

Kiwi Link

HVA Annual Report

July 2025



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Background

The vision of Kiwi Link is “Flourishing flora and fauna, with abundant kiwi roaming safely between Taraunui and Ngunguru Ford by 2036”.

Community-led conservation groups involved in Kiwi Link have worked together since 2017 to protect and restore native biodiversity between Taraunui and Ngunguru Ford in eastern Whangarei.

This project is named the ‘Kiwi Link’, as the primary goal is to rebuild kiwi populations and connect the kiwi strongholds of the Whangarei Heads peninsula and the Tutukaka Coast.

Initially, Kiwi Link involved eight projects working together over 13,624ha. This has grown to a coordinated network of 11 community-led groups and conservation projects. The combined project area has now increased to approximately 15,000 hectares. Map 2 shows the location of the group and project areas.

This report summarises the results and achievements of the Kiwi Link HVA from July 1 2024 – June 30 2025.

Community-led groups and Conservation projects involved in Kiwi Link:

Glenbervie Landcare

Harris Rd Area Landcare

Kohinui Stream Landcare

Manulife Whanui Project

Ngunguru Ford Landcare

NRC Mt Tiger Forestry Block

Owhiwa Landcare

Pataua North Landcare

Taraunui Landcare

Taheke Landcare

Whareora Landcare

As Kiwi Link grows, it seeks to further strengthen relationships with hapū and iwi and work in partnership to revitalise the native wildlife, forests, wetlands, and coastal systems of the area. The growing relationships with Ngāti Kahu o Torongare, Ngāti Korora, Ngāti Takapiri, Te Parawhau, Te Waiariki and Ngātiwai are greatly cherished. It is hoped that we can continue to deepen these connections and work further with tāngata whenua as opportunities emerge.



Activities

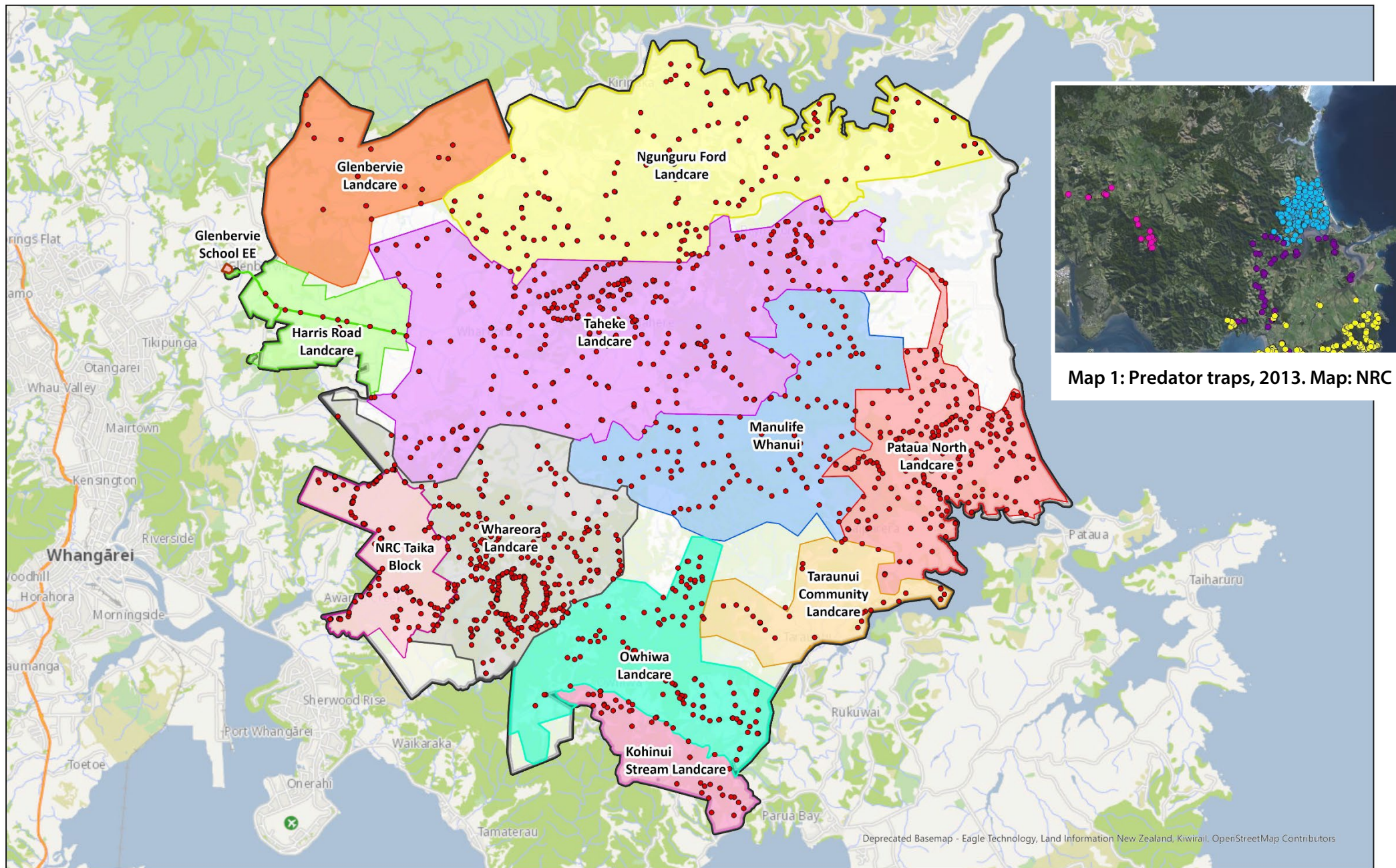
Over the past 12 months
Kiwi Link has:

- Worked together as communities and land managers to restore native flora and fauna between Taraunui and Ngunguru Ford.
- Deployed new predator traps and bait stations to expand and fill gaps in the ever-growing predator control network.
- Coordinated animal and plant pest operations with willing landowners for maximum efficiency and effectiveness.
- Protected and grown the small remnant kiwi populations.
- Tracked the survival, dispersal and breeding success of released kiwi.
- Implemented robust outcome monitoring measures to track progress towards goals.
- Supplied landowners with resources to help them operate at their full potential.
- Supported each group involved with sustained professional predator control.
- Motivated and empowered further landowners to actively get involved
- Worked collaboratively with mana whenua, Kiwi Coast, Northland Regional Council, Department of Conservation, QEII National Trust, Predator Free 2050 and neighbouring projects to progress the creation of New Zealand's first kiwi corridor.

