

Ewen lab hihi research update

March 2013



ACCEPTED PAPERS, MEDIA & OUTREACH

New paper (see December update for abstract)!!

- Brekke, P., Cassey, P., Ariani, C. & Ewen, J.G. (2013) Evolution of extreme-mating behaviour: patterns of extrapair paternity in a species with forced extrapair copulation. *Behavioural Ecology and Sociobiology* *In press*.

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

- **Kate, Kevin, John & Doug** were all involved with the translocation of hihi from Tiritiri Matangi to Bushy Park.
- **Chris** is busy tracking hihi at Bushy Park.
- **John & Chris** visited Kapiti Island to assist banding this years juveniles and to learn about hihi management protocols.
- **Debbie** is back in London and has been working on our long term hihi dataset.
- **Lydia** has now finished in the field with the last monitored nest fledging three chicks.

FEATURE STORY: **Adding the H to Whanganui – hihi arrive!**

On the 24th March 44 juvenile hihi were released at Bushy Park reserve near Whanganui/Wanganui. This was a massive reward for all involved and the end of a long planning and implementation phase for this translocation. The original plan was for a translocation this time last year, however, an emergence of Salmonella in the source population of Tiritiri Matangi caused a delay. This year all went smoothly and the birds were in very good health. Capture of birds took just over two days with an even sex ratio and with 40 having small tail mounted transmitters attached for post-release tracking. Chris Smith is now busy tracking these birds and signs are positive that they are staying within the fenced reserve. We are all now hoping they settle in! This project was driven by the dedicated team at Bushy Park (including Allan Anderson and Peter Frost) with a range of sponsors including the Hihi Recovery Group sponsors WISNZ. Check out the full page spread that was printed in the Wanganui Chronicle. Our research group was involved throughout this process and look forward to assisting into the future.



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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