



Mahu West Pest

OCTOBER 2021



Control, Monitor, Adapt, Enhance, Repeat

Kia Ora Mahurangi West and Hungry Creek residents and land owners. Welcome to Mahu West Pest's eNews no.9, updating you on targeted pest control, bird monitoring, weed infestations, planting initiatives and upcoming events.

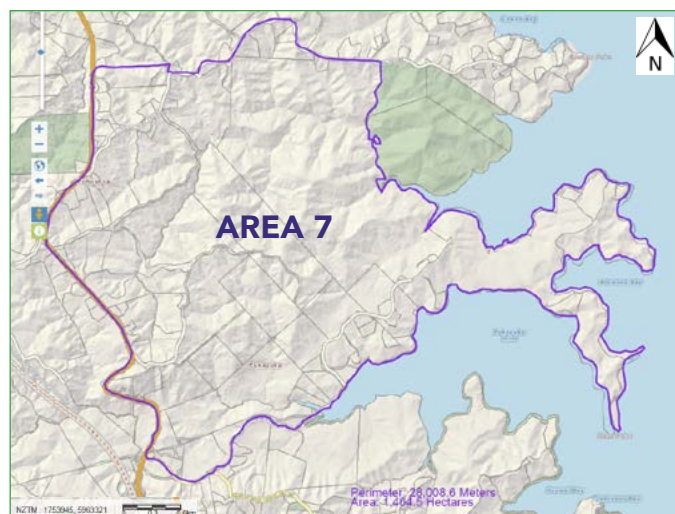
Meet Our Newest Pest Control Advocate

After 20 plus years overseas, Stephanie Herron recently moved back with her family to farm in Mahurangi West. Having a deep respect for the land and a love of New Zealand's natural environment, she says, "I'm pleased to be able to help eradicate pests!"

We're grateful that Stephanie has taken on the role of Trapline Co-ordinator for Area 7. She was also elected MWP's Committee Secretary in late September.



Above: Stephanie Herron, Area 7 Trapline Coordinator.



Area 7 (Pukapuka) outlined in purple (above), covers an area of approximately 1460 ha, bringing Mahu West Pest's total pest control area to over 3500 ha.

Incorporation News Flash

Mahu West Pest is now an incorporated society - a real team effort from our Committee members and others in the community who donated their time to make it happen. A key benefit of incorporation gives Mahu West Pest the legal standing to apply for grants to fund our activities without the need to involve third party organisations to act on our behalf.

Combating Invasive Weeds

A recent community-led weedathon to attack invasive weeds along Jamieson Road, had a good turnout over a sunny two-day period. Cotoneasters, Hawthorn, Cape Ivy and other weed trees were cut, chipped and the stumps treated to help prevent regrowth.



Above: Jamieson Bay volunteers taking part in an invasive weedathon.

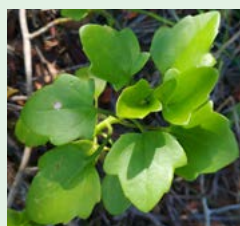
This Month's Pest Plant - Cape Ivy

Cape Ivy (*Senecio angulatus*) belongs to the daisy family and is a scrambling perennial from South Africa that spreads through fluffy, wind-blown seed. It forms dense mats, smothering plants to 3m tall and prevents native seedlings from growing. It likes waste places, roadsides and the edges of coastal or regenerating lowland forests. It's most easily controlled during flowering and before seed is produced. It has clusters of yellow flowers (similar to ragwort).

To control Cape Ivy hand pull small plants and dig out roots. Dispose of them by burning or burying them or at a refuse transfer station. For treatment with herbicides please see our [Facebook](#) or website's [Pest Plants](#) section.



Above: Cape Ivy's thick stem; below: its fleshy leaves; at Jamieson Bay's Community Weedathon (Pics: N. Cottrell)



The TrapNZ App & Monthly Trap Data

The TrapNZ app works with TrapNZ's website allowing you to plot traps, bait stations, and even bird counts. It shows a map of your project area and works offline when you're out of cell phone or WiFi coverage. Records are stored and synced automatically whenever there's a data connection available. Visit TrapNZ's website here: <https://www.trap.nz>

Traps:	377	(last month 373)
Bait Stations:	216	(last month 216)
	YEAR	MONTH
Mustelids:	4	0
Rats:	279	17
Possums:	183	23
Hedgehogs:	25	1
Other:	117	14
Total:	608	55

Contacts:

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

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

Trapline Coordinators:

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Area 5 (Mahu West) - Coordinator to be confirmed

