

**SEPTEMBER 2025 MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September from 7.00 p.m.**

**PN Central Library Ground Floor, George Street**

**\*\* (PLEASE NOTE: Our meetings have changed back to the Ground Floor) \*\***

(The talk will be streamed via zoom (@ 7.30pm) – see below for the link)

**Talk: Reasons to kill rats"**

**Speakers:** Professor Steve Trewick & Professor Mary Morgan Richards, Massey University



Norway Rat (*Rattus norvegicus*)  
Photo: DOC



Ships Rat (*Rattus rattus*)  
Photo: DOC



Kiore/Polynesian rat (*Rattus exulans*)  
Photo: DOC

Three species of rat arrived in Aotearoa with humans and quickly spread to all corners. At the same time as rats expanded, many endemic vertebrate populations went extinct. The invasive rodents compete with native predators, harbour fleas with disease and add to our carbon footprint. We talk about the ecology of rats in New Zealand forests and summarise why we kill them and who benefits from reducing their density. We are also interested in rat dispersal and their ability to tolerate high doses of anticoagulants and will talk about future studies.

**The talk will start streaming at 7.30 p.m.**

**Zoom Link:** <https://forestandbird-org->

[nz.zoom.us/j/83818435728?pwd=XfATBzWKX7hPHaB2PoNKXIS46kPmEM.1](https://forestandbird-org-nz.zoom.us/j/83818435728?pwd=XfATBzWKX7hPHaB2PoNKXIS46kPmEM.1)

Meeting ID: 838 1843 5728

Passcode: 191717

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

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