

Monthly meeting of the Waimea Inlet Forum working group.

Monday 21 November

- The Forum was given funding from Tasman Environmental Trust (TET) to employ Kathryn Brownlie to coordinate planting groups around the Inlet and Tracey Murray to coordinate the trapping groups. Traps to be laid out in 3 stages, stage 1 is complete.
- They reported on numbers of plants in the ground and predators trapped during 2016.
- The bus trip will now take place early in 2017. Details will be circulated in the new year.
- *A meeting will be held in Headingly Centre on 4 February to plan for planting the margins of Moturoa (Rabbit Is) and Motuiti (Rough Is). All those interested in joining or forming a planting group are welcome to attend.*
- **'Contrapest'** has received approval from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for managing rodent pest populations through reducing fertility.
The technology targets the reproductive capabilities of both sexes, inducing egg loss in female rodents and impairing sperm development in males. It is dispensed in a "rodent-friendly" liquid formulation that promotes the sustained take-up by rodent communities. It is designed, formulated and dispensed to be safe for handlers and non-target species such as wildlife, livestock and pets, breaking down into inactive ingredients when it comes in contact with soil or water.
As far as the meeting knew this is not in NZ but it is a space to watch.
- Fairfax, Mitre 10, & DOC have initiated a wasp control project which will be carried out in early December, targeting key wasp places.

Gillian Pollock