

**Application Form for rat and
possum control in the Habitat
Tuataewa Pest Control Area.**

September 2022

Name of applicant:

9(2)(a)

Company/organisation:

Habitat Tuataewa Inc.

Postal address:

9(2)(a)

Phone number:

Email address

Prepared by:

9(2)(a)

07 June 2022



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1. Introduction

It is proposed that the following pesticide uses will be applied:

1.1 Overview

- **Pesticide use #81** Cholecalciferol 8g/kg Hard paste in bait stations (Feracol)
- **Pesticide use #137** (Diphacinone 0.05g/kg) Blocks in bait stations (D-Block Extreme for the control of rats)

Permission is sought for toxic application starting on or after 03 September 2022 and ending on or before 30th November.

1.2 Treatment area

Kennedy Bay Block Part Coromandel Forest Park 44 ha.

1.3 Treatment block(s)

Kennedy Bay Block Part Coromandel Forest Park 44 ha.

1.4 Geographical location

HTPCA is located at Tuataewa 21 km NE of Coromandel Town; 6 km NE of Kennedy Bay; 5km SE of Little Bay.

1.5 Adjacent land tenure and uses

HTPCA covers approximately 300 ha of mainly private coastal land between the Tuataewa boat ramp in the south, Titimiri Point in the north, and the Tuataewa/Little Bay road in the west. ^{9(2)(a)}

A portion of the Kennedy Bay Block of the Coromandel Forest Park, administered by D.O.C., is included in the HTPCA

1.6 Nearby residential areas or facilities

The nearest residential areas are along Waihirere Drive and Tuataewa Road.

1.7 Community interests

There is a stony boat access and a Council Reserve in Tuataewa, these are 1km away from the intended baiting areas. There is a Coastal Walkway from Waihirere Drive above the Lux subdivision ending at the coast which is not

adjacent to the operational area. Pig hunting is allowed with permits, when the withholding periods have expired.

**1.8
Management
history**

Rats have been controlled since 1996, with an increased grid (150 x 75 m) since 1999. Baiting has been on a pulsed regime, once a year in spring to protect fledging birds.

Since 2009, a revised regime has been in place which has separated possum and rat control activities, involving less anticoagulant and less persistent rodenticides. Baiting has been restricted to the bird breeding season. Rat and possum abundance indices are monitored using standard procedures and control regimes are reviewed annually. Data pertaining to these activities is collated and reported by the baiting coordinator.

Possums are controlled mainly by kill traps set around the perimeter of HTPCA and on some internal lines. Trap locations have been plotted using GPS and kill data is collated and reported.

Rat traps and self setting rat traps have been added to most of our lines in the last few years.

A network of stoat traps is maintained within the HTPCA by Moeheu Environmental Group. Additionally, since 2013, HT has purchased and is maintaining a further 100 stoat traps.

Feral cattle and goats are occasionally sighted.

2. Outcomes and targets

**2.1
Conservation
outcome(s)**

HT is concerned with the protection of bird species (kaka, kereru, tui, bell birds etc.) together with as pest-free an environment as possible.

Bird numbers have increased significantly since 1996, together with a conspicuous regrowth of native trees and bush.

**2.2
Target(s)**

The target is < 5% rat tracking maintained at or below this level for the bird breeding season. HT carries out rat track monitoring, possum chew-card monitoring and statistical analysis. A Rat and possum monitor will be carried out in August 2022 and the results are pending.

3. Consultation and consents

3.1 Consultation

The vast majority of Tuatēawa landowners have consistently given their permission for baiting/ trapping on their properties and approve our activities on the Kennedy Bay Part of the Coromandel Forest Park. Most are paid-up Members of Habitat Tuatēawa Inc. and actively involved as volunteer baiters, trappers and participants of other activities. Landowners are individually informed by the Co-ordinator at the start of each season as to the type of activity and any necessary precautions.

Ngati Porou, Ngati Whanaunga, Ngati Tamatera and Ruakatauri a Huarere will be contacted by letter or email. Police, doctors, TCDC, vets, schools, MEG and Pig Hunting Clubs will be informed about our operations and informed about the toxins used. Local DOC offices are fully aware of, and involved with, HTPCA activity.

3.2 Consents

The following documents are attached as Appendix 4:

- Communications notifying and seeking consent from local Iwi, all residents, holiday home owners and landowners in Tuatēawa.

4. Methods

4.1 Treatment block 1

Kennedy Bay
Block Part
Coromandel
Forest Park

Pesticides—bait station

Pesticide use #81
Cholecalciferol
8g/kg Hard paste
Bait stations (Feracol)

Target pest
 Possums, Rats

Brand name of pesticide	Feracol paste
Lure/mask (& %)	
Type of pre-feed (lure/dye)	Ferafeed (Prefeed for Feracol)
Number of pre-feeds (if any)	1
Prefeed quantity when filled	330g per bait station
Toxic bait-number fills	2
Toxic bait quantity when filled	250g of Feracol paste
Describe pattern of bait stations (e.g., grid/contour/ spur-ridge)	150x 75 grid
Bait station spacing	150x75 metre
Bait station type	Philproof
Other details about this method	
All baits are 1.2 metres from the ground to avoid pig interference	

Pesticides—bait station

Pesticide use #137
Diphacinone 0.05g/kg
Block Bait stations
(D-Block Extreme for the Control of Rats)

Target pest
 Rats

Brand name of pesticide	D-Block Extreme, Connovation Ltd.
Lure/mask (& %)	n/a
Type of pre-feed (lure/dye)	n/a
Number of pre-feeds (if any)	n/a
Prefeed quantity when filled	n/a
Toxic bait-number fills	2

Toxic bait quantity when filled	200g of Diphacinone in bait stations.
Describe pattern of bait stations (e.g., grid/contour/ spur-ridge)	150 x 75 m grid
Bait station spacing	75 m
Bait station type	Philproof
Other details about this method	
All bait are 1.2 metres from the ground to avoid pig interference	

**4.2
Justification
for proposed
method**

This method and pesticide have been selected because the application can be effected by our volunteers and toxic licences are not required. This approach has been developed in close consultation with DOC staff and involves existing best practices and approved toxins and baits.

**4.3
Treatment
Block 2
(treatment block
name)**

n/a

**4.4
Justification
for proposed
method
Kennedy Bay
Block Part
Coromandel
Forest Park**

We have been doing consistent possum trapping in our area over the last year but we know possums invade from the unprotected areas to the north. By using Choliciferol on the boundary line we hope to get some relief from the invasion. The RA line has also shown possum activity up and down the track, so we hope Choliciferol will be effective there too. The other lines will be treated with Diphacinone to lower the rat numbers.

5. Further information

**Details of
contractor or
principle**

If the operation will be contracted to another company, or if this application is being made on behalf of a principle organisation please provide the following details:

Company/organisation:	n/a
Contact person:	
Contact number:	

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**Further
information**

Provide any other information or comments you would like to have considered.

Our decision to go with two different baits is also partially financial. We can't afford to bait the whole area with Choliciferol. The three volunteers that are going to fill the 30 bait stations on the WHA/PA lines, are all locals, which makes the timing between filling stations easier, they live in Tuatawa and are not tied to coming up on the weekends only. Prefeeding, baiting and removal means 4 trips for these stations and as locals that is not a problem for them. Our other volunteers come from further afield and will do the Diphacinone baiting, only 3 trips all up, which is easier to do and organize.

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Insert the appropriate sheet of Department of Conservation (DOC) Performance Standards for each pesticide use proposed for the operation. Complete all areas shaded grey on the sheet. This includes retaining the additional performance standards and information needs in the grey boxes that you propose for the operation.

◆ INCLUDE ONE SHEET PER PESTICIDE USE ◆ COMPLETE SHADED AREAS ◆

Pesticide Use #81	Cholecalciferol 8g/kg Hard paste Bait stations (Feracol)	Target Pests: Possums, Rats
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Location of operation
Kennedy Bay Block Part Coromandel Forest Park 44 ha.

Caution Period
The estimated caution period for this operation is 3 months after bait removal. This estimated caution period cannot be less than 3 months .

Performance Standards
<i>Compulsory for <u>all</u> operations</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The baits must be dyed green or blue. 2. Bait stations will be removed or made pesticide-free at the completion of the operation. 3. Where short tailed bats are present, the bait must be secured in a bait station that minimises spillage. If significant spillage occurs it must be cleaned up. 4. Bait stations must be prefed before using toxic bait. 5. The product must only be used as specified on the manufacturer's product label.
<i>Compulsory for this operation (delete those that you won't be applying to your operation)</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Bait station design must prevent access to baits by inquisitive birds (e.g. kea, weka and kaka).

Information Needs
<i>Compulsory for <u>all</u> operations</i>
Nil

Operational Planning & Design Considerations

<p>My approval dated July 2022 is subject to these performance standards being met. Compliance monitoring may occur.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Nick Kelly Operations Manager Whititanga</p>

◆ INCLUDE ONE SHEET PER PESTICIDE USE ◆ COMPLETE SHADED AREAS ◆

Pesticide Use #137	Diphacinone 0.05g/kg Block Bait stations (D-Block Extreme for the Control of Rats)	Target Pests: Rats
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Location of operation

Kennedy Bay Block Part Coromandel Forest Park 44 ha

Caution Period

The estimated caution period for this operation is **6 months** after bait removal and is subject to compulsory carcass monitoring. This estimated caution period cannot be reduced to less than 2 months and must be extended if the endpoints for monitoring have not been met at the end of the period.

Performance Standards

*Compulsory for **all** operations*

1. Only use at sites where either possums are at very low abundance or being controlled simultaneously; or excluded from bait stations.
2. A continuous supply of bait must be available to all rats for the duration of the operation (a minimum of 5 consecutive days).
3. The baits must be dyed green or blue.
4. Bait stations will be removed or made pesticide-free at the completion of the operation.
5. The product must only be used as specified on the manufacturer's product label.

Compulsory for this operation (delete those that you won't be applying to your operation)

6. Do not use where pigs are present/reduce pig numbers prior to operation; or
7. Place bait out of reach of pigs to prevent primary poisoning, and reduce possum numbers (or exclude possums from bait stations) to help reduce the risk of secondary poisoning of pigs.
8. Bait station design must prevent access to baits by inquisitive birds (e.g. kea, weka and kaka).

Information Needs

*Compulsory for **all** operations*

Nil

1. Field trial: Can D-Block Extreme applied using currently accepted best practice reduce ship rat abundance indices to target levels of below 5% of tracking tunnels tracked by rats? The Field Trials for Animal Pest Operations SOP [docdm-51573](#) applies.

Operational Planning & Design Considerations

My approval dated July 2022 is subject to these performance standards being met. Compliance monitoring may occur.

Nick Kelly Operations Manager Whititanga

Appendix 2: Maps

Figure 1



Figure 2

Appendix 3: Communication Record

A communication: "Habitat Tuateawa Inc.'s Pest Control Plan for the Protection of fledging Birds, Spring 2022" will be sent via the Habitat Tuateawa Inc. email newsletter listing.

Also, another communication: "Pest Control Operation near Tuateawa, September 2022" will be handed as hard copy to Police, the local School and some IWI, and also via email to Doctors, Pig hunting clubs, MEG, TCDC, Veterinarians and other IWI by 9th of Aug. 2022

A communication plan is also attached.

Appendix 4: Consents

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Appendix 5: Assessment of environmental effects

Complete this section if an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) is required by the DOC manager approving the permission. An AEE that has been prepared on the DOC RMA AEE template (docdm-96227) for a resource consent application can be attached instead if it covers all the pesticides uses in this application.

Effects on non-target native species

Target benefit species

The main target benefit species in this operation are:

- Pōhutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*)
- Northern Rātā (*Metrosideros robusta*)
- Kohekohe (*Dysoxylum spectabile*)
- Kamahi (*Weinmannia racemosa*)
- Hall's Tōtara (*Podocarpus laetus*)

These tree species are severely impacted by possum browsing, this defoliation is causing many of them to die. Both rats and possums prey on eggs and nestlings of native birds, frogs and lizards. They also eat insects, seeds and fruit so also indirectly effect native species by competing for food sources.

Other species which may benefit from this operation include:

- Tree Wētā (*Hemideina crassidens*)
- Archey's Frog (*Leiopelma archeyi*)
- Hochstetter's Frog (*Leiopelma hochstetteri*)
- Coromandel Striped Gecko (*Toropuku stephensi*)
- Pateke / Brown Teal (*Anas chlorotis*)
- North Island Kaka (*Nestor meridionalis*)
- Coromandel Brown Kiwi (*Apteryx mantelli*)
- Kereru / NZ Pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*)
- Long Tailed Cuckoo (*Urodynamis taitensis*)
- Bellbird (*Anthornis melanura*)
- Tui (*Prothemadera novaeseelandiae*)
- Morepork / Ruru (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*)
- North Island Tomtit (*Petroica macrocephala*)
- Grey Warbler (*Gerygone igata*)
- NZ Fantail / Piwakawaka (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*)

The Kennedy Bay Block area is ranked high in the Northern North Island Region for biodiversity by the Department of Conservation.

Non-target species

Non-target native species that may be present in the treatment area include: Pigs, Cattle, Goats, Cats, Dogs

- Giant Kōkopu (*Galaxias argenteus*)
- Banded Kōkopu (*Galaxias fasciatus*)
- Short-finned Eel (*Anguilla australis*)
- NZ Longfin Eel (*Anguilla dieffenbachii*)
- Redfin Bully (*Gobiomorphus huttoni*)
- Giant Bully (*Gobiomorphus gobioides*)
- Torrentfish (*Cheimarrichthys fosteri*)
- Freshwater Crayfish (*Paranephrops planifrons*)

To date bats have not been found within the Tuataewa area.

Effect of operation on native species

Philproof bait stations will be used to prevent access by inquisitive, non-target, native species (e.g. kaka). The bait stations are secured to tress in such a way to prevent bait from falling out onto the ground

Performance standards and information needs

The baits must be dyed green or blue. Bait stations will be removed or made pesticide-free at the completion of the operation.

The product must only be used as specified on the manufacturer's product label.

Philproof bait stations will be used to prevent access by inquisitive, non-target, native species (e.g. kaka). The bait stations are secured to tress in such a way to prevent bait from falling out onto the ground

Effects on non-target domestic and feral animals

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Non-target species

Domestic and feral animals in or near the treatment area that may be affected by the proposed operation include the following:

- Feral Pigs
 - Feral Cats
 - Domestic Dogs
 - Domestic Cats
 - Cattle
 - Sheep
 - Feral Goats
-

Effects of operation on domestic and feral animals

Cholicalciferol can be lethal to domestic dogs, if they directly eat the bait or scavenge on the stomach contents of animals killed by the bait. Larger animals, such as cattle, would need to eat a substantial amount of bait for the dose to be lethal. Pigs are at risk from eating bait directly from bait stations or from bait that has been pulled out by possums and rats. The likelihood of pigs being poisoned from eating possum carcasses is low, although the stomach contents of dead possums could be lethal.

Performance standards and information needs

Adjoining landowners have been consulted and are aware of the risks of bait being laid close to their properties. They will be notified 24 hours before the operation begins.

Warning signs will be placed at all entrance points, they will clearly state these baits (and carcasses) are "deadly to dogs". These signs will remain in place until the caution period is over.

Further information**Further information**

Habitat Tuatēawa (Inc.) is a Community organisation managed and operated by local people for the benefit of our environment and the protection of native species.

