

**Application Form for rat
control in the Habitat
Tuateawa Pest Control Area.**

September 2023

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| Name of applicant: | 9(2)(a) |
| Company/organisation: | Habitat Tuateawa Inc. |
| Postal address: | 9(2)(a) |
| Phone number: | 9(2)(a) 9(2)(a) |
| Email address | 9(2)(a) |



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

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| 1. Introduction | |
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| 1.1 Overview | <p>It is proposed that the following pesticide uses will be applied: 264 bags of diphacinone (0.05 g/kg) paste in bait stations</p> <p>Permission is sought for toxic application starting on or after 2nd September and ending on or before 30th November.</p> |
| 1.2 Treatment area | Habitat Tuateawa Pest Control Area (HTPCA) 300 ha total. |
| 1.3 Treatment block(s) | Kennedy Bay Block Part Coromandel Forest Park 44 ha. |
| 1.4 Geographical location | HTPCA is located at Tuateawa 21 km NE of Coromandel Town; 6 km NE of Kennedy Bay; 5 km SE of Little Bay. |
| 1.5 Adjacent land tenure and uses | <p>HTPCA covers approximately 300 ha of mainly private coastal land between the Tuateawa boat ramp in the south, Titimiri Point in the north, and the Tuateawa/Little Bay road in the west. Land holdings range from residential sections within the subdivision, a collection of larger residential properties in the subdivision north of Rabarts Road, and part of the</p> <p>9(2)(a) [REDACTED]</p> <p>9(2)(a) [REDACTED] Taiharuru block in the north. A portion of the</p> |

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| | 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 | <p>The nearest residential areas are along Waihirere Drive and along Tuateawa Road. There are bait stations located on, or close to, some of these residences which are utilised with the owner's consent. The majority of the area to be baited is in steep bush areas accessed via tracks.</p> |
| 1.7 Community interests | <p>There is a stony boat access and a Council Reserve in Tuateawa. There is a DOC Coastal Walkway from Waihirere Drive above the [REDACTED] subdivision ending at the coast which is adjacent to the operational area. Pig hunting is allowed with permits, when the withholding periods have expired.</p> |
| 1.8 Management history | <p>Rats have been controlled since 1996, with an increased grid (150 x 75 m) since 1999. Baiting has been on a pulsed regime since 2002. In 2009, a revised regime was put 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.</p> <p>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, the latter has been by using TRAP.NZ since 2022.</p> <p>Rat traps and self-setting rat traps have been added to most of our lines in the last few years.</p> <p>A network of stoat traps is maintained within the HTPCA by Moehau Environmental Group. Additionally, since 2013, HT has purchased and is maintaining a further 125 stoat traps.</p> <p>Feral cattle and goats are occasionally sighted and DOC is quickly advised of this so as to keep the area clear of them.</p> |

2. Outcomes and targets

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| 2.1 Conservation outcome(s) | <p>HT is concerned with the protection of bird species (kaka, kereru, tui, korimako etc.) together with as pest-free an environment as possible.</p> <p>Bird numbers have increased significantly since 1996, together</p> |
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| | 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. Rat and possum monitoring will be carried out in August 2023. |

3. Consultation and consents

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| 3.1 Consultation | <p>The vast majority of Tuatēawa land owners have consistently given their permission for baiting/ trapping on their properties. Most are paid-up Members of Habitat Tuatēawa Inc. and are 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.</p> <p>Ngati Porou, Ngati Whanaunga, Ngati Tamatera and Ruakatauri a Huarere are being contacted by letter or email. Local DOC offices are fully aware of, and involved with, HTPCA activity. Police, doctors, TCDC, vets, schools MEG and pig-hunting clubs will be informed about our operations and toxin used.</p> |
| 3.2 Consents | <p>The following documents are attached as Appendix 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications notifying and seeking consent from local Iwi, all residents, holiday homeowners and landowners in Tuatēawa. A DOC communication plan is also attached. |

4. Methods

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| 4.1 Treatment block 1 HTPCA | <p>Provide the detail for all proposed control methods and their pests in treatment block 1 in a series of tables named: Control method [1] and Target pest(s) [1] Control method [2] and Target pest(s) [2] etc. Delete the control method tables that do not apply. Continue using this format until all proposed control methods and their pests are listed for treatment block 1.</p> <p>Pesticides—bait station</p> |
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| Describe the pesticide use, covering the following points: | |
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| Pesticide use | Target pest |
| 264 bags of diphacinone (0.05 g/kg) paste in bait stations | Rats |
| Brand name of pesticide | RatAbate |
| Lure/mask (& %) | n/a |
| Type of pre-feed (lure/dye) | n/a |
| Number of pre-feeds (if any) | nil |
| Prefeed quantity when filled | nil |
| Toxic bait-number fills | 2 |
| Toxic bait quantity when filled | 300 g |
| 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 Bait stations are mounted at least 1 m above ground level. | |
| 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 (treatment block name) | n/a |

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| 5. Further information | | | | | | | |
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| Details of contractor or principle | <p>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:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Company/organisation:</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contact person:</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contact number:</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> </table> | Company/organisation: | N/A | Contact person: | N/A | Contact number: | N/A |
| Company/organisation: | N/A | | | | | | |
| Contact person: | N/A | | | | | | |
| Contact number: | N/A | | | | | | |
| Further information | N/A | | | | | | |

Appendix 1: DOC Performance Standards

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.

