



16 November 2023

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to OSPRI, transferred to the Department of Conservation on 19 October 2023, in which you asked:

- 1. Can you confirm that all the planned baiting has occurred for the south island as listed on the below DOC link, whether ground based or aerial. If it hasn't occurred can you let me know why.*
- 2. Additionally can you please tell me what bait was used in these areas?*

www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/national-predator-control-programme/operations/

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982. Your questions and our responses are listed below.

- 1. Can you confirm that all the planned baiting has occurred for the south island as listed on the below DOC link, whether ground based or aerial. If it hasn't occurred can you let me know why.*

The link you provided leads to a live web page showing the status of our 2023 operations. I can confirm that as of 16 November, the web page is up to date. Aerial operations that have taken place are indicated as 'completed'. Ground control operations that are active are indicated as 'ongoing'.

At this point in time, all 2023 South Island aerial 1080 operations have been completed, except for the Hollyford operation. All 2023 South Island ground operations are currently underway and will continue through to Autumn 2024.

Some South Island aerial operations that were originally planned to take place in 2023 have been deferred to 2024:

- Arthur's Pass East,
- Kahurangi – Cobb
- Kahurangi - Parapara
- Kahurangi – Kakapo
- Landsborough

These operations were all deferred because monitoring showed that pest numbers had not reached levels where an operation was required to protect the threatened species present.

2. Additionally can you please tell me what bait was used in these areas?

All our 2023 aerial 1080 operations used sodium fluoroacetate (1080) 1.5g/kg cereal pellets. The Haast Kiwi and Murchison Mountains ground control operations do not use toxins, only traps. In 2023 the Arthur's Pass East ground control operation has comprised both trapping and 0.05g/kg diphacinone in bait stations. It is planned Double Tap (diphacinone + cholecalciferol) will also be used in bait stations for the Arthur's Pass East ground control operation from November or December 2023.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Ben Reddiex
Director National Programmes
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai