

Kia Ora Mahurangi West and Hungry Creek residents and landowners. Welcome to MWP's eNews 44th Issue - updating you on our volunteer organisation.

A Foundation North Grant Is A Boost For Our Trainee Trapper



"Doing my traplines on the weekend, is an easy way to spend time out in nature, while giving back to the community," says Alex Hardy, recipient of a Foundation North grant of just over \$6,400 for trapping.

"I'm grateful to Foundation North and to MWP, who were very helpful when teaching me and bringing me onto these traplines. Overall its been an excellent part-time job that I

have enjoyed without it taking away from my studies," he added.

Auto Traps From Foundation North



Mike Neil, our volunteer trapping coordinator for MWP's Hub 4, recently helped set up 3 auto-setting traps near Windy Ridge (Hub 7). MWP is grateful to Foundation North for the generous \$5,000 grant, which it has used to purchase high-tech NZ AutoTraps - self-loading AT220s designed to target possums, as well as 26 DOC200 traps.

We purchased another 3 NZ AutoTraps, to be deployed across 'hard to access' parts of the peninsula, to help stem the tide of possums eating birds' eggs and chicks, as well as up to 3kg of leaves and berries each night!

DONATIONS TO MWP: BANK A/C 06-0483-0894183-00

Thanks for your support over the past year - we're putting it to good use. Please tag new donations to MWP for 'pest tools', 'weed control', or 'native plants' etc.

Buffer Zone Asparagus Fern Update

Now is the time to pull out asparagus fern seedlings, even if you don't live within the regional park's 500m buffer zone. It is a particularly invasive weed, which the birds distribute across the entire peninsula. Gently pull out the whole root to prevent regrowth. If you do live in the buffer zone and need help with weed bags, herbicide gel pens, or advice, please contact Nada Cottrell, your community liaison person.



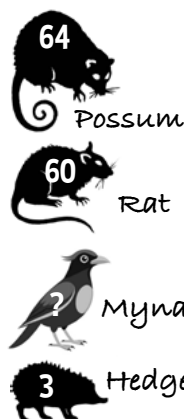
These young asparagus ferns already have a bulbous root system at only 6-7 cm high.

We thank Generosity Corner, in Warkworth, for their donations over the years. If you are downsizing, or just having a clearout, think of donating your surplus clothing, goods and furniture to this great secondhand store.



Trap.NZ Data For September

This month our volunteers added 45 traps in the field and almost doubled the number of possums caught. Pests recorded for the past year exceeded 2,000 and over 6,000 since our records began in 2021.



Total Traps in Field:	1297		
Bait Stations:	405		
Monitoring Stations:	1		
	Total	365 Days	30 Days
Possum:	2464	614	64
Rat:	2207	856	60
Myna:	-	53	?
Hedgehog:	302	94	3
Mustelid:	139	57	4
Other:	999	400	36
Total:	6,111	2,021	167



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