

## **Trapping Report May 2015**

Again, we are losing a lot of bait to mice and our catch rate is low, however we keep catching stoats and weasels consistently.

A big thank you to Aquataxi for taking us in to the Park and to Bill and Jamal on the Doc boat.

Our volunteer team involved in May was Anthea and Brian, Georgina, Paul, Elise, Krissy, Claire, Moppy and Peter, Al, Aurora, Esther and Eric, Tom, Mike and Lorraine. Georgina and Paul have been out there on several missions.

### **Adele Island:**

We are back to once a month monitoring the baited Birdsong Loop. There was one sighting of a Tomtit. More wilding pines have been found and dealt with and the eradication of Montpellier Broom in Stream Cove continues.

Sadly another Saddleback was caught in one of the unbaited walk-through traps. The same type of trap used on Kapiti Island is not causing any losses but all walk-through traps have been disabled on Adele Is. They will be modified before being reactivated in October.

### **Pitt Head report:**

A recent tracking tunnel exercise by Dept of Conservation revealed that the Pitt Head Project has by far the lowest rat density compared with rest of the coast up to Bark Bay. From March, when 22% of tunnels showed rat footprints, the current result was down to 10%. The presence of mice is still very high with 70% of tunnels showing prints.

### **Holyoake Line:**

Apologies for misreporting that the line is ready to be baited. All 62 sites are marked and the first 10 traps are on site thanks to Motueka High School in conjunction with Project Janszoon.

### **Extra bird sightings:**

Weka above Anchorage (A 113 )

Tomtit on Adele Island and on the mainland above Stilwell Bay.

NZ Falcon between Tinline and Marahau.

Multiple sightings of Banded Rail from the Marahau causeway and - very exiting- a Marsh Crake from Marahau causeway.

### **Trap check May 2**

M line 1-11: 1 rat	Catch rate 9%
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T line 1-8, nil	
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A line 1 – 83: 5 rats, 3 weasels	Catch rate 10 %,
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A line 84 – 127: 3 rats	Catch rate 7 %,
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B line 1 -28: 1 stoat	Catch rate 6%,
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C line 1- 23: 7 rats, 1 stoat	Catch rate 34 %,
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**Total** catch rate across all lines: 17 rats, 3 weasels, 2 stoats, overall catch rate : 11%

### **Trap check May 16**

M 1-11, not checked

T line 1-8: 1 rat                      Catch rate 9%,  
A line 1 – 83: 12 rats, 1 mouse      Catch rate 14 %,  
A line 84 – 127: 5 rats              Catch rate 11%,  
B 1-28: 4 rats                      Catch rate 14%  
C 1-23: 2 rats, 1 stoat              Catch rate 13%  
**Total** catch rate across all checked lines: 13%, 24 rats, 1 stoat , 1 mouse

**Running totals since October 2010 :** 1908 rats, 151 stoats, 7 weasels, 104 possums, 23 mice, 6 hedgehogs, 1 quail