Animal and plant pest species controlled through the Kiwi Link project area includes:

Animal pests
Possums
Rodents
Mustelids
Feral cats
Feral pigs
Myna
Magpies
Hedgehogs
Wasps

Plant pests
Banana passionfruit
Climbing asparagus fern
Elaeagnus
Jasmine
Moth plant
Pampas
Queen of the Night
Small and large-leaved privet
Smilax
Taiwan Cherry
Tradescantia
Wild ginger
Wilding pine
Woolly nightshade



Map 2: Kiwi Link HVA Groups & Predator Traps, 2025. Map: Biospatial

Financial Summary

A breakdown of expenditure of the NRC's HVA \$131,240 contribution to Kiwi Link over the past financial year is provided in Appendix 1.

NRC's contribution represented approximately 16% of the total project value. This core funding was increased six-fold, with a total of \$800,960 resourcing Kiwi Link operations and activities over the past year (see Table 1).

Tahi Estate was the single largest contributor, followed by unpaid labour provided by local landowners (costed at \$30/hour) totalling \$185,851. The Kiwi Coast Trust also supplied resources and support worth \$45,395.

Other financial contributions were made by the Predator Free Whangarei Project, QEII National Trust, Manulife Forest Managers, Airzone, Martin Trust and generous local sponsors keen to help and be involved (see Figure 1).

The Department of Conservation also provided in-kind support - assisting with predator trapping, kiwi releases and monitoring.

Figure 1: Kiwi Link Financial Summary & Contributions, 2024 - 2025

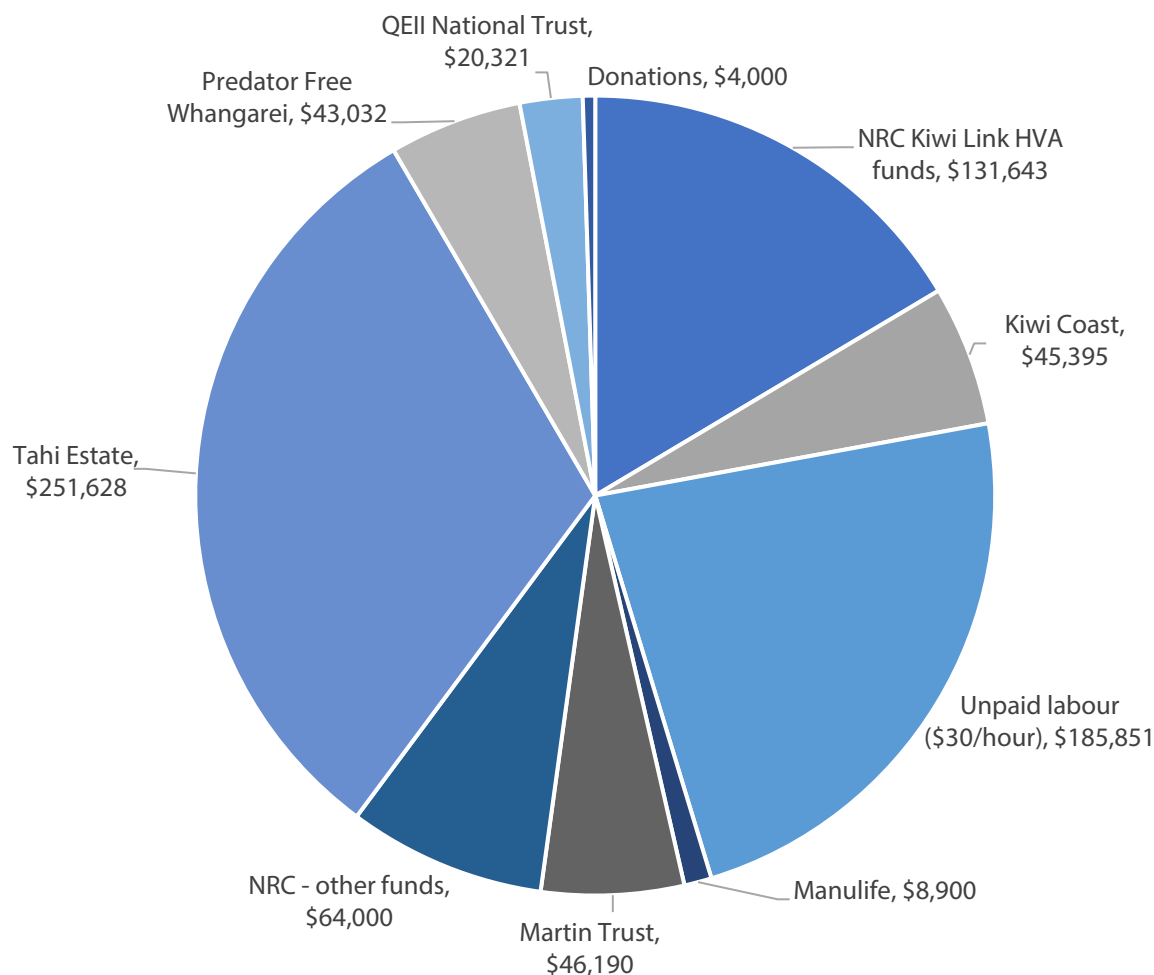


Table 1: Kiwi Link HVA Financial Summary & Contributions 1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025 (excl. GST)

