



2025 SERN Spring Field Trip - Te Anau Basin Revisited

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th November 2025

This year's field trip will be self-drive (carpooling an option) and a 1 or 2 day event as you would like. The proposed programme is below.

Saturday 15th November

10.30am: Dunrobin Tussock QEII Covenant (2450 Wreys Bush-Mossburn Rd). QEII Rep Jesse Bythell and botanist Brian Rance will talk to us about some rare species present here and explain the special restoration techniques being used to try and ensure their survival.

12.00pm: Lunch at Mossburn (BYO)

1.30pm: Marwick's Restoration QEII (625 Kakapo Rd, Te Anau). QEII Rep Mark Sutton will be present to explain a different type of QEII covenant here, where Simon and Sue Marwick have planted thousands of native plants to restore a gully system.

4.30pm: Te Kōawa Tūroa o Takitimu (3023 Blackmount-Redcliff Rd, Jericho). Catriona Gower, Environment Southland Biodiversity Officer, will tell us about the restoration project being undertaken here by the Te Waiau Mahika Kai Trust to restore Ngāi Tahu traditional food and resources. We will do a short walk around to look at the site and at some of the work being done. An evening bat finding expedition will be led by Catriona.

Please come prepared for a **shared potluck Dinner**. Kitchen available. Also, for breakfast on Sunday morning. (Overnight stay is possible: see below. Sleeping bags & pillowcase required.)

Sunday 16th November

9.30am: Cathedral Peaks Home Creek Riparian Restoration Project (268 Hillside-Manapouri Rd). Landowners, Cameron and Wendy MacDonald, and project organisers, Environment Southland, will explain the community restoration work being undertaken alongside this stream which originates from the Kepler Mire.

10.30am: Waiau Trust's Home Creek Restoration Project (170 Hillside-Manapouri Rd). Following early work led by Edith Jones, further restoration plantings have been undertaken by the Waiau Habitat Trust with support from the Motorhome Association. Check out the original creek plantings and hear about the future plans.

12.30pm: Lunch at Mossburn (BYO)

1.45pm: Rural Women's Castledown Wetlands (928 Dipton-Mossburn Rd). Last visited in 2018 by SERN, in the last few years they have begun willow control. Hear about these plans from Ann Irving, and also about the group's ongoing planting and pest control at this site on the Dipton River.

Please email Gay at rgmunro@netspeed.net.nz with expressions of interest for this field trip, especially in the night's stay at Te Kōawa Tūroa o Takitimu Lodge. The Lodge can sleep a maximum of 20, but some campervans can be accommodated. Also please advise if you are interested in carpooling.

SERN's aim is to promote and celebrate the restoration of native ecological sites in Southland.

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