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			26. Kiwi Management Quotes
39 Dec-00	3		Beaky is an Operation Nest Egg (ONE) kiwi who hatched at Auckland Zoo on 8 January 1997 from an egg collected from Hodges Bush in Northland. He was released into Hodges Bush in July 1997, and this year made his first nesting attempt - a 1-egg clutch, which hatched successfully. The week-old chick was found in the nest with Beaky on 25 October. This is the first known successful breeding of an ONE bird anywhere in the country, so is quite a milestone for the project. Because of its importance to the ONE project, a decision was made to transfer the chick to Motuora Island, which is being used as a kiwi creche. The chick was removed from the nest and delivered to Auckland Zoo where it will live for a week or two pending its transfer to Motuora.
49 Jun -03	23		A North Island brown kiwi translocation proposal for Operation Nest Egg (ONE) and wild birds onto Mokoia Island has been prepared by the Mokoia Island Trust Board. Moana, a juvenile male (ex Whirinaki Forest) raised from an egg at Rainbow Springs in Rotorua, was the first of the founder population to be released on to the island on Waitangi Day.. Other ONE juvenile kiwi will be released onto Mokoia over the next few months
41 Jun -01	5	Bay of Plenty	A kiwi chick and an egg were recovered from Ohope Scenic Reserve near Whakatane last November and were raised on at Rainbow Springs in Rotorua. The egg hatched and both chicks are female. As part of the restoration project for Whakatane kiwi the two chicks were released on Moutohora (Whale Island) in mid April...Surveys for other kiwi in local Whakatane reserves will hopefully allow additional kiwi to be released onto the island. There will be ongoing kiwi management at Ohope Scenic Reserve, and in the medium term progeny from Moutohora will be returned to the reserve.
41 Jun -01	8	Bay of Plenty	<i>Kiwi</i> : a call rate of 2 per hour was recorded...seem to indicate a population of 110 to 160 in the 16 km2 surveyed... it should be possible to obtain a sufficient sample size to test in situ management. For large tracts of back country this could be a feasible alternative to the captive bred programmes currently being undertaken.
42 Oct -01	7	Bay of Plenty	In the Whakatane District, kiwi surveys undertaken by staff/contractors show that there are a number of isolated groups of birds in several of the reserves. The future of these has yet to be decided, and some may possibly join the Moutohora birds.
42 Oct -01	7	Bay of Plenty	The kiwi population in the Tuwatawata E.A continues to be managed by Rangitaiki Area staff. They monitor nine pairs and run a stoat-trapping regime around and through the block
45 Jun-02	7	Bay of Plenty	Three adult males and 1 juvenile bird are being monitored at Ohope Scenic Reserve. Forty seven stoats and 10 cats were trapped in the reserve. Both female kiwi released onto Moutohora (Whale I) from the reserve are doing well. Surveys show kiwi at Waitotane S.R (5 males/3 females) and Awakeri Forest (2 males/1 female). <i>Whirinaki Forest Park</i> The kiwi work is progressing well in Tuwatawata E.A and 10 pairs are being monitored. A 1ha predator proof enclosure is being built for release of juveniles.
50 Sep -03	7	Bay of Plenty	In early May 2003 Tumanako, a male North Island brown kiwi chick, was released onto Moutohora to join two adult females released there in 2000.
50 Sep -03	7	Bay of Plenty	A further release of three sub-adult North Island brown kiwi (Tutanekai, Hinemoa and Tiki) took place on Mokoia Island on 22 July 2003. The three birds (raised under the Operation Nest Egg programme at Rainbow Springs) were from Whirinaki Forest Park, and join Moana nui a kiwa, a wild-hatched male from Ohope Scenic Reserve..There are now three males and one female (Hinemoa) on Mokoia.
50 Sep -03	7	Bay of Plenty	Two juvenile North Island brown kiwi (Honu and Whakapono) were released into the reserve on 9 August 2003. These birds came from eggs collected from the reserve and were hatched and raised at Rainbow Springs.
51 Dec -03	5	Bay of Plenty	All six North Island brown kiwi on Moutohora Island are doing well. The latest update is that four of the single birds have now paired up into two pairs, and the other two single birds are tending to still roam around. An 18 month old male is incubating an egg

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51 Dec -03	6	Bay of Plenty	<p>We should see 20 juvenile kiwi being placed back into the forest, all of which have come from nine breeding pairs. This year, 12 adult male kiwi and their mates were monitored for breeding. Eleven of the males are wild-caught birds fitted with transmitters; one was an Operation Nest Egg (ONE) bird released in 1995 that has mated with an ONE female released in 1996. Ten of the 12 pair monitored had nests, and laid a collective total of 41 eggs. Twenty-eight of the eggs were viable; the remaining 13 were either rotten or infertile. The first eggs hatched at Rainbow Springs in early September, and the majority of eggs had hatched by mid February. A single egg is still being incubated as we speak. Of the 28 viable eggs, 20 successfully hatched. Six of the eggs were either cracked resulting in chick death, or hatched but the chicks failed to survive; and two chicks are still fighting for their life. Seventeen of the successfully hatched chicks have, or are being, raised at Warrenheip, a predator-free enclosure in the Waikato which is privately owned. Two chicks died of unknown causes. Using Warrenheip as a crèche site in which to raise our chicks prior to their return to the wild, has taken some of the pressure for space off of Rainbow Springs, and enabled our kiwi chicks to grow in a semi-natural environment. Due to some concerns over human induced disturbance at Warrenheip and the effect this may have on the birds, plans are in place to reduce the numbers of kiwi kept in the enclosure at any one time next season, and to control the traffic through the site. To date, eight of the 2002/03 juvenile kiwi have been released back into the Tongariro Forest. All of these chicks seem to have thrived at Warrenheip; they were transferred to the site from Rainbow Springs at around 300 grams and took between 4.5 to 6.5 months to grow to a size big enough to defend themselves against stoats and possums, and were then released back into the forest. One chick released into the forest at 950 grams has since been predated by a stoat, resulting in a requirement that juvenile kiwi must be 1200 g prior to release into the forest. One of the newly released kiwi, at only 8 months old, made its way across the Whanganui River and was found 2 km north of the river. This is only the second time a bird has been recorded crossing the river from the Tongariro forest; staff are eagerly waiting to see whether the bird attempts to return to the forest.</p>
52 Mar -04	9	Bay of Plenty	<p>Monitoring of the four kiwi released onto Mokoia Island continues; all are doing well. There are no planned releases to the island this year, but further survey work this autumn will attempt to locate wild birds in the local district. The future of these birds will be determined after this.</p>
55 Dec -04	7	Bay of Plenty	<p>Two of the four kiwi on Mokoia Island have dropped their transmitters, and will be re-caught in early 2005 to attach transmitters. The two that have been monitored are looking healthy and seem to be holding territories. We hope to release a kiwi chick or two on Waitangi Day 2005, if they can be sourced from Whirinaki Forest.</p>
36 Apr-00	11	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	<p>..an auspicious date for Boundary Stream with the release of 'Ari' - the first of the captive reared kiwi chicks into the reserve. Under the Operation Nest Egg programme efforts are underway to re-establish a population of NI brown kiwi within the reserve. Over the next 3-5 years eggs will be sourced from the Eastern Kaweka ranges with the aim of establishing 10 breeding pairs within this time. Five transmitted males currently form the source population, from which a further 2 kiwi will be released into Boundary Stream in coming weeks.</p>
38 Sep -00	6	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	<p>The 3 Operation Nest Egg kiwi released into Boundary Stream from March 2000 to May 2000 have responded positively to their new surroundings. Progressive weight gains having been made among all three with the first of the released birds now at 1300 g and the latter two at 975 g. The birds' movements have been largely confined to the reserve, although one foray was made some 2 km from the reserve onto the other side of the range. Monitoring of adult male kiwi within the eastern Kawekas has resumed. The number of transmitted birds has been increased from 5 to 8. With incubation having started amongst some of these kiwis, it is hoped a larger number of juveniles will be released into Boundary Stream over the coming season.</p>