Activity	NRC Kiwi Link HVA funds	Kiwi Coast	Unpaid labour (\$30/hour)	Manulife	Martin Trust	NRC - other funds	Tahi Estate	Predator Free Whangarei	QEI National Trust	Donations	Totals
Administration / Project Management	\$12,967	\$11,250	\$9,540	\$0	\$1,050	\$0	\$0	\$1,728	\$0	\$4,000	\$40,535
Animal Pest Control - labour	\$47,220	\$0	\$124,920	\$8,000	\$14,500	\$18,000	\$77,236	\$16,420	\$0	\$0	\$306,296
Plant Pest Control - labour	\$0	\$0	\$22,050	\$0	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$46,285	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$101,335
Pest Control Products - toxins, traps, herbicides	\$25,407	\$1,645	\$3,351	\$0	\$3,595	\$10,000	\$19,735	\$23,800	\$4,428	\$0	\$91,961
Planting	\$0	\$0	\$2,970	\$0	\$4,545	\$0	\$108,373	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$115,888
Engagement, Communications & Workshops	\$8,745	\$10,750	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$864	\$15,893	\$0	\$36,752
Monitoring	\$34,631	\$9,750	\$11,600	\$900	\$7,500	\$18,000	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$0	\$82,601
Other	\$2,673	\$12,000	\$10,920	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,593
TOTALS	\$131,643	\$45,395	\$185,851	\$8,900	\$46,190	\$64,000	\$251,628	\$43,032	\$20,321	\$4,000	\$800,960

See Appendix 2 for further details.

Objectives

Kiwi Link HVA has progressed all five of its key objectives:

1 Enable groups to carry out efficient and effective integrated animal and plant pest control

Kiwi Link budget priority was given to ensuring professional predator trappers under contract to Kiwi Coast were resourced to complete all trapping rounds for each project to complement the unpaid pest control work of the many landowners involved.

Continuing to build the skills and the capacity of landowners was also a priority. Resources provided upon request to groups included

traps, lures, toxins, bait stations, herbicides, monitoring tools and safety equipment. The Kiwi Link Coordinator provided technical and health and safety advice to all landowners and group leads as products were received or distributed.

Thanks to increased funding from NRC, all landowner requests for animal and plant pest control products were met.



Kohinui Stream Landcare and NRC Predator Free Whangarei prepare toxin for coordinated 2024 knockdown. Photo: Kiwi Link

2 Complete a continuous predator control network

The Kiwi Link predator trap network targeting feral cats and mustelids (weasels, stoats and ferrets) has been continually expanded, linked and infilled since the project began.

There is now an extensive collaborative predator trap network covering the 15,000ha project area. Predator traplines of neighbouring projects are back-to-back in many places, ensuring predators have optimal opportunity to encounter devices across the landscape. Maps 1 and 2 show the considerable progress made to date.

Kiwi Link is also at the core of a wider 60,000ha Mustelid Suppression Network supported by Predator Free Whangarei. A key focus of the network has been infilling and extending bait station lines with private landowners, QEII covenantors, exotic forest managers and community groups. Great progress has been made, but there is considerable work to do to make a continuous bait station network a reality.

3 Coordinate animal and plant pest control operations to maximise efficiencies and biodiversity gains

Each winter, special emphasis is put on a coordinated pest knockdown with willing landowners via a controlled toxin pulse to reduce pest populations at scale. Different toxins continue to be pulsed and cycled to ensure that pest control remains effective and biodiversity goals can be achieved

Thanks to dedicated expert technical support from the NRC Biosecurity Team, over the last three years, 10 community-led 1080 pulses have been implemented using fixed bait station networks. These have occurred as 2 - 3 yearly pulses over a collective area of 5,750ha at strategic locations within the 15,000ha project area.

Controlled pulses of toxins with secondary poisoning effects, such as 1080 or brodifacoum, are crucial for the control of untrappable pests that are unwilling to interact with traps. Over time as numbers of untrappable pests build up in an area, attempting to control pests by trapping alone becomes ineffective.

The removal of trap-shy pests, especially predators such as stoats, will have greatly increased the breeding success of native wildlife. As stoats predate 95% of kiwi chicks in areas where there is no, or ineffective, management of mustelids, such operations are critical to re-building Kiwi Link's kiwi population.

4 Rebuild Robust and Resilient Kiwi Populations

Kiwi Link utilised a multi-pronged approach to rebuild kiwi numbers and ensure populations are genetically robust.

Firstly, the breeding success and survival of existing kiwi were protected and enhanced with intensive professional predator control and secondary toxin pulses at key sites.

Kiwi Link also worked with Backyard Kiwi, Kiwi Coast, DOC and Northland Regional Council to support kiwi releases into Owhiwa.

Four kiwi from the Matakohe-Limestone Island creche were released into Owhiwa in 2025. The subsequent monitoring of these kiwi via leg-fitted radio transmitters has enabled their survival, dispersal and breeding success to be followed (see Appendix 4).

The fresh genetics brought into Kiwi Link by the released kiwi will help to ensure the genetic robustness and long-term viability of the area's kiwi populations.

The telemetry monitoring also generates opportunities to share kiwi stories, which increases understanding of the need for quality pest control and engages local landowners in dedicated dog control. This is key to ensuring Kiwi Link kiwi will thrive into the future.

5 Improve Coordination and Effectiveness of Plant Pest Control

A potential negative effect of animal pest control is an increase in plant pests as browsing of foliage decreases and more pest plant seeds are dispersed by an increased number of birds. Groups involved in Kiwi Link continued their plant pest control, targeting the most pervasive weeds as a priority.

Landowners tackled Taiwan Cherry, ginger, climbing asparagus, pampas, banana passionfruit, jasmine, moth plant, queen of the night, privets and woolly nightshade.

In the past 12 months alone, landowners and managers contributed \$101,335 of plant pest control labour in addition to the HVA funds. This demonstrates the huge amount of effort going into the Kiwi Link area to keep invasive plant pests at bay.

In particular, considerable effort and resources were put into controlling invasive plants within the pine forests managed by the Martin Trust and NRC and across the Tahi Estate at Pataua North.



Moth plant flowers and pods. Photo: Whareora Landcare

Communication & Engagement

The **Kiwi Link** website and Facebook page continues to showcase the project and help landowners find out about local ecological information and how they can get involved.

Kiwi Link had a stall at the Backyard Kiwi release and had info and maps on display at the Whangarei Summer Show and Northland Field Days. This helped to share information and engage further local landowners in the project.

