Vol., Date Page Conservancy

| 38 Sep -00 | 17 | | A stoat-trapping programme, aimed at protecting nesting takahe, was established in [3 areas] Ninety-two trap stations were serviced between September and May. A total of 149 stoats were caught. |
|------------|----|---------------|---|
| 47 Dec -02 | 1 | | Tartar Valley Conservation Trust is a community conservation effortVolunteers have been creating track lines and setting out possum traps since spring 2001 and in started using Fenn MK6 traps in February 2002. As an alternative visual lure, we placed golf balls in some tunnels, and used hens' eggs in others. We employ both single and double trap tunnels. Many rats (30+), nine stoats, one ferret, and one weasel, have all been captured in the golf ball traps. Of course we know that mustelids may even be caught in empty tunnels, and the successful traps may hold the scent of previous catchHowever we plan to increase both the number of traps and total area controlled and will maintain records of bait used and resulting pests caught |
| | - | | Whio: Research in Fiordland over the last three years identified stoats preving on nesting females, chicks and eggs, as the greatest threat to the |
| 49 Jun -03 | 1 | | speciesprojects aimed at controlling predators to protect whio are already underway in several sites. |
| | | | 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 |
| 42 Oct -01 | 7 | Bay of Plenty | regime around and through the block |
| 45 Jun -02 | 7 | Bay of Plenty | Ohope Scenic Reserve: 47 stoats and 10 cats were trapped in the reserve. |
| 45 Jun -02 | 7 | Bay of Plenty | NZ Dotterel: Matakana: reports trapping 50 cats, 21 stoats, 237 possums, 36 rats, 115 mice and 1 dog on the island. |
| 52 Mar -04 | 8 | Bay of Plenty | The Matakana Island dotterel: continued to control the various predators that roam the island. Generally, the number of predators killed was down from previous years, despite stoat numbers being up. Stoats were responsible for the death of a number of dotterel and variable oystercatcher chicks and also took some dotterel eggs at Panepane Pointthere were 30 dotterel nests on the Maketu Spit but sadly not one chick fledged. No predator control operations took place at this site due to a lack of resources and other complications |
| | | | Over the last six seasons, mohua productivity and numbers were increasing as a result of stoat control, however rat plagues are a new |
| 44 Apr-02 | 17 | Canterbury | phenomenon for DOC in the South Island with swift and catastrophic impacts |
| 48 Apr -03 | 11 | Canterbury | whiteflippered penguin: At Flea and Stony bays, two neighbouring farmers have trapped cats and ferrets in the penguin colonies on their properties for several years. In 2001 Akaroa DOC staff set up a trapline (containing 89 Fenn and Timms traps) protecting 1150 hectares on the ridges surrounding both colonies. The traps are open year round and have caught numerous cats, ferrets and stoats. The landowners still have their traps inside the DOC trapline, but have commented that the catch rate of predators has dropped significantly. |
| | | | The Whinray kiwi project: making steady progress after two seasons of mustelid control Their immediate aim is to carry out possum control on |
| | | East Coast/ | 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 |
| 43 Dec-01 | 9 | Hawke's Bay | can employ a trapper within the next two months. |
| | | | Juvenile weka (aged between 1–3 months old) are trapped in the Whitikau Valley (no stoat trapping) and in the Motu Valley (stoat trapping) each |
| | | East Coast/ | season 40% (n=10) and 8% (n=12) of monitored juveniles were killed by stoats in the Whitikau and Motu valleys respectively. This would suggest |
| 52 Mar -04 | 11 | Hawke's Bay | that trapping stoats does give juvenile weka a better chance of survival than otherwise |
| | | East Coast/ | North Island weka and kiwi: At Whinray Scenic Reserve we have almost completed the deployment of our new stoat tunnels and DOC 200 traps, |
| 54 Sep -04 | 6 | Hawke's Bay | additional to the Fenns. The season's first stoat has already been caught |
| | 1 | | In an effort to enhance the effectiveness of predator control regimes a couple of experimental initiatives have been added to the suite. Trapping |
| | | East Coast/ | for mustelids has been supplemented with a purpose designed poison egg/trap box, which delivers 1080 injected hen eggs for stoats and a |
| 37 Jun -00 | 10 | Hawke's Bay | Diphacinone Ferret paste. |

| | | | The NTUERP [Northern Te Urewera Ecosystem Restoration Programme] continues to show impressive results following another season of pest |
|------------|----|-------------|--|
| | | | control and outcome monitoring. At Otamatuna, stoat control has resulted in 70% of monitored kiwi chicks surviving to over 1000 g (the 'stoat- |
| | | | proof' weight) during the past 4 years of management. This compares to a 5% survival rate in other unmanaged North Island sites. A |
| | | | breakthrough in stoat control developed by NTUERP may have been achieved using freeze-dried rats as a lure to trap stoats. When placed under |
