

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

<b>Pesticide Use #1</b>	<b>Sodium fluoroacetate 1.5g/kg Cereal pellet Aerial (0.15% 1080 Pellet)</b>	<b>Target Pests: Possums, Rats</b>
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<b>DOC/non-DOC* Operation</b>
<i>[Insert name of treatment block(s)/area here]</i>

\* Delete the one that is not applicable

<b>Caution Period</b>
The estimated caution period for this operation is <i>[insert number of months]</i> months after last date of bait application and is subject to compulsory bait and carcass monitoring. This estimated caution period cannot be reduced to less than 4 months, and must be extended if the endpoints for monitoring have not been met at the end of the period.

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**DOC SOPs & Policies Shall Be Followed**


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- Compulsory for **all** operations:*
- Consultation and Notification of Pest Operations SOP, including Warning Signs (docdm-22832)
  - Identifying Boundaries for Pesticide Operations SOP (docdm-30357)
  - Bait and Carcass Monitoring SOP (docdm-61641)
- Compulsory for DOC operations:*
- Safe Handling of Pesticides SOP (docdm-22730)
  - Pestlink Reporting SOP (docdm-52340)
  - Operational Planning for Animal Pest Operations Guideline (docdm-236983)

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**Performance Standards**


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- Compulsory for **all** operations*
1. For operations targeting rats, prefeed with this pesticide use.
  2. In areas where kea are present:
    - only use cinnamon-lured RS5 pellets;
    - use a maximum of 2kg/ha of prefeed bait for 12g baits (or 1kg/ha for 6g baits);
    - use a maximum of 2kg/ha of toxic bait for 12g baits (or 1kg/ha for 6g baits);
    - avoid sowing baits in areas of low structural vegetation cover (e.g. alpine herb fields and tussock) above the tree line.
  3. This pesticide must not be used, stored or prepared, with any prefeed, bait or attractant which is likely to lead any person to believe that the substance is intended for human consumption.
  4. Unless in approved container supplied by the manufacturer, this pesticide must not be used in any culinary utensil or other container which is likely to lead any person to believe the contents are intended for human consumption, regardless of any modification or other warning labels attached.
  5. Consent providers must be given at least 24 hours notice before the pesticide is applied and a close liaison will be maintained throughout the operation.
  6. Consent providers will be notified as soon as possible in case of any accidental discharge into a surface water body.
  7. Flight paths to and from the bait loading zones by aircraft equipped with loaded or uncleaned bait sowing equipment must avoid: stocked paddocks, residential dwellings, and any other 'no fly zones' specified by consent providers.
  8. An aircraft must not, when flying to or from the treatment area, fly over a public drinking water supply or waterway that is less than 100 metres upstream of a point of extraction from a water source for a drinking water supply (not being a water supply exclusively for stock).
  9. For operations targeting possums, baits will have a mean size in excess of 6g and 95% of baits should weigh more than 4g.
  10. The baits must be dyed green or blue.
  11. Contaminated safety equipment, machinery and any other equipment that has been in contact with the pesticide are washed at a location where runoff is unlikely to enter any natural

To include these performance standards as part of your operational plan, attach: conditions from other consents, product label and MSDS.

waterbody.

12. All pesticide not legally applied and all pesticide packaging is removed from DOC administered land and disposed of in a way which meets all legal requirements.
  13. The boundaries of the bait preparation and loading site are marked and loading site signs ([docdm-181171](#)) erected. At the end of every day of the operation (including the final day), the loading site and any storage area must be fenced so that people do not inadvertently enter the site and stock cannot gain access to the area. The fence and signs remain in place until you judge that there is no longer a risk to stock.
  14. If there is any likelihood that farm stock has been exposed to 1080, the owner must be advised as soon as possible and stock removed from the area.
  15. 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)*
16. Bait sowing rate must be no greater than 5kg/ha for 6gm baits (or equivalent bait density per hectare for other bait sizes).
  17. Designate a "Safety Officer" on loading site who audits and ensures adherence to safety standards.
  18. Use bait sowing buckets with retractable legs.
  19. In areas where kea are present avoid sowing baits on specified areas of low structural vegetation cover below the tree line (e.g. river flats). This performance standard will be applied to large open areas that can practicably be excluded from the operation.
  20. *[Add further standards as required. These could include local performance standards as well as any recommendations from [Current Agreed Best Practice](#) that you want to apply to your operation. Attach conditions from other consents as separate pages.]*