References

The following published references were used in developing this AEE:

Appendix 6:

If you need to add further appendices please copy and paste the entire heading above and then change the appendix number and title. This will ensure that the formatting is retained and the text will be transferred to the Table of Contents.

After completion of this form please remember to update the Table of Contents (right click on the table of contents for the 'update field' option).

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Application for DOC permission to use VTAs: assessment report

Applicant name:	9(2)(a)
Operation name:	Habitat Tuateawa
Approving manager:	Nick Kelly Operations Manager Whitianga
Assessor:	9(2)(g)(ii)
Date received:	20/07/2022
Overview:	<p>This document assesses the actual and potential environmental effects of controlling Possums and rats in the Coromandel State Forest Park Kennedy Bay Block. It is proposed that the following pesticide uses will be applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticide use #81 Cholecalciferol 8g/kg hard paste in bait stations (Feracol) • Pesticide use #137 (Diphacinone 0.05g/kg) Blocks in bait stations (D-Block Extreme for the control of rats) <p>Kennedy Bay Block is Pt of the Coromandel State Forest Park (44 ha), The total operation area is 44 ha of PCL.</p>
Applicant type: <i>Delete the incorrect options.</i>	External individual or organisation — National performance standards for pest operations docdm-1492976 will apply.
Application form	DOC-7108959
DOC Permission ID	<i>Record doccm number of the DOC permission letter and decision support memo (if applicable)</i>
Public Health Permission ID (if applicable)	n/a

Step 1 Confirm application is complete Are all documents (listed below) provided?

DOC Application form complete:
Are all sections of the DOC Application Form completed to a standard that you can assess them? Where are the information gaps? Is the operational information for treatment blocks clearly separated in each section of the application form where differences exist

The Application form was completed. Habitat Tuateawa have been carrying out these operations now for the past 8 years, parts of the application are lacking some information
This is a private operation; the work will be carried out by Habitat Tuateawa members which are all volunteers
The application includes the following documents

<p>between them? Does the proposed application meet the grouping standard (see Applying for DOC permission for external agencies or Operational planning for animal pest operations SOP ? Where required, was the AEE section completed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEE DOC - • Operational Map
<p>Are all the proposed pesticide uses and trap systems accepted for use? Check the Status List category and if any compulsory restrictions apply. If any compulsory information needs apply, consider if the operation is designed to provide the required information.</p>	<p>Pesticides use #81 Cholecalciferol 8g/kg Hard paste in bait station is accepted for use. No compulsory restrictions apply.</p> <p>Pesticides Use# 137 Diphacinone 0.05g/kg blocks in bait stations is accepted for use. No compulsory restrictions apply.</p>
<p>Performance standards sheets Is there a performance standard sheet for each pesticide use and trap system proposed?</p>	<p>Yes -the performance standard sheets for this operation are #81 DOC-CM-2934 and #137 DOC-CM-2679511</p>
<p>DOC permission map(s) (image file or files) Does the map or maps meet the minimum standards (as stated in Appendix 2 of the DOC Application Form), including showing proposed warning sign locations and normal points of entry where warning signs must be A3?</p>	<p>Map showing boundary of treatment area is attached to the AEE and meets the required standard. It shows Conservation land, signage location (for A3 warning signage) There are no DOC recreational facilities in the treatment area.</p>
<p>DOC Pesticide Summary shapefiles (not applicable to DOC operations or possum hunters using cyanide paste) Are the pesticide control methods clearly assigned to each treatment block? Do operational boundaries and warning sign locations match the DOC permission map(s)?</p>	<p>All information will match in the DOC pesticide summary. The assessor will enter DOC pesticide summary.</p>
<p>Consultation record including conditions of landowner consents Was level of consultation adequate? All required owner/occupier consents obtained? Are conditions of consent evident in their application?</p>	<p>The AEE and Consultation records showed that all key parties were notified on the effects of the proposed operation and recorded in the consultation record.</p> <p>No adjacent landowner consent was necessary.</p> <p>It appears that no feedback has come back to Habitat Tuateawa. This operation is well supported by the community which also have a bait station network around the houses in the Tuateawa community I have asked the applicant to complete the outcomes section of the Consultation record</p>
<p>Public health permission/ proof of application Proof of application for public health permission is adequate to process the application, as long as the public health</p>	<p>Not required for these two toxins</p>

