

July Update and Trapping News

Volunteer trappers

In 'action' this month were Robert, Paul, Brian and Anthea, Tom, Beryce and Don, Esther and Eric, Elaine and Andrew, Allan and the Pitt Head Team. Thanks to Aquataxi for transport of volunteers.

Time to take stock!

Our extension to the Torrent Bay River Bridge (trap 127) has been in action for the first time, catching 18 rats. It's no great surprise that we have never caught that many rats before, see report below.

Our mainline called *A-line (127 traps)* now extends from Marahau all the way to Torrent with following extensions: The *M-line (11 traps)* around Marahau and causeway, the *T-line (8 traps)* Tinline Bay Nature Walk, plus two more extensions which will be completed in July and August. These are the mainly off track *C line (24 traps)* from Cythea Cove, Observation Beach, Watering Cove to the Watering Cove Track /Anchorage Track Junction with 24 traps and B-line (28 traps) from A line trap 112 down to Anchorage Hut, back up to A -line traps 99 - 100.

Once more, funding is in place and possum traps will be added to all new trap sites. So here we are, or will be soon:

A line: 127 stoat traps, 55 possum traps

M line: 11 stoat traps

T line: 8 stoat traps

B line: 28 stoat traps 28 possum traps

C line: 24 stoat traps 24 possum traps

Totals: 198 stoat traps 107possum traps.

Other news

Pitt Head

Allan and his team have done the monthly check and apart from a few self setting traps not working well, there is little to report. A DoC chainsaw gang has made the lines more accessible. Thanks this time to Seashuttle, for volunteer transport.

Tree planting:

If you are going into 'The Park', have a look at how Tinline has been transformed. Sandy has been coordinating the planting programme for the past 3 three years and says 'after a tremendous input by Motueka DoC staff to prepare all the planting sites, the final 700 trees funded by PDCT have been planted by 13 volunteers, assisted by DoC Motueka staff on two days in June. They have had a good start with natural watering by the recent storms.

Adele Island: The 3 monthly check is due this month and will be done in a couple of days.

More Northern rata have been planted around the island and in August the last of the black beech trees will be planted.



June-July trap checks

The 21 June trap check yielded 15 rats and 1 stoat. For the records, the bait had gone in the M4, M5, M7 and A10 traps.

On 7 July checks, a total of 42 rats and 1 possum brought the running totals to 1,239 rats, 133 stoats, 97 possums, 20 mice, 6 hedgehogs and 1 quail.

Well done all – together we are making a difference!