



ISSUE 1 • 2019

THE MEG-A-PHONE

A Newsletter from Moehau Environment Group

TREEmendous Planting Day at Coromandel Area School

Coromandel Area School were one of 5 lucky NZ schools to receive TREEmendous funding to the tune of \$10,000 this year, through Project Crimson Trust and The Mazda Foundation. The money will be used to create an outdoor classroom allowing students to learn about biodiversity and conservation right in the school grounds.

MEG staff and volunteers joined forces with teachers, students, parents and other members of the community to firstly prepare the selected area and then again for the planting day.

A huge amount of work was achieved in a very short time and stage 1 of planting is now complete (check out the before and after pictures below...).

We can't wait to see this project, and the plants, grow and to be involved in educating our Tamariki in their new outdoor classroom!



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Coast to Coast Possum Operation



Our possum control operation, run through November and December, finished just in time for the Xmas break. The post monitoring was completed in early February with both the Paeroa (near Big Bay) and Knox blocks (Northern Waikawau Bay) showing a big reduction in possum numbers, from 35% to 2.4% in Paeroa block and 46% to 10% in the Knox block. Good news for our native birds and trees!

Through March/April, in addition to our regular stoat trapping across the northern peninsula and rat trapping in the Waikawau Wetland area, we are focusing on upgrading the infrastructure in the Rat Attack Project area and undertaking some focused weed control in Port Charles.



MEG 2019 Summer Holiday Programme



The MEG annual Summer Holiday Programme was successful yet again, with 18 activities run through January 2019. Kicking off on Jan 2nd at Keltic Fair in Coromandel town, with our cute 'Have a Pic with a Kiwi' fundraiser. Other activities included; Up Close Kiwi Encounter, Nocturnal Walk, Build a Wētā Motel, Rongoā Māori - Traditional Medicinal & Edible Plants, Bounty Hunter, Meet a Gecko, Kiwi by Night, Starlight Cinema, Zero Waste Talk and Karetao Pūoro - Māori Puppetry.

This is one of our major fundraisers and the perfect way to help people engage with the environment...

"No one will protect what they don't care about and no one will care about what they have never experienced." - Sir David Attenborough



NZ Sea Week - Kaupapa Moana

Thalassophile

(n.) a lover of the sea, someone who loves the sea, ocean.

We had a fantastic time celebrating NZ Sea Week (2-10 March) with both Coromandel Area and Colville Schools by participating in a beach clean-up. It was surprising, in both instances, how a seemingly clean looking and well cared for beach can harbour an astounding amount of rubbish, when you look hard enough! The 'popular' items included; mussel rope, soft bait lures, shot gun cartridges and wads, pegs and lolly-pop sticks. The 'un-popular' items included a disposable nappy and a car wheel! Thanks to Coromandel Four Square, the children got to enjoy a refreshing ice block for their efforts.



Predator Free Peninsulas!



Late last year we launched a new initiative around Coromandel town - 'Predator Free Wyuna Peninsula' and 'Predator Free Preeces Point Peninsula'. The aim is to increase backyard trapping in these areas to protect kiwi and other native birds, invertebrates and flora, through a coordinated neighbourhood approach.

Initial contact was made via a flyer drop in the area, to which interested residents responded. We've created a database and supplied information on different trapping options. Once traps are ordered and installed we can map their locations and identify where any gaps are.

Once up and running, these projects will enhance our Coromandel Kiwi Project and add to the kiwi protection corridor that runs from the Northern Coromandel to Coromandel town.

If you're a property owner or resident in these areas and you want to get on board the backyard trapping movement, then get in touch!



Catch Data For Target Species



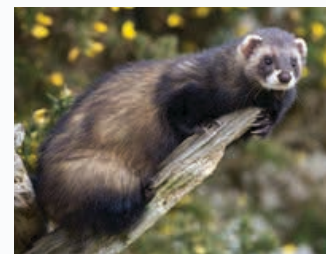
Stoat
2019 - 59
Project Total - 2230



Weasel
2019 - 23
Project Total - 858



Rat
2019 - 427
Project Total - 15,616



Ferret
2019 - 1
Project Total - 3

Sponsor a Stoat Trap

Would you like to sponsor a stoat trap within our kiwi sanctuary? Well you can! For just \$65 per year you can help provide protection for kiwi chicks in the wild. You'll receive a certificate, a map showing the location of your trap and the catch data for the sponsorship year. Not to mention lots of warm fuzzies!

Thanks to our Volunteers, Members, Sponsors & Funding Partners...



Would you like to be one of our Corporate Sponsors?
Email us at info@meg.org.nz



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