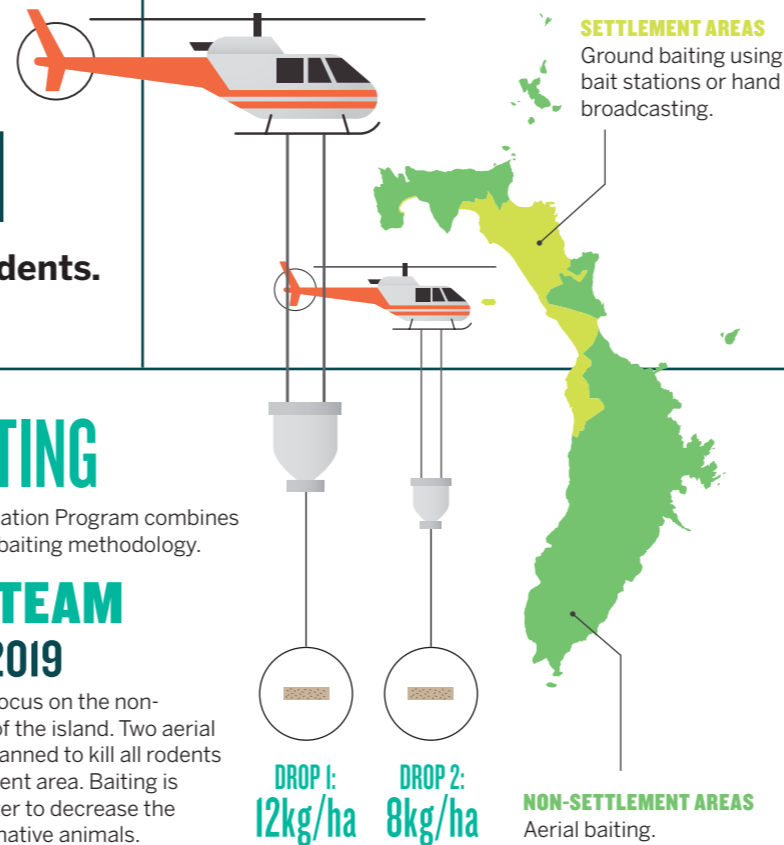


LORD HOWE ISLAND RODENT ERADICATION PROGRAM

The largest populated island to undertake a full scale eradication of rodents. What does it take for an operation of this magnitude to be successful?



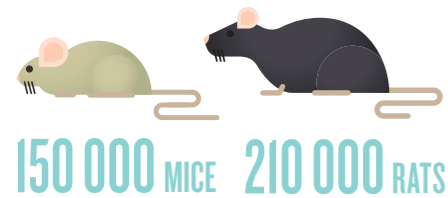
LESS THAN 1.2KG **28000** **BRODIFACOUM**
The total bait application of cereal pellets will contain a total of 1.2kg of the active ingredient brodifacoum.

BAIT STATIONS
Used across the settlement area.

2100ha
OF SURFACE AREA TO BE BAITED

1 PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION 2001

Mice and rats are responsible for the extinction of at least 5 endemic bird species and 13 invertebrate species since 1918. Inaction will threaten the unique biodiversity values on which World Heritage listing is based.



House mice (*Mus musculus*) arrived on Lord Howe Island before 1860. Black rats (*Rattus rattus*) were introduced in 1918 when the ship *SS Makambo* ran aground.

Lord Howe Island phasmid:
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

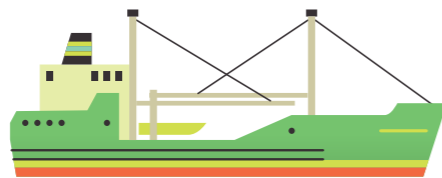


70+ THREATENED SPECIES IMPACTED BY RODENTS

Including the world's rarest insect, the Lord Howe Island phasmid. Thought to be extinct since 1920, it was rediscovered on a rodent-free island in the Lord Howe Island Group in 2001.

2 PLANNING, LOGISTICS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SEP 2017-APR 2019

Located 775km off the coast of Sydney, Lord Howe Island's remote location means the project requires extensive planning and logistics management, in conjunction with broad and ongoing community engagement to ensure the greatest possible chance of success.



1 SUPPLY SHIP

Most of the equipment and materials needed for the project will be shipped by the *Island Trader*.

8 CORE PROJECT CREW



3 BAITING

The Rodent Eradication Program combines aerial and ground baiting methodology.

AERIAL TEAM JUN/JUL 2019

Aerial baiting will focus on the non-settlement areas of the island. Two aerial applications are planned to kill all rodents in the non-settlement area. Baiting is scheduled for winter to decrease the risk to non-target native animals.

2 AS350 HELICOPTERS USING BAIT SPREADING BUCKETS

Each helicopter is equipped with a flight line Global Positioning System (GPS), recording accurate flight lines to ensure bait is applied with 100% coverage. Use of deflector buckets will minimise bait in the marine environment.

2 AERIAL BAIT APPLICATIONS

3-5 days each, 14-21 days apart. Scheduled for June/July 2019.

2 HELICOPTER PILOTS

Highly skilled with experience flying in challenging conditions.

