



goodnature®

Photo by: Nick Singers

GOODNATURE A24 TRAPS SUCCESSFULLY PROTECT WHIO POPULATION

📍 Tongariro River

📅 30th of October, 2015



Goodnature A24

Goodnature A24 traps have been used to protect whio/blue duck on the upper Tongariro River for nearly three years, in an area where no other pest control occurs.

The Blue Duck Project Charitable Trust runs the programme and Nick Singers, freelance ecologist, maintains the traps and monitors the results.

Nick reports that while pair numbers were initially low, successful breeding has occurred in both of the last two seasons with a pair each fledging 5 ducklings. Over this time the whio population has increased from 2 to 6 pairs and no females have been predated during this period.

Trap density was at DOC best practice stoat control for whio protection at 200m spacings with two lines either side of the river. Trap density has recently been increased with additional sponsorship. Trap placement was focused to warm and dry sites, where animal runs were observed.

Nick also observed that despite the low trap density the North Island robin population seems to be benefitting from this pest control as they now appear to be more numerous.

Acknowledgements to:

