



## Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR) – 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Poor Knights Competition

Trip Date: Friday 17th May 2024 (Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> BU)



**Thanks to Dive! Tutukaka and the Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation**

The national delivery of the EMR programme is made possible thanks to the Tindall Foundation.



The action component of EMR is an essential factor in the students learning process and one which helps us to assess the effectiveness of the programme at meeting the projected learning and conservation outcomes.

By encouraging students to undertake action that is based on their own experience, EMR aims to empower students and encourage support for marine conservation.

### EMR Kaitiaki-Guardian Action PROJECTS

#### Theme areas for 2022-23

EMR action projects foster Kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and address marine issues. Action projects are not limited to the theme areas below but must be NZ relevant, reach beyond the classroom and relate to marine conservation, monitoring, issues and building public awareness

#### Local action

- Marine metre squared surveying
- Inaturalist.nz underwater observations
- Litter-trap installation and monitoring
- Seaweed restoration projects
- Recording presence and absence of marine pests
- Storm water filtration
- Sand dune protection

#### Campaign and Inspire!

- Drain art for storm water awareness
- Design a plaque or sign
- Design a marine reserve
- Celebration of Rahui, marine reserves or other marine protection
- Organising a public information evening
- Submissions and letters to parliament
- Petition for change
- Make a video, song, website or online game
- Sculptures, art, story telling and murals
- Create an enviro-group in your community!

#### Fundraise

- Support EMR! Help us buy new equipment, support other students to participate in EMR or secure your schools future participation!
- Fundraise for a rain collection tank or drain litter trap for your school
- Support other NZ based marine conservation projects

For more ideas check out our [action planning guide!](#)  
[www.emr.org.nz](http://www.emr.org.nz) | [facebook.com/emr.mtsct](https://facebook.com/emr.mtsct) | [info@emr.org.nz](mailto:info@emr.org.nz) | [insta @emr\\_nz](https://insta.emr.nz)



Students need to be able to decide on, plan and take effective action on marine environment sustainability issues that concern and motivate them. The action needs to be aimed at addressing the cause of the marine issue. Teachers need to connect the students EMR experience and growing understanding of the issue to achievable things they can do that will make a difference for the future and put their idea into action.

The action could have a direct impact on the marine environment to mitigate, remediate, resolve or prevent harm to marine ecosystems. Action may also be about seeking to influence others to make decisions and choices that will result in improvements to marine ecosystems.

To be eligible for the EMR action prize, Annual Poor Knights competition, students must be involved in a group action and/or an individual action project **for** the marine environment.

### EMR action project prize

#### Criteria

Action projects that demonstrate guardianship of their marine environment

#### Judging criteria

NZ relevant

Action reaches beyond the classroom

Action relates to marine conservation, marine monitoring, addressing marine issues and/or building public awareness

You must participate in a class/group or individual action project as well as submitting something individually to be chosen. Tell us about or submit information about your action (use EMR action plan template):

- The course of action you were involved in to make a difference, for the conservation of your local marine area
- Results of the action undertaken to date and any plans for the future.

Your individual submission (class work) to support your action could be judged on the following:

- Your (written or oral) explanation of your first-hand experience with marine reserves or the marine environment
- Your explanation of the difference between your local area and marine reserve (either habitat differences if the two are comparable e.g. same type of habitats or social differences in the way the community threat the marine environment (full protection vs. no protection). This comparison could also be in the form of research (without visiting a marine reserve).
- Your passion and demonstration of understanding of marine conservation, marine reserves, marine protected areas and or/marine issues in New Zealand Your communication and demonstration
- Creativity, presentation, leadership and kaitiakitanga



- Use of NZ marine biodiversity and conservation context (NZ references & pictures) e.g. no pictures of exotic clown fish etc
- Your teachers opinion's and recommendations

This competition trip is sponsored by the Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation and Dive Tutukaka, with support from the Tindall Foundation and is offered to students (number depends on number of students involved/spaces on boat and quality of action projects) from each school participating in the EMR programme from Northland and Auckland (up to 20 schools every year) and 1 representative from each other region participating in EMR (Taranaki, Gisborne, Wellington, Nelson/Tasman). Based on the criteria above, representatives from each of the participating EMR schools/regions will be chosen by your EMR regional coordinator (evidence may be collected at time of completing projects and winning representative/s may be informed by early May).

