

## Biosecurity Local Board General Update

Month/Year: 14<sup>th</sup> July to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Officers name: Jeremy Warden

### Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area- Great Barrier Island

#### **Argentine ant and Plague skink surveillance**

Report being collated on 2015/16 works.

#### **Argentine & Darwin's ants**

Working on monitoring the high-risk surveillance sites at the north end of the island. No new populations of Argentine ants found. Physical works are now completed and the report is being worked on

#### Argentine ants-Thomas Road

Second treatment at sawmill site on Dave Hills property. Lot of ant activity observed during this treatment.

Sample of Ants brought in from the corner of Whangaparapara and French st were white footed house ants

#### **Mulberry Grove Community Pest coordinator**

Rat capture is down with a total of 60 reported trapped up to the 8<sup>th</sup> August. A lot of people were away through the month and so didn't carry out trapping. Mice have been reported, including by Cathy who hasn't had mice before, and last month trapped 4 and the first week of August two.

Econode trap alert system is being trailed by Matt Way and Scott Sambal and it is hoped the system will eliminate a lot of the Labour needed for trapping. Devices are being modified to make them more corrosion resistant.

Sole source approved for the continuation of this programme

#### **West Coast Weed Surveillance**

Survey work has continued around the southern portion of the Tryphena harbour. Other than a Causuarina which appears to have spread by sea dispersal, there were not a lot of weeds of concern present. Surprisingly the coastline of the Tryphena was relatively weed free. A small number of pampas plants were present, and Cotoneaster has not spread as aggressively from Shoal Bay as would be expected. The Council and DOC reserve around the coast below Millers Hill only recorded a handful of pampas & 1 Cotoneaster so it would be straight forward to treat these while the size of the problems are small. Coast between Schooner Bay and Okupu to be visited to complete the survey.

#### **Weed Control**

##### SWI

Scope of works document completed for 2016/17 and waiting on a quote from contractor to start year 2 of the 3 +1+1 contract.

##### Total Control

Waiting on input into the scope of works document and report from contractor

#### **Wharf and Airport Mustelid and Rodent Pest Surveillance (July)**

- Port Fitzroy –5% Bait take & 1 x Rat caught DOC200, 4x Wax tag=Rat
- Tryphena- 49% Bait take 1 x Ship Rat caught in DOC200. 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Whangaparapara- 31% bait take 4 x Ship Rat in DOC200's. 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Okupu -100% bait take. 0 x Rat in DOC200, 0x wax tag=Rat
- Claris airfield environment – 41% bait take
- Claris residential-22% bait take

#### **Bait Stations at Transfer Sites (July)**

- Southern Stations- Medlands 30%, Okupu 0%, Puriri bay 10%, Mulberry grove 0%
- Northern Stations- 75% Motairehe. Okiwi 2% & Kawa 80%

### Private Jetties & Boat Ramps

Location	DOC200	Bait Station	Wax tag
Yates	0x Rat	95%	0
Jetty	0x Rat	0%	0
Pickards	0x Rat	0%	0
Stellins	0x Rat	0%	0
Whangapara Jetty	1x Rat	0%	1x Rat
Okupu Boat Ramp	0x Rat	0%	0
Mulberry Grove Boat Ramp	1x Rat	0%	0
Puriri Bay Boat Ramp	0x Rat	100%	rat

Conclusion: No new species of pest animals detected

- Northern Pest Animal Surveillance contract has gone back out to the Market as a request for proposal.

### Rabbits

Report on Pindone operation received. A small amount of magtoxin work is needed to complete the programme.

### Awana Cats

Cat capture May/June:

- Male adult 3
- Male kitten 5
- Female adult 4
- Female kitten 1

Total=13

### Regional Pest Animal Plan

Providing costs for species weed management