RET SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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|  we have almost finished our 2018 Pest Control Operation targeting rats in Rotoehu Forest, if you are keen to help out this coming weekend it will be great to see you. |

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| [View this email in your browser](https://mailchi.mp/dadc1cce8fcc/rets-september-2018-news?e=086eb97478) |

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| **PEST CONTROL OPERATION - THE FINAL**PUSHJust a reminder that this Saturday (29th September) we will be finishing off our pest control operation by removing the uneaten bait from the bait stations. If you intend to join us you will need the following: Sturdy footwear, a pack, weather suitable clothing, a long sleeved top and a sense of adventure.RET will supply PPE (gloves, masks etc), bags for lining your packs, and coffee, chocolate fish and nibbles for those who last the distance.A convoy will be leaving from Okere Falls at 8:30am, or alternatively you can meet us at the intersection of Pukehangi and Rotoehu Roads at 9:00am. In both instances look for the kokako signs.Forecast for Saturday is fine with light winds and a high of 16 degrees, so it should be another great day for a wander through the bush. |

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| Hot off the press - the Kokako population is now estimated as 3,685 birds! That's 1,692 pairs, plus individuals. Awesome efforts by all those involved in kokako conservation! |

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| **FUNDING NEWS**RET recently submitted a funding application to the Western Bay of Plenty District Council. The application was to expand the L-Lines in Southern Pongakawa Ecological Area. RET recieved word last week that our application was successful, and we've been granted $10,000 for this expansion work. Thank you to Glenn Ayo for his support, and the Western Bay of Plenty Council for the funding! |

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| The Great Kereru Count is currently underway for 2018. Please record any kereru sightings by going to <https://www.greatkererucount.nz/> or by using the iNaturalist app and linking them to the GKC2018 project. Counting closes on the 30thSeptember, so make sure to get counting and recording!  |

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| **UPCOMING EVENTS** **Saturday 29th September****Where:**9:00 am at the intersection of Pukehangi and Rotoehu Roads**Doing what:**removing bait from bait stations as the final part of our pest control operation**What to bring:**sturdy footwear, water bottle, weather appropriate clothing (including a long-sleeved top), and a change of clothes. Gloves, masks and coffee will be providedDue to the timing of our pest control operation we have decided to cancel the October workday to give everyone a chance to recover. Our final workday for 2018 will be held on Sunday 11th November, and it will be a celebration to mark RET’s 5 years of conservation work. More details will follow but mark the date in your calendars now.**Sunday 11th November****Who:**Rotoehu Ecological Trust**Where:**Time and location to be confirmed**Doing what:** 5 year celebration!**What to bring:**sturdy footwear, water bottle, weather appropriate clothing |

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