| | | | a plastic cover these rats have remained effective in trapping stoats for up to 6 weeks under field conditions. Two hundred and eighty tunnels |
| | | | each containing two Fenn traps were set along 42 km of lines on ridges, spurs and streams covering 1500 ha. The tunnels were alternately lured |
| | | | with a freeze-dried rat and plastic egg (which, along with hen eggs, are currently the best longlasting stoat lure) in one tunnel, followed by a |
| | | | plastic egg in the next. Over a 3- month period 57 stoats were caught. Fifty (88%) were caught in tunnels containing the freeze-dried rats, which |
| | | Fast Coast/ | is significantly higher than the number caught using plastic eggs alone ($p<0.001$). Fischer's exact test). Kokako numbers continue to increase at a |
| 38 Sep -00 | 5 | Hawke's Bay | rapid rate |
| | | | weka: A grant of \$2,500 has been received. This will significantly improve the weka habitat within the enclosure by creating more wetland area |
| | | Fast Coast/ | and employing a mustelid trapper. Weka are surviving within the enclosure, but considerable on-going effort is required to control cats and |
| 43 Dec-01 | 9 | Hawke's Bay | mustelids |
| | | | North Island weka: The first area is in the Motu Valley., where trapping for mustelids, cats and possums takes place. The second area is in the |
| | | | Whitikau Valley about 20 km north of Motu. This area is un-trapped. Of the four dead birds, three were predated by stoats and the other was |
| | | East Coast/ | either predated or scavenged by a cat. From the Motu area, three juveniles are still alive. Of the other two birds, one had wandered two |
| 44 Apr-02 | 9 | Hawke's Bay | kilometres beyond the trapped area and was predated by a stoat. |
| | | East Coast/ | Boundary Stream: Rat and possum numbers are maintained at zero, and intensive trapping restricts mustelids and cats to outside the reserve |
| 53 Jun -04 | 8 | Hawke's Bay | boundaries |
| | | | specially trained dog, Tui, to search for stoat densthen controlled using the fumigant Magtoxin. This method removes a large number of |
| | | | individuals in one action, as well as targets female stoats, which are considered to be harder to trap. It allows active searching for the predators |
| | | | rather than relying on traps that might be avoided. Fifteen dens were located but only three were successfully controlled. This was due to not all |
| | | | tunnels being located and blocked, so the fumigant wasn't effective, and the animal escaped. In total, 20 stoats were removed; as we usually |
| | | | catch 30-40 stoats a year in the Trounson Park traps, this was a significant number. This year was considered to be more of a pilot study than |
| 43 Dec-01 | 2 | Northland | operational, and we are hoping to continue for the next few years |
| | | Nelson/ | The Mt Stokes mohua population has dropped dramaticallyPredation by ship rats is thought to be the cause of the sudden declineIntensive |
| 36 Apr-00 | 16 | Marlborough | trapping of stoats had been sufficient to protect the birds because rats had almost never been recorded at this altitude on Mt Stokes. |
| | | | Kaka: Nelson Lakes National Park: Baseline research by DSIR/Landcare in Big Bush Conservation Area documented the previously appalling |
| | | | productivity of kaka there in the absence of predator control. Only 2 of 20 nesting attempts monitored over an 11-year period were successful, |
| | | | producing just 4 young. Over the same time period 4 of 7 radio-tagged females were killed on the nest by predators, probably stoats. Three |
| | | | season's data has now been collected since the beginning of predator control in the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project (RNRP) area In the first |
| | | | season of our study a poison bait-station grid was in place to control rats and possums, but, because Fenn trap-lines for stoats were not yet in |
| | | | place, we used aluminium tree 'bands' and a ring of Fenn traps around each nest to protect these from stoats. All four nests monitored that |
| | | | season were successful, fledging 12 young. While they seemed effective, the localised nest protection measures we used that season are |
| | | Nelson/ | relatively impractical because you need to know where the nests are before you can protect them. Once Fenn traplines were established we |
| 37 Jun -00 | 1 | Marlborough | stopped localised nest protection so that we could evaluate this more widely applicable method of stoat control in combination with the existing |

| | | | bait-station grid. Six of the 8 nesting attempts completed since the establishment of Fenn trap-lines have been successful. The 2 nests that failed |
|------------|----|-------------|--|
| | | | did so because of predation on nestlings and eggs, no female birds were killed. Even without including our first season's data, the difference |
| | | | between these results and the DSIR/Landcare data is so great that probability of it occurring by chance is only about 1 in 1000. To exclude the |
| | | | possibility that we had struck years of unusually low predator numbers we concurrently monitored kaka nesting success at Lake Rotoroa (20 km |
| | | | from the RNRP area) where there was no predator control. At the same time that most pairs were nesting successfully at Rotoiti, 9 of 10 nesting |
