



Applying for a grant to support predator control activities

What can the funding be used for?

Funding from the DOC Community Fund can be used towards activities that aim to conserve New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity. For predator control projects, this includes:

- ✓ traps that have passed the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) guidelines
- ✓ baits and lures
- ✓ monitoring hardware (eg chew cards, tracking tunnels)
- ✓ specialist contractors (eg for the application of toxins)
- ✓ training for volunteers (including health and safety)
- ✓ administration costs related to the project.

This does not include:

- ✗ purchasing traps that are not included in the NAWAC guidelines
- ✗ the on-selling of subsidised traps (eg to the public at a reduced rate).

Why use the NAWAC guidelines?

Although introduced predators do not belong in New Zealand, it is important that we remove them in a humane way that avoids or minimises pain, suffering and distress – to both target and non-target animals.

Traps that are purchased using DOC Community Fund grants **must** pass the NAWAC guidelines to demonstrate that they kill humanely and are easy to use and maintain.

Information on which traps are recommended for use by Predator Free 2050 community groups can be found on DOC's **Toolkit: Predator Free 2050** webpages at www.doc.govt.nz/predator-free-2050/toolkit-predator-free-2050/.

Should I have a predator control plan in place?

All applicants to the DOC Community Fund have the option of providing one document in support of their application. For predator control projects where you are applying for more than \$5,000, we recommend including a predator control plan that includes information such as:

- the project goals and objectives
- context to explain why the project is needed
- a map and description of the project area
- the species to be targeted and the flora and/or fauna being protected
- the methods and timing



- the intended outcome and result targets for the project, such as:
 - pest management targets
 - targets for the successful protection of the flora and/or fauna
 - how these targets will be achieved and sustained
- a plan for monitoring and evaluating the project, including a benchmark against which progress will be measured
- confirmation of the support required for successful delivery of the project (eg biosecurity officer of the relevant local authority and/or DOC)
- details of any consents, approvals, licenses, advertisements, signage and/or other notifications that are legally required for the project.

The Funds Team can provide you with a predator control plan template on request.

When should I use toxins instead of traps?

There may be instances where it is better to use toxins instead of traps, such as:

- if there are high pest densities at your site, which will make trapping labour intensive and inefficient unless the traps are self-resetting
- the same control method has been used for some time, increasing the risk that your local pest populations will become trap shy - changing the tool can help you reach more targets.

We strongly recommend that you discuss your project proposal with your local DOC office for advice on suitable predator control methods for your site. Note: Special licenses are required for the safe use of some toxins.

How do I set up a new predator control group?

If you are considering setting up a new predator control programme, we recommend that you first check whether there is already an existing initiative in your local area so that you do not risk duplicating efforts.

Many of these programmes are captured on the PF2050 community map on the Predator Free New Zealand Trust website - see <https://predatorfreenz.org/tools-resources/national-map/>.

We also ask that you add your predator control project to the national map.

What other resources are available?

We strongly encourage applicants to **discuss their predator trapping proposals** with their Regional Predator Free Ranger before completing an application to the DOC Community Fund.

DOC has **Predator Free Rangers** in each of the nine regions. Their job is to help communities scale-up their predator-free efforts, commit people to the cause and coordinate activities. They can connect

you with a local specialist ranger who can help you to plan trapping strategies and ensure we get the most out of everyone's time and effort.

To find your nearest Predator Free Ranger, see the DOC website: www.doc.govt.nz/nature/pests-and-threats/predator-free-2050/predator-free-rangers/

Online toolkit

The **Toolkit: Predator Free 2050** has been developed specifically for community-led predator control projects. This resource includes beginner tips, trap and bait profiles, how-tos, and funding resources.

The DOC Predator Free 2050 toolkit can be accessed at www.doc.govt.nz/predator-free-2050.

Training

A 2-day training workshop for community is available through NMIT. This workshop will provide an overview of pest predators in New Zealand, particularly rats, stoats and possums. The main focus will be on developing an effective Predator Pest Control Plan and highlighting the importance of monitoring. The workshop will allow people to work out the right methods to match the outcomes they are seeking and will also give participants the practical experience they need to trap successfully. For more information, visit www.nmit.ac.nz/study/short-courses/cfs322-introduction-to-predator-trapping-methods.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the DOC Community Fund, please contact the Funds Team – phone 0800 86 20 20 or email doccf@doc.govt.nz.

