



Poipoia Kia Rere – Māori Internship Programme 2024-25

Project: Hamilton piirairaka dispersal

Supervisor	Neil Fitzgerald
Team	Ecosystems and Conservation
Site	Hamilton

Goal of project

To improve our understanding of habitat use and connectivity between sites for piirairaka (Waikato-Tainui name for NZ fantail, *Rhipidura fuliginosa*) – an iconic manu. We will study nesting habitat, juvenile survival, and natal dispersal (subadult movement from nest site to breeding site) of piirairaka in linear forest fragments that are features of Hamilton gullies.

This mahi is part of the Restoring Urban Nature programme led by University of Waikato that aims to increase biodiversity in Aotearoa cities.

Location of project

Hamilton

Programme of work to be carried out

- Find and monitor piirairaka (fantail) nests in Hamilton parks and gullies
- Assist with catching, banding and radio-tagging chicks and subadults
- Undertake systematic searches for banded piirairaka after they have fledged
- Assist with data download from radio receiver base stations at regular intervals
- Enter field data into agreed databases/spreadsheets

How to apply

Please email your CV, along with a covering letter stating which project you are applying for. Please also include your interest in, and suitability for that project, as well as your aspirations for the future to:

Jo Petrie petriej@landcareresearch.co.nz