| | | | attempts at Lake Rotoroa failed due to predation on eggs, nestlings, or nesting females. The probability of this difference in nesting success |
| | | | between the RNRP area and Lake Rotoroa being due to chance is about 1 in 100. From the population perspective it is the predation of nesting |
| | | | females that is the most damaging. Last summer alone we lost 3 of 5 nesting females to predators at Lake Rotoroa. |
| | | Nelson/ | A local community group calling themselves the Friends of Flora have completed their first season of stoat control along 8km of the Flora Stream |
| 45 Jun-02 | 12 | Marlborough | with the intention of protecting all forest bird species with particular emphasis on blue duck. So far they have accounted for 17 stoats |
| | | Nelson/ | A local community group known as the Friends of Flora have established and run a stoat line over this winter along 8km of the Flora Stream with |
| 46 Sep -02 | 6 | Marlborough | the hope of protecting Blue Duck from stoats 13 stoats have been dispatched. |
| | | | A local initiative with commercial tourist operators and members of the Marahau community has seen the establishment of a long-term stoat |
| | | | control programme on the 87 ha Adele Island off the southern Abel Tasman NP coast. Work involved the construction of a loop track around the |
| | | Nelson/ | island, building and installing trap boxes, a month of prefeeding, and maintaining set traps. The island is within 1.2 kilometres of the mainland so |
| 49 Jun -03 | 13 | Marlborough | the traps will be tended indefinitely. This maintenance work will be undertaken by the local sea kayaking and water taxi companies |
| | | | Blue duck: Flora Stream: protection involves in excess of 50 kilometres of stoat lines. In addition to the work in the Flora Stream, the habitat of |
| | | | the three pairs contributing the eggs will also be protected from stoats, with the hope that they will re-nest and successfully raise their second |
| | | Nelson/ | clutch. A mountain of stoat tunnels is being created. The project builds on an existing community project with a keen group of locals calling |
| 50 Sep -03 | 12 | Marlborough | themselves "Friends of Flora". |
| | | Nelson/ | In order to conserve whio, 568 double stoat traps have been placed to protect 4,500 ha of the Flora Stream catchment from stoats. This involved |
| 52 Mar -04 | 17 | Marlborough | a massive job of trap tunnel construction and track cutting. |
| | | | The stoat trapping response in the Dart went off very well with just under 100 stoats caught. Stoat numbers were well down in the part of the |
| 36 Apr-00 | 19 | Otago | Catlins that was trapped. It seems possible that a recent AHB 1080 possum drop has impacted on stoat numbers. |
| | | | Between October 1999 and February 2000 mohua nest monitoring occurred in the Caples and Dart valleysThis was part of a stoat control |
| | | | studyThe Caples was used as the control site, where no predator control was carried outThere was a 69% success rate in the Caples and 80% in |
| 37 Jun -00 | 17 | Otago | the Dartreasons for these nest failures including floods, abandonment, predation, and long tail cuckoo parasitism |
| | | | Giant skinks: The predator control pressure at MacCraes is finally starting to have an impact with cat and ferret totals caught this year being |
| | | | substantially lower than last year. Overall we have removed at least 138 cats, 161 ferrets, 26 rats, 13 stoats, and 17 weasels from about 700 ha of |
| 39 Dec-00 | 14 | Otago | tussock grassland. This achievement has taken the efforts of 1.5 full time people. |
| | | | Trap lines for stoats in the Makarora Valley continue to catch stoats. Recently numbers are dropping off, and the rate of rat captures is increasing |
| | | | slightly. This work is a joint operation with the Upper Clutha Branch of Forest and Bird, which has developed a sponsorship package. For \$50 |
| 40 Mar-01 | 9 | Otago | individuals can purchase a tunnel and trap for inclusion in the line. Stoat numbers in the Dart remain high, but rat numbers are decreasing. |
| 40 Mar-01 | 9 | Otago | recently renewed traps on the islands in Lake Wakatipu. A subsequent check showed that 5 stoats had been caught |
| | | | recent checks of traps on Pig, Pigeon and Tree Islands in Lake Wakatipu revealed four stoats. At about the same time the traps along the |
| 41 Jun -01 | 11 | Otago | lakeshore caught 13 stoats. |

| | | | Predator trapping to protect mohua at Makarora by the Upper Clutha branch of Forest & Bird has continued over the summer. Stoat numbers are |
|------------|----|-----------|---|
| 48 Apr -03 | 13 | Otago | well down compared with the numbers caught last year |
| | | | Beech seed and rat and stoat numbers are all up in the Catlins Coastal Otago staff are developing an operational plan for the Catlins to be able to |
| | | | implement control work when funds become available. The size of the operational area (12,600 ha) makes the planning phase of the operation |
| | | | just as difficult as any operational actions. Our focus is the protection of the large number of mohua found here (c. 2,000 birds). The key threat to |
