

Here are some practical steps you can take to reduce the risk of introducing rodents and other pests, like taupata, to the Tītī islands.

Give rodents the little finger!

The rule is that if you can push your little finger up to the end of your fingernail with force into a container – then it's **not** rodent proof.

Packing at Home

- Pack gear as close to departure as possible
- Set snap traps and/or lay poison rodent baits around the area you use for packing
- Pack foodstuffs into clean sealed bags or plastics containers (eg. fish bins, barrels with lids)
- Once food is packed – seal it immediately and make sure it stays sealed until you get to the island
- Only take veges and fruit that have been washed and are free of dirt, and insects, such as snails
- Ensure all personal gear and clothing (eg. socks, pockets, and soles of footwear) is clean (free of dirt and seeds)
- Check any gear that has been in storage for a long time (like tents, packs and old mattresses) for dirt, insects and seeds

Travelling by boat

- Place poison baits in fadges just prior to transporting your gear
- Install rodent guards on mooring lines
- Shut doors at night and inspect decks for rodent sign
- Pack and load building material and large items like generators or mattresses as close to departure as possible
- Check everything before transporting

Using helicopters

- Use clean fadges
- Place poison baits in fadges just prior to transporting your gear

Unpacking at the Islands

- Take extra care and be vigilant for any rodent sign. Check baits haven't been chewed
- Take care between islands as well to ensure pests aren't transported from one island to another
- Be extra vigilant taking equipment from islands known to still have rats to rat free islands
- Set up regular monitoring of all bait stations and traps – a great activity for kids
- Unpack gear in a room with closed doors and windows

Early warning signs of pests

- Carcasses or remains of any species or eggshells
- Gnaw marks on anything
- Droppings
- Burrowing or digging
- If you see a pest – take note and take pictures whenever possible

Let someone know

- Ring the national pest line **0800 80 99 66**
- Let the supervisor and/or a Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body committee member know
- Take pictures wherever possible

Be vigilant, be alert and don't forget to give rodents the little finger!

Predator Free Tītī Islands



Tauparapara

Te Waiata a Io Te Atua

Nā te pō ko te ao, tana ko te Ao Mārama, ka heke iho ko ngā ariki ki te whai ao.

Ko tēnei tātou ngā whakatupuranga kua waihotia ki muri, hei kaitiaki mō ngā taonga kua mahue ki muri kei runga i ngā moutere e hora nei I te Moana-Tāpokapoka-a-Tāwhaki me Te Ara a Kiwa e marohirohi e Rakiura e!

Through the realms of night came the world of light and understanding. Then descended the Atua who provided the islands and treasures of Rakiura. It is us, as the descendants, who have the responsibility to protect the islands and the treasures of Te Moana-Tāpokapoka-a-Tāwhaki and Te Ara a Kiwa that lie glittering under the glowing skies of Rakiura.



Introduction

The management of the Tītī Islands and the relationship of the Rakiura Māori to these motu are the epitome of rangatiratanga being exercised according to traditional customs and practices, as guaranteed by Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Tītī Islands are wahi taonga – resources that sustain life and are culturally and historically important to Rakiura Māori.

The motu are governed by both the Rakiura Tītī Committee and the Rakiura Tītī Island Administering Body. The Committee governs the beneficial islands, and the Administering Body governs the former Crown Tītī Islands. Many islands are now free of rats and it is the aim of both committees to achieve that status for all islands.

Pests include:

- Pets and rodents: rats, mice, cats, dogs, cats, ferrets, stoats and birds.
- Plants: seeds and cuttings
- Invertebrates: insects, snails and mites including their eggs and larvae
- Diseases: animal and human diseases and viruses
- Introduced parasitic fungi

It only takes one person to overlook basic precautions for every person and the whenua to lose.

Always be vigilant and teach our mokopuna to look and learn.

Kotahi te kakama

One is aware of the surroundings

Ka Ora te Mauri

The surroundings will endure

Kotahi te Ngoikore

One who is unaware of the surroundings

Ka mate te Mauri

The surroundings will suffer

Kia ora e te whānau, to all muttonbirders and kaitiaki of our motu.

