

Ewen lab hihi research update

December 2011 - Merry Christmas!



ACCEPTED PAPERS, MEDIA & OUTREACH

- Our book is now available!

Reintroduction Biology: Integrating Science and Management

John G. Ewen, Doug P. Armstrong, Kevin A. Parker, Phillip J. Seddon

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

- **John, Doug, Patricia, Kevin, Nathalie, Ali, & Kate** all attended a meeting on Tiritiri Matangi Island with representatives from Department of Conservation (DoC) and community conservation projects with hihi populations (and one group about to get them). More detail see below.
- **John, Kevin & Doug** co-organised and spoke at a reintroduction symposium at the International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB) meeting held in Auckland. **Ali** presented a talk on the Kapiti Island hihi population at this meeting. **Nathalie** also presented a talk at this meeting. **Kate** was a volunteer helper at the meeting.
- **John** organised a visit to Tiritiri Matangi Island and the hihi project after the ICCB meeting for interested conference attendees.
- **John** and **Patricia** spent 5 days at Maungatautari with **Kate** and **Lydia**. **John** and **Kate** attended the biodiversity restoration committee meeting of the Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust.
- **Patricia** visited Zealandia: Karori Wildlife Sanctuary to discuss projects.
- **Kate, Lydia, John, Doug and Isabel Castro** visited Bushy Park Sanctuary to advise on site preparations for the upcoming hihi translocation.

FEATURE STORY: **Ewen Lab Hihi Research and Manager Meeting 2011**

This year presented a unique opportunity with many researchers heading to New Zealand for the ICCB meeting that was held in Auckland. I took advantage of this to organise a get together of our research group and as many hihi managers as possible. The aim of this meeting was to facilitate interaction between our research group and management. My hope was that this would allow (i) researchers to explain what they were doing and get feedback from managers about its utility, (ii) allow managers to ask questions of research, suggest needed research, and evaluate how well research feeds into management, and (iii) to brainstorm together about where we could best develop collaborations into the future.



The meeting was a fantastic success. We were restricted to 20 guests due to bunkhouse constraints. DoC very kindly contributed financial assistance. DoC, Little Barrier Supporters Trust, Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi, Karori Sanctuary Trust, Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust, and Bushy Park Trust were all represented. Dr John Perrott from Unitec New Zealand also joined on the first day. Michelle Goh kindly took minutes and Kay Milton led an open discussion about the role of research in hihi management. Claudia Carraro prepared great Italian food!



Our three year research plan was presented and there was great interaction between all. This has generated a lot of interesting work and the new year will allow time to develop what this meeting started. I would like to again thank all who attended and look forward to developing the ideas discussed!

By: **John Ewen**

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.

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