

Conservation Coast

Predator control project (Issue 13 | September 2023)



Kia ora koutou,

Summer is FINALLY on the way! That means it's breeding season for our native birds - but also for stoats and weasels.

Now's the time to start changing bait and checking traps fortnightly, to help give our native wildlife a fighting chance.

We are getting things ready to run our Bittern monitoring program again over September-October. Last year we managed to identify 22 bittern by listening to for their 'booming' calls. This allowed us to identify important areas for bitterns where we can direct conservation effort - such as installing further predator control. Please let us know if you hear any booming bittern in the coming months!

There has been a few 'white herons' spotted around lately. Although we're yet to spot the elusive Kōtuku (famous from the \$2 coin), we have seen the Little Egret, and Cattle Egret.

Collectively we caught over 470 predators during the last quarter, including 69 mustelids, 55 possums, 67 hedgehogs and 281 rats!

We've now removed over 6,900 predators within the Conservation Coast!

It was great to see many of you at our recent Mangawhai Conservation Hui. With such a good turnout we're excited to go bigger and better next year!







Little Egret, spotted in the Mangawhai Estuary.

If you are struggling to maintain your traps, need a refresher on how to set traps, or use Trap.NZ to record your catches please do get in touch, we are more than happy to help.

Until next time, happy trapping, and thanks again for helping keep the wildlife in our community safe from invasive predators.

Ngā mihi nui, Alex.

Predator Control Zones	 Mustelids	 Possums	 Hedgehogs	 Rats
Pākiri Predator Control Zone	10	0	3	16
Mangawhai Predator Control Zone	47	62	60	269
Black Swamp Predator Control Zone	77	34	154	476
Tomorata - Te Ārai Predator Control Zone	70	68	56	215
Tara Iti Golf Club Ecological Sanctuary	261	194	1384	387
Te Ārai Regional Park	97	62	116	571
Te Ārai South	106	495	535	299
Totals	668	915	2308	2233

Over 6,900 predators have been removed!



The Conservation Coast is a Shorebirds Trust project

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