| 53 Jun -04 | 15 | Otago | plan for is stoat irruptions, but rats are also going to be part of the plan |
| | | | funds to deal with the stoat irruption predicted in the core mohua habitat this summernow finding contractors and laying out lines for tracks so |
| 54 Sep -04 | 14 | Otago | we can get the infrastructure in place well before the stoats are about this summer |
| | | | Various stoat control research projects have been carried out in the Eglinton Valley since 1990. Over the past 2 years continuous, low intensity |
| | | | stoat control has been undertaken using Mk VI Fenn traps. Trap sites are spaced at 200 m intervals along a 45 km line that runs the length of the |
| | | | valley, with a short line across the valley at the top and bottom. Each of the 198 sites consists of a wooden tunnel with two Fenn traps. Traps are |
| | | | baited with a hen's egg or/and a piece of meat. The trapline takes 1+ days to service and is usually checked monthlyThe effectiveness of this |
| | | | stoat control is evaluated by monitoring breeding and survival of colour-banded mohua and radio-tagged female kaka.1999 was a beech mast |
| | | | year, and a stoat population irruption occurred during the following summer in response to the huge increase in rodent numbers. The beech |
| | | | forest seeded heavily in 1999 and in 2000, and kaka breeding was widespread. Kaka in the Eglinton Valley generally start nesting in January when |
| | | | stoats are most abundant. In 1999 two nests failed at the chick stage owing to predation by either a stoat or possum. This season we lost three |
| | | | nests, one with eggs and two with chicks, and 2 females were killed probably by a stoat. All five nests that have been lost were the most distant |
| | | | from the traplineNo mohua fledged before juvenile stoats were being caught in the Fenn traps66% of nests fledged, 37% of females were lost |
| | | | but a stoat may have killed only one of these. An unusual feature of this breeding season was the high level of predation by ship rats - |
| | | | unrecorded in the Eglinton in previous 6 years of intensive nest monitoring It appears that stoat control carried out at this low intensity provides |
| | | | sufficient protection to markedly reduce stoat predation on breeding mohua and kaka Stoat control appears to be effective for mohua breeding |
| | | | because during the 1990 stoat irruption we lost 60% of females and nests in an untrapped area. This summer we may not have lost any nests to |
| | | | stoats, but the huge increase in rat numbers and the associated rat predation is a major concern. The Te Anau area has had two mild winters and |
| | | | there is some suggestion that this results in high rat populations in beech forest. High rat numbers have been recorded elsewhere in South Island |
| | | | beech forests this past summer – in areas where no stoat control has been undertaken. If a permanently higher rat population were a result of |
| | | | continual stoat trapping, there would be serious consequences for many bird species. It could be suggested that stoat trapping be initiated only |
| | | | following beech mast years, but for kaka, at least, stoat control would need to occur during the previous summer when beech flowering initiates |
| | | | widespread breeding. If some kaka breeding occurs in all years then continual stoat control is preferable, because we knew of no successful kaka |
| | | | nests in the Eglinton Valley before we initiated stoat control. To keep the stoat population at a low level with a low density of traps probably |
| | | | requires continual trapping. Further work is needed here on rat population dynamics in beech forests to determine whether lack of predators |
| 38 Sep -00 | 1 | Southland | means a larger irruption in mast years or if climate is the major influence. |
| | | | Blue Mountains mohua: 12 stoats were caught in 35,280 corrected trapnights (CTN). Over the five summers that the lines have been operated |
| | | | the number of stoats caught tallied 13, 6, 12, 5, and 12 respectively. Because of the extremely heavy beech seedfall of the preceding autumn and |
| | | | the predicted consequent mouse and stoat plague, a further three trap lines were installed in and about an area with a particularly high Mohua |
| | | | population. These lines were operated over November and December only and accounted for 11 stoats in 13,556.5 CTN. Given that the mouse |
| 38 Sep -00 | 13 | Southland | index trapping undertaken in November 1999 resulted in a 33-fold increase in numbers caught compared with any of the preceding 5 years, the |

| | 1 | | lack of a significant increase in the number of stoats caught was somewhat unexpected. Therefore one tends to the conclusion that for reasons |
|------------|----|------------|---|
| | | | unknown in the Blue Mountains there is a low population of stoats and/or that a stoat irruption does not necessarily follow a major beech mast |
| | | | year and a subsequent significant increase in mouse numbers. |
| | | | Te Kakahu Is: no sign of stoats was detected. The trap line on the adjacent mainland (a distance of 1100 m away) was checked again but not |