The Kiwi Release with Backyard Kiwi at Parua Bay in March 2025 was attended by approximately 375 people. This gave Kiwi Link landowners an opportunity to briefly meet kiwi up close, increasing their understanding of how to help kiwi thrive and the importance of sustained trapping and toxin pulses for the survival of kiwi and other native wildlife.

Supporting and engaging local dog owners to keep their canine companions safe and secure is essential. Uncontrolled dogs remain the biggest threat to adult Northland kiwi and can quickly undo years of hard work.

‘Kiwi Live Here – Please Control Your Dog’ signs were supplied to landowners and land managers throughout Kiwi Link upon request.



Parua Bay Kiwi Release Event led by Backyard Kiwi. **Above:** Ping the kiwi at her evening release. Photos: Carlyn Condon

Monitoring

All scheduled monitoring has been completed.

Animal Pests

All Kiwi Link projects recorded their trap catches and submitted their results to Kiwi Coast as part of the annual collation of Northland data.

During 2024, Kiwi Link groups and projects trapped a further 10,387 animal pests (Table 2). Collating the trap catch data gathered since Kiwi Link began shows that a total of 67,388 pests have been trapped since 2017 (Table 3).

Outcome monitoring (e.g. Five Minute Bird Counts) shows the removal of tens of thousands of roaming animal pests has helped to restore birdsong to the once near-silent forests across the Kiwi Link area.

Professional pig control also supported projects where extensive damage to forest floors and endangered native snail populations (e.g. *Amborhytida dunni*) had become persistent.

The NRC Biosecurity team helped to coordinate feral pig control across the Kiwi Link HVA, working with local and professional hunters to ensure high Health and Safety standards, Kiwi Aversion Training for the hunting dogs and Kauri Dieback Disease spread prevention measures were all rigorously observed.



Table 2: Kiwi Link Trap Catch Data by Group or Project 2024

Note: Trap catch results only - actual tally will be higher as does not include pests controlled with toxins

Group or Project	Possums	Rats	Ferrets	Stoats	Weasels	Feral Cats	Wild Rabbits & Hares	Feral Pigs	Magpie	Myna	Hedgehog	Mice	Other catches	Total
Harris Road Area Landcare	117	57	0	0	3	2	41	0	0	0	0	21	0	241
Hillbilly Trappers	132	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	217
Kohinui Stream Landcare	275	654	0	4	1	3	21	0	1	6	13	118	0	1,096
Glenbervie Landcare	42	73	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	10	0	0	131
Glenbervie Pest Control	142	137	0	6	7	4	3	0	0	3	12	9	0	323
Mangahui Road Landowners	52	26	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	83
Manulife Whanui Project	91	179	0	19	21	3	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	324
Ngunguru Ford Rd & Sandspit	52	197	0	20	25	7	5	0	0	0	7	0	2	315
NRC Taika Block	40	33	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	80
Owhiwa Landcare	746	426	0	22	2	10	32	0	0	19	9	22	7	1,295
Pataua North Landcare	568	676	0	26	38	1	326	1	0	8	42	68	0	1,754
Pataua Farms Est.	8	13	0	1	8	0	1	0	0	0	4	3	0	38
Taraunui Landcare	10	208	0	3	17	0	12	0	0	0	5	1	2	258
Taheke Land Care	893	639	0	18	48	5	20	38	0	0	13	46	0	1,720
Whareora Landcare	1258	808	0	14	31	26	57	8	9	6	26	257	12	2,512
Totals	4,426	4,201	0	135	206	62	522	47	10	42	158	555	23	10,387

Table 3: Kiwi Link Trap Catch Data Summary, 2017 – 2024

Note: Trap catch results only - actual tally will be higher as does not include pests controlled with toxins

Year	Possums	Rats	Ferrets	Stoats	Weasels	Feral Cats	Wild Rabbits & Hares	Feral Pigs	Magpie	Myna	Hedgehog	Mice	Other catches	Total
2016	*Project began October 2016 - no pest control data for this year													
2017	3,692	2,379	1	164	127	48	111	71	11	115	210	291	17	7,237
2018	2,535	2,607	0	178	134	46	69	99	26	76	183	208	83	6,244
2019	2,641	2,761	0	125	103	58	186	224	30	74	210	162	22	6,596
2020	3,843	2,313	0	106	95	67	395	144	7	66	230	102	4	7,372
2021	4,795	3,584	0	86	66	98	259	135	31	23	293	118	21	9,509
2022	3,672	3,171	0	102	93	90	248	66	34	22	230	319	39	8,086
2023	5,456	5,305	0	146	104	63	136	64	22	12	172	461	16	11,957
2024	4,426	4,201	0	135	206	62	522	47	10	42	158	555	23	10,387
Grand Totals	31,060	26,321	1	1,042	928	532	1,926	850	171	430	1,686	2,216	225	67,388



Kiwi

Kiwi are monitored in two ways across the Kiwi Link project:

- annual kiwi call listening to measure presence and population trends
- by following a small number of kiwi fitted with transmitters to measure breeding, activity and dispersal.

Data from these kiwi monitoring methods over the past 12 months show that Kiwi Link kiwi are surviving, breeding and dispersing successfully.

Annual Kiwi Call Count Survey

All Kiwi Link projects participate in Annual Kiwi Call Count monitoring, either with human listeners or with Acoustic Recording Devices (ARDs). 40 sites were monitored in 2025 (Appendix 3) with results indicating that overall, Kiwi Link's kiwi population is increasing.

In particular, analysis of acoustic monitoring data showed that 35% of monitored sites recorded an increase in kiwi duets, with four sites recording duetting pairs for the first time, where previously only single individuals had been detected. As duets are made by kiwi pairs, this suggests that new pairs have formed and kiwi breeding is increasing across the project area.

Monitoring of Radio Transmitted Kiwi

A number of kiwi fitted with transmitters that have either been previously released or have naturally dispersed into the Kiwi Link HVA are monitored by accredited handlers Carl Dowd and Todd Hamilton.

This monitoring has confirmed the successful dispersal of adult and juvenile kiwi, over large distances (5 - 10km) through Kiwi Link's fledgling "kiwi corridor", including released and named kiwi, Te Motu Manu Hine and Fish (see Appendix 4).

