



Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Trust Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2019

This is the tenth annual report of the Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Trust, presented by the Chair Hoani Langsbury at the Annual General Meeting held on the 21st October 2019:

The Chair noted that a marked shift in the mindset of the Trust is taking place away from suppression towards eradication of possums on the Peninsula, which aligns with the goals and milestones set with the national PF2050 initiative, with OPBG as one of the delivery partners of Predator Free Dunedin. This is also manifest in the recruitment of a new Manager for the Trust, Nathan McNally, who will be closely involved in further recruitment of other employees.

During the past year OPBG's first Volunteer Coordinator, Kate Tanner, left to take up a position with the Halo Project and our previous Project Manager, Ursula Ellenberg, decided not to renew her contract further. The VC position was subsequently filled by Marcia Dale, who as one of the Guardians was very much familiar with Kate's work as the Volunteer Coordinator and was able to take over the role seamlessly.

The Chair noted that the delivery contract with PFD is still not signed, work however is proceeding in good faith towards eradication of possums on the Peninsula. He will work towards signing the service contract at the next PFD meeting.

Hoani also mentioned that the Trust has access to the latest ZIP tools now, albeit with constraints in adapting their application to our environment.

The total for possums removed stands at just over 18,000 now, which is estimated to be approximately half of the population on the Peninsula.

The Chair concluded by acknowledging the work of all the current and former Trustees, who provided the foundation of all the achievements so far.