### Information Needs

*Compulsory for **all** operations*

Nil

*Compulsory for this operation*

1. *[Add as required.]*

### Operational Planning & Design Considerations

- Apply bait in coldest months of year.
- For operations targeting possums, do not repeat aerial operations within 4 years using the same bait.
- Current Agreed Best Practice – Possum Control – Aerial Application of 1080 Cereal Pellets ([docdm-341728](#))
- Current Agreed Best Practice – Rat Control – Aerial Application of 1080 Cereal Bait ([docdm-29375](#))

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

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*[Name]* Director, Conservation Services

## Section 1: Document overview

### 1.1 Purpose of the SOP

This SOP has been produced to specify robust and auditable procedures that meet all industry guidelines for the control of New Zealand's TB vectors (wild animals that carry and spread TB) using aerially applied 1080.

It is designed for use primarily by planning and operational staff (programme managers) within TBfree New Zealand. Pest control contractors must refer to, and comply with, these procedures for tender preparation and planning. All successful tenderers must also adhere to the process steps outlined in this document.

### 1.2 Scope of the SOP

The SOP covers the planning, operational and post-operational stages of any aerial 1080 operation.

It is intended that this SOP replaces all existing manuals used for TBfree New Zealand-contracted aerial vector control. The exceptions are DOC joint operations, where DOC SOPs may be used.

Trickle feeding as part of ground-based contracts is deemed to be an aerial operation for the purpose of this document and regulatory compliance. It is subject to the full process and all steps in the SOP need to be considered. However, the timelines may be condensed. This document assumes application from a bucket attached to a helicopter. It does not exclude other aerial application methods. If a method other than bucket application using a helicopter is to be employed, the group manager – pest management (GMPM) must approve the method; the HSEM must be informed and asked for adaptations to the SOP for the new method of application.

An aerial operation that occurs as a response to trigger monitoring may not follow the timeframes of a normal operation, but all process steps must be followed.

Only some aspects of the following have been covered in this SOP:

- Ecological assessments
- Assessment of social impacts
- Tender processes.

The SOP comprises the following main sections

#### Section 1

Scope, purpose and objective

#### Section 2

Process overview, process timeframes, description of process steps (including roles and responsibilities)

#### Section 3

Reference material and additional information on the process steps:

- Target area identification and mapping
- Communication
- Risk management
- Health, safety and environmental management
- Consents
- Monitoring
- Security

#### Section 4

Glossary

#### Section 5

Appendices:

- Specific reference material
- Forms and templates.

### 1.3 Objectives of the SOP

- To help meet the objectives of the National Pest Management Plan (NPMP)
- To provide the TBfree programme managers with the required steps in the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of aerial 1080 operations
- To provide a definitive set of standards for aerial 1080 applications for organisations contracted by TBfree New Zealand.
- To comply with all legislative requirements of:
  - Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 (HSNO)
  - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - Ministry of Health (MOH)
  - Regional councils and territorial authorities
  - Wildlife Act 1953
  - Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
  - Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
  - Department of Conservation (DOC) where applicable
  - Ministry for Primary Industries
  - Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 (ACVM)
  - Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE)
  - New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA)
- To provide a framework that is robust, auditable and allows for continuous improvement
- To meet all aspects of industry guidelines developed in response to the ERMA (now EPA) 2007 aerial 1080 reassessment.

### 1.4 Use of the document

- Section 1** Primarily defines the scope and purpose of the document.
- Section 2** Provides a context and outlines the basic steps for conducting an aerial 1080 operation. The process steps are in order of activity but may run concurrently, and over long periods of time. It also provides clarity on roles, responsibilities and accountabilities.
- Section 3** Provides all reference material that might be required to understand and perform the process steps. It is topic-based rather than a step-by-step guide.
- Section 4** Is a glossary of terms and abbreviations used in the document.
- Section 5** Provides all the tools and templates needed to complete the operation and provide consistency between regions.

