

Biosecurity Local Board General Update

Month/Year: 14th November to 14th December 2018

Officers name: Jeremy Warden

Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area- Great Barrier Island

Plague Skink Shoal Bay Wharf

Trapping

- Cell 1- 1 Moko Skink capture on the Brian Burrill side of ridge
- Cell 6-(trap lure cell) .Small number of adult plague skinks captured
- Cell 7 CC2 (high density chook cell): Nearing end of 1st 80 days of chicken treatment. Have given leaf litter/debris a thorough turnover, no skinks (plague or native) were seen.
- Cell 8/CC3 (low density chook cell): Have given leaf litter/debris a thorough turnover. One plague adult was disturbed which was predated by chooks. One adult copper & one adult ornate were seen & removed from cell. Hylines are proving more responsive to leaf litter turnover than the heritage breeds. Feeder/drinkers have been shifted lower in cell to encourage birds to forage more widely.
- Outer delimitation line undergoing trapping.

Cell locations

The table below summarises different cell numbers, and a map showing their location. Note chicken cells have black borders on the map, trap only cells have no borders. Cells 4, 7, & 5 aren't highlighted on map as they aren't being used.

Cell #	Purpose	Size Ha
1	1 st chicken cell	.145
2	1 st trap only cell	.21
3	Chicken holding cell	.079
4	Unused cell on top ridge	.073
5	Unused cell on top ridge	.092
6	2 nd trap only cell (lure trial site)	.133
7	2 nd chicken cell – high density	.05
8	3 rd chicken cell – low density	.13
9	3 rd trap only cell	.033



- Cell 1 - 1st chicken cell
- Cell 2 - 1st Trap only cell
- Cell 3 - chicken holding cell
- Cell 6 - 2nd trap only cell (lure trial site)
- Cell 7 - 2nd chicken cell - high density
- Cell 8 - 3rd chicken cell - low density
- Cell 9 - 3rd trap only cell

Argentine & Darwin's ants

- Thomas Road
 - Monitoring completed with a small extension added to the Northern corner of the site in response to finds
- Gray Road
 - Monitoring completed with finds across the landfill and links Golf course end of the site. This site will have its first treatment before Christmas
- Okupu Monitoring lower side of road
 - One find on Camerton road foreshore property and series of finds around the lodge which will be treated pre christmas

Argentine ant and Plague Skink Surveillance

Argentine ants

- Surveillance monitoring was carried out at multiple Blackwell drive properties with no finds in this area
- Carry out inspections on logs leaving the Sandhills road Argentine ant site. No ants encountered on logs being transported.

Wharf and Airport Mustelid and Rodent Pest Surveillance (October)

- Port Fitzroy 33% Bait take, 1 x kiore caught in DOC200, 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Tryphena- 5% Bait take, 1 x Ship Rat caught in DOC200. 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Whangaparapara- 30% bait take, 1x Ship Rat in DOC200's. 0x Wax tag=Rat
- Okupu -100% bait take. 0 x Rat caught in DOC200, 0x wax tag=Rat
- Claris airfield environment – 19% bait take
- Claris residential-2% bait take

Bait Stations at Transfer Sites (October)

- Southern Stations- Medlands 30%, Okupu 0%, Puriri bay 100%, Mulberry grove 0%
- Northern Stations- Motairehe 87%, Okiwi 0% & Kawa 0%

Private Jetties & Boat Ramps

Location	DOC200	Bait Station	Wax tag
Yates	0x Rat	37%	0
Jetty	0x Kiore	0%	0
Pickards	0x Kiore	0%	0
Glenfern	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 low at all sites with the exception of Port Fitzroy.

Weed Control

- Woolly Nightshade-Wiltshire Lane site grid searched with 12 Juvenile plants removed
- Glyceria –Awana Road side site revisited with only small amounts of Glyceria left. The 3 large sites identified during the weed survey received their first treatment.
- Smilax –following sites were grid searched and plants removed
 - Shoal Bay (0 plants removed)
 - Medlands Road (20 plants removed)
 - Schooner Bay (2 large plants removed)
- Kahili Ginger –Okupu site grid searched (2 mature plants removed)
- Mile a Minute –Okupu site treated

Cooks Scurvy Grass (*Lepidium oleraceum*)

Vegetation monitoring was carried out at the 30+ plots on the Mahuki site as well as a *Lepidium* census which found 2 plants.

Ink weed plants were removed as part of the operation



Cooks Scurvy Grass which is just starting to flower



Image showing effective removal of Prairie Grass competition which will provide the opportunity for the recolonization of Cooks Scurvy Grass