

"Understand the specifics of our peninsula's ecosystem, and design programmes to best support, protect and enhance it." Mahurangi West Pest's Vision

Less in the Trap, More at Stake

Oh, for the days when every second or third trap had a catch. Back then, success was measured in numbers—over 13,000 pests, not counting those taken by poison. It felt like a job well done—and it was. But things are changing. Pest numbers are down, and now success is measured by what we're not catching. The remaining pests are trap-shy and harder to control, but stopping them is critical to prevent breeding. That means keeping at it, even when results seem less visible. Keep baiting, checking traps, and trying different approaches—some possums prefer fish, while some rats go for cooked bacon. Pre-baiting can also help. As we expand traps and bait stations across larger areas, volunteers play a key role, but regular checking relies on paid trappers. Please consider supporting this work—just \$25 a month (about five coffees) helps maintain 20 traps, and you can claim back a third in donations. It's rat season for the next four months, so now's the time to step up trapping and baiting. - Mike Neil



Large Rat from Mike Neil

Investing in Our Future

Thank you to local land owners **Mahurangi Estates Ltd** for supporting this community project with their generous commitment of **\$10,000 per year for the next three years**. This kind of support enables us to plan ahead and deliver long-term projects with confidence.

Local Action, Lasting Impact

Thank you to all the volunteers who took part in the Jamiesons Bay Esplanade planting, where 110 plants were put in the ground, and the Huawai Bay tree project, where roadside areas were cleared ahead of tree felling. Together, these efforts highlight the strength of our community and contribute directly to improving habitat quality and supporting long-term restoration. **We're looking for a volunteer Planting Coordinator** to help organise planting days and support our restoration work. Please contact mahurangiwestpest@gmail.com

Pest Plant Buffer Project Coordinator

Maxine Finlay joins us as Pest Plant Buffer Project Coordinator to support and advise in-zone residents. She's lived in Jamieson Bay 5 1/2 years with her husband Andrew and two boys. She's worked in community and social services sector and also studied Te Reo Māori and leadership. Maxine loves paddle boarding, gardening, and playing cricket with the kids.



Maxine Finlay

Trap.NZ Results for April

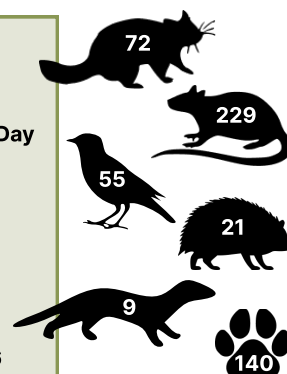
Volunteers installed 30 new traps and 13 bait stations this month. Catches of possums, rats, and mynas increased, while hedgehog, mustelid, and other catches declined. If you need bait or lures, please contact your area coordinator, or Jeff Marsh 027 590 9245

Traps in the field: 1,617

Bait Stations: 550

Monitoring Stations: 1

	Total	365 days	30 Day
Possum	3,930	627	72
Rat	3,872	1,112	229
Myna	2,746	1,613	55
Hedgehog	531	156	21
Mustelid	230	61	9
Other	1,865	784	140
Total	13,174	4,353	526



Donations to MWP: BANK A/C 06-0483-0894183-00

Thanks for your continued support - we put your donations to good use. Please tag donations as 'pest tools', 'weed control', 'native plants', or 'wasp control'. If you set up a **regular payment** to go towards a full-time trapper as your way of helping us, please use the tag 'trapper'.

Monthly Spotlight

Thank you Rodney Local Board for providing 110 plants for the Jamieson Bay Esplanade working bee