

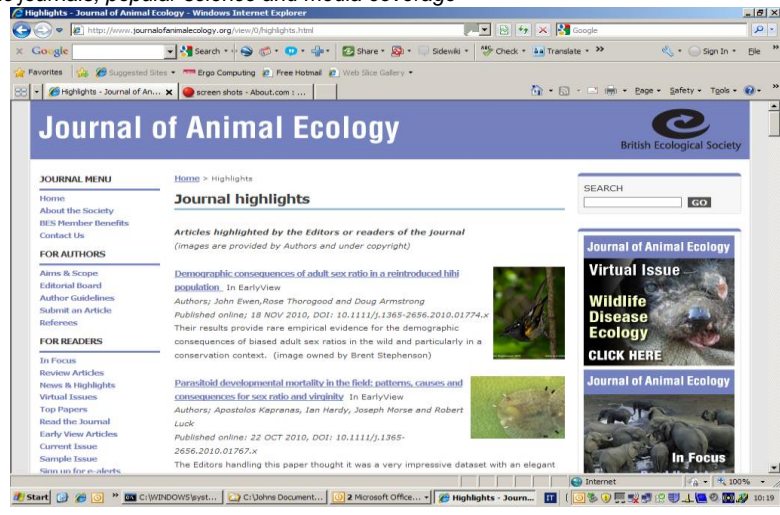
# Ewen lab hihi research update

November 2010



## ACCEPTED PAPERS AND MEDIA *publications in scientific journals, popular science and media coverage*

- Our adult sex ratio paper has been selected by the *Journal of Animal Ecology* editors for highlighting on their website because they liked it. <http://www.journalofanimalecology.org/view/0/highlights.html>



## PRESENTATIONS, VISITS & NEWS *conference presentations, visits to and from group members etc*

- Dirk Schmeller and Adeline Loyau from the CNRS in Moulis, France visited ZSL to discuss co-writing of a large conservation grant.
- Kate presented a talk at this years New Zealand Ecological Society conference titled "Influence of individual condition and transmitters on post-release dispersal of reintroduced hihi"
- Doug unfortunately had to withdraw from the above meeting due to illness and was meant to present a talk titled "Modeling dispersal from reintroduction sites as a function of landscape connectivity"

## FEATURE STORY: **Maungatautari update live from the field!!**

Maungatautari Ecological Island is an important mainland conservation project in the Waikato region, comprised of 3363 ha of mature forest enclosed by 47 km of a predator-proof fence. Hihi were reintroduced here in 2009 (59 from Tiritiri Matangi Island and 20 from Hauturu/Little Barrier Island), with a further 37 arriving from Tiritiri Matangi in March of this year. Hihi bred successfully across the mountain area in the 2009/10 breeding season, and breeding is now underway for the 2010/11 season.

A total of 40 individual hihi were known to be using the supplementary feeders located within the southern enclosure (the approx. 65 ha area where hihi were released) in October 2010, a representative mix of Tiri, LBI and mountain-bred birds. In addition at least five territories are known across the rest of the mountain, with monitoring still ongoing. All known pairs to date have been a mix of Tiri and LBI hihi, or original and mountain-bred birds. This site received hihi from two source populations in the hopes of maximising genetic diversity, so these early signs are promising.

A further 40 hihi will be released at Maungatautari in April 2011, as part of my PhD and Hihi Recovery Group research into the factors influencing post-release survival and dispersal.

**Text: Kate Richardson**

## FUNDING *our major funders and new funding news*

### CURRENT AND PAST FUNDING – thank you!

+ British Research Council + Royal Society + Leverhulme Trust + Department of Conservation + AXA-fund + NERC + SoTM + ASAB + Massey University + Wesfarmers Industrial and Safety NZ Ltd.

## STAFF AND STUDENT CONTACTS

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- Kate Richardson (Massey University, New Zealand [k.richardson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:k.richardson@massey.ac.nz))

### Recent graduates

- Dr Rose Thorogood (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom [rose.thorogood@gmail.com](mailto:rose.thorogood@gmail.com))



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