

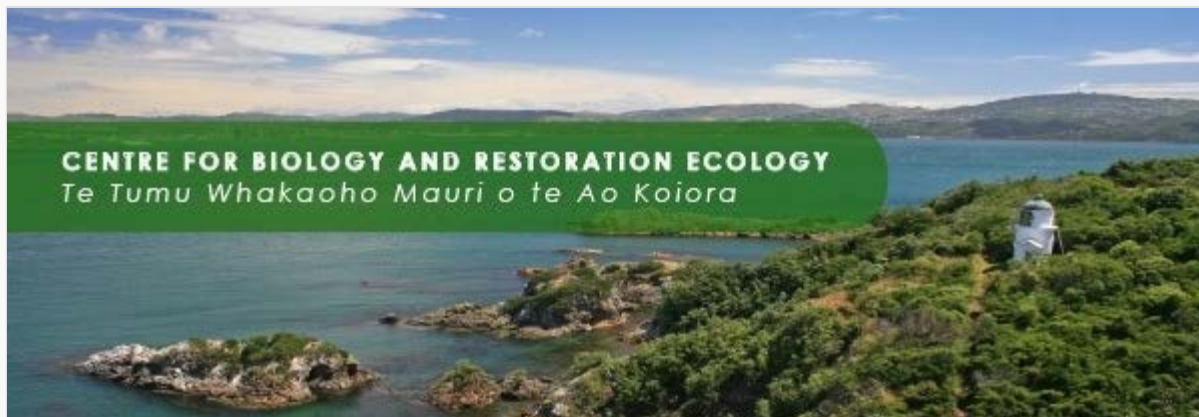
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Latest newsletter from Centre for Biodiversity and Restoration Ecology, Victoria University of Wellington



August 2017

Catch up with all that's going on at CBRE



CBRE graduate symposium April 2017

In April, CBRE held a graduate symposium. This year's plenary speaker was A/Prof Yolanda van Heezik from University of Otago, who spoke on the kinds of nature people value and use in New Zealand, and the implications for urban biodiversity conservation. The day's programme can be found [here](#)



Predator Free Cities : VUW Ideation Forum 2

In April, CBRE members were among a multidisciplinary team of VUW staff who joined a diverse group of stakeholders from the predator-and-pest-free ecosystem in Wellington. The day provided a valuable opportunity for community building, networking and, for collective sense-making and alignment with the Predator Free 2050 goals. The forum was sponsored by the [VUW Sustainability and Resilience Theme](#).



Predator-free 2050: is it a sensible policy?

Dr Wayne Linklater spoke with RNZ's Nine to Noon, discussing [Predator Free 2050](#) – the bold government-backed project to rid NZ of possums, rats and stoats by 2050. To listen, click [here](#). He also contributed to a panel discussion on the topic at the recent National Science Challenge's conference. Video of the entire discussion is available [here](#).



Targeting tiny terrors in the Pacific

Ants in New Zealand might be annoying, but in the Pacific, invasive ant species are tiny terrors that are destroying food crops, blinding pets and livestock, and forcing people off their land. [Read more](#)



First evidence of rhinoceros' ability to correct gender imbalance

Research led by Victoria University of Wellington has demonstrated the ability of rhinoceros to modify the sex of their offspring to avoid the dominance of one gender and limit severe competition for breeding. [Read more](#)



Innovative lures to improve rat control

A CBRE research project has been awarded more than \$360,000 to develop more effective lures to manage rats, one of New Zealand's, and the world's, most damaging mammal pests. [Read more.](#)



Wellington City Council Student Research Showcase

In June, CBRE staff and students participated in a research showcase at Wellington City Council. Eight presentations highlighted the breadth of research CBRE undertakes with the support of the City Council



CBRE graduate profile | Tapuwa Marapara

Job Title | Environmental Scientist

I am currently work for an environmental consulting company in Southland (e3scientific Ltd). My work involves assessment of the movement of agricultural contaminants on farm properties and helping farmers establish farm contamination mitigation strategies. I also provide advice on wetland restoration particularly to farmers in various catchment groups. Also involved in contaminated land projects, where I assess the risk to human well being on sites that have a history of hazardous land use practices (e.g. agrochemicals, fertiliser manufacture, paint manufacture, livestock dip, gasworks). The role involves stakeholder engagement, fieldwork and report writing.

[Tapuwa was recently featured in a Stuff newsarticle last month](#)

Directors' Corner

Reading this newsletter, I'm impressed by the depth of engagement by our members with the wider community and the impact of sharing their new thinking, new knowledge and new technologies from Wellington, into the Pacific and around the world to Africa. Perhaps CBRE's most important role is to help translate the scholarship and research we do in ecological and environmental topics at the university into improvements in policy and practice in the communities we serve and beyond. CBRE is having another bumper year for impact.

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