

ARAPAOA KIWI TRUST NEWS

December 2023



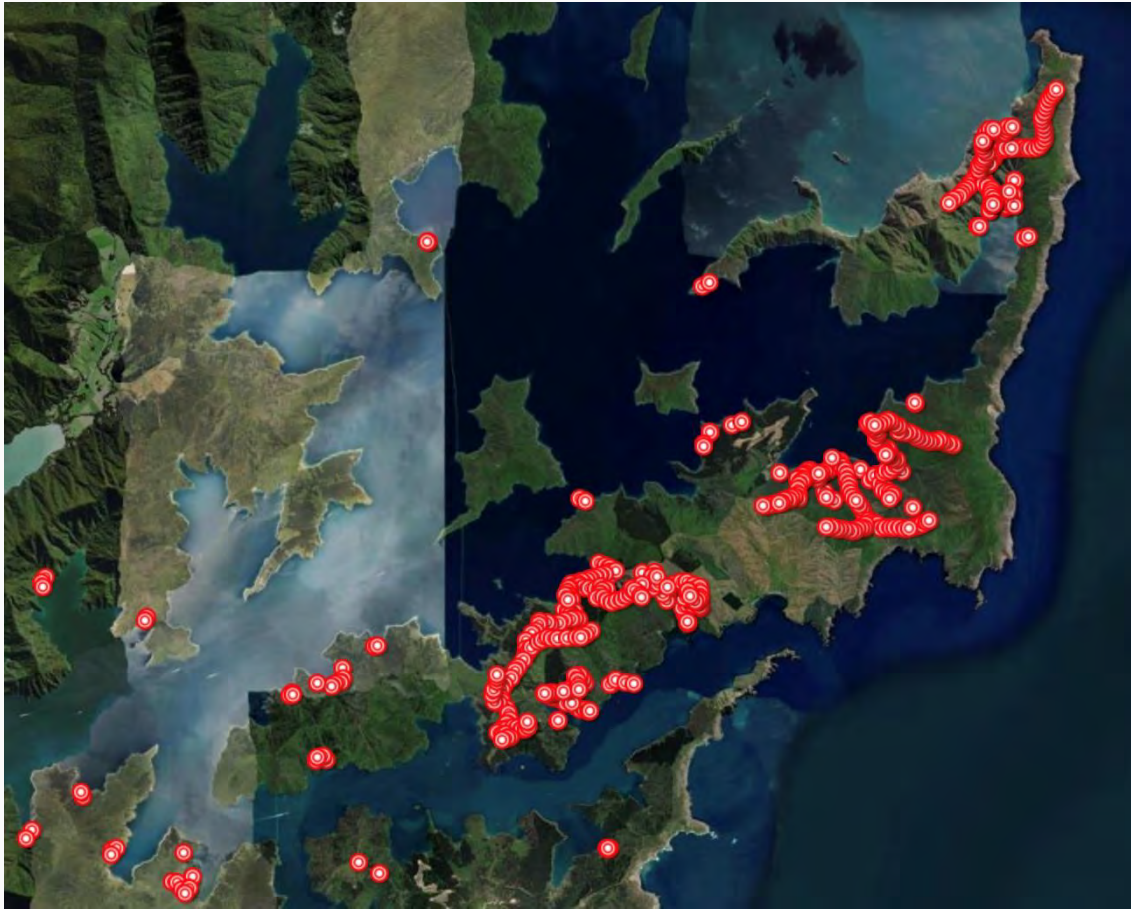
2023 - Another successful year

After another successful year nearly completed and we are pleased to have achieved all our operational goals to date.

Our 2022 Community Trapping, Pilot and 2023 Stage 2 programmes have been producing good pest results and we have really appreciated the continued involvement of volunteers including residents in our project. Stage 2 installation is almost completed with 538 traps and 37 cameras being installed to now give us nearly 50% of the planned coverage. These traps are starting to really catch now too.

Stage 3 next year will aim to maximise our coverage of traps on the island so we can start having a real effect on the stoat population of the whole island. Stage 3 is planned to have 400 traps, consisting of DOC150 traps and Goodnature A24 traps and 30 trail cameras installed. Along with these new traps, we will also have to continue servicing all the traps from the Pilot programme and Stage 2. With Stage 3, we will be using some contract trappers for some lines, as there are just too many traps for volunteers. This will bring our trap numbers to around 1000 once installed.

This map shows the traps currently placed in the project:



A Huge THANK YOU to our volunteers and landowners

Volunteers are an integral part of our Arapaoa Kiwi. As at November 2023, 2080 hours have been contributed into the project by volunteers.





Trap Count Table

Trap counts and catches as reported at 12 December. Numbers in brackets are as at 14 September - the last bulletin.

At 12 Dec 2023	Traps	Stoats Caught	Others Caught (eg rats)
Community traps	111 (108)	31 (30)	226 (195)
AKT trap lines	357 (256)	33 (15)	134 (91)
Self resetting traps	90 (72)		349 (273) strikes recorded in last 12 months

Monitoring and Data

Extensive monitoring systems are in place to ensure we maximize our eradication of pests and to ensure we are using the latest methods and technology to achieve our goal. We monitor and load all our data into trapnz regularly for analysis. Our trail cameras show us numerous images which adds to our overall project eradication planning.

These images were caught on our trail cameras recently.



Juveniles leaving the Den

The juvenile stoats are starting to leave their dens. Now is the time to make sure all the traps have fresh bait and are ready. Our first juvenile of the season was caught Tuesday morning on the 12 December.



interislander

A big thank you to the Interislander who is now supporting our project



KENNY BARGING

PICTON

Our thanks to Kenny Barging for their transportation



Capital Kiwi Update

The Capital Kiwi project continues to be an inspiration to our project. Just recently they announced the discovery of two pēpē kiwi. These are the first kiwi chicks born in the wild, west of Wellington for over 150 years.

Historian Wanted?

Do you like digging into biographies, old books, old papers, research, articles, talking with people etc? We are after someone to look into old records to see when the last kiwi was seen on Arapaoa Island, and what species.

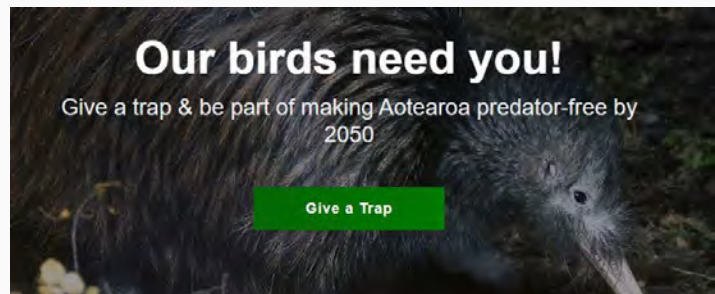


We have a [facebook page](#) and would love it if you subscribed and shared our posts

Our goal is to restore the islands natural environment and re-introduce, protect and keep safe our kiwi for generations to come. The goal is to remove pests, restore birdlife and create a large island habitat suitable for the kiwi population recovery and growth.



Give a trap to Arapaoa Kiwi Trust using [GIVE A TRAP](#) platform and they will organise the supply and delivery of the trap directly to the us.



Thank You!



**Rātā
Foundation**



Meet Arapaoa Kiwi Trust

Steve Dawson - is the Project Leader, Volunteer and Founding Trustee. Steve is retired and lives in Waikawa. Steve is a coastguard volunteer and is also Past Commodore of Waikawa Boat Club. Steve owns a classic wooden launch and is passionate about boating and the Marlborough Sounds.

Email steve@arapaoakiwi.org.nz



Mark Denize – Founding Trustee. Retired, has lived in Stingray Bay, East Bay, Arapaoa Island since 2001. Mark is actively involved in local conservation including Forest regeneration carbon credits, predator trapping and much more.

Email markdenize@gmail.com



Ben Wybourne – Founding Trustee. Lives in Murchison and also in East Bay on the island. Email bluewave@mshop.co.nz



Dale Savage – Trust Administrator. Dale lives in Kumutoto Bay and is passionate about the Marlborough Sounds, its environment and loves to hike and sail. Email dale@arapaoakiwi.org.nz



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