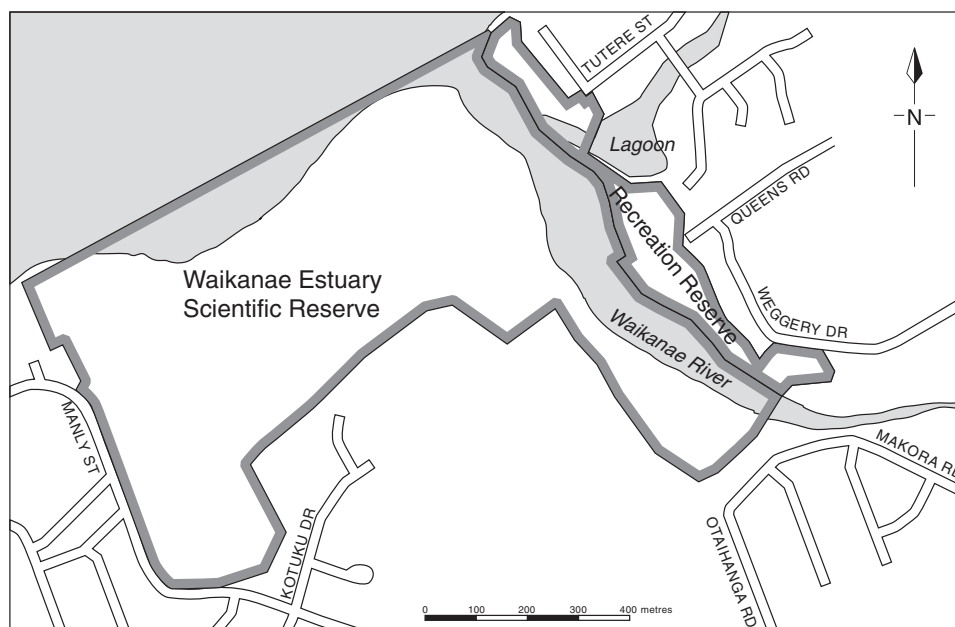


# Key facts about rabbit control in Waikanae Estuary Scientific and Recreation reserves

MAY 2007

## *What's happening?*

The Department of Conservation (DOC) and Kapiti Coast District Council (KCDC) plan to commence rabbit control in Waikanae Estuary Scientific Reserve (65 ha, DOC) and part of the adjoining Waikanae Estuary Recreation Reserve (10 ha, KCDC).



## *How is it happening?*

The operation will be carried out using diced carrot which will be dyed green and coated with Pindone solution. Bait will be hand laid in areas with rabbit sign. There will be up to three applications of bait. Applications will be 5-7 days apart.

## *When?*

Bait will be placed in the area from 1 May 2007. Warning signs will be erected prior to bait being laid.

## *Why are we controlling rabbits?*

Rabbits damage pasture, trees, crops and gardens. A restoration programme is being carried out in the area. Part of this programme includes planting a variety of native seedlings. These seedlings may be damaged unless rabbits are controlled.



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*



***What do you need to know?***

Pindone is poisonous to humans and domestic animals. Poisoning can occur through handling or eating bait, or from the consumption of dead or poisoned animals.

There is no health risk in using this area if these rules are observed:

- DO NOT handle any bait.
- DO NOT allow CHILDREN to wander un-supervised.
- DO NOT bring DOGS into this area.
- DO NOT handle, or eat ANIMALS from this area.

***Why are we using this method?***

The hand-laying of Pindone carrots is a proven technique and is the preferred method for rabbit control.

Pindone is an effective toxin, due to its slow acting nature it is unlikely that bait shyness will occur.

***How well is this operation planned?***

The use of this pesticide does not require consent from territorial authorities or the Medical Officer of Health. However the Department of Conservation has an internal approval process to ensure the operation is meeting our Quality Management standards for pesticide use.

This approval entails a detailed assessment of risks involved in the work. A satisfactory means to manage the risks is required prior to approval being granted. The document produced for this exercise is called an *Assessment of Environmental Effects*, and if you're interested, a copy for this operation can be obtained from the DOC office in Waikanae.

***What do I do if I suspect poisoning?***

Contact:

- Local hospital, or
- National Poisons Centre Tel. 0800 POISON - 0800 764 766.
- In the case of a domestic animal being poisoned contact a local veterinary service.

***Who do I contact for more information?***

For Waikanae Estuary Scientific Reserve (indicated on map):

Department of Conservation

Kapiti Area Office

10 Parata Street

PO Box 141

WAIKANAE

Ph (04) 296 1112, Fax (04) 296 1115

For the Recreation Reserve (indicated on map):

Kapiti Coast District Council

Paraparaumu Office

Private Bag 601

175 Rimu Road

PARAPARAUMU

Ph (04) 904 5600, Fax (04) 904 5830