<i>permission and associated application form is sighted prior to approval.</i>	
Other (specify, e.g. RMA consent)	Not required
Your confirmation email and subsequent correspondence <i>Include dates and nature of requests for further information. Save correspondence to doccm and record numbers here.</i>	When this application was received I was on sick leave and did not get a chance to send a confirmation email the application was received on the 10/06/2022. When return to work made contact with ^{9(2)(a)} by phone just to confirm I had received the application. I have talked to ^{9(2)(a)} by phone just to confirm some of the methods
Step 2 Capture treatment blocks in the Pesticide Application	
Your publication of the proposed operation on the DOC Pesticide Summary (not applicable to DOC operations or possum hunters using cyanide paste) <i>Include date and note any issues.</i>	Yes, assessor will input propose operation into the DOC pesticide App
Step 3 Evaluate control method <i>Is the proposed method suited to the pest problem, treatment area and consultation outcomes?</i>	
Your assessment of the control method <i>Include relevant points from the 'Choose your control method' part of Current Agreed Best Practice, where available.</i>	I am happy with the cholecalciferol part of the operation. But the using of Diphacinone D Blocks could fail one if possum numbers are too high and two they do not keep a continues supply of bait in the bait station for a 5 day period Habitat Tuataewa do run kill traps in this area for possum control
Label directions <i>Check the product label to ensure that the proposed method detail complies with the label content.</i>	Best Practice for Controlling Rats with D-Blocks PO Box 58613 (shopify.com)
Summary of any technical advice received on the proposed control methods.	No technical or community relations advice received on the risk assessment.
Summary of any Community relations and Pou Taorangahau advice received.	The person involved in AEE process has a close involvement with local community and iwi used in determining level of consultation.
Step 4 Identify and assess risks and adverse effects <i>Are you satisfied that all risks and adverse effects have been identified?</i>	
Are there any gaps in the applicant's assessment of these (where the AEE section was supplied)?	This is the 8th year this group have run this operation and their application is getting better DOC is still having to do the maps and give some assistance
Relevant points from the DOC Pesticide Information Reviews	
Summary of any technical or community relations advice received	

Other resources consulted (<i>specify</i>)	
Your assessment of technical risks and adverse effects (<i>e.g. the pesticide use, use pattern, site factors</i>)	The only risk for this area is Dogs. Dog deaths have been reported after eating cholecalciferol bait during several possum control operations. Papa Aroha operation 2014 one dog died, and another was very sick from eat possum carcasses that had travelled out of the operational area and onto private property. All the residents are aware or are involved with this operation, So dogs will be well controlled. Pig deaths could be a problem, but all bait stations have been raised and pig number in this area are low.
Your assessment of non-technical risks (<i>e.g. high public use, consultation outcomes</i>)	Public usage of this area is very low with no recreation opportunities or facilities. Pig hunting is the only activity carried out in this area and mainly be local hunter who are aware of this operation.
Step 5 Calculate estimated caution period and evaluate if risks and adverse effects are at an acceptable level <i>Will risks be managed adequately with the performance standards proposed for this operation? Include dates and outcomes of any discussion with the applicant.</i>	
Estimated caution period for all the pesticide use(s) <i>Does this differ from the recommended caution period in the Caution period calculator?</i>	The estimated caution period for this operation is Cholecalciferol 3 months Diphacinone 6 months These caution periods are recommended in the caution period calculator
How well does the proposed operation manage potential risks to native fauna? <i>(i.e. as proposed in the Application form or performance standards)</i>	The control method specifications (bait size, lure, colour, application rate) and proposed performance standards are adequate to manage risks to native fauna.
How well are other potential risks managed? <i>(i.e. as proposed in the Application form or performance standards)</i>	<i>Dogs:</i> The applicant offered landowners whose property consent to lay toxin were offered dog muzzles (none requested). Bait being placed in station (a minimum of 1.2m above ground) should prevent dogs and Pig's ease of access to bait. There are no stations next to farmland that domestic stock could gain access. Because this is an ongoing project all the local residents are aware of this operation keep a close watch over domestic animals
Are you satisfied with the proposed warning sign locations and normal points of entry?	Yes – sites as depicted on map target the key a potential access points. Sign register as been provided and is a operational requirement.

