

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

Keegan joins the Trapping Team

We're excited to have long time local, Keegan Tinsel as one of our new paid trappers. Keegan's role is possible through the generous donations from our local community. Keegan was first introduced to pest control when his family volunteered at a local reserve. Seeing the positive impact inspired him to continue helping protect local wildlife. Outside of school Keegan loves family time, hiking and fishing. We look forward to introducing the rest of our new paid trappers in the next newsletter.

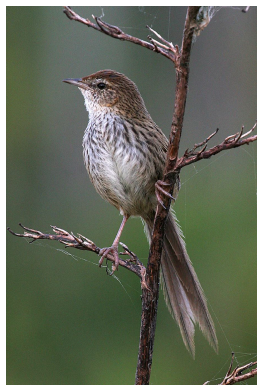


Keegan Tinsel checking a trap

Upcoming Events

- Planting day at Mahurangi West Regional Park Sunday 14 June from 9:30am. Register at: mahurangiwestrp@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
- Planting day at Huawai Bay 20 & 21st June 9-12pm
- Backyard gains: Conservation in action at Matakana Hall at 10am June 21st
- Trappers Annual Appreciation Evening - Save the date - 18th July 4-8pm at the Mahurangi West Hall

Fernbirds Heard at Te Muri Estuary



Mahurangi Regional Park Ranger Jared has recently heard four pairs of endemic fernbirds (Mātātā) calling along the Te Muri Estuary, an encouraging sign for this secretive wetland species. More often heard than seen, fernbirds rely on dense wetland habitat and are vulnerable to predators and habitat loss. Their presence, alongside recordings of the nationally critical Australasian

bittern (matuku-hūrepo), highlights the importance of trapping work across Mahurangi West. To hear the fernbird and other birds, visit NZBirdsOnline. Quarterly bird counts continue in June and September. Contact Fran Ashton if you'd like to get involved. ashton.sager@gmail.com

Growing Our Restoration Team

Mahurangi West Pest is delighted to welcome Robyn Mackenzie as our new Volunteer Planting Coordinator. Based in Opahi Bay, Robyn has already contributed to local restoration work, helping organise the clearing and planting along the Rangī Road drain line. Her passion for conservation and community makes her a great fit for the role.



Corner of Rangī Rd

Trap.NZ Results for May

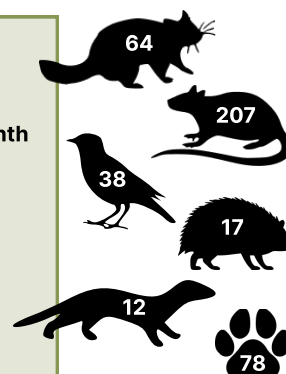
Volunteers installed 10 new traps this month. Catches of possums, rats, mynas and hedgehogs decreased, whilst mustelid catches increased. As winter approaches, mynas become easier to trap so check and prepare your traps now. If you need bait or lures, please contact your area coordinator, or Jeff Marsh 027 590 9245.

Traps in the field: 1,627

Bait Stations: 534

Monitoring Stations: 1

	Total	Year	Month
Possum	3,994	599	64
Rat	4,082	1,197	207
Myna	2,784	1,380	38
Hedgehog	548	158	17
Mustelid	242	66	12
Other	1,948	754	78
Total	13,598	4,154	416



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

Thanks for your continued support - we put your donations to good use. Please use reference 'Donation'. For regular payments supporting a full-time trapper, use reference 'Trapper'.

Monthly Spotlight

Mahurangi West Pest would like to sincerely thank **Blue Star Group (New Zealand) Limited** for their generous \$5,000 donation in support of our restoration and pest control work.