

Conservation Coast

Predator control project (Issue 15 | March 2024)



Kia ora koutou ☺

We're only a few pests away from reaching another huge milestone - 8,000 predators removed from our communities!

It has been incredible to watch this number grow each month. It's testament to the value of everyone doing their bit, from backyard trapping at home, to business like the golfclubs, right through to DOC and Council. It also demonstrates the importance of recording what you catch every time you check your traps. It's equally important to record when you don't catch anything by selecting 'none'. This way we know the traps are being checked, even if you're not catching anything!

If you need a refresher on how to use the Trap.NZ app to record when you check your traps, [watch this short video](#)

For those in the Tomorata and Pākiri areas (post codes 0974 & 0972) Auckland Council is currently running a free 'snip and chip' campaign, to help de-sex and microchip pet cats. This is a great opportunity to ensure that - should your cat go wandering - it can be returned safely, and won't be contributing to the stray and feral cat population. Did you know that stray and feral cats are estimated to kill 100 million birds in NZ each year! You can [sign up here](#).

Collectively, We've now removed over 7,950 predators within the Conservation Coast!

All this predator control work seems to be slowing the flow of pests to our coasts. Combined with the fine summer weather, it has been a bumper breeding season for our shorebirds. Along with plenty of NZ dotterel chicks, twelve Tara iti (Fairly tern) successfully fledged this summer - the best result since 2012! That's great news for New Zealand's rarest bird.





Ngā mihi nui, Alex.

A fluffy NZ Dotterel chick at Tara iti golf club.



If you need a hand maintaining 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.

| Predator Control Zones |  Mustelids |  Possums |  Hedgehogs |  Rats |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| Pākiri Predator Control Zone | 29 | 0 | 9 | 45 |
| Mangawhai Predator Control Zone | 65 | 152 | 100 | 410 |
| Black Swamp Predator Control Zone | 89 | 37 | 178 | 572 |
| Tomorata - Te Ārai Predator Control Zone | 113 | 92 | 76 | 349 |
| Tara Iti Golf Club Ecological Sanctuary | 254 | 206 | 1439 | 413 |
| Te Ārai Links | 112 | 508 | 547 | 363 |
| Auckland Regional Parks | 204 | 63 | 137 | 734 |
| DOC Reserves | 38 | 8 | 41 | 41 |
| Totals | 902 | 1066 | 2525 | 2919 |

Over 7,950 predators have been removed!



The Conservation Coast is a Shorebirds Trust project

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Contact:

Name: Alex Flavell-Johnson
 Phone: 021 065 9969
 Email: conservation@taraiti.com

 www.conservationcoast.org

 www.facebook.com/Conservationcoast

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