

Whangawehi grant

A LOCAL conservation project is one of six throughout the Hawke's Bay region that has received Department of Conservation funding.

The Whangawehi Catchment Management Group received a share of \$250,000 granted throughout the region by the Community Conservation Partnership Fund.

All recipients have a history of conservation projects and the funding is designed to help them gain momentum and continue their work.

Conservation partnership manager Joyce-Anne Raihania said more than \$8.5million had been granted nationwide to support more than 100 community-based conservation projects

alongside the Department of Conservation. Local DoC staff were keen to get involved and assist where ever they could.

The Whangawehi Catchment Management Group has dedicated endless hours to replanting its Mahia wetlands, with 11,000 plants planned to be in the ground covering 4.5 hectares by the end of the season.

The conservation fund announced in March this year has approximately \$26 million dollars set aside to distribute to community groups for priority conservation work over the next four years.

The department received huge interest in the recent round, receiving more than 280 applications for projects seeking more than \$50 million