

Report from Waitutu Forest Lodge Subcommittee for 2020/21

This year started with Covid, which put a stop/hold on our work pattern at the Lodge. In spite of that, we have had another busy year and have completed a number of projects.

We have installed fly-proofing on the entrance to the walk-in chiller and the whole building has been re-painted.

During the year, our hot water boiler system failed and was replaced with a new 740 litre boiler, installed late last year. It is extremely efficient and has greatly reduced the amount of firewood required to fuel it. Subsequently, three more heating radiators have been fitted, two in the kitchen and one in Bedroom 2.

Bedding has been upgraded during the year, and the new linen cupboard has been completed, providing all the storage required.

Bedrooms 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 have all been painted.

Rubbish chutes have been made for the foyer area.

Two tables have been made and installed in the BBQ shelter. The stack of timber which was stored beside the BBQ shelter has been moved into the implement shed under cover.

A new "Waitutu Forest Lodge" sign has been made and attached to the Lodge Building.

The baseboards on the Lodge have been painted, completing the exterior.

The new flyscreen doors for the Lodge entrances have been installed, and new deckings and handrails built and installed.

At the Lodge Host's cottage, the new deck outside the sliding door has been completed, and handrails added to the entrance-steps. A new gas range, rangehood and ducting, wood-burner and larger wetback-hot water cylinder have also been installed.

The back lawn has been improved, with the tree roots being removed and re-sown with grass. A new clothesline has been installed to allow more line space for the laundry, and the area tidied up and gravelled.

Regular maintenance was carried out on the tractor, quad-bike, generator and chainsaws.

Work in Progress: The handbasin in the Lodge Host's cottage is being replaced. The generator shed is being moved further away from the Lodge, to reduce noise.

This year we had 9 weeks where the river level was extremely low, and the jetboats were unable to operate.

Pete Baldwin resigned in mid-November. Our new Lodge Host is Alan McLeod, who knows the area very well, and has settled into the position very quickly.

Rowdy and Lorraine White

For and on behalf of the Waitutu Lodge Sub-Committee