

29 July 2019

Paul Sheldon Tasman District Council Private Bag 4 Richmond 7050

RE: Notification of rat control operation, Lake Rotoiti, Nelson Lakes National Park

The Department of Conservation is intending to carry out rat control over approximately 1128 ha in Nelson Lakes National Park from 1 September to 13 December 2019.

The rat poison, Pindone, a pellet bait incorporating a first-generation anticoagulant (active ingredient Pindone 0.5g/kg) will be used. Bait will be presented within bait stations. The area that will be treated is bounded by the head of Lake Rotoiti, a few properties on the east of St Arnaud, farmland to the north and National Park to the east and south as per the attached map. Any remaining bait will be removed from these stations by 13 December and arrangements made to dispose of it through the appropriate facility.

I understand that under the Tasman Resource Management Plan section 36.6.2 (Discharge to land [Pesticides]) that the planned operation is likely to be a permitted activity and previous discussions with your planning staff confirmed this.

Notification of the operation includes a notice placed in the 'Lake Rotoiti Community News' prior to any bait applications as well as notification of the adjacent landowners. Information fact sheets will be displayed on the notice board at the St Arnaud store and at the DOC Visitor Centre. Warning notices will be placed at the start of all walking tracks within the control area. All bait stations have baffles to exclude pets, small children and non-target species like possums and kea. Poison bait is also dyed to discourage bait take from non-target species.

The Tasman District Council and Health Protection Unit will be notified within 24hrs of the start of the rat control operation. If you have a queries or concerns about the operation, please contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Jen Waite
DOC Nelson Lakes
03 521 1065
jwaite@doc.govt.nz

