

Emma Gregg - FMC Executive Committee

Member of: Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club.

Residence: Palmerston North.

My name is Emma Gregg and I am deeply passionate about native New Zealand and the wilderness experience.

I am an experienced trumper and I spend the majority of my weekends in amongst local hills and mountains. My love is for off track adventures, the more remote the better.

Despite my liking for remoteness and solitude, I am involved with a good variation of groups that also highly value our backcountry areas. I learnt my bush skills from hunters and have spent time working in pest control, clearing trap lines in steep valleys and untracked areas. I now work in a private hospital, utilising my problem solving and logistics skills by organising and helping to manage orthopaedic surgeries, but I still use my trapping experience by volunteering on several trapping projects in Tararua, Ruahine and Kaimanawa Forest parks. I also volunteer on hut projects, leading and organising teams who produce amazing work maintaining our huts.

I have experience in national level committees, having previously been an elected member of Dogs NZ Agility Committee, I believe all committees are in a better place with members who have a range of opinions and strengths, I also believe that any community needs to not remain static, but progress towards an ever changing future. The communities that share love for the backcountry are diverse and it is important that the needs and values of all groups are appreciated. Communication is always the answer and open communication with groups such as iwi and hunters only improve relationships and lead to better outcomes for all.

As a mother of 4 daughters who love nature, it is important to me that our huts, wilderness areas, rivers and mountains are protected now and for future generations to come, but in order for this to happen, access must also be protected. We must also provide protection and maintenance for our hut system and tracks. No other country in the world has the privilege of New Zealand's hut network, it is a valuable asset.

I don't do things by halves, if elected, I'm all in. Let's get things done, for members of the FMC community and everyone else who feels the same love for New Zealand's backcountry.

