

CONSULTATION DECISION

Explain the decision that has been made to not consult, consult on effects only, or consult on possible control methods. Include name of the Operations Manager who made the decision and any staff involved in advising him or her.

We have not consulted on the options for pest control here because this will be the third time this method has been undertaken at this site. Previous operations occurred in 2018, and 2013. Some of the local Iwi and hapu are opposed to the aerial application of 1080 in principle. In previous operations they have declined to support the application but have not strongly opposed it. There is an equal mix of supportive and opposing neighbouring landowners, two landowners [redacted] and [redacted] are strongly opposed. Consultation on effects will focus on confirming treatment boundaries and the effects of the proposed operation on interested parties are identified.

Decision made by Whitianga Operations Manager [redacted] on the advice of

Operation Manager decision: Following best practise advice from the Tiakina Nga Manu program; Aerial 1080 is the most effective tool we have to control predators over large areas and in rough terrain. Monitoring shows it protects vulnerable wildlife and forests. Therefore due to the scale of the operation, rugged and remote terrain, past history of effective aerial control and general stakeholder support aerial control will be used again in 2021 over the proposed treatment area. Consultation will be on effects only

CONSULTATION OBJECTIVES

Affected and interested parties are accurately identified

Identified parties understand the need for the proposed operation e.g. threatened species and forest health protection. They understand the

Identified parties have an opportunity to express their views about the proposed operation, have time to consider the information provided and

The effects of the proposed operation on identified parties are accurately identified

Treatment boundaries are confirmed with adjoining landowners and occupiers

Water supply's that originate from within the treatment area (up to 3kms) are identified.

Developing understanding of the operation from stakeholders

Meeting the consultation requirements for consent applications

Getting support for the operation from stakeholders

Developing understanding of the operation from stakeholders

Engagement and understanding with local Iwi.

Maintaining current relationships and developing relationships to ease the way for future operations

Provide transparency in all aspects of the operation, to avoid mistrust

NOTIFICATION OBJECTIVES

Identified parties understand the need for the proposed operation e.g. threatened species and forest health protection.

Target audiences know details relevant to them of the planned operations

The most affected parties know when the operation will start.

Target audiences are informed about the result and any ongoing risks of the operation.

Information about the operation, conservation benefits, and risks to pets are understood.

There is not a clear understanding of conservation benefits within the local community, including Iwi

BACKGROUND

The Moehau Possum and Rat operation is being undertaken to protect and enhance the unique forest and biodiversity values present on the

ISSUES

Farm dogs coming into contact with toxin.

Possum carcasses washing down rivers during high rainfall events killing dogs

Unfenced and sensitive boundaries

Conflict with pig hunters over access during caution period

Public/private water sources are located within or immediately downstream of the operational area

There is a history of strong opposition to 1080 from within the local community

There are community groups engaged in conservation activities within or adjoining the area

There is not a clear understanding of conservation benefits within the local community, including iwi

Key messages

We're here to listen

We are consulting on the effects of the planned pest control and want your views.

This operation is about protecting threatened native species and maintaining and enhancing forest health. We are controlling predators to help

Maintain low numbers of rats for the ongoing protection of the NI robin and forest birds in the Stony bay rat control area.

This method has worked well at this site in the past.

Contains examples of ecosystems and threatened species that are nationally significant

Our experience with monitoring possum impacts tells us that once possums exceed 10% RTCI health of trees such as kohekohe rapidly declines and they will eventually die. Under 5% is when the forest recovers. Result of a Possum monitor April 2021 was **6.9%**

Rats eat many native birds and so any control of rats will result in an increase in bird abundance RAT MONITOR May 2017 was 53%, after applying aerial 1080 in Oct-Nov 2017 rat tracking was down to 8% in January 2019

Extensive monitoring of native birds following aerial 1080 operations shows that they benefit from pest control

1080 is not cumulative and rapidly breaks down into harmless substances, such as CO2 and water

Our target is to get possum numbers below 2% RTCI

Our target for possums is well below what fur trappers can achieve

Leg-hold traps and cyanide do not target rats, which we want to control to protect native birds

We will pick up stoats that are trap shy