



Friends of Mana Island  
P.O. Box 54 101

Mana  
PORIRUA

4 February 2015

**Rodent Control - Mana Island**

Dear Julie Harrison,

Please find enclosed a fact sheet of information regarding our intention to continue using the vertebrate toxin, brodifacoum (trade name, Pestoff Rodent Blocks), in a select number of bait stations on the Island(s) mentioned above, as a tool for detecting and/or controlling rodent incursions that may occur on these islands.

The baits are placed in wooden and/or plastic Protecta LP bait stations predominantly in DOC buildings, but may be active in any of the bait stations situated around the island. In the event of an incursion it is intended that all bait stations on the island will be activated with this toxin.

This is a continuation of the island biosecurity programme that has been running since rodent eradication was achieved. We intend to continue with this technique until 2016, when the bait and method will be reviewed.

**These pesticides are poisonous to humans. Warning signs are placed at the entrances to the Islands. Please assume that pesticides are always present in the bait stations.**

For more information on this programme, please refer to the attached fact sheet. If you have any enquiries or you require further information about this operation, please do not hesitate to call me on (04) 470 8410 or email [dpalmer@doc.govt.nz](mailto:dpalmer@doc.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Palmer  
Biodiversity Ranger



# Key facts about the use of brodifacoum on off-shore islands in the Kapiti Wellington District

The Department of Conservation's Pōneke/Wellington Office plans to continue using brodifacoum on Matiu/Somes, Mokopuna, Mākaro/Ward, Mana and Kapiti Islands for the detection of and/or as a contingency measure for rodent incursions.

## Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to receive valued feedback from those with an interest in the above islands, regarding the effects of brodifacoum as a tool for detection of and/or as a contingency measure for rodent incursions.

## How is it happening?

The pesticide brodifacoum, with the trade name Pestoff Rodent Blocks is a cereal pellet, dyed green, and is only used within bait stations.

It is our intention to use brodifacoum only under the following circumstances:

- When there is an indication from other monitoring methods (e.g. non toxic chew sticks, tracking papers or rodent dog indication) that rodents may be present on the island.
- In areas where it is not suitable to run rodent kill traps and in high risk areas such as boat landing sights and areas of human habitation. Under these circumstances the bait will function as a method of detection as well as control for rodents.
- In the event of a rodent incursion, when all bait stations on the island will be activated.

## Have your say

If you wish to provide feedback, or would like to receive any additional information, please contact the Pōneke/Wellington Office.

## Timeframe

This programme is a continuation of the biosecurity measures that have been in place since rodent eradication on these islands.

It is intended that these measures will be ongoing and that the use of this management method will be reassessed in 2016.

## Why are we concerned about rodents?

The islands stated above are currently free of rodents and remain an important refuge for many species of threatened native fauna and flora.

Rodents, however, could by chance invade these islands, which would be damaging to many of the native species and their habitats.

The use of brodifacoum in bait stations is one of the tools used by the Department to detect and control rodent incursions.



## Important information

Brodifacoum is poisonous to humans and domestic animals. Poisoning can occur through handling or eating the bait, or consuming dead or poisoned animals.

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

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

## If you suspect poisoning

Contact:

- Your local doctor or hospital.
- National Poisons Centre

Tel. 0800 764 766 (0800 POISON).

## Why we are using this method

Brodifacoum is a proven and effective method for control of rodents, and due to its slow acting nature, bait shyness is expected to be minimal.

Brodifacoum has been approved for use by the Environmental Protection Authority.

## Operational Planning

The Department of Conservation has an internal approval process to ensure the operation is meeting their Quality Management standards for pesticide use.

This approval entails a detailed Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) of risks involved in the work.

## For more information

Department of Conservation  
Pōneke/Wellington Office  
181 Thorndon Quay  
P.O. Box 5086  
Wellington 6145  
Tel: 0-4 472 5821  
Fax: 0-4 499 0077