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38 Sep -00	6	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	Four sub-adult kiwi have recently been released into the Karioi Rahui on the southern slopes of Mount Ruapehu. These birds were removed as eggs from nearby Waimarino Pine Forest and raised as part of Operation Nest Egg. Together with integrated pest control over an increasing area at the Rahui it is hoped these birds will seed a kiwi population recovery. Meanwhile in Tongariro Forest 21 Operation Nest Egg birds have now been released since 1997. Despite at least three deaths (ferret, pig & misadventure) and five transmitter failures, the remaining 13 birds are doing well and all remain within various parts of Tongariro Forest.
39 Dec-00	7	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	Mustelid control should also benefit the kiwi in the block, and we will be monitoring this through a radio telemetry study of chicks and sub-adult kiwi. At this stage we have one adult male kiwi incubating in an area populated by NI weka. We have a time lapse camera filming the burrow entrance and hope to record any interaction between the two species.
39 Dec-00	7	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	The 3 North Island (NI) brown kiwi released into Boundary Stream earlier in the year have had mixed fortunes. In late September the oldest (6 months) and largest (1300 gm) kiwi was found dead in the reserve. The cause of death is thought to be exposure because the bird was located in an exposed part of the reserve. There was no evidence of predation, and a severe southerly storm had hit the reserve at the time bringing extreme winds, freezing temperatures, and snow. The remaining 2 birds have continued to gain weight and remain within the 800 ha area of the reserve. A further 2 chicks are being raised as Operation Nest Egg (ONE) birds for release into the reserve. With the potential to collect additional kiwi eggs from the Eastern Kawekas this season it is hoped further releases will be possible. The trial of a rodent-based formulation of Cholecalciferol (Feracol) to maintain rat numbers at low levels of activity over a c.250 ha area appeared effective. The use of tracking tunnels to evaluate rat activity between June and August detected no rats in the area where 'Feracol' was available.
42 Oct -01	7	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	Since March 2001 an additional five North Island brown kiwi, raised at Rainbow and Fairy Springs, have been released into Boundary Stream Scenic Reserve. All new arrivals are doing well. The total released is now ten with eight being monitored (five females and three males). One was lost to hypothermia and the another to predation in late August 2001. This bird (1100 grams) was found dead down a deep burrow just outside the Reserve. The culprit appears to be a ferret, although this is yet to be confirmed. The oldest kiwi in Boundary Stream are now approximately 17 months and still wandering. Raina (female) was retrieved from Waitere Kiwi Conservation Area recently, almost 6 km away. She is now back and weighs 1750 grams . Kohu (male) has settled after his long distance escapades in March, and is also around 1750 grams .
42 Oct -01	8	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	<i>Kiwi:</i> Nest monitoring in the Kaweka Range for this season began in June. Five eggs from three nests have been transferred to Rainbow and Fairy Springs with the first egg hatching 5 September. Another three males in the Kaweka Range are currently sitting
43 Dec-01	8	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	Monitoring of kiwi in the Kaweka Forest Park for <i>Operation Nest Egg</i> is in full swing. From first clutches this season, three chicks and nine eggs have been removed from nests. This has resulted in a total of eight healthy chicks now at Rainbow Springs in Rotorua. Of the eggs removed, five hatched and one is still incubating. The remainder were either rotten or died hatching (one had it's leg tangled around the umbilical cord and the other had also become excluded from it's yolk sac). All first clutches are now over and three of the six males are currently sitting on second clutches. In September, after weeks of searching on foot and a good fly over in a fixed wing, we suspect that the transmitter on Raina (the oldest female in Boundary Stream) has failed. Seven of the ten kiwi, which were released in the Reserve are currently being monitored.
43 Dec -01	9	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	The Whinray kiwi project (near Motu) is making steady progress after two seasons of mustelid control. An adult male who went missing earlier in the year after a transmitter failed was found again. This bird was sitting on two eggs at the time. These were transported to Rainbow Springs but were found to be infertile. The second clutch from this bird has also been removed for artificial incubation to

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			Rainbow Springs. Two more sub-adult males have been heard calling in recent weeks and a new adult female (now with transmitter) has also been found. A local interest group, the Whinray Ecological Trust, has been busy applying to various trusts and other organisations for funding. Their immediate aim is to carry out possum control on private farmland surrounding the reserve to reduce the rate of re-invasion. Traps and bait stations have been purchased and it is hoped the trust can employ a trapper within the next two months. The Department removed 3,200 possums from the 430-hectare block during autumn 2001. The trust aims to work with DOC to keep possum numbers at a 2-3% Residual Trap Catch both within and outside the reserve
49 Jun -03	10	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	In May we conducted the second consecutive kiwi call survey of the Puketukutuku Peninsula. Stoat control has been undertaken for eight years. The call rate on Puketukutuku has <u>increased</u> from 1.52 calls/hr in 2002 to 2.35 calls per hour in 2003. In 2002, 21 kiwi were heard calling, 13 of which were radio tagged. In 2003, 31 kiwi were heard calling, of which 12 were radio tagged. Population estimates indicate the number of calling kiwi on Puketukutuku in 2002 and 2003 were 34 and 44 respectively. The ability of juvenile kiwi to disperse over a considerable distance can limit the effectiveness of our conservation efforts. We have kept track of a proportion of wandering juveniles with the help of some Kiwi Recovery Trust funding. Of the juveniles monitored, two were tracked eight kilometres from Puketukutuku and both have subsequently walked back. One kiwi was found due to its mortality signal, the transmitter was found on the ground. Another kiwi was located 10 kilometres away from its start point, and we subsequently lost this bird. Two other mortality signals have been picked up, one 16 kilometres away from Puketukutuku. The rest (five) have disappeared. The erection of a fence funded by Bank of New Zealand Kiwi Recovery Trust and the Sanderson Trust at Lake Waikaremoana is about to be embarked on. This fence is to inhibit juvenile kiwi leaving the Peninsula. We anticipate that this will result in a greater number of breeding pairs producing more chicks. When carrying capacity is reached the fence will be relocated to the adjacent Whareama Peninsula and predator control started. Juvenile kiwi will then be cropped from Puketukutuku and put on Whareama. It is hoped that in 30 years time the hills of Lake Waikaremoana between these two peninsulas will be full of kiwi again
50 Sep -03	8	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	Kiwi: Nesting has once again started on the Puketukutuku Peninsula..Unfortunately once again the spectre of pigs uprooting trapping tunnels has arisen, with one pig captured containing a large number of rats from our snap traps as well
51 Dec -03	8	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	The first kiwi nest was discovered in Boundary Stream in early September this year. The nest is a result of the pairing of two kiwi, Manu-iti (female) and Kohu (male), who were released into Boundary Stream in June 2000 as juveniles using ONE. The kiwi had been sourced as eggs from the Kaweka Forest Park (KFP), and then hatched and reared at Westshore Reserve, Napier. The nest is a real milestone for the kiwi reintroduction project. Female kiwi need to be around 2.5 to 3 years old before they are sexually mature, so these two haven't wasted any time. Unfortunately, one of the two eggs in the nest is rotten, but there is still hope for the second (and Kohu seems to fully understand the commitments of parenting). There are currently 14 kiwi being monitored and two other known kiwi pairs in the reserve. This season 12 eggs have been transferred from the KFP to Rainbow Springs in Rotorua for incubation and rearing. Eight of the 12 eggs have already hatched. Seven paired adult male kiwi are currently being monitored in the KFP for second clutches.
54 Sep -04	6	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	Staff and a possum contractor got quite a surprise recently, when a kiwi was found trapped in Mahia Peninsula Scenic Reserve. Kiwi were thought to have been extinct here for more than 50 years; a number of previous surveys had failed to reveal any sign of kiwi. The captured kiwi, an adult female, was sent to Massey University Vet School for treatment but unfortunately died after surgery..., we renegotiated with the contractor to change to raised sets
54 Sep -04	6	East Coast/ Hawke's Bay	North Island weka and kiwi: At Whinray Scenic Reserve we have almost completed the deployment of our new stoat tunnels and DOC 200 traps, additional to the Fenns. The season's first stoat has already been caught. All our monitored birds are present