Summary of any technical or community relations advice received	No technical or community relations advice received on the risk assessment.
Public health permission, including application form sighted (if not provided at time of application) <i>Consider if public health permission has any impact on DOC permission conditions.</i>	N/A
Other resources consulted (<i>specify</i>)	
Which additional performance standards should be applied and why? <i>Consider impacts of conditions from other consents. Consider if the additional performance standards specific and auditable, and can be justified.</i>	Monitoring: Careful recording of the amount of toxin used and retrieved to provide information to allow better estimates of future needs. Any sick or dead threatened native non-target animals in operational area send samples for residue testing. -Reason: limited information of effect of toxin on non-target and site hold some threaten (frog) non target for which information would benefit.
Step 6 Make a recommendation Should the application be approved or declined?	
What key points should the approving manager have drawn to their attention?	This is the Eighth time Habitat Tuatēawa have carried out this operation. I would suggest that a audit be carried out this time to ensure the group is meeting all the standards. My only concern is not keeping a continuous supply of Diphacinone bait for the five day period in the bait stations
Is approval or decline recommended? <i>If declined, summarise reasons. If approved, is a readiness check recommended (DOC operations only – see Pre-Operational Step 7 of the Operational planning for animal pest operations SOP)?</i>	Approval recommended.
Step 7 Prepare documents and advise manager	
For recommended approval: <i>Attached correct draft letter of permission, decision memo (if applicable) DOC Performance Standards sheet(s) and map(s) of operational boundaries.</i>	
For recommended decline: <i>Attach draft letter of decline including a summary of reasons.</i>	

Record of permission decisions that differ from the assessor recommendation

Record of permission decision
Only complete this section where the manager has made a decision that differs from the assessor's recommendation. For example, where the manager decides on different operational timing or warning sign locations or rejects a recommendation to approve or decline the application.
Where required, complete this in Section 7 (Approving or declining DOC permissions), Step 2. Record the difference between the decision and recommendation and summarise the reason(s) for the decision.

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COMMUNITY ACTIVITY TEMPLATE

Habitat Tuateawa Inc.

Animal Pest Control



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COMMUNITIES for CONSERVATION

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Activity Name and Location

Animal Pest Control in the Tuatēawa, Coromandel area using the methods of; trapping and ground-based toxin operations. Target pests include rats, possums, mustelids and feral cats.

Community Group Experience

The group has been operating in the conservation space since 1994, at that time the vision was to protect the native species in the surrounding forest (Kennedy bay block). Over time this has evolved into a project which not only performs pest control, including pre and post -monitors, but also native species monitoring four times a year.

In 2012 the group became an incorporated society, which has enabled wider possibilities when applying for funding.

Alignment with DOC Goals

Intermediate Outcomes

- New Zealanders connect and contribute towards conservation.
- New Zealanders and our visitors are enriched by outdoor experiences.
- The diversity of our natural heritage is maintained and restored.

Stretch Goals

The anticipated outputs and outcomes will support the Coromandel District Office in contributing to the following Stretch Goals:

90% of New Zealanders' lives are enriched through connection to our nature.

50% of international holiday visitors come to New Zealand to connect with our natural places.

50% of New Zealand's natural ecosystems are benefiting from pest management.

