

Biosecurity Local Board General Update

Month/Year: 14th October to 14th November 2017

Officers name: Jeremy Warden

Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area- Great Barrier Island

Plague Skink Shoal Bay Wharf

In response to the 5 plague Skink captures during October (Orange circles) extensive trapping is being undertaken at Graham and Sarah Harrisons. The Plague Skink captures at Grahams & the one at Sarah's were all male. No further captures have been made.

Fence extensions

The green line on the map below depicts the route of the latest containment fence being installed in response to the October captures

Trap only cell

Top boundary of trap only cell is complete & 2nd quad track crossing has been installed. Trap only cell completed.

Chicken cell

Skink fencing has been installed around the chicken cell boundary and construction of coops has started.



- Trap only cell
- Chicken cell
- Graham Harrison wing
- Plague skink containment fencing completed by December 2017
- Gibbs landing extension (yet to commence)



Example of chicken coop fencing: chicken mesh above skink fencing

Argentine & Darwin's ants

Medlands Road

Second treatment carried out on the 31/10/2017 at 42 Medlands Road. This was carried out by a group of 6 warranted biosecurity officers 4 who travelled from Auckland for the operation.

The remainder of the site was treated by Envirokiwi on the 9 & 10/11/2017

Ocean view Road

Monitoring with the exception of a small area close to the dunes was completed on the 7/11/2017. The two isolated finds on the SW end of the site were treated on the same day.



Thomas Road

Monitoring of the site was completed on the 26/10/2017 with finds at the bottom of the site and along the road side.

Treatment was started the following day and completed at the beginning of the following week.

The monitoring and treatment was fast tracked due to road works needing to start and to minimise transfer of ants to dump sites. Contaminated fill taken from this site is being treated with insecticide sand and will be stockpiled within the site till monitoring deems it free of ants and safe to move.

Rivendell Nursery

Monitoring carried out by Biosecurity staff on the 9th November.
300 monitoring pottles placed out no Argentine ants detected.

Argentine Ant Surveillance

Surveillance was carried out on the 13th November on a Camerton Road property bordering onto the Okupu Argentine ant site. Baited pottles were placed across the site. Argentine ants were found in a couple of locations in relatively high numbers.

Feral Pigs

Footage from Station Rock trail camera reviewed with a number of feral pigs observed over a two week period. A mob of pigs were also sighted during the site visit.

Broken and Grey Group Islands

Service of motels carried out on the 7th November by Biosecurity staff

Rat Captured

- Rangiahua=23
- Mahuki =2
- Motu Taiko =2

- Little mahuki=0
- Grey Group
 - Saddle and outer Islands =0
 - Inner =6

Weed Control

Total Control



Houttuynia (Pictured above) growing in a garden at Glen Fern Sanctuary identified by a visiting Biosecurity staff member.

Royal Fern- grid search of Sanderson site has been completed (Envirokiwi). No target weed species were found within the site.

Wharf and Airport Mustelid and Rodent Pest Surveillance (October)

- Port Fitzroy –35% Bait take, 1x kiore caught in DOC200, 3 x Wax tag=Rat
- Tryphena- 13% Bait take 3x Ship Rat caught in DOC200. 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Whangaparapara- 46% bait take 0 x Ship Rat in DOC200's. 5x Wax tag=Rat
- Okupu -0% bait take. 0 x Rat caught in DOC200, 0x wax tag=Rat
- Claris airfield environment – 37% bait take
- Claris residential-22% bait take

Bait Stations at Transfer Sites (October)

- Southern Stations- Medlands 0%, Okupu 30%, Puriri bay 0%, Mulberry grove 0%
- Northern Stations- Motairehe 100%, Okiwi 0% & Kawa 50%

Private Jetties & Boat Ramps

Location	DOC200	Bait Station	Wax tag
Yates	0x Rat	0%	0
Jetty	0x Rat	0%	0
Pickards	1x Kiore	0%	0
Stellins	0x Rat	0%	0
Whangapara Jetty	0x Rat	0%	0
Okupu Boat Ramp	0x Rat	0%	0

Mulberry Grove Boat Ramp	0x Rat	0	0
Puriri Bay Boat Ramp	0x Rat	100%	0

Conclusion: No new species of pest animals detected, bait consumption (Diphacinone) very low in most areas with the exception of Motairehe and minimal interceptions of rats in DoC200.

Rabbits

Night shoots of Awana, (x35) Kaitoke (x12) and Okiwi township + Okiwi airstrip (1000+) completed by Goodwood Aotearoa.

DoC have recently contracted Coastal Pest Solutions to carry out a shoot on Okiwi station with a report approx. 5000 rabbits shot in the area.

Good Nature A24 Traps

The August service of the 290 A24's at big Windy Hill showed that 52 were out of service with the Auto lure on 43 not working.

Dog Surveillance

Moutahora (Whale Island), Moutoki and Rurima Island Rodent dog surveillance as part of the Doc/Auckland Council MOU.