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45 Jun-02	17	Motuora Island	Three kiwi have been released on to predator-free Motuora from Northland to grow big and strong before being returned to Northland
42 Oct -01	12	Nelson/ Marlborough	Every year we seem to get a clutch of kiwi call reports in the Sounds. This year we have made a concerted effort to follow up those that seem the most positive, and a couple do look very promising. As yet nothing definite but a few more nights on the hill may finally get a positive result.
53 Jun -04	12	Nelson/ Marlborough	Re-surveys of great spotted kiwi at Saxon (on the Heaphy Track) and Kahurangi Point. The great spots appear to be holding their own against the onslaught of predators, with territory sizes remaining stable and juveniles and sub-adults found.
53 Jun -04	12	Nelson/ Marlborough	In mid-May great spotted kiwi were translocated from Goulard Downs to Nelson Lakes National Park. This is a first for the species and is seen as experimental, with the hope of developing conservation techniques for future use.
39 Dec-00	11	Nelson/ Marlborough	Over half the kiwi on Motuara Island have gone back to Okarito. Our programme may be on the back burner while the birds are managed down there with the extra doosh!
41 Jun -01	1	Northland	<i>Kiwi:</i> Chick survivorship in Trounson mainland island for the year 2000-2001 stands at 64% (n=14). This is comparable to survivorship over the last few years: 30% in 1996-97 and 1997-98, 58% in 1998-99, and 69-85% in 1999-2000. The upward trend and flattening off period coincides with the fine tuning of our predator control, and possibly also with carrying capacity factors. Survivorship in Trounson may stabilise around 60-70%, although it may peak as high as 80% in non stoat plague years under the current predator control regime. Of the surviving kiwi chicks, 78% are over 1000 gm and are 8 months old. Four chicks were lost to predators early in the season, and we have had one tx failure.
41 Jun -01	2	Northland	Since October 1997 we have had six kiwi returned to Trounson as part of Operation Nest Egg: one was found dead in 1999 at 12 months old, cause unknown but suspected to be a mustelid; one had a tx failure at 14 months old; two have left Trounson, and one of these birds was found 20 km into Waipoua forest. The remaining two birds are still living in Trounson.
42 Oct -01	3	Northland	<i>Kiwi:</i> Our kiwi crèche on Motuora Island is keeping staff busy. Eggs taken from the wild in Northland are hatched in captivity at Auckland Zoo, and then the chicks are released into artificial burrows on predator free Motuora until they weigh 1200 grams. They are then taken back to Northland, released into the Kiwi sanctuary and monitored post release
48 Apr -03	15	Southland	This project was set up in 2001 to see if the current stoat control regime (193 trap boxes with two Mark 4 Fenn traps placed 200m apart along the valley floor and up two side branches) is sufficient to protect juvenile kiwi. In the first breeding season (2001/02), nine adult male kiwi with transmitters were monitored. Seven of these nine birds made nesting attempts, and four chicks were reared. One of these chicks survived, while the other three were predated by stoats. During the 2002/03 breeding season, nine of the 11 adult male kiwi that were monitored made nesting attempts. A total of 10 chicks hatched, two of these drowned before they left the natal burrow, one had a failed transmitter, five were predated by stoats, and two survived. For the coming season the team aim to catch another 10 adult kiwi to increase the sample size, and extend the trap line
49 Jun -03	21	Southland	<i>Kiwi:</i> To date we have two surviving chicks from this season. One has reached 1.2 kg, and it's a boy! He answered a taped call of a male which was played near him when trying to call new adult males in. The other chick is now 700g. In May, Te Anau Area staff took two Bank of New Zealand managers to view the transmitter change on this chick. We hope to provide more opportunities like this to our sponsors next season. Recently, five new adult male kiwi were caught in the Clinton Valley as well as the beginning of the North Branch and the Neale Burn. This increases the monitored kiwi in the Clinton Valley study to a total of 19 adults, 15 (possibly 17) of which are known pairs
49 Jun -03	22	Southland	We are monitoring kiwi, mohua and takahe to assess the effectiveness of this trapping programme..Ten male kiwi were fitted with

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			transmitters (five alpine, five forest habitat) during May, with the aim of monitoring nesting activity and chick production.
50 Sep -03	16	Southland	The kiwi that were transferred to the Doubtful Islands last year were also checked during this trip
52 Mar -04	27	Southland	One new kiwi chick hatched over Waitangi weekend in the Clinton valley and was subsequently named 'Waitangi'. There are two chicks presently in the study site. Six of the seven chicks that have died were confirmed stoat kills. Two of the Haast kiwi chicks at Burwood Bush Reserve were found dead recently. The causes of the deaths are unconfirmed to date, but starvation is the suspected cause of at least one. The remaining two kiwi chicks were weighed last week and both are good weights.
53 Jun -04	18	Southland	Fieldwork to catch kiwi in the two Murchison Mountain monitoring sites finished recently; unfortunately not all the required birds were caught. For some reason the birds were being very quiet and were quite elusive. A second attempt to complete this transmitter fitting work will be carried out in May.
55 Dec -04	17	Southland	Kiwi monitoring in the stoat trapped and non-trapped blocks of the Murchison Mountains is progressing, with some chicks having now hatched and several birds still incubating. Last week the first sign of stoat predation was picked up with one, possibly two, chicks having been preyed upon in the non-trapped area
36 Apr-00	11	Tongariro/ Taupo	The Tongariro Forest Kiwi programme has had mixed success this season. There are currently 13 kiwi chicks from the programme at Rainbow Springs in Rotorua and 1 more fertile egg is still to hatch. Nine of these chicks are from Tongariro Forest, with the remaining chicks (and the last egg) from Waimarino Forest near Raetihi (actually in Wanganui Conservancy). There have been remarkably few losses at Rainbow Springs this year with just 3 fertile eggs lost, although there were a few dead eggs taken from the field also. The first chicks to hatch back in October are doing very well and we expect to start releasing in May. Out in the field the news is not so good. Of the 13 Operation Nest Egg releases put back into Tongariro Forest, only 5 to date still carry functioning transmitters. One chick dropped its transmitter and 4 have had gear failure meaning we have lost track of them. One bird has been killed by a pig, another by a ferret, and 1 died from a ruptured liver after what we can only describe as misadventure because the bird was in perfect health otherwise – there were no visible sign of predation. Although the total of confirmed deaths from the 13 released chicks is only 3, there is the possibility of more among the 5 'missing' birds.
43 Dec-01	7	Tongariro/ Taupo	After a slow start, the kiwi breeding season has finally kicked in within the Tongariro Forest Kiwi Sanctuary. Up to eight nests are now being monitored, with three radio tagged chicks already on the ground. Evidence is mounting of an exceptionally good kill of possums and rats following the 20,000 ha September aerial 1080 operation. Stoats also appear to have been controlled. The race between kiwi chicks trying to grow to a safer weight and stoats re-invading the forest is now on.
44 Apr-02	9	Tongariro/ Taupo	Four months after an effective possum and rat knock-down by a 20,000-ha aerial 1080 operation over Tongariro Forest, stoats reappeared in the centre of the forest and began killing kiwi chicks. So far five of the 11 chicks have been predated, and all in the centre of the treatment area. Surviving kiwi chicks are being left in the wild in the hope that stoat density will not recover quickly enough to make their fate certain. Unfortunately only one of the 11 monitored chicks hatched early enough in the season to get the full benefit of the aerial knock-down. Its September hatch date has allowed it to reach well over 1000 grams now, so it is relatively safe from re-invading stoats. It is hoped that other unmonitored chicks from this same early (first clutch) cohort have also benefited as only 12 of an estimated 40 breeding pairs currently carry radio transmitters in the Sanctuary. However, all other monitored chicks hatched after November are still at risk. Rodent numbers remain surprisingly low, with the same tracking index recorded in February as in December (< 2.0%).
47 Dec -02	8	Tongariro/ Taupo	A productive breeding season is being recorded for North Island brown kiwi in the Tongariro Forest Kiwi Sanctuary. Twelve monitored pairs have produced 10 first clutch nests with 17 eggs, from which 14 chicks have hatched. The second clutch is underway. Chicks are

