

# rapport



DOC completed the first of three aerial bait drops to remove rodent pests from the rugged Rangitoto terrain last weekend.

## Port on patrol for pest removal

Ports of Auckland recently assisted the Department of Conservation (DOC) in the most complex island pest eradication they have ever attempted – removing animal pests such as rats, mice, rabbits and stoats from Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands.

Last weekend, the Port's Akarana pilot boat completed a full-day tour of duty around the islands, joining several other vessels in helping to deter any public traffic not aware of the 10-day closure imposed for an aerial bait drop exercise.

Ports of Auckland Managing Director

Jens Madsen said the company was excited to be involved in such an inspiring environmental project.

"The Port recognises the special role we have to play in both the community and environment," he said.

"When we heard about this major exercise, right on Ports of Auckland's doorstep in the Hauraki Gulf, we were very eager to lend a hand in any way we could."

He said Ports of Auckland also had a special affinity with Rangitoto Island. "The island has become a well-known

landmark, welcoming ships and their crew calling Auckland, and has therefore featured in our logo for nearly 20 years."

Mr Madsen encouraged visitors to the Hauraki Gulf Islands to do their part to protect the islands from pests.

"Once the hard work is done removing these animals, everyone will need to be vigilant to prevent pests getting back on to the islands," he said.

"This means taking the necessary precautions and making sure you don't have any stowaways onboard before leaving the mainland."

To learn more about how you can help protect the Hauraki Gulf Islands visit [www.treasureislands.co.nz](http://www.treasureislands.co.nz). More information about pest removal programme can be found at [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz).

### Work starts on Wiri rail link

Construction has begun on a new rail link connecting Ports of Auckland's Wiri Inland Port to the national rail network.

Managing Director Jens Madsen says the company plans to start railing containers between the Port of Auckland and Wiri before the end of the year.

Once fully operational, the rail link is forecast to eventually save up to 2.5 million truck kilometres per year – the equivalent of 100,000 central city truck trips.

Mr Madsen said that over time Ports of Auckland aimed to lift the proportion

of cargo carried by rail from the current 10% to 30%.

"The Wiri rail link is a very exciting development for our neighbours and for businesses wanting to take advantage of an integrated road, rail and sea supply chain," Mr Madsen said.

"The extra capacity Wiri provides has also been instrumental in our ability to free up Queens Wharf in time for the Rugby World Cup."

Mr Madsen said road transport would continue to play an important role in servicing ports.

### Ports Boat Tours

Ports of Auckland provides free public boat tours of the Waitemata seaport and harbour. The fun and educational tours run on alternate Wednesdays at 11.00 am, with additional Saturday sailings in the summer months. Bookings are essential; visit [www.360discovery.co.nz](http://www.360discovery.co.nz) or phone 0800 360 3472. Tours leave from the 360 Discovery Kiosk, Pier 4, Quay Street.



Young school students 'learn the ropes' on a tour.

### Bright future for Queens Wharf

Ports of Auckland has agreed to sell Queens Wharf to the Government and Auckland Regional Council for \$40m. Under the agreement the Port would vacate the wharf, set to be 'party central' during the 2011 Rugby World Cup, by April 2010. Long-term, the wharf will be developed into a public space and an international cruise terminal.

### New benches for Princes Wharf

City workers and tourists can now take a break on new bench seats at the entrance to Princes Wharf, near Wildfire restaurant. The seats replace aluminium bollards.

### Resource consent gained

Ports of Auckland has gained resource consent for berth deepening and associated wharf works at the Fergusson container terminal. Following the successful deepening of the Rangitoto Channel, the works are the final step needed for the Waitemata seaport to service the next generation of larger container ships expected to arrive in New Zealand within the next few years.

### Cruise award

In May Ports of Auckland won an international award for the Most Improved Cruise Facilities. 231 ports and destinations were included in the global survey by Dream World Cruise Destinations magazine. No other New Zealand ports or cities featured in the awards.

### Feedback welcomed

Ports of Auckland welcomes feedback and complaints. Port neighbours are encouraged to contact our 24-hour public feedback hotline: +64 9 336 4898 or email us on [info@poal.co.nz](mailto:info@poal.co.nz).

### Green Ribbon Award

Ports of Auckland has won a prestigious 2009 Green Ribbon Award from the Ministry for the Environment.

Ports of Auckland won the Business 'Making a Difference' category, awarded each year to a company that demonstrates an ongoing commitment to reducing environmental impacts.

In recent years Ports of Auckland has completed a major energy-saving lighting upgrade and introduced new diesel-electric straddle carriers. Ports of Auckland is also one of the first Australasian ports to measure and audit its green house gas emissions.



### Community Reference Group

A new Community Reference Group (CRG) is providing a forum for dialogue between Ports of Auckland and its neighbours.

The CRG met for the first time on 28 May with a wide range of groups attending, including the Auckland CBD Residents' Advisory Group, Parnell Business Association, Heart of the City

and body corporate representatives from a number of local apartment buildings. Issues raised at the meeting included noise, traffic, air and water quality. The CRG will meet quarterly.