8 AERIAL SUPPORT CREW

One helicopter engineer, one GIS officer, one loading supervisor, and five bait loaders.

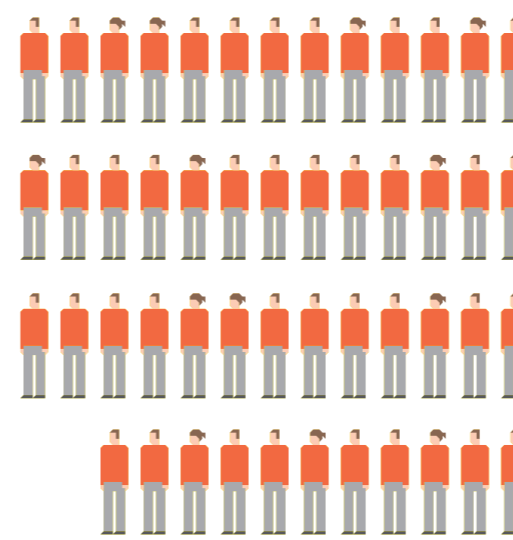


GROUND TEAM MAY-OCT 2019

Bait stations will be placed throughout the settlement area, with hand broadcasting in areas between bait stations and aerial areas.

50 GROUND BAITING CREW

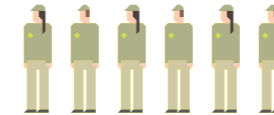
To place bait stations, monitor bait stations and to hand broadcast bait.



4 MONITORING & CAPTIVE MANAGEMENT APR 2019-AUG 2021

6 CAPTIVE MANAGEMENT CREW

Up to 85% of woodhens and 50-60% of currawongs will be housed during baiting by the Taronga Zoo team, who provide specialist care for the birds during the monitoring phase.



6 SPECIALLY TRAINED DOG TEAMS

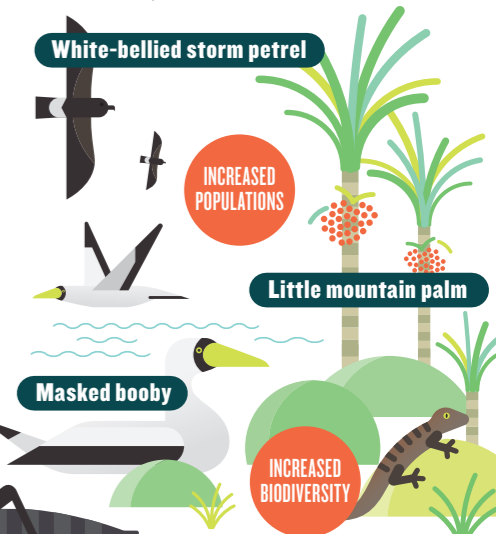
Two permanent biosecurity dogs and their handlers will monitor rodent activity. Specially trained rodent detection dogs and their handlers will also be used after the baiting.



Intensive rodent monitoring will occur for two years, followed by ongoing biosecurity monitoring. If no rodents are detected two years after the initial eradication the project will be deemed a success.

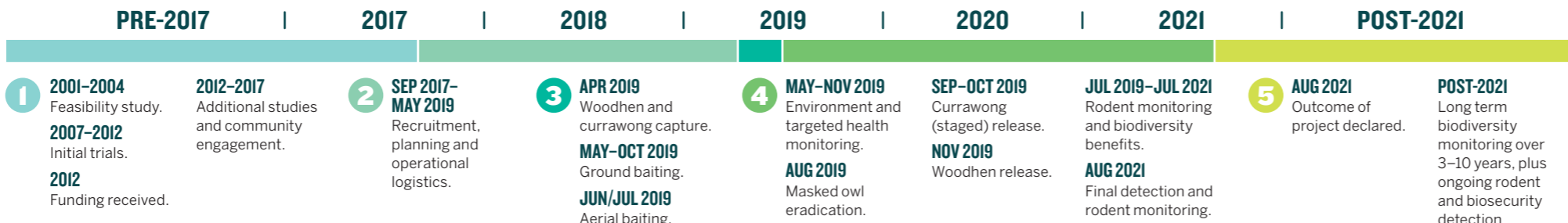
5 OUTCOMES AUG 2021

- ✓ Increased biodiversity.
- ✓ Enhanced world heritage values.
- ✓ Removal of rodenticide from Lord Howe Island permanently.
- ✓ Removal of domestic rodent impacts and related health concerns.
- ✓ Increased numbers and breeding success for birds such as the Kermadec petrel, masked booby and white-bellied storm petrel.
- ✓ Increased seeds and seedlings for numerous plant species including the critically endangered little mountain palm.
- ✓ Recovery of endemic ground lizards and invertebrates such as land snails.
- ✓ Reintroduction of the world's rarest insect, the Lord Howe Island phasmid.
- ✓ Long term benefits to tourism and the island's economy through improved visitor experience.



TIMELINE

PROGRAM BUDGET:
\$10.5 MILLION



LORD HOWE ISLAND RODENT ERADICATION PROJECT



PROGRAM PARTNERS

