



# Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry: 1080 reassessment submission

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## MAF's Key Points

- **MAF recognises the strategic importance of 1080 as a tool for protecting the NZ economy and environment**
- **MAF supports the conclusion of the E&R report that benefits of continued 1080 use outweigh costs**
- **MAF supports continued, efficient and effective use of 1080 for the control of feral animals**





## Presentation Outline

- **Context – MAF’s roles/scopes of submission**
- **Significance of values protected through 1080 use**
- **Key reasons for supporting continued 1080 use (+ wider considerations)**





## Context - MAF's role

**Deliver policy advice, regulation and service delivery to achieve:**

- **Sustainable economic development of NZ's agriculture food and forestry sectors**
- **Biosecurity in support of economic, environmental, health and cultural outcomes**
- **Food safety, through the NZ Food Safety Authority**

**Not commenting on Food Safety issues given regulatory role**





- **MAF has overall accountability for leadership and oversight of the biosecurity system in New Zealand**
  - **Governance - forums for coordinating the activity of central and regional agencies**
  - **Facilitate agreement on strategic priorities and collectively address these (e.g., improvements to toolkit, best practice)**
  - **Performance (e.g., efficiency and effectiveness of control tools to achieve biosecurity outcomes)**
  - **MAF is not a direct operational user of 1080**





## Significance of values protected through 1080 use

- **Bovine tuberculosis (Tb) management**
  - MAF supports the AHB's goal of “official freedom” of Tb from NZ
    - Approx. \$8 billion dairy, beef and deer meat exports
    - Market access/ Loss of productivity in diseased animals/ Restrictions on livestock movements
    - \$34.2 million crown contribution (2005/06) for vector control





## Significance of values protected through 1080 use

- **Tb National Pest Management Strategy has successfully reduced infected herds**
  - **90% reduction over the last 10 years**
- **MAF has strong interest in control being as efficient and effective as possible**
- **Aerial 1080 is the key tool in reducing Tb infected possums in rugged areas of New Zealand**







## Significance of values protected through 1080 use

- **Emergency response to exotic animal disease (FMD, CWD, Rabies)**
  - **Potential to devastate NZ's economy**
  - **Economic effects of a limited FMD outbreak in NZ**
    - **\$10 billion loss to economy (after 2 years)**
  - **1080 likely to be a key tool for exotic animal disease response where wild animals are targeted**





## Significance of values protected through 1080 use

- **Forestry management**
  - \$3 billion industry
  - MAF manages commercial forestry business
  - Impacts on production
    - Browse/ ring-barking of trees (e.g., rabbits, possums)
  - 1080 key tool for achieving uniform, significant and cost effective reduction of large areas of forest





## Significance of values protected through 1080 use

- **Rabbit management**
  - Resistance to RHD increasing in rabbit prone areas
    - Observed increase in rabbit abundance
    - National working group established
  - Need to use 1080 likely to increase
  - Limited alternative methods for large-scale control





## Significance of values protected through 1080 use

- **Biodiversity protection**
  - NZ's unique flora and fauna - *The closest scientists will come to studying life on another planet (Jared Diamond)*
  - Impacts on native species and ecosystems
  - NZ'ers enjoyment of these
  - Tourism
  - Reputation





## Key reasons for supporting continued use of 1080

- **Strategic importance to protect NZ's economy and environment, including meeting goals of:**
  - **NZ Biodiversity Strategy**
  - **NZ Biosecurity Strategy**
  - **National Tb Pest Management Strategy**
  - **Regional Pest Management Strategies**





## Key reasons for supporting continued use of 1080

- **1080 has a well understood toxicology**
- **Low residual environmental effects compared with other toxins**
- **Cost effective compared with other methods**
- **Acceptable animal welfare impacts compared with other control methods**
  - **regarded as having an intermediate impact in animal welfare terms**





## Key reasons for supporting continued use of 1080

- **Nevertheless and conscious of public concern (ethical principles, toxin use, animal welfare)**
  - **Support justified improvements**
    - **Further research into ways to minimise animal welfare impacts**
  - **Support continuation of substantive body of research into appropriate cost-effective alternatives**





## Key reasons for supporting continued use of 1080

- **Controls/safeguards have improved over time and are appropriately stringent, e.g.,**
  - HSNO Act 1996 (controls by MOH and DOC)
  - ACVM Act 1997
  - Resource Management Act 1991
  - Certification
  - Codes of practice/SOPs
- **Still opportunity for further improvement (e.g., greater consistency)**





## Key reasons for supporting continued use of 1080

- **Principle we urge that a balanced approach be taken**
  - Managing risks associated with use vs acceptable regulatory and operational compliance costs
- **Any increase in restrictions would need to consider:**
  - Urgent responses to exotic disease outbreaks
  - Delivery of Tb Strategy
  - Continued protection of conservation resources





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