As these kiwi are some of the very few transmitter wearing kiwi in Northland, it can be assumed that other wild kiwi in the Kiwi Link area are also dispersing large distances to find themselves mates and explore new territories.

Unfortunately, three transmitted kiwi – Fetu Mama, Matakahe and Kotahitanga – were killed by uncontrolled dogs this year undoing the work of so many dedicated dog owners and pest controllers working hard to keep kiwi safe. Without the radio monitoring, these kiwi deaths would have remained unknown. They serve as a stark reminder that uncontrolled dogs are still the main cause of untimely adult kiwi deaths in Northland.



Monitored Pataua Kiwi chick. Photo: Kiwi Link

Pāteke

Pāteke/brown teal are the rarest mainland dabbling duck in New Zealand.

Congregations of pāteke at Northland flock sites have been counted annually in February since 1988 to monitor population trends.

Since getting underway in 2017, Kiwi Link has worked with specialist staff at DOC, the Pāteke Recovery Group and NorthTec to assist with the flock counts and investigate new sites in the Kiwi Link area.

Analysis of the 2025 Pāteke Flock Count data showed that the endangered endemic nocturnal ducks continue to flourish on Northland's east coast where intense predator control has been sustained. However, the 2025 flock count total was less than last year at 532 and this will be closely observed to ensure a downward population trend is not occurring.

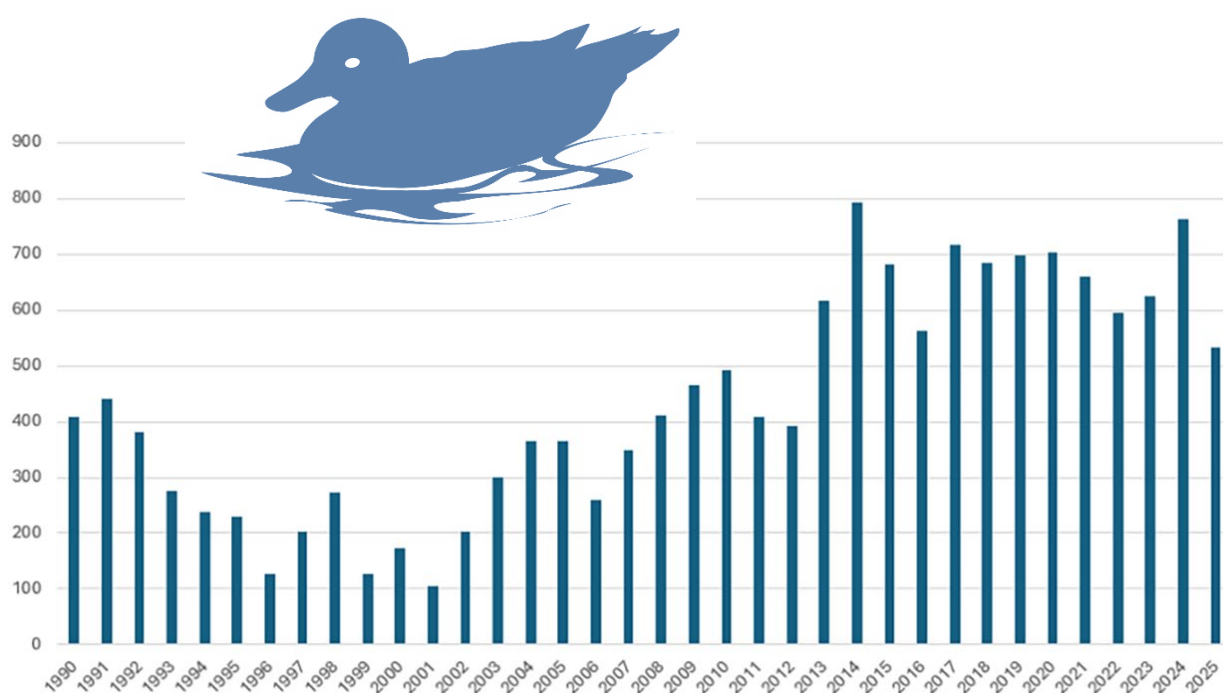


Figure 2: Northland Pāteke Flock Count Data. Source: Department of Conservation, 1990 - 2025

Five Minute Bird Counts

One of the aims of the Kiwi Link is to have flourishing native wildlife. To track progress towards this goal, annual targeted Five Minute Bird Counts have been carried out for the past seven years, using special methodology developed by Dr Dai Morgan.

Eight key native bird species are monitored: tūi, kingfisher/kōtare, grey warbler/riroriro, kūkupa, tomtit/miromiro, fantail/pīwakawaka, kākā and bellbird/korimako.

Each year the results are analysed by Dr Morgan as shown in Figure 3, with the latest data indicating that native birds are surviving and breeding well across the Kiwi Link HVA in response to the sustained pest control.

Dr Morgan commented:

“Bird monitoring across Kiwi Link continues to reveal healthy populations of key forest species. Riroriro, pīwakawaka and kōtare are showing positive population growth.

Meanwhile, tūi and kūkupa have maintained stable numbers. Although the miromiro has experienced a slight decline in recent years, these changes fall within the expected margins of error for this relatively uncommon bird.

Unfortunately, kākā were not detected during this year's monitoring. However, it is encouraging to note that korimako (bellbird) were once again recorded within Kiwi Link.”

