BRaid Managers report 16 September 2022

Funding

- End of financial year and mid-year reports both sent to ECan
- Application made to Waitaha Action Fund
- Consideration needs to be given to what should be prioritized until further funding is secured

Education/outreach/support

- **Seven newsletters plus four news posts** were sent since the last meeting, delivered to 278 (updated last week) verified emails, up from 270 emails in November. I always receive quite a bit of feedback from these, so please take a moment to look over them for news items: https://braidedrivers.org/news/
- **Website**: Use of the site continue to grow. See the graph on the next page. Thanks to feedback and contributions (especially from Frances Schmechel, thanks, Frances!), information and reports are added regularly, and errors omissions sorted quickly.
- **Member's area: recommended** that area includes all meeting minutes, reports, submissions, financial statements, audit reports. We are a charitable trust and that information should be public.
- **Facebook posts:** 184 Facebook posts 14 December 2021 – 24 May 2022. Reduced the number of posts after June, as we do not have the same budget. Gathering stats. is harder (ie, no longer free) with Facebook becoming part of the business arm of Meta.
- **2022 Braided Rivers Seminar:** There were fewer bookings this year compared to 2021, but far more asked for remote access or links to the recordings. This reflects the move from in-person to virtual during Covid. Thanks to Zip Ploeg from ECan, all presentations were recorded and available, along with PDFs, on the website, a few days after the seminar. All of those who had booked were sent the link, along with those who signed up to receive newsletters.
- **Boffa Miskell:** weed contractors were once again sent 2-page river bird ID kit
- **Opihi River:** Due to the end of the Partnership Project and associated funding, this has not progressed.
- **Awareness signage** – Created short video clips: the view count on Youtube only occurs if the links to Youtube are clicked; videos watched while embedded in the page or in Facebook do not show up in the stats so there is no clear way to determine the number of views of each video.
    - Black-fronted tern Ashley Rakahuri: https://braidedrivers.org/black-fronted-tern-nesting-ashley-rakahuri/
    - Kahu predating BFT: https://youtu.be/Bk32u3sOLtU
    - Harper River delta weed clearing: https://youtu.be/BnBNVb13yIo
    - Clarence Waiau Toa /Clarence River black fronted tern project: https://youtu.be/le8LPW9C3-E
    - Karikaas is running a billboard advertising campaign over the next few months in Christchurch and have offered to run one for BRaid. I have suggested a concept sign designed to create mystery around what bird is being displayed and why it's bill is bent to the right, and a kink to the website to see the answer.
- **Invitation to present to the Rivers (engineering) group** in November has been postponed until March 2022. They are covering the costs of 2 out of 3 nights' accommodation

Correspondence In:

- Notification from Boffa Miskell of weed spraying

Correspondence Out:

- Reports to ECan for past funding
- ECan/Waitaha Action Fund application
- ECan submission re gravel extraction; also published here: https://braidedrivers.org/mining-braided-rivers/

Monitoring/bird counts

These are promoted through social media and newsletters; Results are added to the relevant 'rivers' and 'bird' pages as they come in.

Biodiversity / climate change project: climateandnature.org.nz

- Funding has now ended. With the support of three committee members, funding has been sought from the Waitaha Action Fund to cover running costs and to develop a nature-based solutions education programme with Tuhaitara Coastal Park.