### 1.5 Implementation

The successful implementation of pest control operations is controlled by a mix of procedures, best management practices and legislative controls.

This SOP details the processes required to complete pest control activities in an environmentally responsible manner and in accordance with TBfree's internal policies and legislative requirements.

Aerial 1080 operations have a very high potential to create adverse impacts if mismanaged because:

- The operation involves the use of pesticides that are highly toxic to mammals and capable of killing non-target species
- Applications of toxins can be high profile, publicly sensitive issues.

This SOP represents the total framework of steps to be followed when planning and implementing such operations. It encompasses:

- A number of related sub-processes and procedures that may need to be implemented when establishing an operation
- Other reference material that provides specific details on operational or administrative procedures to be followed in managing these operations.

TBfree staff, contractors and sub-contractors are encouraged to provide feedback to the TBfree health, safety and environmental manager (HSEM) on any implementation issues relating to this document.

If an employee or contractor believes an aspect of this document could be significantly improved or is not workable, they must:

- Record the issue and forward their concerns to the TBfree HSEM
- Provide possible solution(s) to the issue, with a brief outline of the expected benefits and risks
- Obtain approval from the TBfree GPM to continue the operation outside of SOP standards.

If meeting the standard has cost implications outside the existing contract, the employee or contractor should raise this directly with the programme manager (and ensure the HSEM is informed of the outcome of such negotiations).

TBfree will keep a register of all issues raised concerning the Aerial SOP.

## 1.6 Changes to the document and document control

Any recommended changes to this document, or the appendices, should be addressed to the TBfree HSEM in the first instance, then to the GMPM for approval. All material changes to this document will need to be approved by the TBfree GMPM.

A formal review of this document will commence each year in September. This will include a request for changes to the Aerial 1080 SOP. Suggested changes will be considered, with required changes made before December each year.

A record of the hard copies that exist will be kept by the TBfree HSEM and updated copies will need to be sent if, and when, material changes are made.

## 1.7 Auditing

All aerial 1080 operations falling within the scope of this SOP will be subject to both internal and external audits as outlined in the audit schedule below. Monitoring of certain aspects of aerial operations is also conducted. Monitoring requirements are covered in section 3.6 and include issues such as:

- Possum populations
- Carcass decay
- Water quality
- Pre and/or post-operation monitoring of flora or fauna (excluding possums).

**Note:** In the first four years after the release of this SOP, those conducting audits and checklists will take into consideration that not all SOP requirements will be able to be met because some steps might have been completed before this document was produced.

The timeframes outlined in this document are only a guide unless stated otherwise. For example, trickle feed or responsive operations may not allow for all timeframes to be met. However, all applicable process steps must have been followed.

### Types and content of audits

#### Progress checks

The aerial 1080 progress checklist (Appendix 12) is to be used by the field supervisor/aerial operations co-ordinator (AOC) as a self-check for all aerial operations. Each part of the document is to be signed off as the operation progresses, with critical stages of the progress checklist requiring the signature of the programme manager before they can continue.

#### Aerial audit form

The aerial audit form (Appendix 34) is to be used on the day of toxic application to ensure all key steps and processes are being followed.

#### Close out checklists

The contractor and programme manager's close out checklists (Appendix 13 and Appendix 14) also help ensure compliance with the SOP, and that all other processes are concluded to a satisfactory level as agreed by both TBfree and the principal contractor once the toxic application stage is completed.

#### Aerial operation file audit

The HSEM is responsible for ensuring operation file audits are completed each calendar year in accordance with the audit schedule. The audit will involve checking that all necessary documents are on file and are completed to the standard required.

#### Full external audit

An external organisation is to be contracted to conduct a full end-to-end audit of the aerial SOP. The audit is to include a full review of one selected operation.