



# Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc)

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## FMC Member News March 2011

*Here is the latest news on FMC advocacy, highlights from the Executive meeting held in Wellington on 19 March, and other significant developments of importance to trampers, climbers and all interested in outdoor recreation.*

### **FMC 80<sup>th</sup> Conference, 11-12 June 2011: Forever Wild? - Our Conservation Lands in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

On the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2011, at Te Papa in Wellington, FMC with support from partners, such as the Department of Conservation, Forest and Bird and New Zealand Deer Stalkers Association, is hosting a major conference on the occasion of our eightieth year. This conference provides us with an opportunity to step back from the day to day issues we are immersed in, and to look at the big changes that are coming and to resolve what we need to do about them.

The first day will include speakers such as the Minister of Conservation, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Mark Christensen (prominent RMA lawyer), Kay Booth (Tourism and recreation researcher), and many others. On the second day we will use workshops and small groups to map out how we can address any challenges – e.g. looking at whether legislative change is required, and how clubs and individuals who love the outdoors can be heard. This is a major undertaking on your behalf by FMC and we hope that all clubs would support it by sending one or two delegates. Individual members are also encouraged to attend. If your club would like to make a donation towards the running of the conference, please contact the Vice President, Quentin Duthie, on [vicepresident@fmc.org.nz](mailto:vicepresident@fmc.org.nz). Clubs will be sent registration material shortly; Individual Supporters should register their interest through the on line enquiry form at <http://www.fmc.org.nz/conference/conference-information-request/> to ensure they are sent registration packages and can benefit from reduced fees for early enrolment (see also: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/conference> for further updates).

### **Rule Changes**

Your Executive discussed the rule changes at its meeting on 19 March. Feedback was received from 21 clubs and this was taken into consideration. All clubs have been sent, this week, the final wording of the changes and if any club wants to move an amendment to the changes then they must supply the wording of the change to the Secretary ([secretary@fmc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@fmc.org.nz)) no later than 22 April.

### **FMC Photo Competition - Note on Panoramic Images**

The 2011 FMC Photo Competition is now open. In response to questions that have been raised concerning panoramic pictures, these are permitted under the selection criteria, but note that composite or collage images, or images where features have been edited out, are not. Entry details are available via the following link; <http://www.fmc.org.nz/services-to-clubs/photo-competition/>, and they have also been published in the March Bulletin. Remember, entries must come from Clubs and not individuals. Entries close on 17 May 2011 and the winner will be announced at the 80th Conference & AGM in June.

### **2012 Tramping Calendar - Reprieve Granted!**

In spite of some recent setbacks, FMC is pleased to announce that production of a 2012 Tramping Calendar (in association with Craig Potton Publishing) is back on the agenda! We will have more details on how to order these shortly - Watch out for the mail order forms and advertisement in the next *FMC Bulletin* (there is scope to on-sell these in your club and raise funds).

### **Reminder - FMC Youtube Video Competition**

The inaugural FMC Youtube Video Competition begins this year! Members and Individual Supporters can use their talent to showcase tramping and mountaineering in New Zealand. Details on the various categories and how to enter can be found via our website: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/services-to-clubs/Videocomp/>. The closing date is 31 September 2011. For inspiration, go to <http://www.youtube.com> and search for "Tramping."

## Walking Access Commission - Unformed Legal Roads

The Walking Access Commission has sought comment on its proposals for a policy on unformed legal roads. You can read FMC's response by going to the following link: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/advocacy/submissions/>.

## Tenure Review Submissions

FMC, with extensive assistance from Mike Floate, is currently active in preparing two submissions for areas undergoing tenure review: The Wolds and Maryburn Stations in the Mackenzie Country (see also the February FMC Newsletter) and Mt Dasher (adjacent to the Kakanui Range in North Otago) which offers some fine opportunities for high-country tramping and ski touring. Further details will be made available on the FMC website once the submissions have been lodged.

## More Ways to Help Save the Mokihinui River

Forest and Bird reports a pleasing response to the e-postcard to Meridian campaign. Over 3000 e-mails have been sent to date and numbers are still rising. March 31st is the last date for sending an e-card – so let your family and friends know! Cards can be found via the following link: <http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/saving-our-environment/freshwater-wild-rivers-send-e-card-meridian>



In addition, Forest and Bird is fundraising for the forthcoming Environment Court case. Known as the **Save the Mokihinui Shareholding Certificate**, this is an opportunity for individuals to purchase one of 140, limited edition, shareholding certificates (featured left) at \$100 each – securing your part in the battle to save the Mokihinui River. Beautifully illustrated, the certificate encapsulates all that is valuable in the Mokihinui – From its enigmatic great spotted kiwi to its sculptured limestone gorges. To buy your certificate, go to: <http://www.savethemokihinui.org.nz/>

## Corrections to March FMC Bulletin Advertisement for DoC Backcountry Hut Passes

Please note that the prices published in the advertisement for DoC Annual Hut Passes on p. 34 of the March Bulletin are incorrect. The last lines should read as follows: Available from DOC visitor centres to FMC members for \$85.80 (normally \$122.60), youth (11-17) \$42.90 (normally \$61.30) - Must present FMC membership card.

## Club Invoices and Discount Cards

The renewal invoices for the year 2011/12 were posted to clubs and associates at the beginning of the month. Individual Supporters will receive their renewal invoice on the one year anniversary of their last renewal. We hope clubs and associates will be able to renew promptly. This year will see a change in the format of the Discount Card. The number of Discount providers has reached a point where they could not be listed on the card itself so we have produced a nice credit card sized membership card and a separate leaflet promoting our Discount Scheme. Clubs can use the Discount Scheme leaflet to promote membership of their club and membership of FMC.

## Research on Outdoor Recreational Activities and Conservation Management

Executive member Rob Mitchell is keen to hear from any clubs or individual members that have ideas on how FMC could cooperate with university groups and other outdoor recreation bodies engaged in research that would increase central government's appreciation of the importance of our activities in conservation and national park management. Please send your feedback to Rob via: [rmitchl28@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rmitchl28@xtra.co.nz).

## Siberia Hut Destroyed by Fire

Unfortunately, a fire destroyed Siberia Hut (Young/Wilkin circuit) on 16 March. Toilet facilities are still available, but those planning on staying in the vicinity will need to carry their own shelter. We will keep you posted as to when the hut will be rebuilt.

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