

Muscle in the Mackenzie!!

We saw some serious muscle on Sunday from volunteers in the Upper Ohau riverbed! Thanks team, we appreciate your mahi! Thanks also to Meridian Energy and Land Information New Zealand for allowing us onto your land to get the good stuff done. The Ohau River is a really neat location with an interesting mix of native scrub vegetation at the upper end, turning to braided river and tussock dryland downstream. It is important to prevent wilding pines from invading these environments to maintain healthy ground water levels, natural river flows, and clear, open habitat for all the invertebrates, fish, lizards, and birds that rely on these interconnected ecosystems to support their existence. Huge thanks also to Environment Canterbury and The Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury for your support to make these days happen, to Mainland Vector for helping with health and safety, and quality control in the field, and to Ministry for Primary Industries for all the goodies we gave away. The fight against wilding pines truly is a remarkable demonstration of multiagency collaboration and community engagement.

To stay in the loop for future community volunteer opportunities keep an eye on the [Wilding Free Mackenzie](#) website, follow us on social media, or email me coordinator@mackenziewildingtrust.org so we can arrange a session for you and your own group. It makes a great day out of the office for workplaces and is an awesome way for people of all ages to experience and appreciate the Mackenzie Basin!



Danielle Lloyd getting in on the action



Paul and Corbin Lloyd pull out all the stops to drop this bad boy using just hand tools and determination!!



Beatrix Loomes thriving in the field



Garrie and Claire Ensor team up to navigate the scrub and deal to the wilding pines



Wilding Free Mackenzie Trustees Bruce Cowan, Rob Young and Chairman Ross Ivey walking-the-talk and getting hands on in the field.



Everyone enjoying a well-earned BBQ afterwards