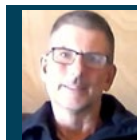


Control, Monitor, Adapt, Enhance and Repeat to Protect Mahurangi West

Kia Ora Mahurangi West and Hungry Creek residents and landowners. This is MWP's 50th update on our project to eradicate pests and improve our natural environment through greater biodiversity.



Expert predator hunter, John Bissell, offers an in-depth conversation about feral cats in NZ. Link to his [42-minute podcast here](#).

New Biodiversity Volunteer

"Hi, I'm Karryn from Cowan Bay Road. We've been planting our paddock with natives for over 20 years. Hoping to start building our retirement home in the next 2-5 years. Weeding goes much quicker when you do it and chat. Enjoyed helping Nada at the 1-Hr Weed Cafe (Jamieson Bay). The coffee and view weren't bad either. Cheers, Karryn"



Thanks to Adrian Harrison for reminding us that now is the time to chop the seed heads off pampas grass. For control methods visit MWP's Website [Pest Plants](#).

Local Initiative - ScanACat

Snells Conservation, a Forest and Bird Warkworth project, carries out coastal conservation at Snells Beach. A member spent over \$1,000 developing a ScanACat unit as an open-source initiative dedicated to conservation and animal rescue. If a moggie is chipped, it can be reunited with its owner. It also provides an opportunity for educating owners about keeping cats away from sensitive wildlife areas.

With basic wiring, soldering skills, and a bit of software knowledge, anyone can create a ScanACat unit. A parts list, with assembly instructions, is in the pipeline. This will be available for a donation to Snells Conservation if anyone is interested in creating a ScanACat unit for use on the Mahurangi West peninsula.

Jackie Russell, of Snells Beach, demonstrates how the ScanACat unit operates - at Restore Rodney East's Connect & Inspire 2025 Seminar on March 30th, at the Matakana School Hall.



Regional Possum Control Update

You will have noticed the warning signs for the use of poisons for assessing pest numbers in our area, which falls within the McElroy Reserve operation area. Take care to ensure children and dogs, don't have access to these toxins for the duration of the project, which ends in July. A range of techniques are used to determine the extent of possums and other pests, from baited toxin contained in bait stations (raised 1.8m above ground), ground-laid toxin paste, trapping and night shooting, dependent on habitat/landowner consent.



The Auckland Council rolled out this project as there are important ecosystems like mangroves, kauri-dominated and coastal forests, which support a number of threatened native species such as matuku-hūrepo (bittern), moho pererū (banded rail) and mātātā (fernbird). Possums pose a significant threat to these species through direct predation and over-browsing of habitats.

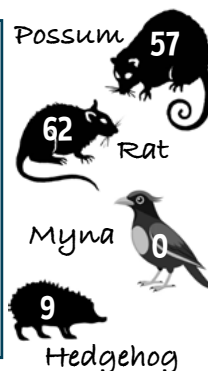
DONATIONS TO MWP: BANK A/C 06-0483-0894183-00

Thank you for your continued support - we're putting your donations to good use. Please tag your donations as 'pest tools', 'weed control', 'native plants', or 'wasp control'. You can set up a [regular payment](#) to go towards a fulltime trapper, as your way of helping us. Use the tag 'trapper'.

Trap.NZ Data For March

Volunteers put in 16 more bait stations, for rats, this month, but no traps. Catches were a bit higher for everything and three times the number of rats! If you need any bait or lures please contact your area coordinator, or Jeff Marsh.

Total Traps in Field:	1478		
Bait Stations:	507		
Monitoring Stations:	1		
	Total	365 Days	30 Days
Possum:	2,988	854	57
Rat:	2,577	914	62
Myna:	895	481	0
Hedgehog:	356	78	9
Mustelid:	162	54	6
Other:	1,239	1,224	24
Total:	8,222	3,124	158



Mustelid



Other

April issue: How we got 2,000 pest control tools in the field.

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 Planting Coordinator (pending)
Website: <https://mahurangiwestpest.wordpress.com>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mahurangiwestpest>

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