| | | | cleared and approximately 80% of the 108 traps set was still available to catch stoats. Only 5 stoats and a few rats were in the traps. This trap line |
| | | | was last cleared during February 2000. This is particularly encouraging, because even after a stoat plague year it looks as though two trap checks |
| | | | per year will be sufficient on the mainland. If no further sign of stoats has been detected on either the Passage Islands or Te Kakahu by February |
| | | | 2001 we expect to be able to say with some confidence that all stoats have been eradicated. By then the project will have been through |
| | | | consecutive stoat plague years on the mainland and two stoat breeding seasons on Te Kakahu, and it will have been 20 months since the last |
| 38 Sep -00 | 13 | Southland | stoat sign was recorded. Trained stoat dogs are also taken on each trip to Te Kakahu and have yet to find any sign there. |
| | | | Whio: Two of the three videoed nests have been visited by stoats and one also by a possum. A stoat destroyed one of the nests and the female |
| | | | survived, while the other female managed to defend her nest from a stoat and a possum although the stoat stole one egg. A third female was |
| | | | thought to have just begun incubating when she was killed, she was found pulled under a rock with stoat scats surrounding herthe impacts of |
| | | | stoats on whio[are] probably more serious than most expected. The impact is possibly worse this year than normal because of the mild winter |
| | | | and double beech mast, but the sex imbalance suggests that this has been an ongoing problem. A stoat trap line along the same design as the |
| 39 Dec-00 | 15 | Southland | Eglinton programme has recently been set up in the Clinton Catchment. |
| | | | Mohua: Numbers in Western Southlandweredown on last year. However, the numbers of stoats caught in the August trapping was higher than |
| 39 Dec-00 | 17 | Southland | the numbers last year. |
| | | | An experimental stoat control programme began in the Eglinton Valley during December 1997. The aim was to determine if low intensity, |
| | | | continuous stoat control could protect mohua and kaka from stoat predation. Consecutive beech mast events have produced consecutive stoat |
| | | | plagues. Ship rat numbers have also reached very high numbers following these two beech mast events. During the first stoat and rat plague |
| | | | (1999/00 summer) they recorded little if any predation of nesting mohua or kaka by stoats, however they recorded rats preving upon |
| | | | approximately 30% of nesting mohua. There was some concern that controlling stoats to low levels over an extended period in beech forest was |
| 12 Oct 01 | | Countblowd | contributing to this increase in rat numbers. If this is the case, it has serious implications for many of our stoat control programmes in beech |
| 42 Oct -01 | 14 | Southland | Torest. |
| | | | The Anchor Island project is part of the "Evaluating a low intensity stoat control regime on large inshore islands" project. The objective is to |
| | | | determine it stoats can be eradicated from an Island within stoat swimming range and then managed to a low enough level to allow threatened |
| | | | species to thrive. The eradication technique used was similar to that used on Te Kakanu but with less tracks and traps per nectare and less follow |
| | | | up checks. If this reduced level of effort is successful then it will be realistic to use this technique of much larger islands such as Secretary. |
| | | | Anchor Island lies at the mouth of Dusky Sound and is 1150 ha in size. The western end of the Island is an reasonably low forming country with some large tussesk areas near the higher points. There is a high point rising to just over 400m at the eastern and of the island. Vegetation |
| | | | comprises of mixed podocarp and beech forest. No sign of rodents have been recorded on the island. Anchor Island is 1250 metros from |
| | | | Resolution Island, which also has stoats. However there are a number of small stenning stone islands between both Resolution, the mainland |
| | 1 | | and Anchor Island. All of these islands have normanent stoat trans in place, making it very difficult for stoats to re-invade Anchor. Although long- |
| | | | term stoat free status is not the sole aim of this project, if achieved it does give us more confidence in the eradication technique. The part phase |
| 42 Oct -01 | 17 | Southland | of the research project will involve attempted eradication of stoats from an island much closer to the mainland (possibly Secretary) followed by |
| 42 OCI-01 | 1/ | Journanu | or the research project with involve attempted eradication of stoats from an island inden closer to the mainland (possibly Secretary) followed by |

| | | | introduction of a stoat-vulnerable species. Trapping began mid July to take advantage of the time of the year when stoats are most hungry. |
|------------|----|------------|---|
| | | | Tracks were cut on Anchor during May and June. A combination of aluminium, wire, and wooden trap tunnels were placed at 150m intervals |
| | | | along tracks, and pre-baited twice during June and July. Set Fenn traps with their safety catches on were placed in one quarter of these tunnels |