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			being raised at "Warrenheip", a private predator proof enclosure near Cambridge. Planning is underway to move from one to large scale, low density stoat trapping at the site.
53 Jun -04	7	Tongariro/ Taupo	The Tongariro Forest Kiwi Sanctuary has had a good year: 10 of the 11 breeding pairs monitored this season nested. From a total of 15 nests monitored, two nests were destroyed (causes undetermined), and two with rotten eggs (n = 4) were abandoned. A total of 24 eggs were removed from 11 nests and taken to Rainbow Springs: three of the eggs were infertile, two had early embryonic death (occurred in nest), and 19 hatched. Of the 19 chicks, 11 are at Warrenheip, five are still at Rainbow, one is at Massey (physical complications), one died at a vets in Rotorua and one died at Warrenheip (cause of death unknown, autopsy results inconclusive). This season we will be looking to release 17 juveniles back into Tongariro Forest. One wild-hatched chick was accidentally caught as part of a big effort to capture more breeding males. This chick is currently at Warrenheip. While we are currently monitoring 11 breeding males, our target is to have up to 30. Since February we have caught an additional 14 wild kiwi, of these seven are paired males. Our targets for next season include releasing up to 40 juvenile back into Tongariro Forest.
49 Jun -03	9	Tongariro/ Taupo	The 2002/03 breeding season started well with the hatching of Rainbow, our first 2nd generation chick from Te Aukaha and Koha, an Operation Nest Egg pair. Sadly, Rainbow died at Warrenheip. However, Rainbow's sibling, Putiputi, was released into Tongariro forest on the 31/3/03, and was last caught on 12/5/03. What we thought was our final egg for the season was taken to Rainbow Springs on the 7/5/03. We named the chick Possum, a fitting name as another nest due to be robbed on the same day was predated by a suspected possum! We assumed that the single egg that Doug, the male kiwi, was incubating was the fifth and final egg for this season for him and his partner (Lass). To our surprise Lass was found a week later, simultaneously incubating a sixth egg at another nest site. This is our first record of a female North Island brown kiwi incubating an egg independently of the male. From our 10 monitored breeding pairs, 30 fertile eggs were taken to the wonderful crew at Rainbow Springs. Twenty two hatched successfully at Rainbow, with two chicks still at Rainbow under surveillance. We have had a few cracked eggs this year, kicked by the male during robbing; this is something we are going to address for next season. After hatching, the kiwi chicks were all taken to Warrenheip, a 14 ha privately owned predator-free enclosure near Cambridge. Two Tongariro kiwi chicks died at Warrenheip: one due to poor health and the other drowned. The death due to poor health have taught us that the capacity of the Warrenheip site for kiwi chicks is less than one bird per hectare, at least in the dry summer months. The kiwi chicks are released into Tongariro Forest when they are around 1200 grams in weight. To date, eight have returned to the forest, one of these was predated by a stoat. The others are doing well and gaining weight. Last season we monitored 14 kiwi chicks. This work was to measure chick survival in the wild after a very effective 21,000 ha aerial 1080 operation. Eight chicks successfully hatched in the wild: four were predated by stoats, one dropped its transmitter at 1370 g and three are still being monitored. Six eggs were taken to Rainbow due to nest abandonment and were hatched successfully. The new chicks were then released back into their parental territory in Tongariro forest. Three were predated by stoats, one died of hypothermia and two are still alive. We currently have 39 birds with transmitters: 13 adult male, 14 adult female, five sub adults, and seven juveniles. We are planning to capture another two or three adult males this year to increase our breeding sample size. We are currently discussing the merits of keeping transmitters on our single adult females
55 Dec -04	9	Tongariro/ Taupo	The Waikaremoana kiwi project is away to flying start this season, with nine monitored birds laying 17 eggs between them in their first clutches. Because of nest desertions, six kiwi eggs or chicks were being cared for at the Westshore Kiwi Facility in Napier. All are doing well, apart from one chick, which upon hatching was highly dysfunctional; it would not feed unless force-fed, and was hyperactive both day and night. Unfortunately it died very young and in an anorexic state. In addition, one chick was preyed upon prior to it being brought

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			into the fold of our 1500 ha stoat trapping area. However, the remaining 10 eggs or chicks that we know about are doing well, with five chicks running about happily in the forests of Puketukutuku Peninsula. There have been five nesting attempts from kiwi pairs in Boundary Stream this season. Four of these nests were from “first time” pairs, but none have been successful so far. Two kiwi were killed in August by a ferret; one was an adult male who was killed in his nest containing two eggs (one fertile but died later, and one fertile but died later, and one already dead).
37 Jun -00	7	Waikato	Good news on the Kiwi Zones' front with the release of new funding for the five proposed Kiwi Zones
37 Jun -00	7	Waikato	The kiwi chick rearing enclosure was formally opened on 19 February, and Tester, a 2-week old chick, was liberated into the enclosure to test the 'kiwi-proofing' of the internal subdivision fences. Unfortunately, Tester died in strange circumstances several weeks after release. Tester was from a 2-egg clutch, but its sibling (21 days older), was killed by a stoat about the same time.
39 Dec-00	4	Waikato	<i>Moehau kiwi zone:</i> The end of September saw the completion of the baseline kiwi survey for the Kiwi Zone. Our team of contractors completed surveys at 80 sites covering 13,250 ha of private and DoC managed land. This totalled about 450 hours of listening, and gave 143 confirmed kiwi, a great result that exceeded our estimates.
39 Dec-00	4	Waikato	After a possum control operation at Whenuakite (over 1100 ha of private and DoC land north of Tairua), the contractor became quite enthused about kiwi protection. The contractor (Keith Driver of Wildlife Management Services) then offered two of his staff for a day a week for 3 years to trap stoats for kiwi protection. Adele Smaill (Kiwi Recovery Advocate) Hauraki Area staff, landowners, and volunteers undertook a kiwi survey, which identified about 20 individual kiwi in the block.
41 Jun -01	3	Waikato	<i>Moehau Kiwi Zone</i> Phase 1 of the predator control programme is operating at Moehau. The first 4000 ha are underway with stoats appearing in traps from the first day of opening. Five adult kiwi have been caught for monitoring, and we hope to get 15 over the next few weeks. • <i>Whenuakite</i> Our newest kiwi protection site has 500 of the total 1500 ha so far under predator control, with the remainder to be completed in the next 6 months. Waikato Regional Council and Kiwi Recovery Group have funded a baseline kiwi survey, which is now underway. Community support for this project is very strong (about half the area is on private land), resulting in the formation of the Whenuakite Kiwi Care Group to manage the project. • <i>Project Kiwi-Kuaotunu</i> All the chicks are doing well although we lost contact with one soon after release from the enclosure. The smallest chick has grown from 220-410 gm. The older ex-enclosure chicks are nearing the 800-gm mark, and all the wild monitored chicks have exceeded 800 gm. We have only monitored one chick loss to predation this season. We have been monitoring three young kiwi since 1997, part of an original group of six (three of which we have lost contact with). In the past year all three appear to have paired and are living in the project area. The annual transmitter change for some of the adult kiwi began a month earlier to coincide with their capture for blood sampling by the Kiwi Recovery Group for DNA work. Project Kiwi staff took Maryann Burbidge to the kiwi, and she sucked their blood and took feather samples. Local iwi (Ngati Hei) were involved in the sampling. The birds sampled were in mediocre shape, looking worse for wear because they were in the middle of a heavy moult. This is normally the only time of the year we come into contact with or handle the adults. We have been contacted by several other kiwi projects intending to follow Project Kiwi's lead and invest in kiwi chick enclosures. One is due to be constructed very soon.
42 Oct -01	5	Waikato	<i>Kiwi Zone</i> From the 4,000 hectares under a trapping regime at Moehau so far, we have killed nearly 100 stoats...A possum hunter handed in a young kiwi caught in a ground-set trap near Coromandel town. This bird is being rehabilitated by Auckland Zoo.. and we are doing some public relations work relating to setting traps off the ground to protect kiwi
44 Apr-02	5	Waikato	We are fast approaching having caught 250 stoats at Moehau Kiwi Zone, but numbers are dropping off as we extend out to the full coverage intended. So far we have had three out of twelve chicks predated, and have had two eggs from an abandoned nest hatched by

