

# Sanctuary Operational Plan 2022

## Objectives

- To prepare the Sanctuary habitat for tieke by maintaining plant and animal pests at zero to low densities and monitor outcomes.
- Aim for Sanctuary tracking tunnel average of less than 10%
- To expand Sanctuary area
- To improve cost effectiveness of project by utilising less labourintensive methodology wherever possible.
- To maintain the range of monitoring undertaken and to produce quality data.
- To continue cat trap sensed technology in the Sanctuary and monitor effectiveness
- To catch up on track maintenance and weed programme
- To tie down all boxes
- To review spacing between stations and remove extra (winter job)
- To add traps to Taumata pest management programme ( March)

## Pest Managed Areas

Rat/mice management programme – monthly station checks in LWH, BH, TR and quarterly checks in RB, Taumata, and BW. Monthly checks on perimeter track BW and RB.

Trap bait – to limit bait take from ants over summer months use macademia nuts or licorice.

Aim to achieve rat tracking tunnel annual average of 10% or less. Record all catches of mice, kiore, or ship rat.

**Little Windy Hill (LWH)** – 50% stations in 100 grams of diphacene, 50% traps at 25m spacing on internal tracks, 12.5m spacing on perimeter tracks - monthly check.  
Objective – Keep tracking tunnels below 10%

**Benthorn Farm Bush (BHB)** – 50% traps, 50 % x 100 grams diphacene at 25m spacing on internal tracks, 12.5m spacing on perimeter tracks – monthly check  
Objective - Keep tracking tunnels below 10%

**Benthorn Farm Paddock (BHP)** – 100% traps at 25m spacing – fortnightly check  
Objective – maintain low tracking tunnel rates with trapping only.

**Rosalie Bay (RB)** – Perimeter 50% stations 100 grams diphacene, 50 % traps at 12.5 m spacing in tree checked quarterly. Perimeter track checked monthly. Internal 100% stations 100gram bait checked three monthly – Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct.  
Objective – Keep tracking tunnels below 10%.

**Big Windy (BW)** –; Perimeter 50% stations 100 grams diphacene, 50 % traps at 12.5 m spacing in tree checked quarterly. Perimeter track checked monthly. Internal 100% stations 100gram bait checked three monthly– Feb, May, Aug, Nov.  
Objective – Keep tracking tunnels below 10%.

**Taumata (T)** - 100% stations 100gram diphacene bait checked three monthly – Mar, June, Sept, Dec. From March add rat traps (if funding allows) to alternate with bait station at 25m spacing. Station Check regime to be decided.

**Tryphena Ridge (TR)** – 100 % stations in Diphacene - knock down rats for 3 months. From May 50% stations in 100 grams of diphacene, 50% traps at 25m spacing on internal tracks, 12.5m spacing on perimeter tracks - monthly check.

## **Other Pests**

### ***Pigs***

Maintain pressure on pig densities by reporting pig sign to Dean and hunting as soon as possible after sighting.

### ***Cats***

Pulse cat trapping in all areas throughout the year for 1/2 weeks monthly rotating areas. Continue trial of 20 Econode cat sensor traps in Taumata - #7 to be relocated for better signal.

Replace broken traps with new double ended design.

### ***Wasps***

February (or when clear wasps are active) – activate 420 wasp stations for period of 3 days then repeat in 1 week.

Report wasp's nests on a sheet and treat with Carbaryl.

### ***Weeds – Designated weed team to catch up on weed programme***

Familiarise field team members with weeds – put up weed chart in shed.

Employ weed team - Follow up on weeds identified in Auck City Weed Survey. Find and remove.

Continue weed programme at Taumata.

Monitor honeysuckle on Rosalie Bay Farms. (Dave)

Remove wilding pines in Rosalie Bay and on Dodds property on RB Rd. (Winter)

Remove plectranthus and aristeia from (around A frame) and Mexican devilweed where seen.

Remove/spray/treat pampas with pellets as seen.

Remove Mexican daisy when seen – flowering. (Rose, Rachel)

Remove or spray aristeia at Gilbert/Scrimgeour and on Benthorn driveway.

Remove agapanthus from Scrimgeour.

Remove Watsonia as seen.

## **Monitoring**

### ***Rat Tracking Tunnels 4 x per annum***

160 tracking tunnels – 125 in Managed area – 35 in unmanaged area

Monitor overnight in first week of Feb, May, Aug, and November.

### ***Birds***

December – participate in island wide bird monitoring programme.

Seabirds – GF petrel – set up cameras on nesting area.

Replace and reestablish bird caller in spring

### ***Weta, Lizard, Invertebrate, Seedlings***

Refresh Onduline Motels - clear around and reset

Monitor 10 Lizard, 9 Lizard boxes, and 10 Weta motels in **May** and **November**. Count and identify invertebrates in Lizard motels. Move wooden lizard boxes with ant nests to more suitable sites. GPS.on BW to WH..

Report chevron skink sightings to DoC.

Seedling Plots – every five years.

## **Trials**

Continue trial of EcoNode Sensored Cat traps in Taumata.

Silvereye Protection trial – evaluate reduction of silvereye mortality in traps by trialing tunnel in front of trap entrance. Monitor for casualties using macadamia nuts and licorice.

Stoat Lures – set up in stations on perimeter – 50 stations – all traps, every second station has lure. Record captures Jan – March.

## **Field Maintenance**

Employ additional team member for track and weed maintenance. Establish priorities for track maintenance.

Replace broken traps or boxes. Tie down.

Carry out rope audit of existing ropes and replace ropes that are old.

Clear farm track Taumata – March.

## **Field Base**

Maintain shed in orderly and efficient manner. Cory.

Keep radios charged and operational/ 4 plus a spare. Replace broken radio.

Daily field team location board kept up to date.

First aid kits up to date and taken in backpacks.

Chainsaws and trimmer kept maintained.

Up to date inventory to ensure timely ordering of new equipment.

Rubbish disposed of.

Old bait in composting worm farms.

## **OSH**

Outdoor First Aid Course – Kev/Cory refresher. Course for new employees

Chainsaw and Growsafe course as required.

Monthly toolbox meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Mon or Tues of every month.

Bi-Monthly OSH Hazard review and Emergency Procedure refresh.

Complete low risk accident ledger for all non-serious accidents.

Ensure accident forms are completed if required.