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| Pesticide Use #114 | diphacinone paste 0.05 g/kg in bait stations. | Target Pests: Rats |
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| Location of operation |
| Kennedy Bay Block Part Coromandel Forest Park 44 ha. |

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| Caution Period |
| The estimated caution period for this operation is 6 months after bait removal. This estimated caution period cannot be less than 3 months . |

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| Performance Standards |
| <p><i>Compulsory for all operations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p><i>Compulsory for this operation (delete those that you won't be applying to your operation)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bait station design must prevent access to baits by inquisitive birds (e.g., kea, weka & kaka). |

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- Toxic bait should be left out for 5 - 10 nights.

Information Needs

*Compulsory for **all** operations*

Nil

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

- Monitoring: Monitor inquisitive birds known to visit bait stations and feed under stations following diphacinone use.

My approval dated [date] is subject to these performance standards being met.
Compliance monitoring may occur.

-

Manager

Nick Kelly Operations

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Appendix 2: Maps

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Appendix 3: Communication Record

A communication: "Habitat Tuatēawa pest control plan for the protection of breeding birds in Spring 2023." will be sent via the Habitat Tuatēawa Inc. email newsletter listing.

Also, another communication: "Notification of Baiting in Tuatēawa September 2023" will be handed as hard copy to Police, the local School and some IWI, and also via email to Doctors, Veterinarians and other IWI by mid-August 2023.

A communication plan is also attached.

Appendix 4: Consents

See attached Community Agreement with DOC

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

| Effects on non-target native species | |
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| Target benefit species | <p>The main target benefit species in this operation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pōhutukawa (<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>)• Northern Rātā (<i>Metrosideros robusta</i>)• Kohekohe (<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>)• Kamahi (<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>)• Hall's Tōtara (<i>Podocarpus laetus</i>) <p>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.</p> |

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| | <p>Other species which may benefit from this operation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Wētā (<i>Hemideina crassidens</i>) • Archey's Frog (<i>Leiopelma archeyi</i>) • Hochstetter's Frog (<i>Leiopelma hochstetteri</i>) • Coromandel Striped Gecko (<i>Toropuku stephensi</i>) • Pateke / Brown Teal (<i>Anas chlorotis</i>) • North Island Kaka (<i>Nestor meridionalis</i>) • Coromandel Brown Kiwi (<i>Apteryx mantelli</i>) • Kereru / NZ Pigeon (<i>Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae</i>) • Long Tailed Cuckoo (<i>Urodynamis taitensis</i>) • Bellbird (<i>Anthornis melanura</i>) • Tui (<i>Prothemadera novaeseelandiae</i>) • Morepork / Ruru (<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>) • North Island Tomtit (<i>Petroica macrocephala</i>) • Grey Warbler (<i>Gerygone igata</i>) • NZ Fantail / Piwakawaka (<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>) <p>The Kennedy Bay Block area is ranked high in the Northern North Island Region for biodiversity by the Department of Conservation.</p> |
| <p>Non-target species</p> | <p>Non-target native species that may be present in the treatment area include pigs, cattle, goats, cats, dogs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giant Kōkopu (<i>Galaxias argenteus</i>) • Banded Kōkopu (<i>Galaxias fasciatus</i>) • Short-finned Eel (<i>Anguilla australis</i>) • NZ Longfin Eel (<i>Anguilla dieffenbachii</i>) • Redfin Bully (<i>Gobiomorphus huttoni</i>) • Giant Bully (<i>Gobiomorphus gobioides</i>) • Torrentfish (<i>Cheimarrichthys fosteri</i>) • Freshwater Crayfish (<i>Paranephrops planifrons</i>) <p>To date bats have not been found within the Tuatēawa area.</p> |
| <p>Effect of operation on native species</p> | <p>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 .</p> |
| <p>Performance standards and information needs</p> | <p>The baits must be dyed green or blue. Bait stations will be removed or made pesticide-free at the completion of the operation.</p> <p>The product must only be used as specified on the manufacturer's product label.</p> |

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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 | |
|---|---|
| Non-target species | <p>Domestic and feral animals in or near the treatment area that may be affected by the proposed operation include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feral Pigs • Feral Cats • Domestic Dogs • Domestic Cats • Cattle • Sheep • Feral Goats |
| Effects of operation on domestic and feral animals | Treatment for domestic animals in case of poisoning is Vitamin K |
| Performance standards and information needs | <p>Adjoining landowners have been consulted and are aware of the risks of bait being laid close to their properties. DOC, the pig-hunting club, ^{9(2)(a)} [redacted] and ^{9(2)(a)} [redacted] will be notified 24 hours before the operation begins.</p> <p>Warning signs will be placed at all entrance points. These signs will remain in place until the caution period is over.</p> |

| Further information | |
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| 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. |

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References

The following published references were used in developing this AEE:
[DOCDM-109859 DOC Performance Standard#121](#)

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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