

Wildlands Wellington News December 2015

An update on our people and services.

Season's Greetings and new staff for Wellington.

Wildlands: providing outstanding ecological services to sustain and improve our environments.

We'd like to wish you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season, and we hope to catch up with you in the New Year.

Rachel McClellan welcomed to our Wellington office

Dr Rachel McClellan has worked for Wildlands for six years in the Christchurch office, but has returned to her home town of Wellington after some 18 years working in Northland, overseas, the West Coast, Southland, and Canterbury. She is a bird specialist with expert knowledge on birds of our seas, forests, wetlands, and shores, but has worked with most animal groups during her career as an ecologist. Rachel has also undertaken vegetation work, including wetland mapping and restoration, foliar browse index, and threatened plant management. Some of her recent projects include a black-billed gull census for the South Island, effects on birds of the Rena wreck, a restoration plan for Dusky Sound, Fiordland, and Abel Tasman National Park (Project Janszoon), an implementation plan for seabird reintroduction at a mainland site in the Catlins, and development of guidelines for rapid assessment of biodiversity in the Pacific Islands. She is also very experienced with ecological impact assessment, and has provided expert advice on bird surveys, monitoring, and management to a diverse range of clients. She has been an expert witness at eight council and Environment Court hearings. She is excited to be back in her old stamping ground, and keen to expand her work in the Wellington Region.



Rachel monitoring the breeding success of the Nationally Critical black-billed gull (above).

Rachel and Dr Steve Rate (Dunedin Office) at Long Point, in the Catlins (right).



Sanctuaries and other protected areas

Wildlands has a wealth of experience with the development of strategic, restoration, and implementation plans for the protection of important habitats and fauna in the Wellington Region and throughout New Zealand. We can assist with projects of any size, and for any fauna group, and at every step, from planning through to implementation and analysis of results. Our services include:

- **Surveying and assessment** of what is there: staff have experience with a vast array of survey techniques, including methods such as acoustic monitoring devices.
- **Map and present** results: the Wildlands GIS team can produce high quality maps to address any aspect of interest.
- **Develop strategic, restoration, or implementation plans** that address vegetation and flora, a wide diversity of habitats, including waterways and wetlands, fish, birds, bats, lizards, terrestrial and freshwater invertebrates, and the pest control programmes that are required to protect them.
 - Wildlands staff have experience with both the development, planning and management of **large-scale pest control operations**, island eradications, and eradications from mainland sanctuaries.
 - Xcluder® is the leading company providing **pest-proof fencing** in New Zealand and is a partner company of Wildland Consultants Ltd.

- Our staff are **nationally-recognised experts** on bats, invertebrates, lizards and frogs, birds, and vegetation restoration.
- We can provide **the nitty gritty**, such as detailed costings, planting schedules, trapping layouts, and weed control.
- We have experience with the restoration and protection of virtually **every type of terrestrial, estuarine, and freshwater habitat**: from the coast to the alpine zone, and from severely degraded industrial sites through to relatively pristine natural areas.
- **Monitoring to detect change**: Wildlands staff will develop robust monitoring programmes that can be undertaken either by staff or matched to the skill sets of other workers.
- **Analysis and reporting**: Wildlands has extensive statistical expertise in the analysis of data sets to scientific publication standards. Our company database now includes over 4,000 reports completed by Wildlands staff.



Stoat 'caught' in a camera-trap at Arthurs Pass, predator-proof fencing in Waikato, common skink in Porirua.

Clients include landowners, community groups, local and regional councils, Government Departments, developers, and industrial companies. Examples of our projects include:

- Brook Waimarama Sanctuary, Nelson – resource consent application for pest eradication
- Dusky Sound, Fiordland National Park – restoration and conservation plan
- Lake Wairarapa – restoration strategy and implementation plan
- Abel Tasman National Park – Project Janszoon strategic plan
- Kapiti Coast – several dune and wetland restoration projects
- Long Point, Catlins – implementation plan for the introduction of albatross and other seabirds
- Hauraki Gulf islands – rodent eradication, planning and implementation
- Wellington South Coast – goat eradication plan
- Te Urewera – ecosystem restoration plan, ongoing management
- Orokonui Sanctuary and Beyond, Dunedin – major contribution to restoration and monitoring plans
- Kawau Island, Hauraki Gulf – restoration planning.

If you've got a small project that just needs a bit of advice and direction to get off the ground, or you're thinking BIG and need the works, we can help.

The Wellington Team:

	<p>Astrid van Meeuwen Dijkgraaf, PhD Ecology, Senior Ecologist A highly qualified ecologist with a wealth of experience on large projects such as subdivision and infrastructure consent applications; and monitoring and inventory. Strong leadership skills make Astrid the ideal person to oversee projects while her science background means she can identify and initiate appropriate investigations and solutions for your projects. Specialist skills: Survey and monitoring and expert witness at Hearings (birds, bats, lizards, ecology, biodiversity offsets), design of monitoring programmes and data analysis, plant-animal interactions and management.</p>
	<p>Frances Forsyth, BSc Geomorphology and PG Dip Ecology, Senior Ecologist An environmental scientist and ecologist with experience on a wide variety of projects Frances has a reputation for well-researched, thoughtful and practical work with well-written clear reports. Strong networking skills and a commitment to a quality product ensure that clients return with requests for further work and recommend her to others. Specialist skills: Ecological restoration, ecological management plans, expert witness at Hearings, freshwater fish, and stream management. SEV and electric-fishing qualified.</p>
	<p>Rachel McClellan, PhD Zoology, Senior Ecologist An experienced ecologist and expert ornithologist who has worked on a wide variety of projects including strategic and conservation plans for large-scale restoration programmes, environmental impact assessments for mines, hydroelectric proposals, subdivisions, and wind farms, and the evaluation of threatened bird management programmes. Specialist skills: Design, implementation and review of fauna monitoring programmes, expert witness at Hearings (seabirds, shorebirds, forest birds, wetland birds), expert ornithological advice, writing and review of environmental impact assessments.</p>

OFFICE LOCATIONS

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