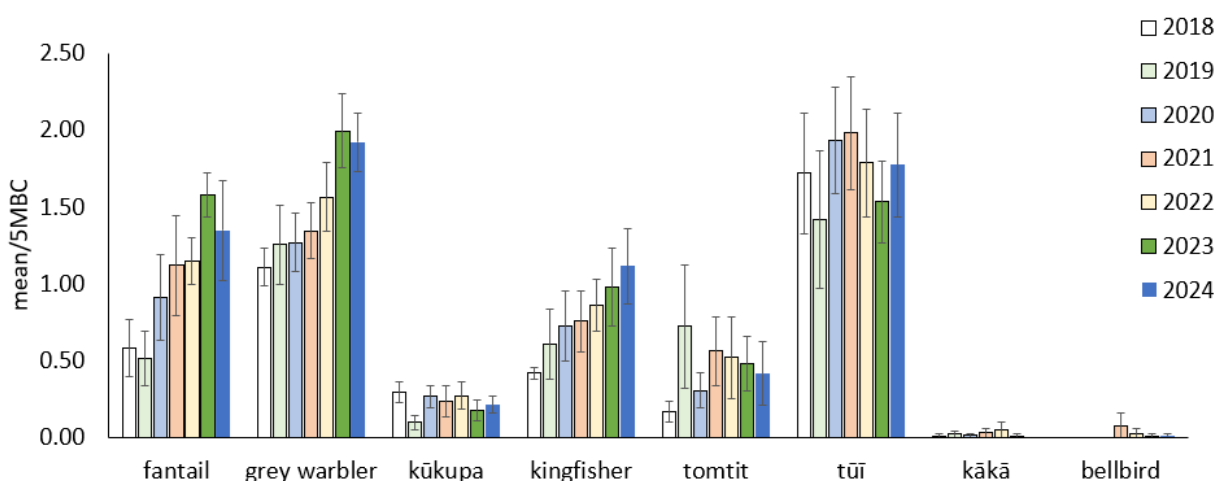


Figure 3: Mean abundance (SE) of key bird species across Kiwi Link Sites (2018-2024)

Summary

Kiwi Link has had another highly productive year, making strong progress across all five key objectives.

In addition to the NRC HVA funding, Kiwi Coast, local landowners, businesses, and land managers contributed an impressive \$623,922 in volunteer labour and resources. This remarkable level of support reflects the deep commitment and dedication of everyone involved to restoring their local native forests, wildlife, and kiwi populations.

Over the past nine years, 67,388 roaming animal pests have been removed, resulting in significantly improved forest health and the gradual return of birdsong to previously silent bush.

Pest control efforts within Kiwi Link continue to increase as more landowners join the initiative and existing groups intensify and expand their operations. The installation of new predator traps and bait stations is effectively linking neighbouring networks into a more cohesive predator control system. Situated in the heart of the 60,000-hectare Whangarei Mustelid Suppression Zone, Kiwi Link plays a vital role in the broader regional strategy.

Kiwi populations continue to thrive, with monitoring showing increases in kiwi calls, breeding pairs, and successful dispersal and survival. However, the confirmed deaths of three monitored kiwi due to uncontrolled dogs highlight the need to improve responsible dog ownership.

Kiwi Link's positive outcomes are also benefitting the neighbouring biodiversity strongholds of Whangarei Heads and Tutukaka, with reduced pest reinvasion and increased movement of native wildlife into those areas.

Kiwi Link greatly values NRC's continued support and assistance. The strong partnership with the NRC Biosecurity and Biodiversity teams has been fundamental to the success of the initiative.

Special thanks go to Dr. Karen Verdurmen for her meticulous analysis of hundreds of hours of kiwi call recordings, and to Todd and Carl for their relentless fieldwork tracking roaming kiwi through challenging terrain.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to all the private landowners, professional trappers, and land managers who have dedicated years to servicing traps, refilling bait stations, recording bird counts, and collecting vital data. The success of Kiwi Link is founded in this extraordinary community effort. Without it, our native forests and wildlife would have continued to decline.

Appendix 1: Kiwi Link Budget & Expenditure July 1 2024 - June 30 2025

Income	Allocated	Actual
NRC HVA funds	\$131,240	\$131,240

Activity	Allocated	Actual
Administration, coordination and financial management	\$13,000	\$12,967
Animal and plant pest control products and labour support	\$20,000	\$22,285
Communications & engagement	\$3,000	\$3,629
Community capacity building: Training, events & education	\$2,000	\$5,116
Coordinated pig control	\$2,000	\$1,733
Health & Safety - PPE for trappers, gloves, masks, etc	\$1,000	\$940
Professional predator control	\$63,740	\$47,220
Kiwi tracking and dispersal monitoring	\$20,000	\$21,405
Indicator species monitoring - e.g. 5MBC	\$4,500	\$4,691
Trial and deployment of new pest control tools	\$2,000	\$3,122
Monitoring Equipment		\$5,529
Specialist Community Project Support		\$3,006
Total Expenses	\$131,240	\$131,643
Surplus/Deficit		-\$403

Appendix 2: Kiwi Link HVA Financial Contributions & Unpaid Labour July 1 2024 – June 30 2025 (excl. GST)

	NRC Kiwi Link HVA funds	Kiwi Coast	Unpaid labour (\$30/hour)	Manulife	Martin Trust	NRC - other funds	Tahi Estate	Predator Free Whangarei	QEII National Trust	Donations	Totals
Administration / Project Management	\$12,967	\$11,250	\$9,540	\$0	\$1,050	\$0	\$0	\$1,728	\$0	\$4,000	\$40,535
Glenbervie Pest Control			\$360								
Harris Rd Area Landcare			\$360								
Owhiwa Landcare			\$750								
Pataua North Landcare			\$4,560							\$4,000	
Taheke Landcare			\$1,650								
Taraunui Landcare			\$360								
Whareora Landcare			\$1,500								
Animal Pest Control - labour	\$47,220	\$0	\$124,920	\$8,000	\$14,500	\$18,000	\$77,236	\$16,420	\$0	\$0	\$306,296
Glenbervie Pest Control			\$8,250								
Harris Rd Area Landcare			\$3,900								
Kohinui Stream Landcare			\$24,000								
Ngunguru Ford Landcare			\$1,500								
Owhiwa Landcare			\$13,200								
Pataua North Landcare			\$2,760								
Taheke Landcare			\$31,470								
Taraunui Landcare			\$900								
Whareora Landcare			\$38,940								
Plant Pest Control - labour	\$0	\$0	\$22,050	\$0	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$46,285	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$101,335
Glenbervie Pest Control			\$1,500								

