

## **BIODIVERSITY**

Abundant with native birds, lizards and insects, over 100 different species of native plants grow in this unique area of pre-European native bush. Covered in mature lowland tawa/titoki/matai, this is one of the few areas of this type left in the region.

Many rare species call this remarkable place home, including the endangered the Nelson Green Gecko and giant earthworms.

Shells of the endangered Powelliphanta (giant snail) have been found in the forest in good condition, suggesting a live population may still exist. The endangered Parera ducks breed in the valley. The forest houses rarely found fungi and orchids.

This area of mature lowland tawa/titoki/
matai forest is an excellent example of
what would have clothed much of the
lower altitude areas around Nelson city.
Sadly, few of these areas now remain..."

- Tom Stein from the QEII Trust









## THE PROJECT

For over 30 years, the Kelly family, assisted by many community groups, has worked to clear the weeds and replant areas around the original forest, It is now more than four times its original size. They have built trails, picnic areas, steps and bridges, and welcome over 1000 visitors every year through open days, educational visits and school plantings.

Eco-sourced native trees are grown onsite, for replanting every year, enhancing this Significant Natural Area which is protected in perpetuity by a Department of Conservation covenant.

Kellys Forest is a special place where people can freely enjoy walking in the forest with their families or having a picnic.

Many groups of both adults and children have planted trees in Kellys Forest, and have used this as an educational resource over the years. They continue to do so, making this a long standing valuable community education, conservation and recreational asset.

There is considerable inter-generational community investment in the project, as the children who planted trees in the forest 20+ years ago are now bringing their own children to visit, walk and plant.



