

LOWER AKITIO CHRONICLE

January 2026



Happy new year everyone, I'm sure we are all loving this rain, liquid gold.

To keep the community updated with all the information and offers I am going to be doing a Monthly newsletter this will have any relevant information, offers and water testing information.

Signage

Thank you very much to Mike, Jed ,Caitlyn, Jennifer and liam for putting up the Lower Akitio sign at the start of river road. It looks great.



Water testing

Please find our water testing attached as you will see it has very high E.coli and phosphorous, I feel that the water testing done on Monday 26th January may show a very different outcome with all the rain that has flowed down the river.

Forestry Event

Please find below the flyer for our hot topic for 2026, information below, please note that there are events on the same day in both Pongaroa and Herbertville, this will be very informative, and it would be great to see you all attend.



**FORESTRY & CARBON
IN PRACTICE**

What Farmers Need to Know

*Forests, Farms, and Carbon:
Shaping Tomorrow Together*

Date: February 11th 2026

Two venues:
Herbertville Inn
12:00pm - 2:00pm

Pongaroa Community Centre
4:00pm - 6:00pm



Puketoi to the Pacific
CATCHMENT COLLECTIVE INC.

Hear from Our Guest Speakers

Ernslaw One
One of New Zealand's largest forestry companies, sharing how sustainable plantation forestry supports long-term land and community outcomes.

Nateva
Managers of New Zealand's largest privately owned conservation forest estate, focusing on carbon, biodiversity, and active land stewardship.

MOXI – Farm Forestry
How to benefit from carbon without selling the farm.

CarbonCrop
Land use under the new Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) changes.

Tāmata Hauhā Funding
Tāmata Hauhā is a New Zealand owned and operated company, established to help restore the land, its people, and their prosperity

More about our speakers on page 2

Please RSVP by 10 February 2026, indicating which venue you'll attend, to June at Administrator@ppcc.org.nz for catering purposes.

Pest Control/ Trapping

This is one of the big area wide multi-faceted tasks set for this year within the catchment.

Phase one, monitoring to determine numbers, location and movements of the species we are interested in will begin in February.

As you may have already seen, invitations are out to participate in this initial monitoring phase.

Alongside game cameras, bite cards will also be distributed to participants, these simply monitor pests such as rats, mice and opossums.

As the regional council has the area marked for TB control this year, getting actual data on the numbers of possums present before and after any control work.

Please find more information and forms/ invitations attached

Goose cull

The initial helicopter cull was done on Thursday 8th and resulted in the removal of approximately 700 birds across the district, an outstanding result that might have been bigger if they'd had more ammunition.

Thursday 22 nd of January a ground shoot is planned for catch them while still in the moult. If you are joining in on this shoot please remember to let Phil Minto know your results so we can have a total.

What does 2026 hold for Lower Akitio

I would love to hear all of your ideas for 2026 and beyond and where you would like to go from here, events, strategies etc moving forward.

I would like to book in a meeting for the 12th of February 2026 at the Akitio boat club, in the evening please let me know if you can make it and bring any helpful ideas.

Please remember if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me on Lowerleader@akitio.org.nz

Or ring/ message me on 0275870440