwis have shown for our first project with Seventh Generation demonstrates that as a nation we take waterway health seriously," says Georgina Hart, restorative project lead for The Mil-

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