| | | | during the pre-baiting period to ensure that stoats were comfortable using the tunnels and would begin associating them with easy food. Traps |
| | | | were set in all tunnels on the 21 and 22 July, and were baited with meat or eggs. Eighteen stoats were captured in total, with seventeen of these |
| | | | captured after the first two nights. Stoat captures were spread evenly across the island. Of the eighteen stoats, twelve were females and six were |
| | | | males. At the end of this initial trapping session, all traps were left set and baited with eggs both inside and outside. A piece of beef was also left |
| | | | inside each tunnel. Traps were also left set on most of the large islands surrounding Anchor to ensure any animals living there are captured. The |
| | | | most significant difference between Anchor and Te Kakahu is the number of follow up trips. During the first year, traps on Anchor and the |
| | | | surrounding islands will be checked only twice (November and February), compared with every second month on Te Kakahu. The next check on |
| | | | Anchor will be November, when five tracking tunnel lines and trained stoat-detection dogs will be used to check for stoat presence. The results |
| | | | so far are very encouraging and a conclusive result should be available by February 2002. Although this project was primarily a research project, if |
| | | | successful it will provide another very valuable island, on which to restore some of Fiordland's wildlife. It will also have been achieved at a very |
| | | | minimal cost. |
| | | | Stoat traps were set on Anchor Island (1300 ha) in July 2001 after a three week pre-baiting period. Traps were checked twice during a six day trip |
| | | | in July. Nineteen stoats were caught during this initial trapping period. Traps were left baited and set after this first trip. A team returned to the |
| | | | island in November 2001 and found another three stoats in the traps. All of these stoats were very decomposed and had probably been caught |
| | | | for some time. The next trap service took place in February 2002 and no stoats were caught. If any females were still on the island we would have |
| | | | expected to catch some young animals. The island was checked again in May and again no stoats were caught. Anchor Island is 1250m from |
| | | | Resolution Island but there are four stepping stone islands in this stretch of water which provide resting places for stoats. Traps on Anchor Island |
| | | | and four stepping stone islands will be serviced twice annually from now. Clearing these islands of stoats is still very much experimental but |
| 45 Jun-02 | 19 | Southland | seems to be relatively straight-forward and low cost. However there will need to be ongoing servicing to maintain stoat free status |
| | | | 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 three [monitored chicks] were predated by stoats. During the |
| 48 Apr -03 | 15 | Southland | 2002/03 breeding season five were predated by stoats For the coming season the team aim toextend the trap line |
| | | | takahe in Fiordland: The 15000 ha stoat control block had all traplines (800 double trap sets) finally completed early last summer. Over the |
| | | | summer/autumn period, 122 stoats were taken out of the area. We are monitoring kiwi, mohua and takahe to assess the effectiveness of this |
| 49 Jun -03 | 22 | Southland | trapping programme. Mohua counts will be carried out both inside and outside the stoat control area each October. |
| 50 Sep -03 | 16 | Southland | Doubtful Islands in Lake Te Anau, putting out more stoat traps on Erin Island and the mainland. |
| | | | The summer servicing of the 15,000 ha stoat control block in the southeast sector of the Murchison Mountains will be completed over February. |
| 52 Mar -04 | 26 | Southland | All traps will be cleared and re-baited |
| 53 Jun -04 | 18 | Southland | autumn re-baiting of stoat traps within the 15,000 hectare stoat control block of the Murchison Mountains. |
| | | | 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 |
| 55 Dec -04 | 17 | Southland | upon in the non-trapped area |
| 43 Dec-01 | 7 | Tongariro/ | Tongariro Forest Kiwi Sanctuary: Evidence is mounting of an exceptionally good kill of possums and rats following the 20,000 ha September aerial |

| | | Таиро | 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. |
| | | Tongariro/ | North Island brown kiwi in the Tongariro Forest Kiwi Sanctuary: Planning is underway to move from one to large scale, low density stoat trapping |
| 47 Dec -02 | 8 | Таиро | at the site. |
| | | | Since 1 July 1999 we have caught only 26 stoats [in Kuaotunu Kiwi Sanctuary] The NZ Conibear traps, on their raised kiwi safe sets baited with |
| | | | raw fat, have been our best trap set. However, most of the stoats caught recently were in Fenn traps baited with plastic eggs. Wemay introduce |
| | | | other baits to the traps at intervals throughout the year to cater for any dietary variations a shipment of Fenn traps will be used to extend our |
| 37 Jun -00 | 8 | Waikato | trapping area to approximately 3500 ha. |
