

Mahinepua Radar Hill Landcare Group

www.radarhill.org.nz



Report Reference:

Wildlife Act Authority for wildlife located on public conservation land and private land.
Authorisation Number 78256-FAU

The activity granted 2 June 2021 to the MRHLG for the above (78256-FAU) is;

- i. to catch alive absolutely protected wildlife for the purpose of advocacy.
- ii. To place transmitters on two Apteryx mantelli North Island Brown Kiwi for advocacy purposes.

The approved method;

- i. Certified kiwi handler and certified kiwi conservation dog to locate kiwi during daylight hours
- ii. Catch alive by hand
- iii. Marking: Transmitter attachment subject to Schedule 3.7.

Period 2 June 2021 - 30 June 2023

List of individual birds used:

Three birds have carried transmitters in the period, 2 June 2021 - 30 June 2023.

Fred 29/4/14 to 24/1/23

Fred's transmitter started becoming unreliable in late 2022 and it stopped working in January 2023. The certified kiwi conservation dog located him on 24/1/23, and Lesley Baigent the certified kiwi handler removed the failed transmitter. Fred was retired.

Terry 14/4/23 to current

Terry is a younger bird who has replaced Fred.

Graham 29/5/19 to current

Graham nests in close proximity to landowners with dogs.

Encounter dates: Refer following table.

Number of advocacy encounters & number of people that participated:

Kiwi	Date encountered	People present	Weight (Grams)	Condition
Fred	13/5/21	4	1905	Poor - moderate
	13/5/22	3	2045	Moderate
	24/1/23	1	2020	Moderate
Graham	14/5/21	5	1995	Poor - moderate
	13/5/22	3	2035	Good
	2/5/23	2	2025	Poor - moderate
Juvenile Kiwi (Not used)	11/4/23	5	1240	Good
Replacement Kiwi (Not caught)	14/4/23	4	-	-
Terry	14/4/23	1	1630	Good

1. Direct contact with kiwi handler & dog

8 encounters with 27 participants

See table above, on 11/4/23, in the search for a replacement for Fred, a young kiwi in good condition was found. Weight 1240gm, Bill length 79 mm. This kiwi was not used due to size and age. This demonstrates kiwi are breeding and young surviving to an age where they are at less risk of predation, an excellent outcome for this group.

2. Indirect contact with kiwi - taxon, camera, weekly monitoring

Fred 86 weeks/encounters

Graham 98 weeks/encounters

Terry 9 weeks/encounters

Total 193 encounters involving 3 people for the period.

3. Education & events

- Know Your Dog Workshops

2 workshops 19 participants

Workshop 23/01/22 – 10 participants

Workshop 14/1/23 – 9 participants

- Kiwi Avoidance Training

Winter 2021 - Summer 2023 due to COVID 19 restrictions and changes within our committee we were unable to coordinate a KATS workshop.

Workshop scheduled for May 6th 2023 with 35 dogs booked. Due to bad weather postponed until July 1st – 29 dogs are booked.

- Kaeo Christmas Parade Kaeo Christmas Parade

2021 - cancelled due to COVID19

2022 - one of 10 stall holders. A large local attendance, materials provided by Save the Kiwi and Kiwi Coast received well. Children in particular engaged in the taxidermy bird (Permit NO-21677-DOA (expires 11/01/2028) and material on the stand.

4. Social media

- YouTube

9834 views on 9 clips

- Facebook (The page was set up 9th March 2023)

Page Health is rated by Facebook as excellent

Followers = 8

Page Likes = 7

Mentions = 2

Comments on Posts = 5

Likes on Posts = 40

Posts have reached 39 “people” in the last 60 days

- Website
 - New website went live on 20 November 2022 - 244 visitors*
 - Old website - numbers not monitored.*
- Radar Rattler Newsletter
 - June 2021 - April 2022. 3 editions distributed to members.*
 - May 2022 – May 2023. 7 editions distributed to members.*
- Whangaroa Whispers Local Newsletter
 - Stopped being published during COVID. It is recently up and running again and we are committed to submitting articles for publication approximately quarterly May 2023 is the most recent.*

Conservation outcomes achieved as a result of the advocacy encounter

Engagement with landowners:

- ‘Seeing is believing!’ A real live kiwi in their backyard can be life changing. People “own” these birds and will do whatever they can to protect them. Seeing where kiwi live, often not in deep holes in the middle of a forest, educates people on how vulnerable they are.
- The proximity of MRHLG kiwi to houses, dogs and traffic becomes ‘real’. People understand the threats more and how to protect kiwi from them. Prove dog control advocacy works.
- Informing landowners with dogs in close proximity to the kiwi that we had camera evidence that the kiwi had hatched chicks. Also immediately we knew the earlier timing of the kiwi coming out at night, corresponding with the time of coming home from work so they could manage their dogs.

Species management:

- Discussions on conservation issues occur throughout the day when out on site with the kiwi handler and dog. These range from ecosystem protection and restoration, identification of threatened species, trapping and toxin use, the benefits/risks of controversial products (1080), funding, advocating for kiwi and spreading the message.

Contribute something of value:

- Younger people present on encounter days use extensive social media influence. The message of kiwi conservation is spread to a wider audience.
- Funding can also be sourced on these days, some people are keen to support the ongoing trapping efforts of this group by sponsoring a trap.
- Opportunity to reinforce dog control and the risks/impact of dogs on kiwi.
- Low intensity interaction with kiwi wearing transmitters, 35 direct contacts with our three kiwi who have worn transmitters for the period June 2021 - 2023 and these have expanded to more than 10,000 further encounters.
- The advocacy benefits as demonstrated above are wide spread.

Details of any transmitters not recovered

- To date all transmitters have been recovered.
- MRHLG kiwi are generally handled once a year to minimise distress.



Kaero Christmas Event 2022