

## Index to the Rare Bits Newsletters about Threatened Species Work - 28. KAKAPO MANAGEMENT

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			28. Kakapo Management Quotes
49 Jun -03	15	Nelson/ Marlborough	Maud Island's 45 year association with kakapo came to an end on 23 May, with the five remaining birds being airlifted to Chalky Island. Richard Henry, the only known Fiordland bird, was one of the first kakapo to go to Maud. He was subsequently moved to Little Barrier with a number of other birds, in the hope that he would breed successfully. This didn't happen, so in 1998 he was returned to Maud with Flossie. They mated almost immediately and produced three chicks. This was the first and last time that kakapo bred on Maud. It is hoped that Fordland's islands will provide more of what kakapo need to breed successfully.
52 Mar -04	26	Southland	At least three male kakapo are now booming on Whenua Hou (Codfish Island). Booming is the way that male kakapo "advertise" to the females that they are ready for a breeding season. Although rimu is not masting this year, the kakapo are in top physical condition. A number of males caught in the last couple of months have had well developed boom sacs
37 Jun -00	23		There was also a disease risk associated with kiore defecating in and about the [supplementary] feeding site [for kakapo]
39 Dec-00	20		Whenua Hou Nature Reserve (Codfish Island) [is] rat free ..Non targets were the big issue with emphasis on the bats, fernbirds and kakapo. The kakapo were 'relatively' straightforward, if not easy – find another suitable holding island, set up a new infrastructure for the team and move the birds for the duration of the programme. This meant timing the eradication for a year when the birds were unlikely to breed so as to minimise disturbance. Indications were that 1999 was not going to be a breeding year so things were able to go ahead. Ironically the birds bred on their temporary home, with one of the most productive (egg wise) years ever ! Sometimes you just can't pick it. The kakapo feeding has now been underway for nearly 2 months with no rat sign. Lines of kakapo food have been set out around the island in an attempt to get selected birds onto the artificial food, which we are satisfied would have detected any rats present.
53 Jun -04	21		On the kakapo front... 2003/04 has been quiet so far, with no kakapo breeding activity on either Whenua Hou or Te Kakahu. Planning is underway to translocate (early July) the majority of the 2002 cohort of juveniles from Whenua Hou to Te Kakahu so that they can become familiar with feeding in beech forest and recognise beech (and rimu) masts as stimulus for breeding. In addition, the translocation will structure the population to maximise Richard Henry's chance of mating and making a genetic contribution to the next generation of kakapo