

## **Kiwi Identification and Management Summary**

### **Kiwi Identification**

The Kiwi is a protected species which is present in this forest. Ernslaw One Ltd is currently undertaking to reduce impacts of our operations on this species and ultimately protect and enhance our populations of this species.

#### **How to Recognise Kiwi Sign**

You may come across kiwi sign in the forest, this can be in the form of probe marks (Figure 1), faecal deposits (Figure 2), feathers (Figure 3), and footprints (Figure 4).

#### **Characteristics of Probe Marks**

Kiwi probe marks are holes made by kiwi searching in the ground for worms. These can be up to a maximum depth of 14cm. They are oval in shape, larger at the ground surface and tapering down to a point beneath the ground.



Figure 1- Kiwi probe mark



Figure 2- Kiwi faeces

#### **Characteristics of Faeces**

Fresh faeces are small cylindrical blobs, but most commonly rain or other moisture causes them to be in a flatter, “poached egg shaped” form. They are generally black or dark brown with a small amount of white speckling. They have a characteristic strong earthy musk odour.

#### **Characteristics of Feathers**

Kiwi feathers will appear pale brown and are more like human hair than a feather, e.g. very fine and wispy. An individual feather will seem soft; however, the feathers on a bird will feel coarse like bristles.



Figure 3- Kiwi feather



Figure 4- Kiwi footprints

### **Characteristics of Footprints**

Kiwi footprints are 3 widely splayed toes, with the central toe being approximately 10cm in length (4 inches).

### **Kiwi Management**

**If you see a Kiwi report it to Ernslaw One Ltd who will report it to DOC.**

If the Kiwi is injured report it to DOC immediately and ask for assistance.

If the Kiwi is in danger and has to be caught follow these rules;

- Females should never be handled in case they have an egg inside them but if you have to follow the rules.
- Surround the Kiwi
- Do not jump on the Kiwi as there is a danger of crushing.
- Catch it by grabbing one or both legs. DO NOT catch it or hold it by the body or the bill.
- Hold both legs with one finger separating the legs to ensure circulation. The claws can inflict serious wounds if not held quickly.
- Cradle the kiwi across your forearm or legs. DO NOT place bird near your face.
- Avoid movement as much as practicable.
- Place the kiwi in a bag ensuring it can breathe and leave to settle in a cool dark quiet place until a qualified person can assist.
- Do not touch your mouth and face after handling kiwi. Wash your hands and forearms thoroughly preferably with a disinfectant soap. Apply antiseptic cream to any wounds inflicted by kiwi.
- Disinfect any bags that you may have used for holding kiwi.

### **Subsequent Management by Ernslaw**

- The area within the perimeter should then be left until after the Kiwi breeding season, after which operations can continue.
- When burrows are identified, traps or bait stations should be placed. These should become part of a predator control programme in the area.
- Refer Ernslaw One Limited Kiwi Management Plan for further detail.