



Saddleback sing out for supplies!

The saddleback on Adele Island had been complaining about all this dry weather, so trustee John Campbell and volunteer Dave Wilson built them their very own watering hole!! Thanks to assistance from DOC for transportation, Freeman Roofing and Cederman Bros for materials.



New trapline on the Inland Track from Tinline to Holyoakes Clearing

The Birdsong Trust and DOC have been working together to get approximately 50 new traps flown in to complete the new trapline extension from Tinline to Holyoakes Clearing to Torrent Bay (via the inland track). This was supposed to happen last week, but the high winds prevented the chopper from flying - we are hoping to get this completed next week sometime (dependent on weather).

Once the trap bundles have been flown into strategic drop zones, it'll be all hands on deck to get the traps placed at their locations, tagged, GPS'ed and set - we'll keep you posted when this will be happening, and all help would be appreciated!!!!

Is it going to be another beech mast year? ☹️

Unfortunately, it looks like we're heading for another mast year. The beech trees are flush with flowers and word on the street this year will be even worse than last year due to the El Niño effect; however this is yet to be officially confirmed by monitoring.



Weed control work being undertaken in the ATNP

As part of the ATBT's weed control programme in the Park, Kaitiaki o Ngahere Ltd are controlling weeds at the former bach site at Tinline Creek. A range of familiar garden plants had established and 'jumped the fence' into the wider Park, including montbretia, agapanthus, cotoneaster, Chinese privet and cherry. This before-and-after photo shows Brad Myer, of Kaitiaki, inspecting a stand of bamboo at Tinline Creek last year (on the left), and the site as it looks today (on the right). Some on-going control will be needed in the area but it is great to have been able to nip these plants in the bud before they spread too far.



Trapping Report August - October 2015

Running totals to date are: 2079 rats, 155 stoats, 104 possums, 25 mice, 8 weasels, and 6 hedgehogs! I wonder how many native birds, lizards, invertebrates and plants they would have eaten?

The following members of our volunteer team were responsible for the August – October checks: Tom, Sally, John R, Dave W, Charlie, Peter and Moppy, Paul, Georgina, Larina, Alistair and Koa, Robert, Sarah, Malou, Eric, Barbara, and Allan and his Pitt Head crew. A special welcome to Sarah Brewer, who has just joined the team!

As always, thanks to all of you for giving so much of your time! ☺

Many thanks are also due to Aquataxi, Sea Shuttle and the DOC boat for taking crew into the Park.

October 2015

Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust Volunteer Newsletter



Catch rates had been high over the winter, but they now appear to be on the decrease, and the average line catch is below 10%, which is great news! The following graphs and tables outline some of the key results for the last few months.

