

Subject: Rolling on to summer! Motu Trails news

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DIFFERENT VIEWS

What's the Pakihi like, seen from the air? These three short drone clips feature Karen and Mark Hanlen, riding by the Pakihi river and over the 32m suspension bridge. Plus there's a birds-eye view, scoping the hills from far above the Pakihi hut:

[Riding alongside Pakihi River](#)

[Riding over Pakihi Bridge](#)

[Pakihi Hut from above](#)

Do you have any shots from your ride on the Motu Trails that you'd like to share? [Email them to us](#) or post onto our [Facebook page](#).



Banner Photo: Daniel Jones racing to the men's win in the Motu Special. Thank you to [Scottie T Photography](#).

THANKS, ALL

Numerous organisations and individuals keep Motu Trails rolling. Support in the last three months has come from:

- Lion Foundation once again supporting our work
- DOC with Community Conservation Partnership funding
- New Zealand Post with Community Post support
- Ground Effect Slush Fund with funding for culverts on Whakaumu Track
- Fonterra with support for signage for Whakaumu
- Resene Paintwise with free paint used in EcoArt

SPECIAL EDITION

Dan Jones and Corrinne Smit won the first Farmlands Motu Special in the magnificent Motu valley. Word from the 100+ participants after the late-winter race was overwhelmingly that it's one to do next year, July 2016. The 2015 results are [here](#) and there's a video on the race [here](#).



Corrinne Smit powering towards the women's win. Soon after, she and Dan were adventure racing in China.

ECO ART FOR DUNES TRAIL

The area around the Dunes Trail is home to, or visited by, some **significant species**. A recent Eco-Art day at [Tirohanga Beach Motor Camp](#) saw a whole lot of wooden cutouts painted up and ready to go on display alongside the trail: NZ dotterals, pied stilts, geckos, fur seals and more.



ESCAPE ON TE WAITI TRACK

The next valley system over from the Pakihi, Te Waiti Track offers an excellent option for more experienced riders.

Te Waiti is an out-and-back ride, about 6km each way, with the track entrance by Bushaven. The 2011 Craig Potton book *Mountain Bike North* calls this a "superb piece of singetrack ... crossing a number of

- Bruce Belcher with more free photography work.

Thank you. Every bit helps and The Motu Trails Charitable Trust welcomes all support. [Email us](#) if you'd like to be involved.

DUNES SAND BRIDGE SORTED

The Tirohanga Beach section of Dunes Trail has been repaired, with some modification to the design. Open to ride....



ALL YEAR TRAILS

Aside from any extreme weather events or trail hazards, the Motu Trails can be ridden all year round. For current conditions check the local river [rainfall/river monitors here](#). The Pakihi monitor is ideal for determining conditions on the Pakihi Track, and a good indication of conditions on the Motu Road.

LATEST NEWS & PHOTOS

Photos, tips and trail updates are regularly posted on the [Motu Trails Facebook](#).



SAFE IN THE BACKCOUNTRY

Opotiki iSITE offers personal locator beacons (PLBs) for hire, under a



side streams, many of them running from spectacular waterfalls". Te Waiti is not the Motu Trails Great Ride, but it's worth being on your radar for exploring. [Email us to know more.](#)



Huge kahikatea (white pine) near Te Waiti track, estimated to around 600 years old.

SHUTTLED TO THE TRAIL

The Motu Trails are served by two full-service shuttle and bike hire companies. Both offer you experienced and reliable service — with a wealth of local knowledge. Both have large, purpose built bike trailers. And both can tailor pickups/dropoffs and trip options to suit your group preferences.

> **Motu Trails Hire & Shuttle** is headquartered at Bushaven in Te Waiti, near the end of the Pakihi Track. At Bushaven, John and Virginia offer you a range of accommodation and camping in a wonderful hidden forest valley. With Motu Trails Hire & Shuttle they operate two vans. Group pickups can be arranged from Whakatane, Tauranga, Rotorua. Visit www.hireandshuttle.co.nz or call 0800 MOTU TRAILS (0800 66 888 7).

> **Motu Trails Limited** is headquartered right near the start of the Dunes Trail on St John Street Opotiki. As well as shuttle transport, Ngaio and John offer excellent Bunkhouse accommodation, secure parking and motorhome stopover, and a wide range of hire bikes. Awesome supported trips for groups to ride Rere Falls Trail now an option. Visit www.motucycletrails.com or call 07 315 5864.

You'll find full details of all Motu Trails Official Partners [on the Motu Trails web site.](#)

nationwide programme run by the [Southland Locator Beacon Trust.](#)

The cost is just \$30 for three days, \$40 for seven days, and \$30 per week or part-week after that. A credit card needs to be provided on hire. To know more, visit [Opotiki iSITE](#) or call 07 315 3031.

WHY CHOOSE A MOTU TRAILS OFFICIAL PARTNER?

With an Official Partner business, you can be sure of top notch, cyclist friendly service. You



can also be sure the business is supporting the Motu Trails Charitable Trust. Through their membership, Official Partners help us to help you get the best Motu Trails experience.

The full list of Motu Trails Official Partners is on the Motu Trails [web site, here.](#)

NEW OPOTIKI TRAILS MAP

We've recently released a trail map showing how these rides fit together:

- Dunes Trail
- Otara East Road
- Otara Stopbank Trail
- Whakaumu Track

Get your map from Opotiki i-SITE, Official Partners, or by emailing jim@motutrails.co.nz (post free in New Zealand). Or get the [online version here.](#)

PLEASE DO OUR TRAIL

The Motu Trails Limited van at the Pakihi Track dropoff.



POU WHENUA AT TRAIL ENTRANCE

These impressive pou whenua (poles of the land) were recently erected at Waiaua, marking the eastern end of the Dunes Trail. If you're riding both the Dunes Trail and Motu Road Trail, the shelter here makes the ideal point to pause.

More pou are planned, follow our Facebook for updates.



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SURVEY!

If you've ridden the Motu Trails recently please do this [survey](#).

Just click on 'Motu Trails' and follow the prompts, it won't take long and survey results are really useful to help us keep improving the trails. Thank you!

TRAIL RUNNING

Biking is of course only one way to experience Eastland's incredible outdoors. The Pakihi, Whakaumu Track, Te Waiti Track and Whinray Reserve Track are all sensational for trail running or hiking, as demonstrated here by world U19 XTERRA champion Hayden Wilde. [Email us for info.](#)



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