

Landowners and kiwi

How landowners and residents can help kiwi at their place

Kiwi are a territorial long-lived species, so once they are settled they are likely to stick around for a while. Responsible dog ownership is essential to allow kiwi populations to thrive. Here are some additional things we can do to help protect kiwi:



Holes can become a kiwi trap

- Kiwi are curious creatures who like to explore dark places
- Sometimes their exploration can lead to them climbing or falling into holes which they can't escape from
- If you have any holes at your place (e.g. offal pits) please make sure the kiwi have a way to get out

Death by drowning

- Kiwi sometimes get stuck in water and may drown
- If you have standing water (troughs, fish ponds, or pools including paddling pools) try to make sure kiwi can't get in. If they can get in, then make sure they can also get out (bricks, stones or a ramp can help)
- This is especially important during droughts, when kiwi may be seeking hydration from unexpected places



Top tips for trapping

- Trapping is an excellent way to help protect the environment
- Ensuring you don't catch any non-targets such as kiwi is an important part of being a responsible trapper
- Ground-set traps like DOC200s need to be in an approved wooden trap box; and cat or possum traps like SA2s and Timms need to be at least 70cm above the ground to protect kiwi, and at least 130cm above the ground if there are weka about. Don't use ground-set leghold traps around kiwi or weka.



Be vigilant with vegetation

- Kiwi use almost all vegetation types, including rank grass, weeds like pampas, and regenerating scrub
- If you are controlling vegetation please be mindful that kiwi could be present. Make plenty of noise, leave areas for the kiwi to escape to, and keep dogs away in case kiwi flush
- Where possible, avoid controlling vegetation during the peak kiwi egg incubation season (August - January).



The best way to protect kiwi is to keep dogs under control