

Kia Ora Mahurangi West peninsula and Hungry Creek residents and landowners. Welcome to the latest Mahurangi West Pest eNews - updating you on our community volunteer organisation's work.

TrapNZ Data for November

Up until June 2021 we had only captured 59 possums. But the year to the end of June 2022 saw a whopping 18-fold increase to 1,100 possums binned! This is great news. A big thank you to all our volunteers in the field and to our supporters for donations, grants and traps. There was also a 7-fold increase in all animal pests caught, up from 307 in the year to June 2021 to 2,147 to June 2022.



Total Traps in Field:	816		
Bait Stations:	308		
Monitoring Stations:	2		
	Total	365 Days	31 Days
Possum:	1341	881	49
Rat:	768	452	32
Hedgehog:	117	65	7
Mustelid:	53	44	7
Other:	354	218	2
Total:	2633	1660	97

Two Stoats Caught 'Back to Back' ...



Mike Neil, Area 4 Pest Control Coordinator, sent us this photo of two stoats caught at the same time! We need to step up baiting stoat traps at this time of the year with 7 caught this month.

Most Common Birds Tauhou and Tui

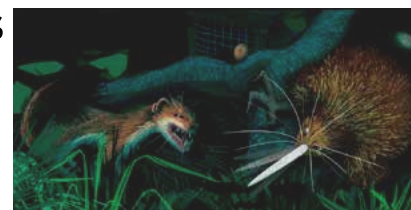
With 20 bird monitors we are gradually spreading across all the trapping hubs other than Area 6 near State Highway 1. Tui and Silvereyes remain our most common native birds and Mynas are still top of the list for introduced birds. There were no new native species record-ed in September but we have recorded 21 different species of native birds over the two years (though several of these have only been recorded once in that time).



The silvereye first recorded in New Zealand in 1832 is classified as a native species. Its Māori name, tauhou, means 'stranger' or 'new arrival'. Source: Wikipedia

Kids' Christmas Gift Book Idea

It's my egg (and you can't have it!)", NZ\$20 proceeds from [print sales](#) support Backyard Kiwi. By Heather Hunt and Kennedy Warne.



More on Park's Buffer Zone Control

Free control of climbing asparagus and bushy asparagus in the buffer zone began earlier this year, with great support from the community. The Auckland Council is getting in touch with eligible residents/owners of properties around Mahurangi Regional Park - please keep an eye out for this correspondence.

For information on the pest plants that are part of this work, and for more information on the programme, please visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/buffers. Remember, even if you're not in the buffer zone, find out how you can rid your place of these and other noxious weeds by visiting our MWP [Website](#).



Woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritanium*), moth plant (*Araujia hortorum*) and wild ginger (*Hedychium gardnerianum* and *H. flavescens*) are all invasive weeds that need to be controlled.

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