

WHAKAMĀNAWA Ā TAIĀO

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2023

Entry criteria

The Northland Regional Council Whakamānawa ā Taiao - Environmental Awards recognise the people and organisations making a difference for Northland's environment. Their commitment and incredible contributions are helping our environment thrive and their mahi is highly valued.

Summary

This should be a high-level overview of the project/contribution. The judges do not mark this, but it is important because it provides a quick background for the judges and can be used for promotional and marketing activities should your entry be successful.

Provide a summary of the project/contribution, considering the following:

- » When did it start and who is involved?
- » What is the purpose and objectives?
- » Key environmental outcomes/achievements, including measurable change, improvements, and results.

The following will be used to judge your application alongside the category specific criteria:

General criteria (30 points)

- » Strategic context: Describe how the project/contribution benefits Northland's environment, people and economy.
- » Describe how the project/contribution considers Māori perspectives and values.
- » Describe how the project/contribution involves the community and how sharing ideas and resources has helped transfer knowledge.

Future thinking (10 points)

Please describe:

- » The scale of the project and whether it can be transferred to other areas in Northland.
- » What's next? (e.g. succession planning or project expansion).

See the criteria on the following page for the category you are applying for.

Rules of entry

- » Entrants can be individuals, community groups, schools, whānau, hapū, iwi, businesses or leaders that are based in Northland.
- » 'Northland' region is defined by the Northland Regional Council boundaries, which you can view on our website.
- » You can nominate yourself, or someone else with their approval.
- » Your entry must relate to a project/activity that was started, carried out, or for which a significant piece of work was completed, since 1 January 2022.
- » Individuals and organisations must not be under investigation by any NZ statutory body, and must have a good track record of compliance with Northland Regional Council.
- » Nominations will not be considered where Northland Regional Council deems a conflict of interest exists.
- » Judges reserve the right to consider a nominee in a different category if they deem that to be more appropriate.
- » Judges reserve the right not to award a category winner where they believe there were no suitable entrants.
- » By entering you agree to participate in any marketing and promotional activities associated with the awards.
- » There is no cost to submit an entry to the awards. If selected as a finalist, up to four tickets to the awards ceremony will be provided. All travel costs to the awards are at the expense of the finalist.

Category criteria (60 points)

You will need to clearly describe how your project meets the criteria, and provide tangible evidence, examples, and supplementary information so the judges can assess your project/contribution.

Environmental action in the community

This category recognises individuals or groups who are working collaboratively within their community to protect and improve Northland's environment.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to working collaboratively within their community to deliver a successful environmental project
- » Measurable outcomes that show how the project/contribution supports and advances ecological values in Northland.

Environmental action to protect native life (previously Environmental action in pest management)

This category recognises individuals or groups who are working to control pest animals, pest plants, and/or diseases to help our native life flourish.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to a project or activity that is working to protect, restore or improve biodiversity on land and/or in the water
- » Measurable outcomes that show how the project/contribution supports and advances ecological values in Northland.

Environmental action in education

This category recognises those in the education sector who are driving learning and action to bring about change on environmental issues. The award includes but is not limited to schools, kura kaupapa Māori, early childhood centres or tertiary institutions, and can include groups or individuals.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to a project that engages and empowers students to protect the environment
- » Measurable outcomes that show how the project supports and advances ecological values in Northland.

Environmental action in water quality improvement

This category recognises individuals or groups who are taking action to protect and enhance water quality and biodiversity values within water bodies in Northland.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to helping improve water quality and/or protect, conserve or restore biodiversity through soil conservation, erosion control and/or riparian management
- » Measurable outcomes that show how the project supports and advances ecological values in Northland.

Environmental action in industry

This category recognises businesses (individual or a collective) that show a commitment to the sustainable use of natural resources and/or protection of native ecosystems.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to a project/activity that uses innovative systems, technologies, processes, or practices to protect and/or improve Northland's environment
- » Measurable outcomes that show how the project/activity brings about positive outcomes for the environment that go beyond standard techniques or regulatory requirements.

Environmental leadership

This category recognises an individual or group whose leadership, support of others and willingness to share ideas and resources is making a significant contribution to Northland's environment.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to a project that supports the protection and improvement of Northland's environment
- » Leadership and support of others, contributing to the achievement of a collective environmental goal.

Category criteria continued

You will need to clearly describe how your project meets the criteria, and provide tangible evidence, examples, and supplementary information so the judges can assess your project/contribution.

Youth environmental leader

This category recognises a young individual or group, aged 12-24, whose leadership, support of others and willingness to share ideas and resources is making a significant contribution to Northland's environment.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to a project that supports the protection and improvement of Northland's environment
- » Leadership and support of others, contributing to the achievement of a collective environmental goal.

Environmental action to address climate change

This category recognises individuals or groups who are taking action to adapt to a changing climate and transition to a low-carbon future for Northland.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » A commitment to a project or activity that addresses projected climate change impacts on communities and natural systems and takes action to adapt to these changes
- » Measurable outcomes that show how the project/contribution seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or improve resilience to climate change in Northland.

Kaitiakitanga

This category recognises the unique relationship tangata whenua have with natural and physical resources in accordance with tikanga Māori, and is open to whānau, hapū, iwi, and Māori organisations.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » Outstanding kaitiaki leadership and a commitment to empowering whānau, hapū, iwi to take action to restore or sustain the mauri of the taiao.
- » Measurable outcomes that show inter-generational environmental kaitiakitanga that includes growing the current and future capacity of tangata whenua to protect and improve the environment of Te Taitokerau.

Kiwi Coast Outstanding group or project award

This award recognises high achieving Northland groups or projects who have proven their commitment to restoring the health of their local native forests and wildlife, including kiwi.

The winner of this award will demonstrate:

- » Working together – a strong community-wide collaborative approach
- » Results focused – effective action on-the-ground achieving measurable environmental goals for native forests and wildlife
- » Forward thinking – innovation, ideas and thinking outside the box to take a project to the next level.

You will need to provide evidence of your relationship with this organisation.