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			Rainbow Springs..One was released back in Moehau in March and the other is due for release soon and will add to our monitored chick pool. Meanwhile, in the middle of rural Waikato, kiwi chicks from Tongariro Forest are thriving. Warrenheip is 14 ha of regenerating bush enclosed by the latest in predator -proof fencing. The Enclosure fence was developed by the landowner and has proved effective at keeping out mammalian predators. Over the past few months, three abandoned kiwi eggs have been hatched at Rainbow Springs and the chicks transferred to Warrenheip. The chicks will be returned to the Tongariro Forest once they have reached the target release weight.
46 Sep -02	3	Waikato	The second kiwi breeding season since stoat trapping began in the Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary is underway. Staff are hopeful for a repeat performance of the chick survival of the previous breeding season (>75% survival).
47 Dec -02	5	Waikato	Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary is celebrating the last of last season's chicks cracking the 1 kg target weight. The "official" result is now 66% chick survival, a great credit to all staff involved.
49 Jun -03	5	Waikato	The Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary is still topping the kiwi competitions with 100% known survival rate from predation with this year's 18 chicks.
49 Jun -03	6	Waikato	Maniapoto and Waikato Area offices are combining forces to survey the southern Waikato for the last remaining King Country kiwi. It is likely that any kiwi remaining will be captured and transferred temporarily to captivity until a suitable predator controlled Waikato site is ready for their release
50 Sep -03	4	Waikato	The results at the end of the season at Moehau are: of the 18 kiwi chicks monitored, one died of natural causes, two transmitters/harnesses failed, and 14 chicks are known to still be alive. These results indicate a success rate of 78%. Five of these birds are presently over the target weight of 1 kg. All nine of last seasons chicks that survived to 1 kg are still on the go, wandering far and wide
51 Dec -03	2	Waikato	So far in the 2003/04 season, the Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary monitoring team have placed transmitters on 15 kiwi chicks. We still have another seven eggs in four nests remaining, so we are hopeful of getting our target of 20 chicks for the season from the first clutch. To date, all the chicks from the 2001/02 and 200/03 seasons that reached 1 kg (nine and 20 respectively) are still going strong. Several have made large wandering trips, with one now at Papa Aroha, nearly 20 km from where it hatched
52 Mar -04	5	Waikato	Of the 18 chicks from the first clutch at Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary, five have been lost to predation and one to natural causes. The second clutch is due to start hatching in mid-February, and we have another 10 or so nests that should yield another 20 eggs. It's looking good so far for reaching our targeted number of chicks monitored for the season. A kiwi that had lost its foot in a trap was handed over to Project Kiwi. The bird.. was taken to Auckland Zoo and operated on..It is doing well and should be released into Project Kiwi's predator control area in a month
53 Jun -04	4	Waikato	The 2003/04 breeding season is drawing to a close with the last eggs hatching in April. We have found a total of 32 chicks this season, which is our highest number by far for the three years of monitoring. Unfortunately some of the kiwi chicks' transmitters failed this season. Of the 25 kiwi chicks that did not suffer from transmitter problems, 15 are still alive. That gives us roughly 60% survival, but does not take into account the fact that some of these birds were not monitored from birth (dog finds) and that two are still in the safety of Rainbow Springs. Ten chicks have died this season; five from suspected mustelid (stoat or weasel) predation, two as a result of being entangled in mangemange fern, and three for unknown reasons. This is a much higher death rate than in previous years, despite the predator trapping catching significantly fewer stoats and extending the trapping network. We have caught more weasels, however, and they may be responsible for some of the predation.
54 Sep -04	4	Waikato	Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary (MKS) is progressing well with about 10 males suspected nesting (early August). Exciting news here is the Moehau Environment Group's work – this active community group is currently installing about 600 stoat traps over 6,000 ha immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of MKS. We hope they stop all stoats from entering the Moehau area. The total area trapped will be about

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			25,000 ha by the end of 2004! Thirty-five kiwi chicks or juveniles were caught during the 2003/04 breeding season. At present, 15 of the 26 known fate birds are still alive, with only a couple still under 1,000 g. Call count monitoring during May-June revealed a mean hourly rate of 3.2, compared with 2.5 over the last two years. Stoat catch rates have declined again at Moehau, with only 113 caught during 2003/04 (1,723 traps), compared with 383 in 2001/02 (1,000 traps) and 299 in 2002/03 (1,500 traps). Sixty-four percent of the chicks caught in 2001/02 are still alive (cf. 75% survival to 1,000 g; n = 11 known fate birds), and 85% of the 2002/03 cohort are still alive (cf. 100% survival to 1,000 g; n = 13 known fate birds). One of our birds (Kahiwi) was caught in November last year as a 1,480 g sub-adult. He or she has since travelled over 30 km across roads and the main range, and is now in Kennedy Bay.
55 Dec -04	5	Waikato	At Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary, 12 chicks have hatched since 1 October. Four of those are Operation Nest Egg (ONE) birds which were released at four weeks of age. One chick was found dead from an unknown nest (cause of death unknown) and one has dropped a transmitter. All others are OK.
45 Jun-02	9	Wanganui	Mt Taranaki: Whilst data are still being analysed, 'walk-through' surveys of North Island brown kiwi in Egmont National Park have produced worrying results. Areas known to hold several pairs of birds from previous surveys have revealed only the odd bird. Of key concern was the absence of any birds on the western side of the mountain where 10 km of track were walked with no birds recorded.
49 Jun -03	12	Wanganui	A new site for NIBK was found near Makino in the foothills of the western Ruahines. Kiwi call surveys at Ruahine Corner, subject to regular 1080 treatments, have produced a good number of calls
51 Dec -03	11	Wanganui	The Taranaki Kiwi Trust and the Wanganui Conservancy: plan to halt the decline of the park's kiwi population and enhance the size and range of that population. Kiwi are now largely confined to higher altitude areas of the park including steep subalpine slopes cloaked in dense leatherwood scrub. Like all unmanaged mainland kiwi populations, Egmont's has suffered a serious decline which has brought it to the edge of extinction in the park. Conservation action started this November with the installation of stoat traps over 4,500 ha of the park..The Bank of New Zealand Kiwi Recovery Trust has also provided seed funding for an Operation Nest Egg programme to begin
52 Mar -04	12	Wanganui	A rehabilitated female kiwi was released into the area of stoat trapping in January. The kiwi originated from a site near Wanganui and lost two toes in a possum trap. Hard work by Wanganui Bird Rescue and Massey University over 5 months led to the bird recovering sufficiently to be released.
53 Jun -04	9	Wanganui	An adult kiwi and chick died as a result of a dog attack in northern Taranaki. This is the latest in a series of deaths as a result of dog predation in northern Taranaki, eastern Taranaki, Egmont National Park and the Whanganui National Park
54 Sep -04	7	Wanganui	The Conservancy is working closely with the Taranaki Kiwi Trust (TKT) to conserve kiwi in Egmont National Park. A 6,000 hectare stoat trapping operation is in place and funding has been provided to the TKT to start a Bank of New Zealand Kiwi Recovery Operation Nest Egg (ONE) project to boost the kiwi population under protection. To date nine males have been fitted with transmitters; three birds on private property at Purangi and six birds in collaboration with the Bushy Park Trust in the Waitotara Valley. The plan is to release up to 10 juveniles in Egmont National Park this season, should the ONE work be successful
38 Sep -00	8	Wellington	Twenty little spotted kiwi were transferred from Kapiti Island to Karori Sanctuary.. all alive and well when released within 30 hours of capture.
52 Mar -04	13	Wellington	Mount Bruce Scenic Reserve: Six captive-reared brown kiwi were also released into the reserve in December 2003, and all appeared to be thriving until one was found drowned during recent floods.
53 Jun -04	10	Wellington	Kiwi: The birds released in December are still staying close to home; a couple have wandered (briefly) just beyond the ridge behind the NWC, but pretty quickly came back.

