



## Our Vision:

The forests and beaches of Abel Tasman are once again filled with the birdsong that awakens and delights visitors.

*Kia whakaoho te mauri o te Ata-hapara. Kia rongo, Kia Kite, Ki te reo koro tui o Te Tai tapu*

Kia ora everyone,

The weather has been a bit wet the last few months, but it hasn't stopped visitors coming to enjoy our wonderful Abel Tasman National Park! Many large trees have come down on several of our traplines so DOC staff are going to help get them cleared over the coming months.

As always we give a huge thanks to those who have transported volunteers into the park over the last few months. This includes [Aquataxi](#), [Sea Shuttle](#), [Wilsons](#), DOC and even private boat owners.



Motuareronui/Adele Is silhouette (Photo credit: A Butler)

## Predator Control News

Our trapping network utilises both wooden trap boxes and self-resetting Goodnature A24s to protect our precious native wildlife.

We're proud to report that **381 mustelids** and **7297 rats** have been removed from ATBT traps since October 2010. Predator numbers are generally low during the winter months picking up to peak in spring and summer.

Recent [footprint tracking tunnel monitoring](#) showed a 5% rat tracking rate in our intensively trapped 'Heart of the Park' block. This compares to a 94% rat tracking rate in a block behind Awaroa where there is currently no rat control. Results like these highlight the impact trapping can have on an ecosystem. More specific graphics and maps can be found in [our latest predator control report](#) on our website.

## Biodiversity News

### Restoration

Two recent planting days saw our Tinline restoration project boosted by over 600 strong and healthy native trees! The trees we plant will improve the food source for birds as well as improve the visitor experience in the park. Thanks to [Abel Tasman Tree Collective](#) and [Trees that Count](#) for funding the trees this year.



Another committed bunch of planters! (Photo credit: A Butler)

Trees planted in previous years are looking really healthy too. To give them the best chance of survival we add water crystals and a fertiliser tablet to their roots. It seems to have paid off with beech and rimu flourishing.



Rimu are growing particularly well – first year to third year of growth (Photo credit: K Amey)

## ***Motuareronui/Adele Island***

We recently supported the planting of 117 beech trees on the top ridgeline on Motuareronui/Adele Island. The plantings are part of a trial to see how beech grow on this poor quality soil. Some trees have had impressive growth and we hope that they eventually impede the shade-intolerant hakea which also grows on the ridgelines.



Armin located this beech that has managed to emerge above the other vegetation (Photo credit: H Lindsay)

We're still seeking robin/toutouwai observations. Some have been spotted close to the coast, at 100m altitude. These individuals may be related to the birds we transferred to Pitt Head a couple of years ago. Email [atbirdsong1@gmail.com](mailto:atbirdsong1@gmail.com) with details.

There are many other delights to be seen in the Abel Tasman if you take your time. A recent 'Fungi Forage' in the Tinline area found 66 different species of fungi!



A beautiful purple coral fungus *Clavaria zollingeri* (Photo Credit: D Pittham)

## ***Donate to make a difference***

Please go to the ['Give-a-Little'](https://www.givealittle.co.nz/) website, search 'Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust' and follow the instructions. Pass this on to friends you think might like to make a donation to our cause! Every contribution assists us greatly.



A beautiful Karearea spotted at Anchorage (Photo credit: Kieran)



## *Acknowledgments*

Our positive conservation gains wouldn't be achievable without support from the following groups, so we give them heartfelt thanks:

- the local commercial operators who support us with our annual Birdsong Levy and volunteer transport into the Park
- the visitors to the Park who always show an interest in what we do and contribute a small part of their ticket fare to our restoration work.
- all our full and associate members
- Pic's Peanut Butter for our A24 bait
- NZ Lotteries Grants Board and the Moncrieff Family Trust for supporting our 'Heart of the Park' project
- DOC Community Fund for funding the coordinator role
- All recent donors
- DOC and Project Janszoon for their excellent partnership support
- Abel Tasman Tree Collective
- Trees that Count



*Whakarongo ki te tangi a te kākā*

*Whakarongo ki te tangi a te pāteke*

*Ka tangi hoki ahau*

*Tihei mauri ora!*

*No reira kia ora tatou katoa*

The biggest thank you is reserved for our amazing volunteers – with their assistance we are removing pests, restoring ecosystems and giving our native species a fighting chance!

Abby and the Trustees