



Mahu West Pest

NOVEMBER 2021



Control, Monitor, Adapt, Enhance, Repeat

Kia Ora Mahurangi peninsula residents and land owners. Welcome to Mahu West Pest's eNews no.10, updating you on targeted pest control, bird monitoring, weed infestations, planting initiatives and upcoming events.



Above: Michelle Spooner, our volunteer social media guru, models a Mahu West Pest branded high-vis vest.

Safety First for our Volunteers

Thanks to Hana Aickin of Auckland Council's Environment team, who recently organised the donation of a dozen high-visibility vests for Mahu West Pest's volunteers, for when working on invasive weeds or replanting projects near roads or in low-light forested areas. A branded roadside noticeboard is also included for use at any of our Mahu West Pest 'Volunteers in Action' events.

This Month's Trap Update

"I'd like to communicate the success and progress of our project to date," says coordinator Jeff Marsh. This month we've installed more traplines in Area 4 (Northside of Mahu West Rd) and started installing lines in Areas 5 (Southside of Mahu West Rd), as well as Area 7 (Pukapuka). As always, our volunteers and landowners have been awesome with their dedication and enthusiasm. For the first time we've exceeded 200 catches, mostly possums

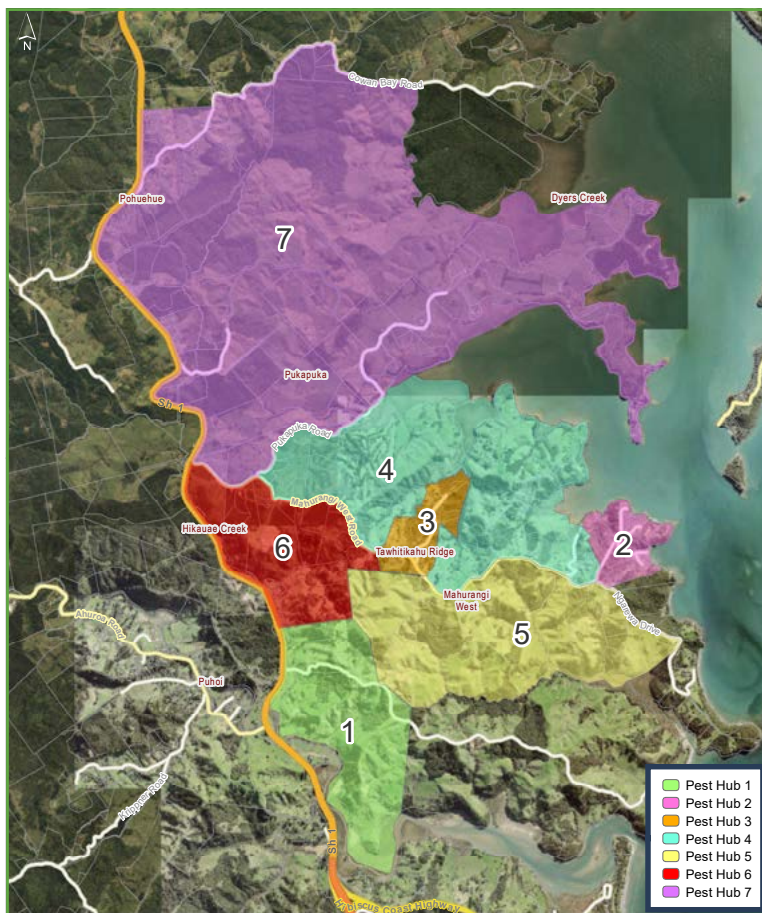
Traps:	510	(last month 377)
Bait Stations:	247	(last month 216)
	YEAR	MONTH
Mustelids:	4	0
Rats:	297	28
Possums:	373	164
Hedgehogs:	27	2
Other:	131	14
Total:	832	208

(see table). Whilst we can't actually sight and log the direct results of a significant bait take, we know it is helping to eliminate rodents. "A huge month, thanks to our great team."

Help us turn \$15,000 into \$30,000!

Breaking news - Mahu West Pest's submission to Foundation North has just earned us \$15,000 for the purchase of pest control tools (traps). We're hoping to double that with your help. Purchase traps for your property or a trapline in your area and we'll match dollar for dollar any amount you purchase. You get traps in the field for half of our already discounted purchasing power. With your purchase or donation we can effectively double this grant money for the benefit of all. Our experienced volunteers will lay the traps for you, helping to halt the tide of possums, rodents and mustelids entering the peninsula and breeding in increasing numbers. We urgently need more pest control tools, especially in areas not yet supplied with traps.

We are not expecting any additional help from the Council until their next financial year (middle to late next year before delivery), so we have to make this happen ourselves. Every dollar you pledge goes straight to the purchase of traps for your area. Please contact Brian Bramell or Jeff Marsh for the number and types of trapping tools required and they'll let you know where the proposed traplines are for your property. For further information or to discuss your needs see Brian or Jeff's contact details below. Every donation makes a difference - thank you!



The latest Auckland Council map showing Mahu West Pest's seven areas or hubs covering some 3,500 hectares.

Contacts:

Brian Bramell: Chair BLBCIMS@gmail.com 021 0257 5957
Nada Cottrell: nada.mahuwestpest@gmail.com 021 137 4132
Stephanie Herron: Secretary stephanie.herron@mac.com
Fran Ashton: eBirds ashton.sager@gmail.com 021 260 2793

Website: <https://mahuwestpest.wordpress.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mahuwestpest>

Trapline Area Coordinators:

- 2 Jeff Marsh (Jamieson): jeff_marshall@mccollams.co.nz 027 590 9245
- 2 Lyn Ladyman (Opahi): brianlyn@gmail.com Ph. 09 422 0797
- 1 Ian Cheesman (Hungry Creek) ian@graphics.co.nz 022 049 5434
- 3 John Hill (Bullock Track) john.hill@xtra.co.nz 027 426 6732
- 4 Mike Neil (North Mahu West) mikeneil1951@gmail.com 027 474 1160
- 7 Stephanie Herron (Pukapuka) stephanie.herron@mac.com 027 257 7763
- 5 Peter Johnston (South Mahu West) staceydo@yahoo.co.nz 0274767561
- 6 Hub 6 Area Coordinator to be advised