Kohinui Stream Landcare			(reported to WNHRT)								
Owhiwa Landcare			\$4,350								
Pataua North Landcare			\$2,820								
Taheke Landcare			(incl with animal pest unpaid labour)								
Taraunui Landcare			\$1,200								
Whareora Landcare			\$12,180								
Pest Control Products - toxins, traps, herbicides	\$25,407	\$1,645	\$3,351	\$0	\$3,595	\$10,000	\$19,735	\$23,800	\$4,428	\$0	\$91,961
Pataua North Landcare			\$126								
Taheke Landcare			\$2,675								
Whareora Landcare			\$550								
Planting	\$0	\$0	\$2,970	\$0	\$4,545	\$0	\$108,373	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$115,888
Taheke Landcare			\$2,610								
Whareora Landcare			\$360								
Engagement, Communications & Workshops	\$8,745	\$10,750	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$864	\$15,893	\$0	\$36,752
Kohinui Stream Landcare			\$500								
Monitoring	\$34,631	\$9,750	\$11,600	\$900	\$7,500	\$18,000	\$0	\$220	\$0	\$0	\$82,601
Glenbervie Pest Control			\$300								
Harris Rd Area Landcare			\$550								
Kohinui Stream Landcare			\$1,500								
Owhiwa Landcare			\$750								
Pataua North Landcare			\$7,350								
Taheke Landcare			\$300								
Taraunui Landcare			\$250								

Whareora Landcare			\$600								
Other	\$2,673	\$12,000	\$10,920	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,593
Kiwi Research		\$10,000	\$10,920								
Professional Trapper Training		\$2,000									
TOTALS	\$131,643	\$45,395	\$185,851	\$8,900	\$46,190	\$64,000	\$251,628	\$43,032	\$20,321	\$4,000	\$800,960

Appendix 3: Kiwi Call Monitoring Results 2020 – 2025

NS = Not surveyed, HL = Human listening, F= Faulty KLD

		2020			2021			2022			2023			2024					2025				
Group/ Project Name	Site Name	Total no. calls	Duet	Calls per hour	Total no. calls	Duet	Calls per hour	Total no. calls	Duet	Calls per hour	Total no. calls	Duet	Calls per hour	Total no. calls	M	F	Duet	Calls per hour	Total no. calls	M	F	Duet	Calls per hour
Harris Rd	Easterbrook Farm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kohinui	Bixleys	NS	-	-	0	0	0	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	34	34	0	0	0.56	37	34	3	3	0.61
Kohinui	Kauri Villas	NS	-	-	5	1	0.08	4	0	0.08	1	0	0.01	25	23	2	2	0.41	2	1	1	1	0.03
Kohinui	Wilkes	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	2	1	1	1	0.02	3	3	0	0	0.05
Mangahui	Gibson & Forrester	NS	-	-	34	2	0.57	24	0	0.48	NS	-	-	33	31	2	1	0.55	41	32	9	3	0.68
Mangahui	Shrewsbury	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	-	-	24	21	3	1	0.4
Ngunguru Ford	Steve McQuoids	26	3	0.37	F	-	-	15	3	0.30	F	-	-	1	1	0	0	0.02	9	8	1	0	0.15
Ngunguru Ford	Robbies Driveway	2	0	0.03	F	-	-	11	1	0.22	F	-	-	40	34	6	4	0.66	23	16	7	6	0.38
NRC Mt Tiger	Site 1 - Original	7	0	0.18	14	0	0.23	16	1	0.32	NS	-	-	28	21	7	3	0.35	34	25	9	7	0.57
NRC Mt Tiger	MT21	0	0	0	18	3	1.20	21	nd	2.63	18	4	2.25	16	?	?	3	2	6	5	1	1	0.75
NRC Mt Tiger	MT22	0	0	0	5	1	0.29	2	0	0.25	2	0	0.25	4	4	0	0	0.5	8	6	2	2	1.00
NRC Mt Tiger	MT25	3	0	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0.13
NRC Mt Tiger	MT26	0	0	0	1	0	0.08	9	nd	1.13	4	2	0.5	12	?	?	4	1.5	6	4	2	2	0.75
NRC Mt Tiger	MT29	15	4?	0.13	30	8	2.00	16	nd	2.67	0	0	0	17	?	?	4	2.13	1	9	5	4	1.75
Owhiwa	Mullooly	3	1	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Owhiwa	Bob & Carol	17	2	0.24	8	0	0.10	23	6	0.46	22	8	0.44	F	-	-	-	-	22	15	7	3	0.37
Owhiwa	Martins: watertanks	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	37	8	0.74	6	0	0.75	23	18	5	3	2.87	32	22	10	5	4

Owhiwa	Martins: back fence	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	77	10	1.54	39	9	4.87	79	55	24	21	9.87	60	41	19	9	7.5
Owhiwa	Martins: HL site	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	HL	-	-	-	7.6	HL	-	-	-	5.67?
Owhiwa	Jenny Ross	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	-	-	6	6	0	0	0.1
Pataua Nth	Kumara Pit	no data	-	-	HL	-	2.25	22 (H)	-	3.4	NS	-	2.75	HL	-	-	-	2.75	HL	-	-	-	5.13
Pataua Nth	Ohuatahi	no data	-	-	HL	-	2.67	34 (H)	-	4.1	F	-	3.87	HL	-	-	-	5	in analysis				
Pataua Nth	Sue's bus	no data	-	-	HL	-	2.88	no data	-	-	16	5	2	HL	-	-	-	3.5	HL	-	-	-	1.75
Taheke	Saparelli	23	4	0.33	NS	-	-	35	8	0.70	24	0	0.48	21	18	3	3	0.35	49	40	9	5	0.81
Taheke	Taheke Reserve	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	23	3	0.46	18	3	0.36	30	11	19	5	0.5	43	28	15	9	0.72
Taheke	Norman Boundary	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	13	2	0.26	F	-	-	16	13	3	0	0.26	5	4	1	0	0.08
Taraunui	Lifshutz	8	0	0.16	25	2	0.42	16	0	0.27	7	0	0.1	9	4	5	2	0.15	0	0	0	0	0
Taraunui	Ross Rd	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	1	1	0	0	0.02	2	2	0	0	0.03
Taraunui	HunterWilletts	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Whanui	Oyster	49	5	1.75	35	7	1.75	101	17	1.80	68	12	2.4	NS	-	-	-	-	96	70	26	16	3.42
Whanui	Toheroa	3	0	0.11	16	2	0.80	26	3	0.46	49	5	1.75	9	7	2	0	0.6	17	15	2	1	0.6
Whanui	Mussell	72	12	2.57	44	8	2.20	198	29	3.54	198	36	7.07	58	47	11	8	3.86	178	123	55	31	6.38
Whareora	MSR 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.02	0	0	0	11	6	5	4	0.18	21	17	4	1	0.35
Whareora	MSR 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0.08	37	22	15	4	0.61
Whareora	MSR 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whareora	Holwell Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whareora	Simon & Sue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whareora	Brodie's Place	NS	0	0	0	0	0	NS	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whareora	Waikaraka Walkway Cedar	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	88	20	1.47	76	12	1.52	92	54	37	18	1.53	53	39	14	8	0.88
Whareora	Fetus Cave	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	NS	-	-	10	7	3	0	0.16	1	0	1	0	0.02