| | | | the contractor became quite enthused about kiwi protection[and] offered two of his staff for a day a week for 3 years to trap stoats for kiwi |
| | | | protection [volunteers and] key landowners then established the Whenuakite Kiwi Care Group. Waikato Regional Council has given financial |
| | | | support to purchase trap sets because the block is one of their key ecological sites. The contractor is currently working on placing trap sets |
| | | | throughout the block. The work should be completed and fully operational by the end of the year. This is a great example of what can happen in |
| 39 Dec-00 | 4 | Waikato | a short time when keen landowners, and regional and central government get together. |
| | | | Moehau Kiwi Zone: The first 4000 ha are underway with stoats appearing in traps from the first day of openingSummary of stoat catch this |
| 41 Jun -01 | 3 | Waikato | summer: November 1 December 24 January 17 February 10 March 7 April 3 |
| | | | Kiwi Zone: From the 4,000 hectares under a trapping regime at Moehau so far, we have killed nearly 100 stoatsA 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 |
| 42 Oct -01 | 5 | Waikato | relations work relating to setting traps off the ground to protect kiwi |
| | | | 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 |
| 44 Apr-02 | 5 | Waikato | intended. So far we have had three out of twelve chicks predated. |
| | | | The second kiwi breeding season since stoat trapping began in the Moehau Kiwi Sanctuary is underway. Staff are hopeful for a repeat |
| 46 Sep -02 | 3 | Waikato | performance of the chick survival of the previous breeding season (>75% survival). |
| | | | Port Charles Coromandel: joint effort between DOC, Ducks Unlimited, the Brown Teal Conservation Trust and the local community includes |
| 50 Sep -03 | 4 | Waikato | large areas of cat and stoat control |
| | | | Ten [kiwi] chicks have died this season; five from suspected mustelid (stoat or weasel) predationThis 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 |
| 53 Jun -04 | 4 | Waikato | weasels, however, and they may be responsible for some of the predation. |
| | | | Moehau Environment Group's workcurrently 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 25,000 ha by the end of 2004! 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 |
| 54 Sep -04 | 4 | Waikato | 299 in 2002/03 (1,500 traps). |
| 49 Jun -03 | 12 | Wanganui | Whio: Two males have been predated by stoats outside the mustelid control area. |
| | | | kiwi in Egmont National Park: action started this November with the installation of stoat traps over 4,500 ha of the park. This has been achieved |
| | | | through funding from the Wanganui Conservancy and the New Plymouth District Council. As funding allows, it is planned to expand the area of |
| 51 Dec -03 | 11 | Wanganui | stoat trapping to over 12,000 ha in the next 5 years. |
| 51 Dec -03 | 11 | Wanganui | A one-year trial predator control and monitoring study has started a line of stoat traps has been installed along one bank of the Manganui-a-te- |

| | | | ao. An angler reported a stoat attack on a duckling. Two females were killed by predators on the nestIt is hoped that further funding will be |
|------------|----|------------|--|
| | | | secures to expand stoat control to both sides of the river |
| | | | A major effort by the Stratford Area Office in January and February has seen the installation of 650 double set trap boxes over 4,000 ha of |
| | | | Egmont National Park. The project is a collaboration between the Department, the Taranaki Kiwi Trust and the Central North Island Blue Duck |
| 52 Mar -04 | 12 | Wanganui | Conservation Charitable Trust. The new traps are mainly DOC 200s, and a trial line of Thumper traps has also been established. |
| | | | Blue duck: Manganui-a-te-ao, a tributary of the Whanganui. Limited stoat control was put in place, with a single line of double set Fenn traps |
| 52 Mar -04 | 12 | Wanganui | along one side of the river. Of the nine nests that failed, two had females predated whilst incubating |
| 54 Sep -04 | 7 | Wanganui | kiwi in Egmont National Park: A 6,000 hectare stoat trapping operation is in place |
| | | | wild kaka Mt Bruce: The two natural nest sites were unsuccessful – one was breached by a stoat, which killed two chicks, and one nest was |
| 44 Apr-02 | 13 | Wellington | abandoned. Despite predator control over 75ha, two adults, two chicks and two fledglings have been lost; stoats look to be the main culprits. |
| | | | The biodiversity package has resulted in increased funding [and we can now] trial a large-scale stoat control programme over the entire known |
| | | | range of rowi (10,000 ha). Meetings with predator specialists have suggested that protecting rowi chicks over an area of this size using a |
| | | | traditional trapping regime is likely to be a challenging but realistic goal. It is intended that approximately 250 km of trap lines will be established |
| 39 Dec -00 | 11 | West Coast | with about 1500 tunnels containing Fenn traps at 200 m spacing along the lines. |
| | | | kiwi: 16 rodent index lines installed. Rimu seedfall is being monitored, and the track system for the stoat control project is under construction. |
