



## Reconnecting Northland Connectivity Activator

Position Description – March 2018

Full-time, Northland-based

**Whenua ora, wai ora, tangata ora**

*Our land and our people flourishing together*

### **Reconnecting Northland**

Reconnecting Northland is leading a programme of connectivity conservation - a new paradigm for conservation in New Zealand. By taking a longer-term view of the landscape and the natural processes that contribute to ecosystem functioning and resilience and recognising human interdependence on the landscape and natural world, Reconnecting Northland seeks to enable a mutual interdependence based upon a healthy, natural environment that provides sustainable livelihoods for its human inhabitants. Further information about the Reconnecting Northland can be found on the programme's website [www.reconnectingnorthland.org.nz](http://www.reconnectingnorthland.org.nz).

### **Purpose of the Position**

Under the newly established programme structure, the Reconnecting Northland Trust requires a suitably skilled, experienced and connected team player who will enhance the Reconnecting Northland team's culture, capacity and capability, and help to expand and amplify the impact of the programme in accordance with its agreed strategic direction.

The Northland-based position of Connectivity Activator will play a critical role in activating the Reconnecting Northland connectivity approach by working with a wide range of groups and organisations including hapū, iwi, community groups, agencies, educational organisations, CRI's and businesses to enable large-scale community-led conservation through collective impact.

The successful applicant will form part of a tight team who work alongside each other in a complementary, supportive and uplifting manner, creating value by contributing to the collective suite of skills across the following areas:

Relationship building and management, community engagement, ecological restoration, indigenous knowledge and ways of knowing, proposal writing, fundraising, co-design, group facilitation, project planning, coaching, GIS mapping capability, future design thinking, financial management, story-telling, creativity and communications.



**Terms:** This position is full-time (37.5 hours) per week. Reconnecting Northland's office is based in Whangārei although our work extends across the Northland peninsula. Because of the geographic spread of our work, the location of this position is negotiable and includes the possibility of working from home, provided there is reasonable access to Northland's main centres and reliable internet connection.

**Responsible to:** Pou Manatū

**Direct Reports:** None.

**Main Working Relationships:**

Internal & Programme Partners:

- Reconnecting Northland Pou Manatū
- Reconnecting Northland Mātanga Hauropi - Ecologist
- Reconnecting Northland Programme Administrator
- Reconnecting Northland Board of Trustees
- Reconnecting Northland funders
- Northland Regional Council
- Department of Conservation
- WWF New Zealand

External:

- Reconnecting Northland stakeholders - iwi/hapū, community groups, landholders, government agencies, councils, NGOs, CRI's, businesses, education/training providers and others.
- Reconnecting Northland consultants, contractors, service providers and researchers

**Responsibilities of the Position:**

This person will be a key member of the programme team which is delivering the strategic tasks identified in Reconnecting Northland's *Implementation Plan 2018-2022*. The key focus is to expand the connectivity between Northland projects and groups to help make their collaborative work more effective, efficient and durable. This will include:

- Encouraging and supporting the formation, ambition and intergenerational visioning of geographically-based cluster groups
- Creating capability and supporting capacity growth
- Facilitating the activation of transformational partnerships

Encouraging and supporting the formation, ambition and intergenerational visioning of geographically-based cluster groups, by:

- Listening to and documenting the experiences and needs of communities,
- Facilitating community planning through co-design,
- Implementing the connectivity-based suite of tools
- Brokerage of strategic relationships,
- Enabling larger scale operations incl. coordination & assistance in winning funding,
- Active integration of the 4-wellbeings<sup>1</sup> with conservation programmes and initiatives,
- Providing access to geospatial mapping to inform planning and reporting

Creating capability and supporting capacity growth, by:

- Facilitating access to technical expertise
- Embedding research in local initiatives
- Enabling the growth of, and supporting the use of indigenous knowledge
- Supporting strategic planning and development
- Providing mentoring and leadership as required

Facilitate the activation of transformational partnerships

- Aligning resources and expertise with individual group's needs,
- Broadening investment into initiatives,
- Utilising and integrating indigenous knowledge,
- Demonstrating collective impact.

## **Skills and Experience Required**

### Essential

- A good understanding of Northland and its communities along with effective networking skills
- Confidence to work respectfully and effectively within Māori cultural contexts including a familiarity and ability to move with ease within settings involving tikanga Māori
- Experience and fluency in effective verbal and written communications in English for different channels and audiences, including presenting to audiences and facilitating workshops
- Applied knowledge of co-design techniques and collective impact
- Proven project management skills - a broad spectrum of efficient administrative, financial and organisational skills and practices

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<sup>1</sup> Four wellbeings: Social, Environmental, Cultural, Economic

- Ability to effectively and professionally brief, and work in partnership with, consultants, contractors, researchers, service providers and volunteers
- A sound understanding of ecological principles within the NZ context
- A NZ driver's licence

#### Desirable

- Experience and fluency in effective verbal and written communications in Te Reo Māori
- Practical experience in environmental restoration, predator control or ecosystem management.
- Electronic communications skills, including the production of online content
- Any relevant specific skills such as photography, video, GIS mapping, first aid, etc.
- Relevant tertiary qualification

#### **Personal Attributes Required**

- A commitment to Reconnecting Northland's values, and an enthusiasm for being part of our mission to inspire and support Northlanders to be active in the care and kaitiakitanga of our environment, for the well-being of Te Tai Tokerau
- A holistic world view, with commitment to working towards a better future for Northland's natural world and its people as expressed within Reconnecting Northland's moemoeā / vision
- A creative and innovative future thinker and doer
- Motivation, enthusiasm and commitment in working effectively as a key member of the Reconnecting Northland team – able to lead, inspire, motivate and support
- Ability to maintain positive and productive relationships with a wide diversity of stakeholders
- Recognition of, and commitment to, Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- A positive, optimistic approach, with ability to persevere when faced with problems and to actively seek solutions
- An ability to exercise flexibility and sound strategic judgement in recognizing and evaluating fresh opportunities
- A friendly and willing approach, with ability to meet deadlines
- A willingness to adapt, and develop new professional skills and areas of expertise as required
- An approach which demonstrates integrity, inspires trust, and resolves conflict