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55 Dec -04	11	Wellington	Kiwi: Another release of three birds into Pukaha / Mount Bruce has been undertaken, to complement the five residents. The new birds are behaving in much the same way as those that were released last year. Monitoring of the first release shows that the birds have still not moved more than a few hundred metres from the release sites and that over the past months all but one have developed distinct home ranges. Another release (a single male) is planned for December
55 Dec -04	12	Wellington	community fundraising and sponsorship have raised \$558,700 for the Pukaha project. So far kaka, kiwi and kokako have returned to Pukaha/Mount Bruce forest
40 Mar-01	8	West Coast	Approximately 8 of the required 20 new pairs of kiwi have been caught, and 16 rodent index lines installed. Rimu seedfall is being monitored, and the track system for the stoat control project is under construction. The stoat control project will be fully operational by the first week in June in readiness for the upcoming breeding season. It is hoped that the extra kiwi being caught at the moment will boost the number of chicks monitored each year to 30 plus. The breeding season is now over. It has been a bumper season for rowi with a total of 38 eggs detected and 21 chicks successfully transferred to Motuara Island. Fourteen Operation Nest Egg (ONE) juveniles returned from Motuara during October and December. One of these died within a week or so of transfer from unknown causes, however, the remaining 13 are alive and thriving in the wild. The biggest single event of recent times on the rowi programme is probably the first breeding attempt by an ONE bird in Okarito. Inka, a 4-year-old male, has paired with a wild female and successfully produced a chick. This is a great milestone for the project and all bodes well with 30 other younger ONE birds in the forest already and 20 or so more to follow.
40 Mar-01	8	West Coast	Breeding success of Haast tokoeka has been studied for several years by the monitoring of 13 nests. Three chicks have been observed over this time but subsequently were never seen again (usual story). The last nest for this season at 1200 m altitude had a video camera operating via UHF link to Okuru 17 km away. A stoat has been observed on video on one occasion at the nest. When the chick was seen leaving the nest, staff prepared themselves to catch it the following night and attach a transmitter. Biodiversity Strategy funds will allow predator control to be undertaken over 16,000 ha next breeding season. The contract for establishing the predator control lines has been let and control will be in operation by 30 June 2001.
36 Apr -00	17	West Coast	Five Okarito brown kiwi on Motuara Island were returned to Okarito Forest in October 1999 at the age of 1 year. All weighed over 1.2 kg. They were released into the centre of the forest near territorial adults. All have done well and are behaving like wild kiwi. "Albi", the famous white kiwi, was left on the island several months longer because he was younger and smaller. We have since found he has had <i>Ascarid</i> worms, which is thought to have slowed his weight gain. He has recently been released to the wild. Eleven eggs have been incubated in captivity from 30+ days, and 7 have survived. Two eggs were infertile or dead on arrival, 1 died during hatching (it had cracks in the eggshell), and 1 hatched successfully but died several weeks later. Additionally, 7 chicks were collected from the wild giving 14 chicks this year. While in captivity the birds have picked up <i>ascarid</i> worms and <i>coccidia</i> . Two young chicks were sent to Motuara Island at c.2-3 weeks old to trial transfers at a young age. We hope the birds will benefit being on the island longer and adapt to the wild quickly.
36 Apr -00	18	West Coast	The last remaining nest of Haast Tokoeka for the 1999/2000 breeding season failed. Five nests were monitored in this season, and of these one possibly may have hatched. The breeding pair on Thirsty Ridge were found in a nest in September, which had failed by November, when they were discovered to be sitting on their second egg of the season...we did not get any success in terms of known definite hatching of chicks
37 Jun -00	16	West Coast	[kiwi] A total of 20 adult pairs were monitored during the previous season, and we had the options of removing either eggs or chicks for Operation Nest Egg (ONE). Twenty-four eggs were detected and 11 removed for artificial incubation. Of the remaining 13 eggs, 8 hatched in the wild, and 5 failed to hatch..This has been a successful year for released ONE birds. Currently a total of 17 ONE birds are now being

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			monitored. Two ONE birds are sheltering with wild birds of the opposite sex, and there seem to be some other potential pairings between ONE birds..The oldest ONE bird (Moonshine) is now 4+ years old and has been in the wild for 3 years & 4 months. Three ONE birds have died during the year. Bobbit and Claudette died as a result of territorial confrontations. Bobbit was almost certainly killed by another ONE bird while her parents killed Claudette. Cuba was hit by a car and killed. Two other juveniles lost their transmitters during the year because of harness failure.
38 Sep -00	11	West Coast	<i>Okarito brown kiwi</i> : This season 20 pairs are being monitored for Operation Nest Egg and 10 pairs in the 'study area'. Eleven eggs have been laid so far, and 3 of these were collected for incubation in August. Two Operation Nest Egg chicks are paired with wild birds and 4 Operation Nest Egg chicks are also paired up with each other, no eggs have been laid by these birds, yet. Two wild chicks from 1998 are both still alive, 1 is still with its parents. These are the first wild chicks of known age in the forest since this project began. In October the 13 chicks on Motuara Island will be reintroduced to the forest.
39 Dec -00	11	West Coast	<i>Okarito brown kiwi (rowi)</i> : increased funding, opening up many new opportunities for the programme. The most exciting of these is the ability to trial a large-scale stoat control programme over the entire known range of rowi (10,000 ha)..Two extra permanent and two summer staff are being employed to more than double our staffing level. This will allow the capture and monitoring of 20 more pairs of rowi and the extra Operation Nest Egg (ONE) birds returning later in the year. The breeding season is well and truly in full swing. We have located a total of 30 rowi eggs to date: 10 of these have been taken for ONE and have hatched successfully..The 17 ONE birds being monitored in Okarito forest have continued to do well. Three of them have wild mates, and a number of others seem to be establishing pairs with other ONE birds. A ONE male paired with a wild bird is incubating an egg, and this is the first confirmed record of an Okarito ONE bird breeding. The 2 wild chicks that hatched in February 1999 have continued to thrive; one is still living with its parents. The other has been travelling throughout the forest over the last few months and has ranged up to 4 km from its home territory. The first 8 of the 14 chicks taken for ONE last year were returned to Okarito on 11 October. Although 1 bird has died from unknown causes the remaining 7 seem to be doing okay despite some weight loss. As at 1 November, there are 6 rowi chicks on Motuara Island and 3 due for transfer there.. Only 1 egg, diagnosed as an early dead embryo or infertile, has been lost since the beginning of artificial incubation in mid August. This season's chicks have been released on Motuara 2 to 4 weeks old.. Six of the 14 juveniles from last season's releases remain on the island and will be transferred to Okarito Forest in December. Fortunately observations indicate that non territorial juvenile rowi on Motuara are tolerant of young chicks and will share burrows with them without harm.
41 Jun -01	10	West Coast	<i>Okarito brown kiwi</i> : Twenty-seven breeding pairs are actively monitored. .. Thirty-seven eggs were detected..One egg came from a new bird caught in February as part of the programme to expand the number of breeding pairs by 20. Twenty-one chicks were produced, and all have been taken to sanctuary at Motuara Island. There was a period of high egg mortality for eggs detected between late August/ end of September. The cause of mortality is unknown, but the losses occurred during a period of poor weather including lightning storms. The female of pair C was hit by a car and was badly injured and eventually died. The night after the accident was reported the burrow entrance was video taped to ensure incubation was taking place, however, the female was handed in by a member of the public the following morning, so the egg was removed and successfully incubated in captivity. The female suffered fractures to both femurs but was still able to walk. The pair was sitting on an egg that was estimated to be between 8 and 22 days old. Normally eggs are taken for incubation when at least 40 days old. Two eggs were detected late in season, after end of January. Both hatched in the wild, and the last chick was removed on 1 March.
41 Jun -01	11	West Coast	<i>Operation Nest Egg (ONE) kiwi</i> Fourteen of the previous season's juveniles were birds released in Okarito Forest in two batches. Of the

