



## PROTECTING SEABIRDS ON THE SCOTT ISLANDS FROM

# INVASIVE RODENTS

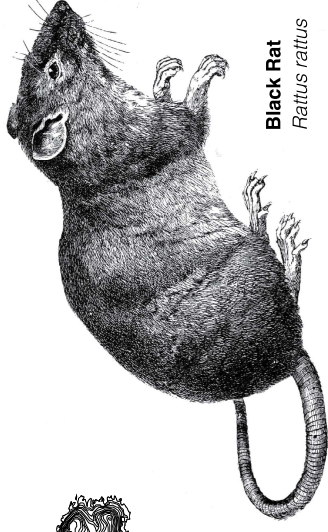


## THE SCOTT ISLANDS

### A SPECIAL PLACE FOR SEABIRDS

The Scott Islands are an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area due to the wealth of breeding birds there. The islands support the highest concentration of breeding seabirds on Canada's Pacific coast. The islands host over 1,000,000 nesting seabirds each year. Triangle Island is one of the most intensive seabird research sites in Canada.

Scott Islands marine National Wildlife Area (NWA) is the first marine protected area of its kind and was established under the Canada Wildlife Act on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It is comprised of Anne Valle (Triangle), Beresford and Sartine Islands (which are Ecological Reserves and closed to the Public), and Lanz and Cox Islands Provincial Park.



**Black Rat**  
*Rattus rattus*

## INTRODUCED RODENTS

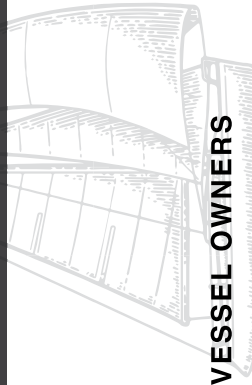
### A THREAT TO SEABIRD COLONIES

Invasive Alien Species are a major threat to breeding seabirds and can decimate colonies. Rodents are among the worst invaders to islands because they eat eggs, young, and even adult seabirds.

Currently the Scott Islands are thought to be free of introduced rodents, but Lanz and Cox Islands have American Mink and raccoon that were intentionally introduced to begin a fur industry in the 1950s.

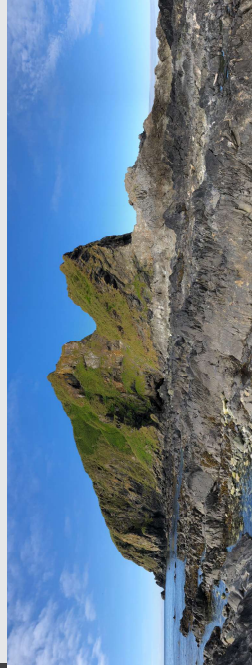
The Scott Islands provide key ecological breeding and nesting habitat for 40% of BC's seabirds, including:

- 95% of Pacific Canada's Common Murres
- 90% of Canada's Tufted Puffins
- 50% of the world's Cassin's Auklets
- 7% of the world's Rhinoceros Auklets



## A GUIDE FOR VESSEL OWNERS

Rodents are great stowaways, are adaptable, and reproduce very quickly. One pair of rats can produce 2,000 offspring in a single year!





**For more information about introduced rodents, please contact:**

**BC Parks**

FrontCounter BC Port McNeill  
 2217 Mine Road, Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0  
 Email: [BCParksConservation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:BCParksConservation@gov.bc.ca)

**Environment and Climate Change Canada**

Pacific Wildlife Research Centre  
 5421 Robertson Road, Delta, BC V4K 3N2  
 Email: [ec.rmfs-sinwa.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.rmfs-sinwa.ec@canada.ca)

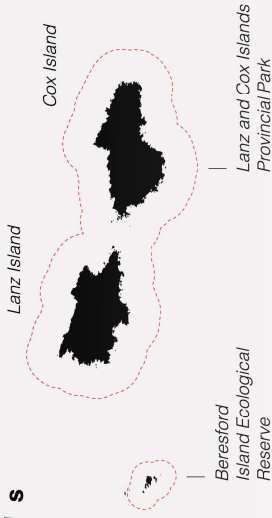
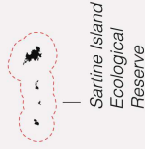


**BC Parks**

**Canada**



**The Scott Islands**



**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**KEEP THE SCOTT ISLANDS FREE OF INVASIVE RODENTS BY FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES BELOW**

- Maintain a rodent-free vessel, which will help to prevent the introduction of these pests to offshore islands.
- Keep food, waste, and gear in rodent-proof, sealed storage areas.
- Inspect your boat regularly for signs of rodents, droppings, and nests as well as chewed food, wood, or wires.
- Clean up any debris that could shelter rodents.
- Never throw a rodent overboard. They are good swimmers and will reach land.
- Use rodent guards on ship-to-shore lines to prevent them from boarding at ports.
- Set traps on your vessel at least two days before leaving port.
- Seal all entry points on your boat. Rats can crawl through holes as small as 0.5 inch.

**PICK UP A FREE RODENT PREVENTION KIT**

**FROM A FRONT-COUNTER BC OFFICE**

**IN PORT MCNEILL, CONTAINING:**



Large and small snap traps to catch invasive rodents on your vessel



Instructions on when and where to set traps on your vessel



A rodent-free vessel sticker to display on your boat



**REPORT RODENT SIGHTINGS**

IMMEDIATELY TO THE LOCAL BC PARKS OR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA OFFICE.



**LEARN MORE AND SPREAD THE WORD TO OTHERS**

