

# ARAPAOA KIWI TRUST NEWS

June 2024



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## Project Update

Wow - what a start to the year for us. The Pub Charity and The Redwood Trust grants coming through early in the year has enabled us to order and get 150 new traps out in the field. We have this week also been advised that Lottery Environment and Heritage have granted us funding for another 250 traps. This will go a long way towards completing our trap network on the island this year. We have nearly 750 traps in place now, so this will bring us to 1000 traps by the end of the year. We can then focus on eradicating the stoats across the island. We have also secured funding from our sponsors which really help to fund our trappers.

Another big help this year has been Outward Bound. As part of their Mahi Aroha programme for their students, they complete 2 days community service. So we have had 3 groups of 14 students helping us clear tracks and carry traps up some big hills.

With the cooler weather, we are now seeing an increase in our stoat catches, with one of our trappers - Fi Bowler - getting 14 stoats in the last month.



**A big thank you to Lottery Environment and Heritage** who have granted us full funding of our application to continue this year's Stage Three of our project. Their continued support we receive brings us closer to our goal of introducing kiwi onto Arapaoa Island.





### Trap Count Table:

| As at 5 June 2024    | Single Traps | Stoats Caught | Others Caught (eg rats)                         |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| Box Traps            | 626 (512)    | 136 (89)      | 564 (474)                                       |
| Self Resetting Traps | 88 (97)      |               | 463 (436)<br>Strikes recorded in last 12 months |

(bracket figures are from the previous update in Feb 2024)



**NEW WORLD**  
**Blenheim**

A very special thank you to our recent sponsor Blenheim New World, its fantastic to have a local business involved in our project. If you are in Blenheim we would encourage you to shop with Greg and his great team at New World.

## Thank you to Outward Bound

**Our thanks to this great team - Outward Bound Cobham 711** watch who cut and cleared nearly 2km of tracks through regenerating bush up above Te Ipapakeruru Bay (Kilmarnock) on Arapaoa Island in March. It was not an easy 2 days - lots of climbing involved. What a great bunch of young adults - an absolute pleasure to work alongside. Big thanks to Ryan their leader. Great to discuss and see their enthusiasm for conservation work.



**Our thanks to Outward Bound Cobham Watch 713** who recently helped us install 50 traps on the ridges to the east of Patten Passage mid May. Our thanks to also the Pub Charity grant these traps. There was some serious mahi as we had to carry these heavy traps up some very steep tracks up to nearly 500m, as well as cut tracks through some very difficult country. Thanks to Luke for leading the team.



**This is why we find some of our traps tripped...**



*Thank You!*



**Rātā  
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## Meet Arapaoa Kiwi Trust Team

**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](mailto: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](mailto:markdenize@gmail.com)



**Ben Wybourne** – Founding Trustee. Lives in Murchison and also in East Bay on the island. Email [bluewave@mshop.co.nz](mailto: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](mailto:dale@arapaoakiwi.org.nz)