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			<p>first eight released on 11 October one subsequently died of a suspected beating by another bird. These birds were released near five juveniles from 1999/2000 (previous) year's release. The second release of six on 6 December has been successful so far. They were released on a ridge where a largely unsuccessful early release of captive raised, non-Motuara birds had occurred. All 2000/01 birds have dispersed widely, far more widely than previously released juveniles and have travelled through known adult territories. On 2 April, one was found camped up with a wild, unbanded bird, which was summarily banded but did not have a transmitter attached and has never been seen again. This mystery bird was an old bird with bill measurement in the grey area just under 100 mm. This bird will be followed up with a catching trip to the area. Of other ONE birds, a male, Inca, paired up with a wild bird and successfully incubated an egg. No other breeding activity with the other ONE birds has occurred although several have formed 'pairs', some with wild birds. ONE birds in Okarito Forest now total 29. <i>Motuara Island sanctuary</i>: Of the 21 chicks released, three are dead, one transmitter has dropped, and three are missing. Release back to Okarito is planned for January 2002. Some positive disease screens delayed planned releases until clear screens were obtained. <i>Wild juveniles</i>: The two wild juveniles from 1998, which were in Okarito Forest when aerial 1080 for possum control was sown, are doing well. One is still with the parents, who have since produced three eggs and the other has moved off at least 2 km from her parents' territory. Both chicks are female.</p>
42 Oct 01	13	West Coast	<p>The aim this year is to monitor the survival of 30 rowi chicks in South Okarito Forest in conjunction with a stoat trapping program. To enable us to get the target of 30 chicks, we had to catch 20 new pairs of kiwi. This was completed just prior to the breeding season, bringing the total number of wild rowi pairs monitored to just over 50. To date, we have detected 25 eggs, and the first of these are due to begin hatching in about mid September. Twelve of the twenty new pairs have already produced eggs. This is more than we would have initially expected, which will increase our chances for reaching our target of 30 chicks. Extrapolating from last year's results suggests we will be slightly ahead of target. The decision to leave the chicks in the forest represents a major turning point in the rowi program..Fifteen young juveniles from last years breeding season are still doing well on Motuara Island, and are scheduled for return to Okarito in January. The 30 'ONE' juveniles monitored in Okarito Forest (from previous releases) are all doing well. One pair of 'ONE' birds, both aged just under five, have just produced our most exciting news for some time by laying an egg. The egg was found yesterday afternoon so we have about 75 days of anticipation before it hatches , if successful. This egg represents a significant milestone for the program as it is the first time a 'ONE' female has produced an egg (she is one of the oldest birds) and only the second time that a male has been part of a breeding pair.</p>
43 Dec -01	14	West Coast	<p>The Haast tokoeka breeding season is in full swing at the moment with fourteen breeding attempts been recorded to date. Five nests were successful in producing chicks although a stoat has since killed one. Two nests are currently in their hatch window and another hatch window starts on 19 December. Two late development embryos were found dead along with three infertile eggs. In the remaining nest it was not possible to confirm what the outcome of the breeding attempt was because nest monitoring is non-invasive to reduce the disturbance to the birds. Egg shell fragments were found outside the nest. A consequence of non-invasive monitoring is that it is not always possible to confirm beyond doubt that breeding has occurred.. The kiwi team is aiming to catch another ten pairs of tokoeka before the next breeding season to increase the number of chicks being monitored within the Sanctuary. This will help to determine if the trapping is successful in increasing the number of kiwi chicks in the forest.</p>
44 Apr -02	19	West Coast	<p>Okarito Kiwi Zone: Rowi breeding season has finished; this season 54 eggs were laid so far this year (with 22 successful hatches = 40%), which is very poor, normally rowi achieve 60 % hatch rate out of monitored eggs.. Egg laying normally ceases in early January but this season six eggs have been laid after this time with the latest one due to hatch May 14. Of the 22 chicks detected, eight are still surviving in</p>

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			the wild, aged between two weeks and four months. Fourteen have been found dead, and 12 of these are confirmed predation events. The biggest chick now weighs 942 grams and two others are greater than 700 grams. Three pairs of O.N.E. juveniles have laid eggs this season although there were no successful outcomes. Of the juveniles recently returned from Motuara Island at the end of January, one has been found dead of a suspected kiwi beating and two are currently AWOL. There have been 446 stoats caught since trapping began..and there was an increase in the number of captures on the buffer during December and January that coincided with increased mortality of rowi chicks.
45 Jun -02	13	West Coast	We have finally finished the 2001/02 rowi breeding season with the last chick detected in late May. It has been a mixed year with 55 eggs detected from the 48 adult pairs monitored. We have had relatively low hatching success with just 24 chicks observed to hatch. 20 of these chicks had transmitters fitted and were monitored for survival (four vanished prior to fitting transmitters). Six of the chicks are still alive and doing well in the wild. Three are well past the 1000g mark and three are nearing it. This represents the first significant natural recruitment since the program began in the early 1990s and represents a major turning point for the program. It is an indicator that the stoat control program, which has removed in excess of 540 stoats from the 10,000ha area, is at least partially successful..Stoats were implicated in at least 12 of the 14 kiwi chick deaths that occurred this year.. We are nearing the end of the massive job of changing in excess of 120 kiwi transmitters and readying ourselves for the next breeding season.
46 Sep -02	7	West Coast	At completion of the 2001/02 Haast tokoeka breeding season, 13 eggs had been detected from 20 monitored adult pairs. Six chicks hatched successfully and all had radio transmitters fitted. Within two weeks of hatching two chicks were predated by stoats and another was predated at 45 days old. With 50% of the chicks surviving , we were hopeful that predator control was making a difference to chick survival. However since then we have lost track of two further chicks, one due to transmitter failure at 70 days old and the other dropped its transmitter at 231 days old. Although the oldest of these chicks had passed the 'safe weight' of 1000 grams their fate is unknown. The remaining chick, 'Kahu', is living in the sub-alpine scrub and is getting very difficult to catch. When caught in early July, Kahu weighed 810 grams.
46 Sep -02	8	West Coast	Okarito Kiwi Zone: We are now well into the 2002/03 kiwi breeding season. Fifteen eggs have been detected to date and the first chicks are expected to be hatching towards the end of September. Six of last years chicks are still surviving in the forest; five of these have surpassed 1kg with one lagging well behind on 660g. Three Operation Nest Egg birds are incubating eggs already this year. A pair of older birds which produced their first egg last year and a male which is just under three years old, this is a year younger than we have previously detected breeding. The results from the rodent lines in March show that there has been a huge increase in rat abundance between March (3.5% tracking index) and August (80% tracking index). This correlates with our casual observations from the stoat trapping program which have indicated a much higher rat trapping rate than previously. We have also been noticing the capture of lactating female rat's right throughout the winter months. It seems that rat numbers are higher within the sanctuary (80% tracking rate) as opposed to in the two areas in which do not have stoat trapping (38.6%)..it will be interesting to see whether stoat numbers increase this summer in response to the increased rat abundance and if so how effectively the trapping program deals with this increase. We are still continuing to catch the odd stoat in the kiwi zone (four this month) although over half of all captures now are in the buffer lines which are just outside the kiwi zone. Since May 2001 there have been a total of 605 stoats caught.
46 Sep -02	8	West Coast	As we head into the 2002/03 breeding season, 26 adult pairs are being monitored. At the time of writing (19/8/02), ten pairs were nesting with the first chicks due to hatch in late September. As monitoring of Haast tokoeka intensifies we continue to learn more about their ecology...Usually roost in a different burrow/shelter every day. Large territories with some in the alpine area exceeding 100 hectares.