Appendix 4: Update of Radio Transmitted Kiwi in or near the Southern end of Kiwi Link

Todd Hamilton, Kiwi Coast
Accredited Kiwi Handler, July 2025

Chookie – An adult male released at Parua Bay in 2021. He quickly found a mate and began nesting. He has remained in the Martins' dog free Forestry block on Owhiwa Road. After successfully nesting each season since 2021 he again nested twice this season and added another 3 kiwi chicks to the population. He has already started nesting again in June 2025.

Teina – He was released at Parua Bay in 2019 and moved his way into the Kiwi Link area. He is still well settled at Martins' Forestry block east of Owhiwa Road. We found him in a burrow with a wild hatched adult female (no ID chip) in July 2023. Despite having a female kiwi with him, he still showed no nesting activity this season and remains a very heavy 3475g in weight. This is very fat for an adult male kiwi!

Beach Girl - This adult female was rescued from the DOC Motuora Island crèche during the 2020 drought and released at Taraunui Road. She quickly regained weight and health to 2500g in weight after being a very skinny 1500g on rescue. In 2023 she moved NW to the Halses' property on Ross Road and has been settled there. She continues to be in good health and may well have found a mate.

Murdoch – He was translocated via the Parua Bay public kiwi release event to Owhiwa Road in March 2023. This 7-year-old adult male headed north to the regenerating bush at the end of Ross Road. The released female kiwi **Om** travelled with him and they paired up and successfully nested there. They had another successful nesting season this year hatching 3 chicks from 2 nests.

Humphries - This male kiwi was transferred from Limestone Island via Whangarei Heads School to Owhiwa Road in June 2023. After heading into the native bush to the north he returned to the pampas and pines of his release site. He has found a mate in this area and they successfully hatched their first chick this year – named "Fern" by Whangarei Heads School.

Fetu Mama - This female kiwi was released in March 2023 and settled in the pampas and pines on Owhiwa Road until August before walking North. We tracked her to the Maungatika Scenic Reserve, in the Whareora Landcare managed area, way up the top of Tiger Mt. This is over 5 km in a straight line with plenty of valleys, creeks and ridges in between – she may have used Owhiwa road to help her make the journey. After spending time there she headed into the nearby WDC pine block where she was killed by an uncontrolled dog in December 2024.

Te Motu Manu Hine - This female was translocated via the Whangarei Heads School to Owhiwa Road in June 2023. She didn't take long to go walk about – heading almost 10km north to the NRC pines on Mt Tiger Road. When things got dry in the autumn of 2024 she headed into the deep valleys between Mt Tiger and Onerahi. She is now well settled in the NRC pine block behind the old Money Factory. She is now 4.5 years old and may well have found a mate for her to remain in a small area after so much travelling.

Fish - This young kiwi was hit by a car at the Whangarei Heads in November 2022. Luckily it was his tough rear end that got hit not his fragile chest and head. He was held for observation and then released with a transmitter away from roads and dogs at Owhiwa Road. His health and activity were monitored and he made a full recovery, so much so that he made a massive walk northwards to almost the Horahora river. He has since been monitored by Pataua North Landcare in their managed area and continues to move around.

Tanker – In November 2023, a year after Fish was rescued; another kiwi was hit by a vehicle on Whangarei Heads Road – this time by a milk tanker! He had a spell at the WNBRC before being released a few days later. Named “Tanker” he was closely monitored via his radio transmitter data stream for his activity. He recovered well and settled in the pampas and pines on the eastern side of Owhiwa Road. In September 2024 his radio transmitter band broke and the transmitter fell off.

Manaaki – Male kiwi released in February 2024. He was settled in the pines and pampas on the eastern side of Owhiwa Road then did a big loop to the north before returning to his release area and dropping his transmitter.

Kotahitanga – A young male kiwi released in February 2024 at Parua Bay. He spent a few weeks there before legging it north to the Pataua North Landcare area. He was monitored there until he was killed by a wandering dog in January 2025.

Kiwi released in 2024-25 Season:

With the extremely dry late summer/early autumn kiwi on the Matakohe - Limestone Island crèche struggled for food and were in very poor condition. Four kiwi were carefully transferred to a safe pine block at Owhiwa Road in late March and they quickly regained condition in the better feeding conditions there:

Kim – A young female kiwi that went from a skinny 1200g on release to 1625g a month later. She has since remained in the pine block on Owhiwa Road.

Myra – A young female kiwi that has settled well in the pines and pampas on the eastern side of Owhiwa Road.

Ping – An adult female kiwi that was a very skinny 1550g on release but recovered to 2000g a month later. She was settled in the pines and pampas at the start of Owhiwa Road but disappeared for a month before returning.

Matakohe – A young male kiwi released in March 2025 who was initially settled on the pine block on Owhiwa Road but headed north from there in June. Unfortunately, he only got a few kilometres north before he was killed by a wandering dog at the end of Ross Road.

There will be other kiwi without radio transmitters that have moved from the Backyard Kiwi managed area into the Kiwi Link area. The estimated population on the Whangarei Heads peninsula has grown from approximately 80 in 2001 to over 1,100 in 2024 and the kiwi there disperse outwards into the neighbouring Kiwi Link area.



Report prepared by Ngaire Sullivan, Kiwi Link HVA Coordinator, July 2025.
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