

## ***Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust thanks volunteers***

Almost 40 volunteers, supporters and members of the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust gathered around the barbeque at Pam and Peter Holyoake's home at Split Apple Rock on Friday to celebrate another year of achievement in restoring birdsong to the Abel Tasman National Park.

In thanking the volunteers and supporters Trust Chairman Kim McGlashen noted the benefits of the Trust's partnership with local communities, the Park's commercial operators and the Department of Conservation. Efforts to control pests and predators in areas monitored have resulted in pockets of significant restoration of native birdlife, particularly on predator-free Adele Island where renewed birdsong is already noticed by visitors.

Kim said native robins released last year are successfully breeding and moving across the water to the mainland where intensive trapping of rats, stoats and possums protects them and their food sources. This could not have been done without the tremendous support of volunteers and other supporters.



### **Volunteer Coordinator Tom Horne (left) celebrates another year's trapping of predators in the Abel Tasman National Park**

The Trust has cooperated with Awaroa residents to increase food sources for birds by embarking on programmes of planting native rata and other trees at both Awaroa and Pitt Head under "Project Crimson". In years to come visitors to the Park will once more enjoy the bright red flowers of rata along the coastline at Christmas!

Meanwhile the Trust is seeking funds to facilitate further restoration of the native forest by eradicating wilding pines in the Park.

*Provided by Sandy Stephens, 13 Dec 2010  
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