

Ewen lab hihi research update

April 2013



ACCEPTED PAPERS, MEDIA & OUTREACH

New papers in a special issue of Notornis on New Zealand bird translocations (this one includes hihi)

- Smuts-Kennedy, C. & Parker, K.A. (2013) Reconstructing avian biodiversity on Maungatautari. *Notornis* 60: 93-106.

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

- **John** chaired the annual 2-day hihi recovery group meeting that was held at Bushy Park, Whanganui
- **Kate, Kevin, Doug, Lydia, Chris & David** attended and contributed to the hihi recovery group meeting.
- **Chris** finished up monitoring hihi at Bushy Park and is now in Namibia with the Baboon project – he has done a great job!
- **Lydia** has returned to the USA where she continues to analyse and write up her project.
- **David** has visited Kapiti island for his project on monitoring the response of hihi to a reduction in food supplementation
- **Antonia** has started another project with us looking at the impact of the last salmonella emergence on Tiritiri Matangi's hihi

FEATURE STORY: Notornis Special Issue

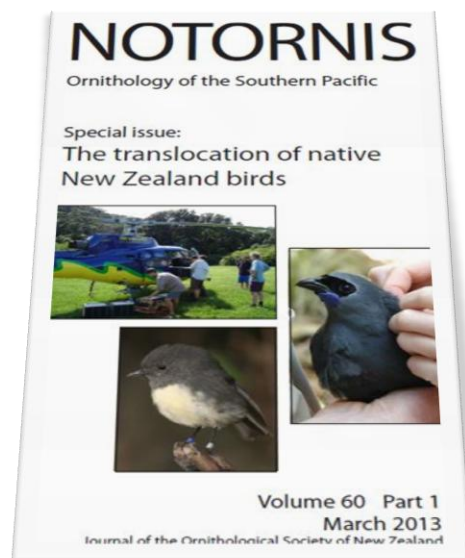
Abstract from Reconstructing avian biodiversity on Maungatautari

The Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust (MEIT) was established in 2001. In 2006 the ~3,400 ha forested mountain of Maungatautari was protected by a ~47 km pest fence, and most introduced mammals within the fence have since been eradicated. Since then, 7 locally extinct indigenous bird species have been translocated to Maungatautari, one other has self-reintroduced, and many more avian translocations are planned. There are now 20 indigenous forest bird species present (from 12 at the project's commencement) and the total is expected to eventually exceed 30 species, many of which will be threatened species. Those avian species will be part of a functioning ecosystem that is likely to include at least 50 indigenous vertebrate species (birds, bats, lizards, tuatara, frogs and fish). The avian translocations and the restoration outcome monitoring programmes are described, and some characteristics and values of the project are discussed.

The special issue has a great range of papers including two further contributions from our group;

*Parker, K.A., Ewen, J.G., Seddon, P.J. & Armstrong, D.P. (2013) Post-release monitoring of bird translocations: why is it important and how do we do it? *Notornis* 60: 85-92.*

*Parker, K.A. (2013) Restoring Richard Henry's dream: the evolution of translocation in New Zealand conservation. *Notornis* 60: 1-2.*



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

Permanent Staff

- Professor Doug Armstrong (Massey University, New Zealand D.P.Armstrong@massey.ac.nz)
- Dr John Ewen (Institute of Zoology, United Kingdom john.ewen@ioz.ac.nz)
- Dr Phillip Cassey (University of Adelaide, Australia phill.cassey@adelaide.edu.au)
- Dr Rebecca Kilner (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom rmk1002@hermes.cam.ac.uk)
- Dr Nathalie Pettorelli (Institute of Zoology, United Kingdom nathalie.pettorelli@ioz.ac.uk)

Research Fellows

- Dr Patricia Brekke (Institute of Zoology, United Kingdom patricia.brekke@ioz.ac.uk)
- Dr Rose Thorogood (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom rose.thorogood@gmail.com)
- Dr Kevin Parker (Massey University, New Zealand k.parker@massey.ac.nz)
- Dr Aliénor Chauvenet (Institute of Zoology, United Kingdom Alienor.Chauvenet@ioz.ac.uk)

PhD Students

- Leila Walker (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom lkw24@hermes.cam.ac.uk)
- Kate Richardson (Massey University, New Zealand k.richardson@massey.ac.nz)



ZSL INSTITUTE OF ZOOLOGY
LIVING CONSERVATION