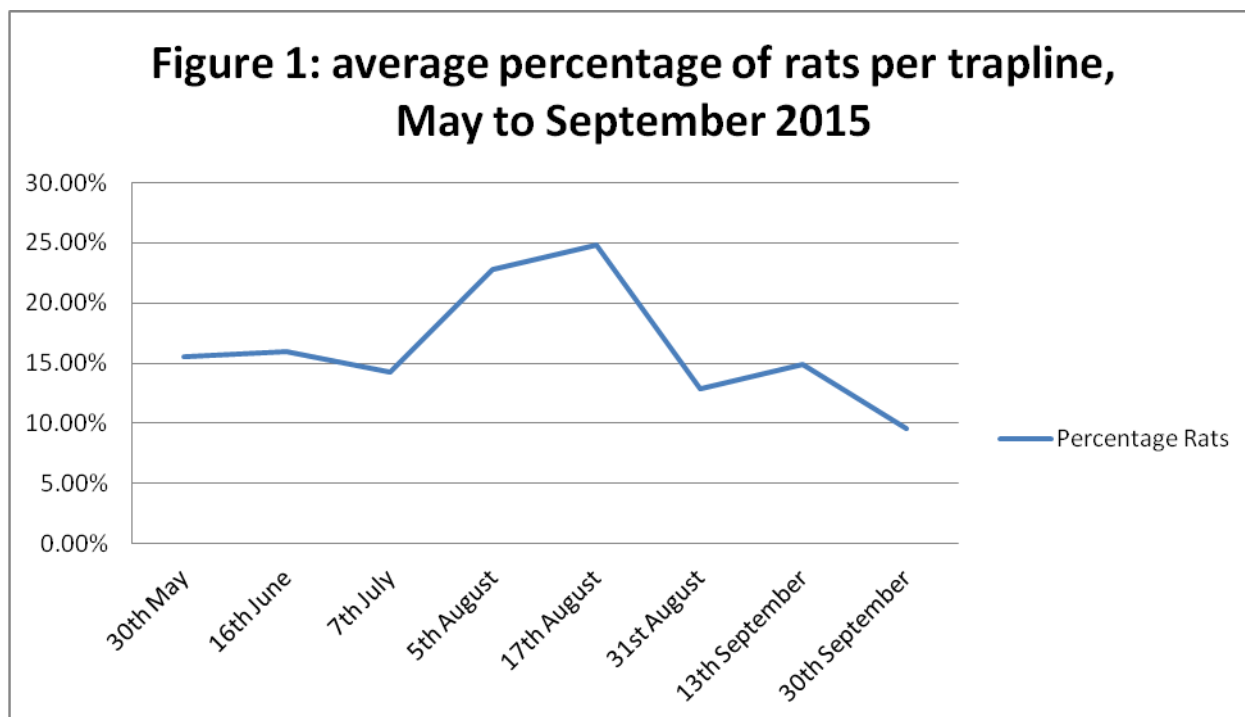
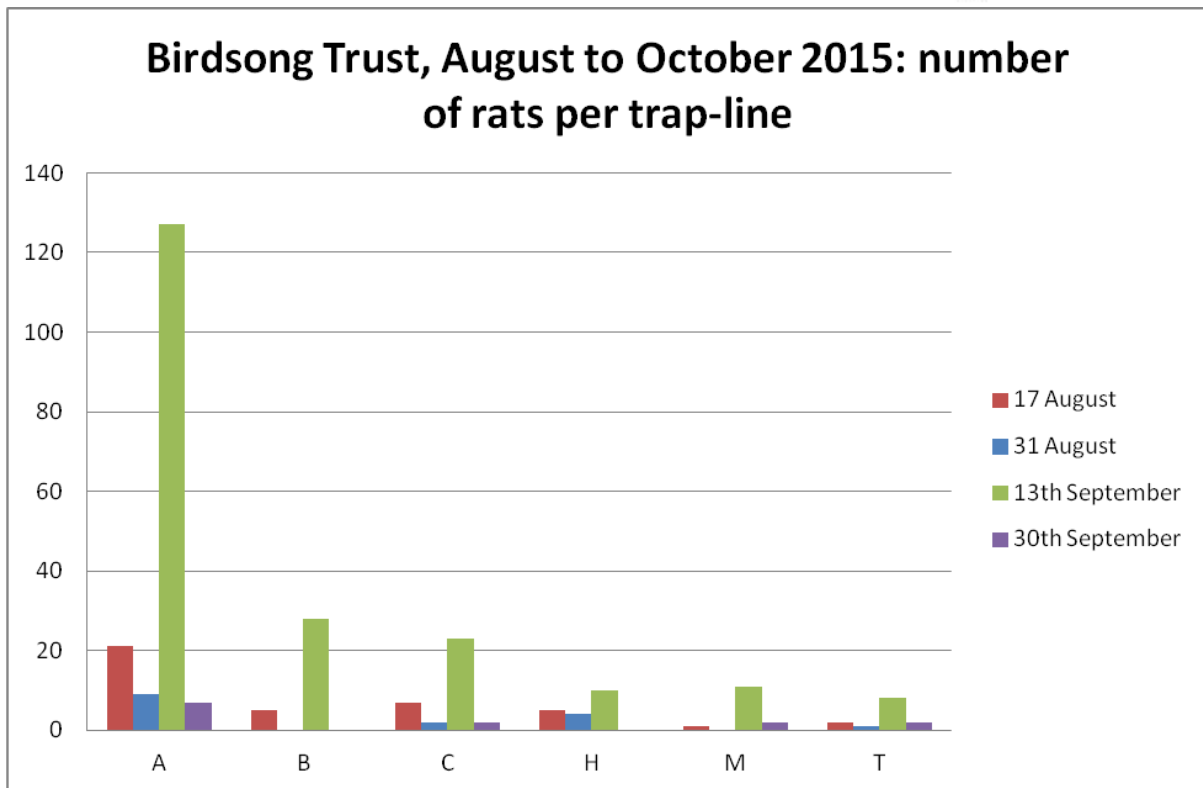


Table 1: Birdsong Trust trap-catch results for rats from mid-August to October 2015 in the Abel Tasman National Park

Line	No. of Traps Checked	16-18 August	30-31 August	11-14 September	27 September - 4 th October
A	127	21	9	22	7
B	28	5	0	2	0
C	23	7	2	3	2
H	10	5	4	3	0
M	11	1	0	1	2
T	8	2	1	1	2
Total	147	41	16	32	13



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Project Janszoon win major award!

Project Janszoon was named the worldwide Gold Winner in the Conservation, Habitat and Diversity section of the Green World Environment Awards. It also won the conservation section for New Zealand as part of the Green Apple Awards.

The Green World Awards and associated Green Apple Awards are the UK's major recognition for international environmental endeavour amongst countries, companies and communities. Project Janszoon competed against more than 500 other nominations from countries as diverse as the United Kingdom, Poland, Malaysia and Korea.

There to accept the award (it was given to us in Christchurch as Yealands Wines won the supreme award last year which meant the ceremony was held in NZ) was Jan Hania - DOC, Pam Holyoake - Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust, Devon McLean - Project Janszoon Director, Roger Wolens - The Green Organisation & Geoff Harley - Project Janszoon trustee



Thanks for getting this far! Finally, if you have any cool photos, or interesting news, please forward to me and I can include in the newsletter!! 😊

October 2015