

Macquarie Island Pest Eradication Project — Rabbit, Rat & Mouse Removal (Australia)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Australia

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

A seven-year, ~AUD 24-24.6M Australian/Tasmanian government programme eradicated rabbits, rats and mice from the 12,785 ha Macquarie Island by 2014; vegetation biomass grew 5-10x within two years, though aerial baiting killed an estimated ~2,400 native birds.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service / Australian Antarctic Division](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Australian Antarctic Division — Pests eradicated from Macquarie Island](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[CBS News — Species eradication backfires, then succeeds](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

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