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			Distributed from the lowland forest to the alpine tops of the Haast Range...our monitored population of 47 birds are now mostly in the forested ridges and valleys... They lay one egg per clutch, and few second nesting attempts have been observed..Male and female Haast tokoeka share incubation of the egg. The male incubates during the day and for the first part of the evening when the female takes over until just before sunrise. Newly hatched chicks return to the nesting burrow daily for 2-4 weeks and then, although staying pretty close to the nesting burrow, they start finding their own roosting sites. We do not know when chicks leave their parents' territory. Since monitoring began, we have observed one situation where three adult birds, one female and two males, lived in the same territory. As we haven't followed a bird's progress from hatching to adulthood we are unable to say at this stage whether Haast tokoeka form family groups like southern tokoeka on Stewart Island. We have observed the first repairing of Haast tokoeka. The TL Creek pair both dropped their transmitters in 1998. This year the TL Creek male was recaptured and is paired with a new female. We do not know the fate of TL Creek female.
48 Apr -03	11	West Coast	The Haast tokoeka breeding season started with the first nest detected in July 2002, and ended when the last of the season's 17 nests (from 26 potential breeding pairs) was abandoned and a broken egg retrieved on 14 January 2003. Seven (41%) nests produced chicks, which were caught and fitted with radio transmitters. Three of the chicks were subsequently killed by stoats, one drowned, one is missing (suspected transmitter failure) and two are still being monitored: Huia, 600 grams at 100 days old, and Mischief, 570 grams at 89 days old. To date this season's chick survival is 29%, compared with 33% in 2001/02. Three times as many stoats were caught during December 2002 and January 2003 as the same months last year. In total, 222 stoats were caught in the sanctuary during the 2002/03 breeding season compared with 98 in 2001/02. Unlike the Okarito Kiwi Sanctuary, this increase has not noticeably impacted on chick survival. Kahu, the one remaining monitored chick from the 2001/02 breeding season, was 468 days old at his last check ..He is still living within his parental territory, but spending more time in the sub-alpine scrub and beech forest at the bush line. We currently have transmitters on 48 Haast tokoeka: 44 adults (19 female and 25 male), 2 sub-adults (1 female and 1 male) and 2 juveniles (sex unknown). This equates to 24% percent of the estimated population (200 birds) within the sanctuary..Planning is also underway for trialling Operation Nest Egg (ONE) with Haast tokoeka in 2003/04.
48 Apr -03	12	West Coast	The current rowi breeding season has been very disappointing. All 14 of the monitored chicks were dead by early January, with stoat predation being the major cause. A heavy rimu fruiting mast during autumn 2002, coupled with a mild winter caused a huge irruption of rats and stoats, coincided with the height of the rowi breeding season. Stoats completely saturated the core area during December and January, despite the rowi team doing extra buffer trap checks. In December 2002 and January 2003 137 and 173 stoats were caught respectively. This is compared with 23 and 55 for the same months the previous season. Similarly, rat numbers were 5-10 times higher this season compared with the same time last season. The high number of stoats being caught has prompted the rowi team at Franz Josef <i>Waiau</i> Area to switch back to ONE techniques, using Motuara Island in the Marlborough Sounds as a crèche for the rest of the season. Two chicks were released in early March. The plague of stoats has also caused the postponement of the planned February release of 50 juvenile pateke (brown teal).
49 Jun -03	19	West Coast	A kiwi survey was carried out to assess the abundance and distribution of the Haast tokoeka within the 11,500 ha Haast Tokoeka Sanctuary in south Westland. Throughout the sanctuary, 88 sites were surveyed, which involved listening for two hours at each site and using call playback to solicit responses. A minimum of 77 new kiwi were heard, providing a total estimate of 129 known Haast tokoeka within the sanctuary: 39 confirmed pairs, 58 males, 66 females, and 4 possible juveniles and subadults detected. This is likely to be an underestimate as the entire area of the sanctuary was not covered, and not all kiwi will call during the survey. Very few kiwi were found

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			on the lowland flats, and the highest densities were on the northwestern faces of the Haast Range, from the base up to the low alpine tussock zone.
52 Mar -04	21	West Coast	Rat numbers increased following a heavy kahikatea fruiting, which in turn increased the stoat numbers in the Haast Tokoeka Sanctuary compared to previous years. Twenty nests were detected from 34 potential breeding pairs. As part of the Operation Nest Egg trial, three eggs were taken and incubated at the Kiwi and Birdlife Park in Queenstown. Two successfully hatched and were released into Burwood Reserve, Te Anau. The third egg failed due to an unformed umbilicus. One of the chicks died 10 days after release while the oldest chick weighed 575 gm on 12/1/04. Out of the remaining 18 nests: one is still being incubated; eight produced chicks, two of which died naturally; and four showed signs of stoat predation. The remaining two chicks were transferred to Burwood Reserve due to the high numbers of stoats in the sanctuary. One of these chicks has subsequently died. An adult male was found dead and we are waiting for the necropsy results. Kahu, a chick from the 2001/02 season was found this year with a female mate in a burrow lined with vegetation (suggesting a nest) though no sign of egg or chick was found
55 Dec -04	15	West Coast	The 2004/05 Haast tokoeka breeding season is well underway and rather busy, with 10 chicks known to have hatched from 20 confirmed nesting attempts (some nests are still underway). There are seven chicks with transmitters on them being checked once a week. The other three chicks can be accounted for as follows: one Operation Nest Egg (ONE) chick and two which have died, possibly from predation. At night, staff are using cameras set up at burrow entrances to watch for chicks to emerge from several nests; transmitters are to be attached to these chicks. Daytime breeding checks continue in order to detect any further breeding attempts. It is expected that all nesting will have finished by the end of January. Tracking tunnel lines and trap catches suggest stoat numbers within the sanctuary are relatively low. However, the annual rise in stoat numbers is yet to occur and only time will tell whether the current trapping regime can keep predators to a low enough level this season to allow survival of sufficient chicks to sustain the population. This year's ONE component of the project targeted five specific pairs. We hope these pairs will produce five viable eggs for transfer to the Kiwi and Birdlife Park in Queenstown. So far we have had mixed results. The first successful 'lifting' was of a chick which was taken to the park in early October. The second pair produced a healthy egg and this has been transferred to the park for hatching. The third pair bred in a very deep burrow and the egg could not be retrieved, instead it will be transferred when it has hatched. No signs of breeding have been detected from the fourth and fifth pairs. This year Centre Island in Lake Te Anau was chosen as a crèche site for Haast tokoeka; the first chick was taken there in mid-November. The chick weighed 400 g and was described as feisty. Te Anau staff will monitor this bird and it will stay there until it is over 1 kg, at which time it will be big enough to defend itself against stoats in the Haast Tokoeka Sanctuary
55 Dec -04	15	West Coast	This breeding season nine rowi chicks have hatched in the [Oakarito] Sanctuary and there are six nests still going, with possibly more to come depending on whether many re-nest. Four of the chicks have been taken to Motuara Island in the Marlborough Sounds as part of Operation Nest Egg (ONE). This year five pairs have been selected for ONE and the plan is to take a maximum of five chicks up to Motuara Island. The chicks will then be returned to the Okarito Sanctuary once they reach over 1 kg. The five chicks in the sanctuary range from 4–6 weeks old. There has been no predation of chicks as yet and rat and stoat numbers are low compared to recent years