**New Trap Management Approach:
Predator Free Port Hills**

The Summit Road Society Is going to change our trap management approach going forward. Many thanks to everyone who gave their feedback on the recent proposal.

Under the new system, households can borrow a trap from our trap library for a period of 4 months. This will give them the opportunity to trial backyard trapping. No bond will be payable including for Goodnature traps. Individuals will be required to sign loan paperwork. At the end of this 4 month period, the trap will be returned to the Society’s trap library. As part of the agreement, the trapper will be required to report kills (including zero kills) on Trap NZ or directly to their local co-ordinator.

Households have the opportunity to purchase subsidised traps from the Society. We are favouring the approach of affordable traps, rather than free traps. All traps except Goodnature traps will be subsidised by 40%. The trapper pays 60% of the cost of the trap to the Society and the Society covers the rest. Goodnature traps will be subsidised 30% due to the extra cost of these traps.

Following feedback received during our consultation process, we are going to round the cost of the subsidised traps up or down to the nearest five dollars to keep payments simple.

**Subsidised Trap Price List as at May 2018:**

* + Predator Free NZ Trust rat tunnel – $20
	+ PCR 200 (zinc coated) in wooden box for mustelids, rats and hedgehogs– $40
	+ Trapinators for Possums – $30
	+ Goodnature trap plus counter for possums - $130

Please note that these prices are based on current prices and will be reviewed from time to time.

For new households joining Predator Free Port Hills, this new system will apply from 1 June. This gives us time to seek feedback from co-ordinators and trappers and make any changes as required.

**What if I already have a trap?**

At the moment, all traps are still owned by the Summit Road Society and are on long term loan.

Those with Goodnature traps have paid a bond of $104.50. If you have a Goodnature trap and would like to keep it permanently, we are asking that the money you paid as bond be used to purchase the trap so that it become yours. The Society converts your trap bond to a trap purchase and you own the trap permanently, there will be no extra money to pay. You can purchase a Goodnature trap counter for an additional $25 if you wish. Counters are important as they give us an accurate count of the number of predators killed. If you don’t wish to keep the trap you can return it to the trap library and receive your trap bond back.

Those with other traps, we are asking you to either return the trap to the trap library or to purchase a trap. We do hope that nearly all of our trappers decide to continue with the trapping as over time and with enough coverage, backyard trapping will make a meaningful difference to predator numbers and hence bird and lizard populations. If you are getting good results with your trap then logistically it is probably easiest to purchase the trap you already have but we can discuss other options if you want to try a different type of trap.

**For existing households, all traps need to be either purchased or returned by 30 September 2018.**

All trap monies received will go back into purchasing the next round of traps.

**How else can I help?**

If you can, please consider making a donation to our Predator Free Port Hills project through internet banking or through our Givealittle page (add details).

You can also sponsor a trap for another trapper by paying double. This will enable us to provide free traps to those who cannot afford the subsidised traps.

You may also like to join the Summit Road Society. The Society is a charitable organisation dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing the natural environment and open character of the Port Hills and providing for public access. The Society launched Predator Free Port Hills in November 2016 to help bring back our native birds, insects and lizards. Please join us! Annual individual memberships are $20, family memberships are $35. Please contact the Secretary for details.

**How do I pay for my trap?**

Please liaise with the Secretary of the Summit Road Society on all trap payments.

Marie Gray, phone 3493409, text 0274702020, email secretary@summitroadsociety.org.nz

Payments should be made by internet banking into the Summit Road Society’s bank account
(details)

Please reference your name and suburb and email the Secretary details of your payment for easy tracking.