

Mahinepua Mainland Island Project

Timing

The project takes place in five phases:

1. An initial clean-out of possums, mustelids, cats and rats throughout most of the area
2. Consolidate possum and predator control in all zones
3. Maintenance of possum and predator control in all zones
4. Intensifying mammalian pest control in the core area
5. Adaptive management to allow for sustaining pest control and to plan for and implement native species reintroduction.

Phase One – Initial Clean-out

Poison: Initial clean-out using cyanide capsules in a diphacinone lure (Ferafeed Plus) or phosphorus or bait stations with cyanide paste and a 2-3 day pre-feed using flour lure. Maintain weekly and until baits cease to be taken.

Trapping: Establish Fenn traps in childproof tunnels for mustelids and Conibear traps or modified Timms traps for cats in known kiwi habitat. Bait variously and service weekly. Protect kiwi from traps by raising traps a minimum of 750 mm.

Shooting: Shoot goats and pigs on sight.

Monitoring: Use Wax lures and Timms traps to monitor pest levels. Have Wax lures interpreted by pest management professionals. Use seed count and plant regeneration monitoring.

Phase Two – Consolidate Control Throughout

Poisons: When possum numbers can be demonstrated to have sufficiently been lowered, move the poison lines inland preceding trap lines in a “rolling front” configuration. Use cyanide or phosphorus or diphacinone at any “hot spots” identified by monitoring or as indicated by the kill count.

Trapping: Maintain permanent trap lines at known kiwi locations and service monthly.

Shooting: Shoot goats and pigs on sight

Monitoring: Use Wax lures and trapping figures to monitor pest levels. Have Wax lures interpreted by pest management professionals. Use seed count and plant regeneration monitoring.

Phase Three - Maintenance of Possum and Predator Control

As for Phase Two, with the addition of perimeter trap lines to deter reinvasion by mustelids and cats.

Phase Four - Intensify Control of the Core

As for Phase Two and Three, continue to use perimeter trap lines to reduce reinvasion by possum, mustelid and cats.

Poisons: Perimeter poisoning to control reinvasion using a pre-feed (Biobags) followed by a feed of either diphacinone or cyanide to reduce rats and possums to very low levels.

Phase Five – Adaptive Management.

Review methodology and the results of monitoring to date. Refine methodology to provide for greater sustainability of pest management. Meanwhile, consider needs of targeted species and reintroductions and manage accordingly. Sequences of pest management

Intensify Control of the Core Area-Zone 3

Poisons: Perimeter poisoning to control reinvasion using a pre-feed (Biobags) followed by a feed of either diphacinone or cyanide to reduce rats and possums to very low levels.

Trapping: Implement recommendations of the Technical Audit

Maintain and monitor all zones and perimeter defence lines

Introduce Weed Control

Introduce Reforestation-Plant propagation

Introduce Kiwi and other native bird species translocation plan

MMIP-5 (2007-2012)

Sustain Pest and Predator Control Plan

Implement Native Bird Species Translocation

Implement Reforestation – Plant Trees

Continue weed control

Mahinepua Catchment Operational Workplan

2013 - 2018.

- Continue Predator control as for MMIP.
- Review management and monitoring methodology in light of new technology.
- Maintain all perimeter defence lines
- Review all Health and Safety plans according to the current methodology.

2019 - 2024

- Upgrade predator control to best possible latest technology for both catching and recording predator control data.
- Maintain and improve perimeter defence lines using new technology.
- Investigate ways of monitoring our kiwi numbers and pest numbers to get a better idea of what is happening in our management area.
- Use TrapNZ to record our trapping data.
- Focus on adaptive management to sustain predator control gains and consider native species re introductions.
- Institute vegetation regrowth /reforestation plans and weed control systems in our management area.