Proposed Programme of Work

Goals and Objectives

- Goal 1 To restore the native flora and fauna in and around the Tuatēawa region
- Objective 1 *Reduce animal pest densities (possum, rat and mustelid) to low enough levels that native bird populations can increase and thrive within the Coromandel Forest Park.*

Tasks to be Undertaken

The Group:

1. Install a trapping network for possums, rats and mustelids, that sufficiently covers the entire reserve area.
2. Check and maintain all traps to ensure the highest level of efficiency and probability of success
3. Collect and maintain trapping data, and openly share this information with DOC and the public.
4. Ensure the baiting regime follows the guidelines to ensure efficacy and safety.
5. Apply for community funding to source the requirements of this activity.
6. Monitor progress and success through annual pest monitoring and bird counts, and openly share the data with DOC and the public.
7. Attend annual meetings between DOC and the Group
8. Maintain correspondence with all necessary parties.

The Department:

1. Attend annual meetings between DOC and the Group.
2. Provide technical support with trapping and pesticide operations.
3. Provide support to enable pest control data collection

Resources

Resources contributed by the Department:

1. DOC triangle track markers for the purpose of marking tracks used in the trapping network
2. Monthly supply of hens eggs for all DOC200 traps
3. Access to, and assistance with, the Walk the Line mobile application, and desktop trapping application (for trapping data collection and management).
4. Pest monitoring tools to allow annual monitoring of possums, rats, mustelids and mice (specifically, tracking tunnels, waxtags and tracking cards)

Resources contributed by the Group:

1. Any physical resources needed for pest control work (traps, bait, tools, track maintenance equipment, bait stations, toxin etc)

The Department's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) and Standards

Pest Control Planning:

- Choose your control method for possums (DOCDM-799088)
- Choose your control method for rats (DOCDM-799089)
- Choose your control method for stoats (DOCDM-799087)
- Choose your control method for ferrets (DOCDM-799084)

Kill Trapping:

- Best practice – Kill Trapping for Rat Control (DOCDM-29390)
- Best practice – Stoat Control - Kill Trapping (DOCDM-29448)
- Best practice – Ferret Control - Kill Trapping (DOCDM-29433)
- Goodnature A12 Possum Trap Success Guide
- Goodnature A24 Rat and Stoat Trap Success Guide
- DOC200 set Guidelines (DOCDM-29855)
- DOC150 set Guidelines (DOCDM-29856)
- Victor Trap set Guidelines (DOCDM-103712)

Toxin Use:

- Bait stations using cholecalciferol for possum control - DOCDM-29794
- Bait stations using 1st generation anticoagulants for rat control - DOCDM-29378
- Bait stations using 2nd generation anticoagulants for rat control - DOCDM-29380
- Bait stations using 1080 cereal pellets for rat control - DOCDM-29384
- Bait stations using Feratox™ for possum control – DOCDM-29789
- Hand laying of cyanide paste for possum control – DOCDM-29808

Pest Monitoring:

- Possum Monitoring Guidelines:
http://www.npca.org.nz/images/stories/NPCA/PDF/a1_possum%20monitoring_2015-nov_lr.pdf
- DOC's Intro to Animal Pest Monitoring (DOCDM-340712)
- DOC's tracking tunnel guide (DOCDM-1199768)

Risk Assessment and Management

Risk	Level of Risk	Measures
Science The activity is ineffective.	Low	Maintain the database. Plan each season in advance. Request technical advice when needed.
Health and Safety Injuries in the field	Medium	The group will follow processes agreed to in the agreed working arrangement (AWA)
Resources Necessary resources are not provided, or are not agreed upon	Low	Before any additional resources are provided to or received by the group (i.e. training, ranger time), both parties must first come to an agreement.

Key Contacts

Department of Conservation

9(2)(g)(i)

Habitat Tuatēawa

9(2)(a)

Note:

If any of the party's details specified in this section change the party whose details change must, within five working days of the change, provide the other party with the changed details.