

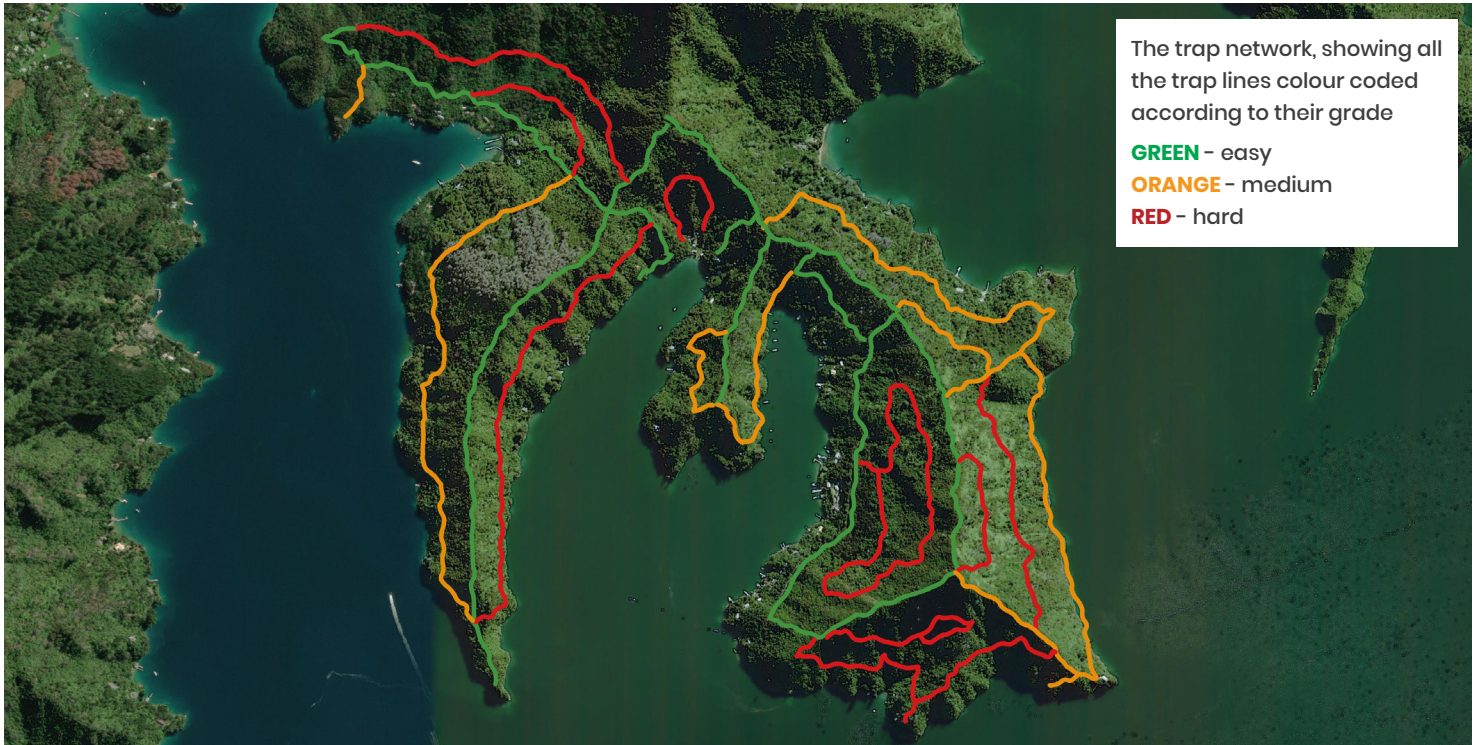
# Annual Update

February 2023



## Three Peninsulas Project

Ecological restoration in the heart of Queen Charlotte Sound



**Now covering 290ha, the trap network is made up of**

- 216** self-resetting A24s (rats)
- 140** Sentinel traps (possums)
- 23** Flipping Timmys (possums)
- 18** self-resetting AT220s (possums, rats and stoats)
- 18** DOC 200 traps (stoats and rats)
- 3** Trapinators (possums)

The trap network is serviced 2–3 times a year, with occasional possum trap checks in between. This work is delivered by professional contractors.

Several bach owners also contribute by voluntarily checking traps when they are down.

A big thanks for your efforts!

### Traps you might see in the bush



AT220



Flipping Timmy



Sentinel



A24

## What are we achieving?

907

### Possums

We know that not all captures have been recorded in Trap NZ. It is probably closer to 1,000. That is a lot fewer possums munching their way through native vegetation each night!

<20%  
tracking

### Rats

Low rat numbers will deliver the biggest short-term benefit to birdlife in the area. We measure our rat control success by a rat monitoring index, which is undertaken twice a year with DOC support. If we can keep that index at or around 15%, that is a sign that rat numbers are low. We have managed to keep the rat index below or very close to that since 2020! In coastal areas without pest control, the rat index is often 70% or higher.

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### Stoats

Stoats are generally only found in low numbers and so we don't expect high catches. Each less stoat is one less killing machine!

## What We Need From You

### Your annual donation:

The network relies on landowner donations to keep it going. We are aiming to maintain the network at the cost of \$100/ha, or about \$30,000 a year.

There are about 60 baches associated with the project area, and so if everyone donated, that is \$500 each per year. Many baches involve multiple families, reducing the cost further.

We recognise that not everyone is in the same financial position, and so we encourage everyone to donate as they are able. All donations are tagged to the project, and will be spent in the project area.

### Your time:

Several locals already take time to check traps when they are down. The more trap checking and track clearing, the better the outcomes for everyone — and you get to enjoy time in the bush! If you want to volunteer your time, please get in touch.

### Your trap(s):

We don't tend to trap around houses, as we assume everyone will have traps on their own property. Your work will complement what we are doing on the hills behind you. If you want advice on weka-safe and effective options, please get in touch.

### To make your annual donation:

Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust

02 0704 0063595 000

Particulars: Your name

Reference: Your bach location

## Has there been a benefit?

### Don't ask us. Ask the locals.

Peter Thorne-George, who has lived in Double Cove for 35 years, has this to say:

*"There's been a huge increase in birdlife, without a shadow of doubt. Most mornings we have a dawn chorus, which we didn't use to get."*

Pete and Robyn are seeing lots more Kererū (Wood Pigeons), hearing Ruru (Morepork) and even heard a Pīpīwhararua (Shining Cuckoo).



Thanks for your support in helping us control pests and protect native birds in the Marlborough Sounds.  
Find out more at [soundsrestoration.org.nz](https://soundsrestoration.org.nz)