

Notice

24 June 2019



Game Animal Council
NEW ZEALAND

ZIP Aerial Possum Control - Perth Valley non-toxic prefeed bait application

This is to advise that Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP) intend to begin non-toxic prefeed baiting, via aerial application, at the Perth River valley in South Westland as part of Phase Two of their predator removal operation.

Pending weather, it is intended to begin this work on 24 with operations expected to get underway by 8am. Baiting should take one day to complete.

The operation is part of the ZIP-led research and development project to test and refine an approach to completely remove possums from large areas and prevent them from re-establishing. The project will also seek to develop this approach for ship rats and stoats. After a very successful Phase One undertaken in April (see <http://zip.org.nz/latest-updates> for further information), Phase Two is targeting the surviving possums (and rats) in that landscape.

The bait to be used is non-toxic cylindrical cereal pellets (weighing approx 6g). They have been dyed green to assist with the mitigation measures being employed to reduce the risk of the operation to kea.

During the baiting operation, no helicopter landings are allowed at Scone Hut. ZIP will have a staff member there to advise any visitors of the pending baiting operation.

There are already warning signs in place from Phase One to notify the public of the baiting operations that have occurred here and are continuing to occur. The ZIP field ranger stationed at Scone Hut will be on hand to advise any members of the public who may be present in the area immediately prior to and during baiting.

The bait is non-toxic, but should not be touched if encountered. Any questions, please contact info@zip.org.nz.