

BLACK SWAMP BUFFER ZONE PREDATOR CONTROL PROJECT (Issue 2 | Dec 2020)

Kia ora koutou, and welcome to our second BSBZ quarterly newsletter.

We have made huge progress over the last few months, with almost all traps now set up – just in time for the busy bird breeding season. We now have 178 traps set and ready to tackle invasive predators within our community!

Over the summer we should aim to check & reset traps once a fortnight. This is the time of year our birds are breeding, and both parents and chicks are at their most vulnerable. It's also the time of year that juvenile stoats & weasels head out to establish their own home range. The trapping network is proving its worth already with five stoats caught throughout Black Swamp in the last month alone.

Well done to those of you who have been recording your trap catches via Trap.NZ. We currently have **10 stoats, 30 rats, 7 possums, 6 hedgehogs and 1 mouse** recorded, totaling 54 pests trapped to date.



With the establishment of pest control in Black Swamp nearing completion we look set to expand south toward Pakiri in the new year. It is hoped that two more community predator control projects can be set up in Tomarata-Te Arai and Pakiri. If this can be achieved, around 5500ha of land will be under predator control, creating a vast conservation corridor linking the Auckland and Northland regions. Exciting times ahead!



Conservation Coast: A integrated approach for predator control. Combined, the seven zones represent almost 5500ha under predator control, creating a vast conservation corridor linking the Auckland and Northland regions.

The Critically Endangered Australasian bittern, Black Swamp.

Please make sure to record when you check your traps, as this lets us know how well predator control is going within the community.

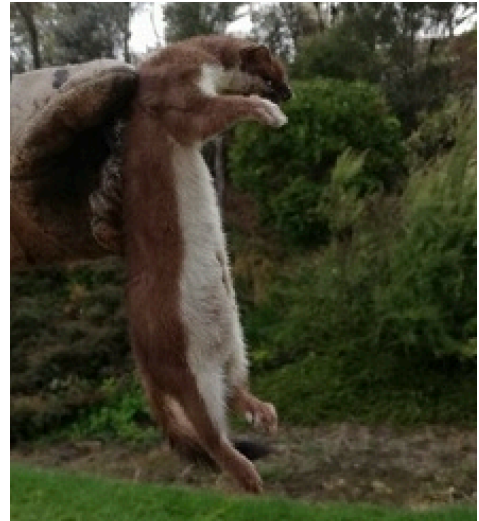
The easiest way to do this is to download the Trap NZ app on your mobile device. Alternatively you can use the www.trap.nz website, or text, call or email your records through to me.

Ph: 021 065 9969

Email: conservation@taraiti.com

As always if you have any issues, questions or need assistance with trapping contact me any time.

But for now, happy holidays, happy trapping, and thanks again for helping keep the wildlife in our community safe from invasive predators.



BSBZ's first stoat caught! Stoats are one of the most voracious predators introduced to New Zealand, and are responsible for extinction and continued decline of numerous native species. Thanks to Mike and Kay Carey for the catch & photo.



Black Swamp Buffer Zone: As of December 2020, 178 traps have been installed, catching a total of 54 pest predators.

BLACK SWAMP BUFFER ZONE

CONTACT:

Name: Alex Flavell-Johnson

Phone: 021 065 9969

Email: conservation@taraiti.com



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