

# Extremely rare footage of a tuatara hatching captured on film (w/ Video)

October 23 2014

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Last to hatch, the egg was one of 23 being incubated in captivity this year as part of a joint initiative that has helped to save a threatened population of tuatara from extinction.

Using a low-cost microcomputer and [infrared camera](#), Warren Butcher from Victoria's Image Services team filmed seven hours of footage and then compressed it into a short video clip.

Since the early 1990s, Victoria University, the Department of Conservation and local Mana Whenua Ngati Manuhiri have run an intensive conservation recovery plan for [tuatara](#) on Hauturu ō Toi/Little Barrier Island, partly-funded by the Hauturu Supporters Trust and Auckland Zoo.

Hauturu ō Toi is a [nature reserve](#) located 80 kilometres north-east of Auckland, now home to around 300 tuatara, 255 of which have been incubated at Victoria University. The star hatchling will be released there in a few years' time.

Provided by Victoria University of Wellington

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