

# A snapshot of citizen science in New Zealand

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Usage of the term 'citizen science' is rapidly gaining traction internationally. In New Zealand citizen science has been popularised by the media and referred to in the National Science Challenges. There are already many activities underway throughout New Zealand where members of the public participate in some form of scientific investigation. Many of these have recently been compiled into a national inventory of citizen science programmes and projects via a NZ Landcare Trust-led project: Citizen science meets environmental restoration. At the same time, a series of citizen science working group discussions are taking place in Auckland, Palmerston North, Nelson and Dunedin, to better understand who is involved, how, as well as where barriers and opportunities for progressing environmental citizen science in New Zealand may lie. This presentation will provide a snapshot of the current state of citizen science in New Zealand and findings from both the inventory and working group discussions will be reviewed. The presentation will conclude with the factors needed for creating a more cohesive, and outcome rich citizen science 'movement' for the environmental sector.