

REGIONAL WINNER

Ethos Environmental Beyond Glenfern Sanctuary

What was the problem?

Many species endemic to New Zealand are under threat from invasive mammals, most notably ship rats, and there is a strong need to use digital mapping processes to identify problem areas and use the data to assist in tracking and eradicating ecologically dangerous species, and developing sensors advanced enough to identify important areas for conservation of local wildlife.

How did you address it?

The approach was a combination of new technology and ancient methods, combining multifaceted data management platforms, combined with analogue indicators such as bait-stations and traps. This data can be analysed to discover vector pathways and develop a better understanding of the invasive species' behavior. This is paired with the use of ArcGIS to record and document years of ongoing field studies on threats to the native seabirds, creating a multi-pronged conservation approach.

What were the key outcomes?

The conservation effort has seen the return of seabirds, previously extinct in certain areas. Through ongoing monitoring with remote sensing and field observations the tools now exist to keep a step ahead of the constant stream of predators threatening the area. The outreach work now targets empowering communities to “own” their data and proudly share their efforts using IoT enabled traps, Webmaps and Operations

For more information about this project or to contact Ethos Environmental, please visit their website:
<https://www.ethosenvironmental.co.nz/>

