

Whose poo is whose????

Animal droppings (faeces, pellets, or scats) are one of the most common signs of where they live.

Look closely at the poo of these animals as it helps you to identify whose poo is whose, consider-

- Location: where in New Zealand it is found,
- Habitat: the natural home range or environment of an animal (e.g., in the mountains, high alpine area or beech forest)
- Site: the place where it is found in the habitat, e.g. in a burrow, up a tree, in a riverbed etc
- Shape: long or round, stuck together or separate
- What does it look like: colour, smell, and texture
- Traces in droppings that suggest what it have eaten: seeds, insects, plant fibre, eggshells, fur, feathers, and bone

Whose poo is whose???

Kea Poo



Kea poo reflects what it has eaten.

In the wild kea feed on roots, bulbs, leaves, flowers, shoots, seeds, nectar and fruit from native plants. Small animals including insects like grasshoppers, beetles, various larvae, and cleaning up animal remains can also be on the menu.

Did you see the coprosma berries?

Kea play an important part in spreading native seeds throughout the forest.

Due to their curious nature Kea can also eat objects/foodstuffs available to them from human interactions which can make them very ill and even die.

DO NOT FEED THE KEA

Whose poo is whose????

Ship Rat poo



Ship rat



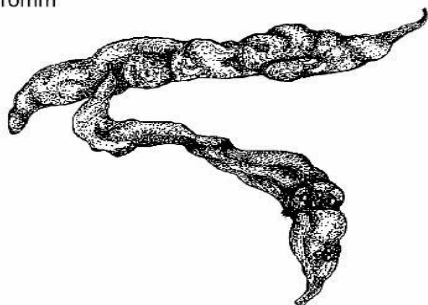
Rat poo is small and cylindrical approximately 7 to 14mm long. Rats feed on a diverse range of foods including human trash. In the wild they target easily accessible meals like birds, birds eggs, fruits, nuts, fish and meats. Rats poo may contain fragments from predated nests and anything found in their area.

Whose poo is whose???

Stoat poo



10mm



Stoat poo is black, long, and thin with a twist in each end approximately 40-80mm long.

Stoats are a deadly predator to our kea and NZ wildlife. They are messy eaters that will eat birds, rodents, insects, rabbits, hares, and fish.

Stoat poo will be full of feathers, bones, fur, or insect cuticle.

Whose poo is whose????

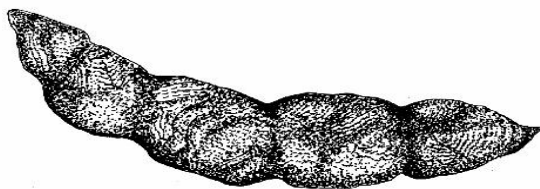
Cat poo



Cat poo is normally dark in colour and in 3 to 6 elongated segments.

Cats are mainly carnivorous, killing birds, lizards, invertebrates, and small mammals.

Their poo can contain remnants of its kill including feathers, bones, fur, feathers, and body parts of its prey.



10mm

Feral cats are a major threat to our native birds especially Kea, and cat

DNA has been identified on kea remains found in the wild. Feral cats do not allow themselves to be touched by humans and can travel long distances to find a food source.

Responsible cat ownership is encouraged throughout New Zealand to help protect our native wildlife.