

# Ranger Report

## January 2021

With the holidays over we are straight back into it.

As I'm sure your aware we have a new practicum student (Sherry) who has started with us in the last couple of weeks. She has taken to the field work with gusto getting stuck into our traplines and is looking forward to helping with the upcoming release. Our vollies Peter, Fiona and Vicky helped us prep the burrows for the kiwi release as well as clearing the logging track to make the walk in with the kiwi boxes much easier. While clearing the logging track we have found the river heading towards the weir has brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) present, this an introduced species which predate on native fish and has led to their rapid decline. This is an issue we will need to address.

The field day with Glen was informative and we are currently making the little changes he has suggested to our traplines. As with predator trapping it is a constant evolving method and making little changes here and there can make a difference in catch rate.

Our trapping data to date for this year is a lot lower compared to last year (see tables). We are finding that there is less caught across all traplines. Spring and summer are usually the seasons where we have a higher catch rate due to pest species being more active.

### Trap data summary 2021:

| MONTH   | WEASEL | STOAT | RAT | CAT | HEDGEHOG | POSSUM | FERRET |
|---------|--------|-------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|
| JANUARY | 0      | 1     | 25  | 4   | 2        | 5      | 0      |
| YTD     | 0      | 1     | 25  | 4   | 2        | 5      | 0      |

Table 1: Trap data to date. (some data still coming)

### Comparison to this time last year:

Table 2: 2021-2020 data comparison.

| PEST        | THIS YTD | LAST YEAR |
|-------------|----------|-----------|
| WEASEL      | 0        | 0         |
| STOAT       | 1        | 9         |
| RAT         | 25       | 55        |
| CAT         | 4        | 0         |
| HEDGEHOG    | 2        | 3         |
| POSSUM      | 5        | 7         |
| FERRET      | 0        | 0         |
| TOTAL PESTS | 37       | 74        |