



Office of Hon Chris Carter
MP for Te Atatu
 Minister of Conservation
 Minister of Local Government
 Minister for Building Issues
 Minister for Ethnic Affairs

Diane 24-3-05

*This relates to
 04-L-260. You can
 now treat that submission
 as completed.
 Thanks David*

21 MAR 2005

Director General
 Department of Conservation

Dear Hugh

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CONSERVATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	For Draft Reply
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<input type="checkbox"/>	For Direct Action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For Record
MINISTER OF CONSERVATION	

Use of deer repellent on 1080 bait

I have now received advice from you and the New Zealand Conservation Authority on the use of deer repellent on 1080 bait. I have also sought the views of the Animal Health Board. I have given careful consideration to all the matters raised in these submissions and reached the following decision.

Deer repellent may be used by the department or by agencies undertaking possum control in gazetted recreational hunting areas subject to the following criteria:

Its use does not have negative consequences for indigenous biodiversity and the additional cost of the repellent-treated bait does not jeopardise the efficacy of possum control in the RHA or adjoining areas.

The use of the repellent is permitted under the statutory provisions which the land is held and is in alignment with any operative General Policy, Conservation Management Strategy, Conservation management Plan or regulations applying to the land

In making this decision, I was particularly mindful of the following matters:

The additional cost of using the repellent on a per hectare basis is currently estimated to be about \$6/hectare. As this is a significant increase in the cost of the operational component of an aerial 1080 operation, more widespread use of the repellent could significantly reduce the area that can be treated for possum control from within the existing funding.

The existing recreational hunting areas include the two sites where the use of aerial 1080 has been most controversial with recreational hunters, namely the Blue Mountains and the Aorangi Range

Original to DG

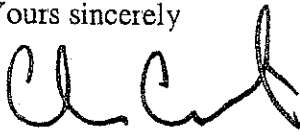
Copy to GM CPD

Diane Rogan 24/3

Following the near-complete cessation of commercial game recovery, deer numbers are rising in many areas of conservation land resulting in an abundance of hunting opportunities. Overall, those hunting opportunities are not reduced by standard aerial 1080 operations.

While deer are for hunters a recreational resource, they are also a conservation pest and the reductions in deer numbers that occur as a result of 1080 operations can result in conservation benefits.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Carter', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Chris Carter MP
Minister of Conservation