| 40 Mar -01 | 8 | West Coast | The stoat control project will be fully operational by the first week in June in readiness for the upcoming breeding season. |
| | | | The Landsborough Valley near Haast holds the best remnant population of mohua on the West Coast. Beech seedfall counts indicated that a |
| | | | beech mast event would occur during the summer of 2000-2001. In response to this, South Westland Area established a stoat control line |
| | | | through the core mohua habitat in the valley during November 2000. The trapline consists of 93 timber tunnels with double set Mark IV Fenn |
| | | | traps, baited with a single hen egg. The line was checked monthly from November 2000 to April 2001, and again in July 2001. Over this period, a |
| | | | total of 91 stoats, three ship rats and one mouse were caught. Of the stoats caught, 41% were female, 49% were male. Approximately 60% of the |
| | | | animals caught were classed as juveniles (less than four months old) and the remaining c. 40% adults. This trapping regime will continue |
| 42 Oct -01 | 12 | West Coast | throughout the year. |
| | | | This is also our first breeding season with the increased project. The aim this year is to monitor the survival of 30 rowi chicks in South Okarito |
| | | | Forest in conjunction with a stoat trapping programextra funding from the kiwi zones, has given us the freedom to pursue our ultimate goal of |
| | | | kiwi protection in the wild. The stoat trapping program, which covers an area of 10,000+ ha, is now completely installed and has been running |
| | | | since early June. It was a mammoth task, involving the installation of 200 km of cut tracks and 1500 tunnels and fenn traps. The results in terms |
| 42 Oct -01 | 13 | West Coast | of dead stoats are certainly impressive. The first two checks yielded about 170 stoats. |
| | | | The Haast tokoeka: The stoat control is in full swing and the captures so far have been low, since 19 June 2001, 57 stoats have been caught. We |
| | | | are hopeful this low number is a reflection on the number of stoats present in the forest. We expect numbers to increase as young stoats start to |
| | | | disperse. The core stoat control area is just under 12,000 ha, and including the perimeter and buffer, there are 615 tunnels. Other monitoring |
| 43 Dec -01 | 14 | West Coast | currently being set up includes rodent and stoat monitoring using 15 lines with ten tunnels per line. |
| | | | Okarito Kiwi Zone: Of the 22 chicks detected, eight are still surviving in the wild Fourteen have been found dead, and 12 of these are confirmed |
| | | | predation There have been 446 stoats caught since trapping beganand there was an increase in the number of captures on the buffer during |
| 44 Apr -02 | 19 | West Coast | December and January that coincided with increased mortality of rowi chicks. |
| 45 Jun -02 | 13 | West Coast | This represents the first significant natural recruitment [of rowi] since the program began in the early 1990sIt 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. It is hoped that as the program goes on stoat numbers will continue to lower as |
| | | | trapping techniques are fine tuned |
| | | | 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 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%) although this will not be confirmed until the November tracking session is completed. 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 |
| 46 Sep -02 | 8 | West Coast | 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. |
| | | | 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. The plague of stoats has also caused the postponement of the planned February release of 50 |
| 48 Apr -03 | 12 | West Coast | juvenile pateke (brown teal). |
| | | | Whio: staff worked long hours to establish 25 kilometres of stoat traps along the Oparara, Nimrodel and Postal rivers. To date, 59 stoats have |
| 49 Jun -03 | 18 | West Coast | been caught. During June 2003, an additional 16 kilometres of trap lines are going in, giving more complete coverage of the area. |
| | | | The stoat control line in the Landsborough Valley has recently been extended down to Harper Flat, just above the confluence with the Clarke |
| | | | River. There are now 189 tunnels with two traps per tunnel in the valley, with 41 of these on the recent extension. On the last few trips it has |
| | | | been extremely encouraging to notice that mohua are more abundant; the results of November's mohua monitoring confirm this abundance. We |
| | | | heard an average of 1.03 mohua per five minute bird count, a total of 183 mohua. This is a very positive result compared to the previous |
| | | | averages of 0.60 in 2002 and 0.52 in 1998. Following a beech mast in 2000 and corresponding stoat plague in 2001, stoat numbers have steadily |
| 52 Mar -04 | 21 | West Coast | declined in 2002/03. Seven stoats were caught over a 10 week period this year compared with 23 from the same period in 2001 |
| | | | rowi chicks have hatched in the [Oakarito] Sanctuary: There has been no predation of chicks as yet and rat and stoat numbers are low compared |
| 55 Dec -04 | 15 | West Coast | to recent years |