### **The Bobby Stafford-Bush – EMR Ocean Art prize**

In addition to the opportunity to represent your school or region for the EMR ACTION prize, we will be picking one piece of artwork per EMR region (1 student and 1 parent will be funded from each region to join the annual EMR trip to the Poor Knights in May 2024).

***A Living Inheritance** - Bobby Stafford-Bush was young but he was passionate about the sea, marine life, art, technology, inventing and making things. He also liked to help people. He was a very capable young man who had his life ahead of him when he was so tragically killed in a car accident at 16 years of age in 2001. Some time has passed since Bobby died and the family have decided that the formation of a charitable trust would in a sense be a living document to Bobby and in essence be an extension of what if he had lived. Accordingly, the Family decided to create a "living inheritance".*

The Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation supports this special prize for young kiwis that have experienced the marine environment with EMR and display that passion and experience through art. EMR regional coordinators will annually choose 3 pieces of art from each EMR region by the end of April 2024, EMR management and sponsors will then decide on 1 piece of art per region (Northland, Auckland, Taranaki, Coromandel, Gisborne, Wellington, Nelson/Tasman and Otago), 1 student and 1 parent/guardian will then attend the annual EMR competition trip to the Poor Knights per region to including flights and accommodation if applicable. An overall ocean art winner will be chosen by the sponsors, receiving a cash prize and the artwork will be used for promotional purposes for both EMR and the Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation.

### **Bobby Stafford-Bush – EMR Ocean Art criteria**

Must convey a marine conservation message, such as:

- Protecting or education people about marine biodiversity/marine issues
- Human impacts on your local marine environment
- Marine conservation (different marine conservation measures)
- Marine reserves (rules, boundaries, local marine reserves)
- Differences and similarities between your local area and marine reserve
- Kaitiakitanga



Image by Darryl Torckler

**Must mention Experiencing Marine Reserves or EMR in some way.  
You will also be judged for creativity and presentation.**  
*Below are examples from previous years.*



### **Terms and conditions**

*You must be willing to allow yourself and your project and/or artwork to be publicized in the media and to promote EMR and the Bobby Stafford-Bush Foundation. You must arrange time off school, your own lunch and transport to and from Tutukaka marina (for Northland and Auckland, you will receive detailed trip info closer to time). For participants from Taranaki, Gisborne, Wellington and Nelson/Tasman your flights and accommodation will be arranged and paid for (you will receive detailed trip info closer to time). Students and 1 accompanying parent/guardian will travel aboard the Dive Tutukaka boat 'Perfect Day' for **free**. You will need to be at Tutukaka marina by 9.30am. Gear hire for the day will be provided free of charge, but you are welcome to bring your own if you have it. If a parent or guardian is unable to attend, please discuss with your EMR regional coordinator.*

*Please note that this competition trip is **offered on this date only**, if you know your child can not make that date or if unforeseen circumstances arise, notify us, the place may be offered to your schools back up person or to another school.*

*The amount of students that attend from each Auckland/Northland school is at the discretion of the EMR coordinator, the standard of the work produced and the amount of space on the boat. One student may be chosen from a group project, at the discretion of the EMR coordinator, with regards to the criteria above, in some cases, when contributions to a group project are even, names may be drawn from a hat or students and teachers may be interviewed to determine individual attributes and leadership potential for consideration by EMR.*

Please Contact Samara Nicholas for more details: 09 433 8205 [info@emr.org.nz](mailto:info@emr.org.nz)