

EcoWorld* Marlborough's unique social enterprise *in nature*

EcoWorld is a unique social enterprise making very significant positive impacts locally, regionally and nationally.

"Maritime educational facility and visitor attraction on the Picton Foreshore, that contributes to the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of the Picton community" - Marlborough District Council. 21 May 2001

"Picton Aquarium works in conjunction with the kaitiaki of Te Ātiawa. EcoWorld Aquarium houses and manages taonga species – most notably tuatara – and a range of other species of value to the Rohe. EcoWorld also acts as a rescue centre for species in the Rohe, particularly seabirds, and so is a valuable asset to the responsibilities of Te Ātiawa, as kaitiaki." - Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Māui Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust - Submission Waitohi Picton Ferry Precinct Redevelopment - 12 April 2021

The EcoWorld team is driven by our purpose and impacts, positively advocating for the wildlife and environment of the Marlborough Sounds to make the Marlborough Sounds and Aotearoa a better place for all. EcoWorld employs the world class *"Connect Understand Act"* methodology (World Zoo Aquariums Association) with all its activities.

51,000 paid visitors pa. Marlborough's most visited *"paid for"* tourist attraction
 36,000 children pa.
 3,900 LEOTC school children pa. Learning Experience Outside the Classroom
 1.1 million visitors (705,000 children) since 2002, over the past 19 years
 14,000 Picton Cinemas patrons pa. (financial support \$32,000 pa. by EcoWorld)
 \$4.7million pa. associated visitor spend in Picton (ref. Oamaru Penguin research)
 Prospering post Covid lockdown at about 84% pre lockdown turnover

Only aquarium in South Island Home to an irreplaceable unique collection of New Zealand marine species
 only 3 public aquariums in NZ (Kelly Tarltons and National Aquarium)

Partnerships & Agreements IWI DOC MPI Zoo Aquariums Australasia WReNZ etc.

Top of the South's leading native wildlife rescue, rehabilitation & release centre (mostly sea birds)

Marlborough community sponsor and supporter of numerous groups and projects

6 FTE's all paid the Living Wage

102 tertiary graduates in fully paid internships since 2002. Mostly university science graduates

NB. Fully self-funding and debt-free All surplus funds are reinvested into EcoWorld and Picton Cinemas

Founding Partner - Marlborough Sounds Endangered Native Wildlife Breeding Collective

Bias for action - initial response Yes. How can we help you?

- * **EcoWorld:**
- (1) EcoWorld Aquarium & Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre
 - (2) EcoWorld Science Heritage & Education Charitable Trust (# CC10212)
 - (3) Picton Cinemas emphasis on art house cinema

*Aquarium of the Marlborough Sounds opened 2002. In 2009 changed name to EcoWorld Aquarium & Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, to better describe it, at the initial suggestion of PMNZ's CEO Des Ashton.

Projects & Sponsorship (current & past)

EcoWorld has a Bias for Action - our initial response *Yes. How can we help you?*

EcoWorld Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre cares for injured and fledgling animals of the Sounds. EcoWorld established the Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre in 2009 with support from DOC, Port Marlborough, Picton Vet Clinic.

Little Blue Penguin Rehabilitation Enclosures and Displays EcoWorld constructed these in 2009 with support from Port Marlborough and the Department of Conservation. EcoWorld funds the day to day operations.

The Tuatara Project Since 2008 EcoWorld, in partnership with Te Atiawa Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust and DOC has housed and managed an advocacy programme for two rare North Brother's Island Tuatara. Three Stephens Island captive bred tuatara were added in 2011.

Marlborough Sounds Endangered Native Wildlife Breeding Collective EcoWorld established the programme to conserve endangered species, particularly Yellow-Crowned Kakariki (YCP), Giant Weta, and Tuatara. YCP are bred and transferred to Islands in the Sounds and Project Janszoon in the Able Tasman National Park.

"Meet The Locals" LEOTC (Learning Experience Outside the Classroom) Education Programme at EcoWorld Aquarium EcoWorld sponsors and supports up to 3,900 school visitors to EcoWorld each year.

DOC - Volunteer Conservation Weeks EcoWorld participates in DOC's Conservation programmes and sponsors DOC Conservation Weeks on islands in Queen Charlotte Sound and other ad hoc support.

"Dreamnight at the Aquarium" hosted at EcoWorld on the first Friday in December. Chronically ill and disabled children from Marlborough and Nelson, their parents, siblings and caregivers are special VIP guests. There are 302 Dreamnight zoos and aquariums in 36 countries. 392,00 people were "Dreamnight" guests in 2019.

SeaWeek EcoWorld is a sponsor of DOC's "SeaWeek"

Education - Primary, Intermediate, Tertiary & Post Graduate Study EcoWorld is a member of the DOC Marlborough environmental group. EcoWorld assists students and employees of EcoWorld Aquarium.

Community Support EcoWorld is a long term and founding sponsor of Kaipupu Point Sounds Wildlife Sanctuary, founding sponsor of Picton Dawn Chorus and supports Forest and Bird, Heritage NZ and other eco groups.

Education and Standards EcoWorld is a Member of Museums Aotearoa and registered with NZ Museums.

New Zealand Museums Standards Scheme EcoWorld is registered with National Services Te Paerangi at Te Papa and enrolled in the "New Zealand Museums Standards Scheme".

Expert Knowledge Exchange EcoWorld through Te Papa's National Services Te Paerangi's "Expert Knowledge Exchange" utilises experts to work with EcoWorld to create education programmes.

"Experiencing Marine Reserves" Education Schools Programme EcoWorld has hosted "Experiencing Marine Reserves" (EMR) programmes and worked with local schools and DOC to develop school education programmes on islands in the Sounds. The programme has been assisted by an EMR grant.

Research - Early Life of Blue Cod EcoWorld has assisted with research projects into the "Early Life (the larval stage) of Blue Cod" being undertaken from time to time by Marlborough Boys College and DOC.

"Once Were Whalers" EcoWorld produced the documentary with film maker Dr Paul Davidson. The documentary describes the return of five "Old Whalers", now ardent conservationists, to Cook Strait, working with DOC, surveying the annual whale migration. EcoWorld was assisted by Marlborough District Council.

Oral History - "Old Whalers" EcoWorld facilitated the production, by Picton historian Loreen Brehaut, of 42 hours of these oral histories. The project was principally funded by a Ministry of Culture & Heritage grant.

Other Projects Assisting DOC and community groups with initiatives including amongst other projects assisting with an application to Heritage New Zealand to preserve Leading Lights in Tory Channel, assisting with applications for Royal Society Fellowships and LEOTC positions etc.