

30 March 2023

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, received on 13 March 2023 in which you asked:

Do you have the following templates that you would be able to share with us for use in teaching?

** Animal Welfare Status Report (template)*

** Pest Operations Communications Plan (template)*

Also do you have guidelines for minimum requirements related to the use of GPS to plot track lines etc?

On 15/3/23 you clarified your request to requiring resources that demonstrate to students, the standard operating procedures of the Department for animal pest control operations.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. Resources that demonstrate DOC's Standard operating procedures for animal pest control operations, including templates relating to animal welfare status reports and communication plans.

The Department of Conservation has procedures to ensure its animal pest operations are effective, managed safely and meet all legal requirements.

You can find DOC's standard operating procedures and other technical documents that are used when planning animal pest operations on the publicly available DOC website:

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-policies-and-plans/our-procedures-and-sops/managing-animal-pests/standard-operating-procedures/>



This page includes links to the abridged 'status lists' for pesticide and trap use that are approved for use on public conservation land and include any compulsory restrictions which may apply.

To lay pesticides or traps on public conservation land you must have permission from DOC.

The following publicly available DOC website page includes links to the templates and guidance documents that explain what you will be required to do when applying for permission to lay pesticides and traps on public conservation land:

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/business-or-activity/animal-pest-control-operations/>

2. Minimum requirements related to the use of GPS to plot track lines etc

DOC does not currently have any minimum standards related to the use of GPS to plot track lines. GPS recording standards differ between predator control programmes and will usually be prescribed in project or contract specifications.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Department's website.



Nāku noa, nā



Hilary Aikman
Director Terrestrial Biodiversity
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai