



Best Practice Guidance for Predator Control



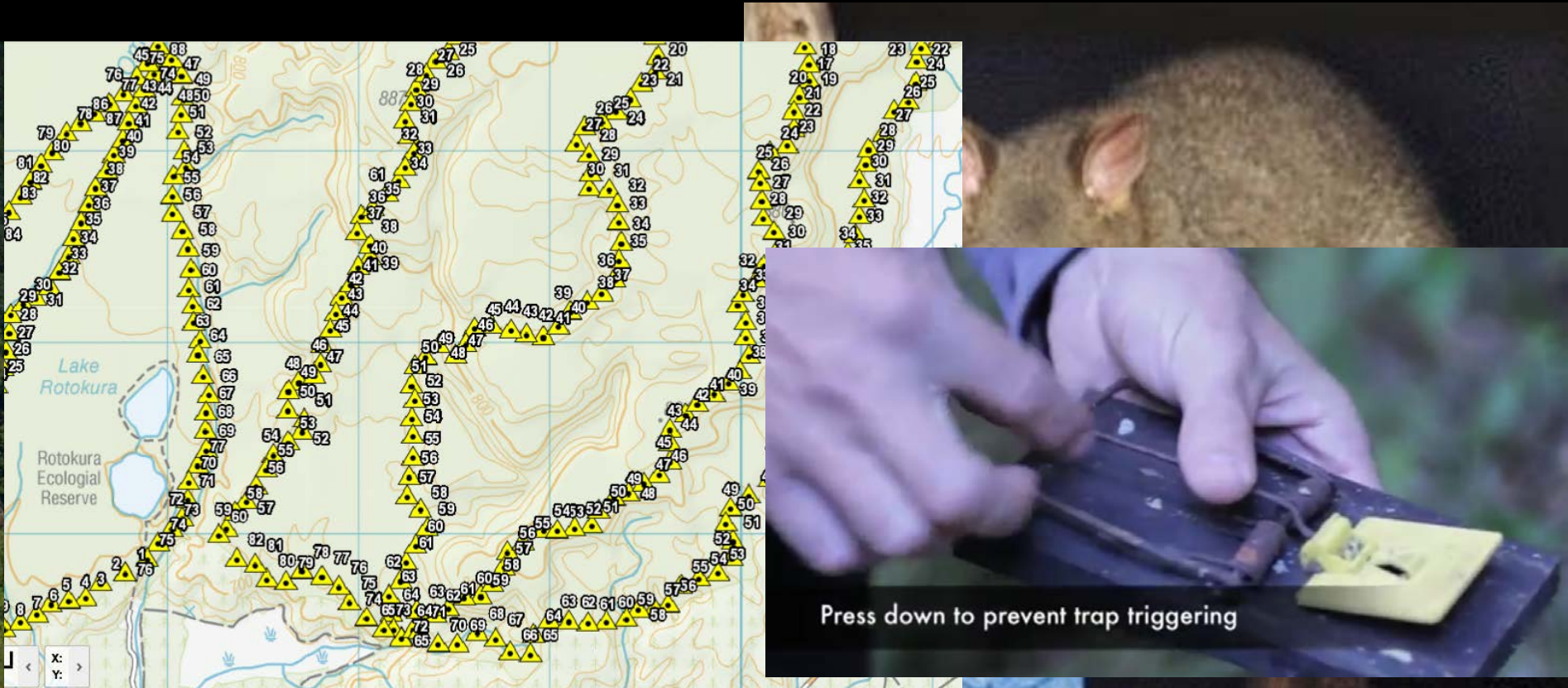


Outline

- Guidance for choosing methods
- Guidance for method details
- How we decide what is best practice
- The information behind best practice
- Animal welfare considerations

Best practice guidance is to help...

- Choose best method for the situation
- Apply the method effectively and safely



VERTEBRATE VERTEBRATE PEST CONTROL

Decision support system

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Possums

Location

Habitat & climate

Pest problem

Control history & operational aim

Other constraints

Control options & costs

Summary

Location



Name of operational area:

* Is control required in a block or along a perimeter (e.g. forest edge)? 

- Block
 Perimeter

* Area (ha) (consider potential for reinfestation and buffer area needed):

Please select the region the operational area is in:

Region type

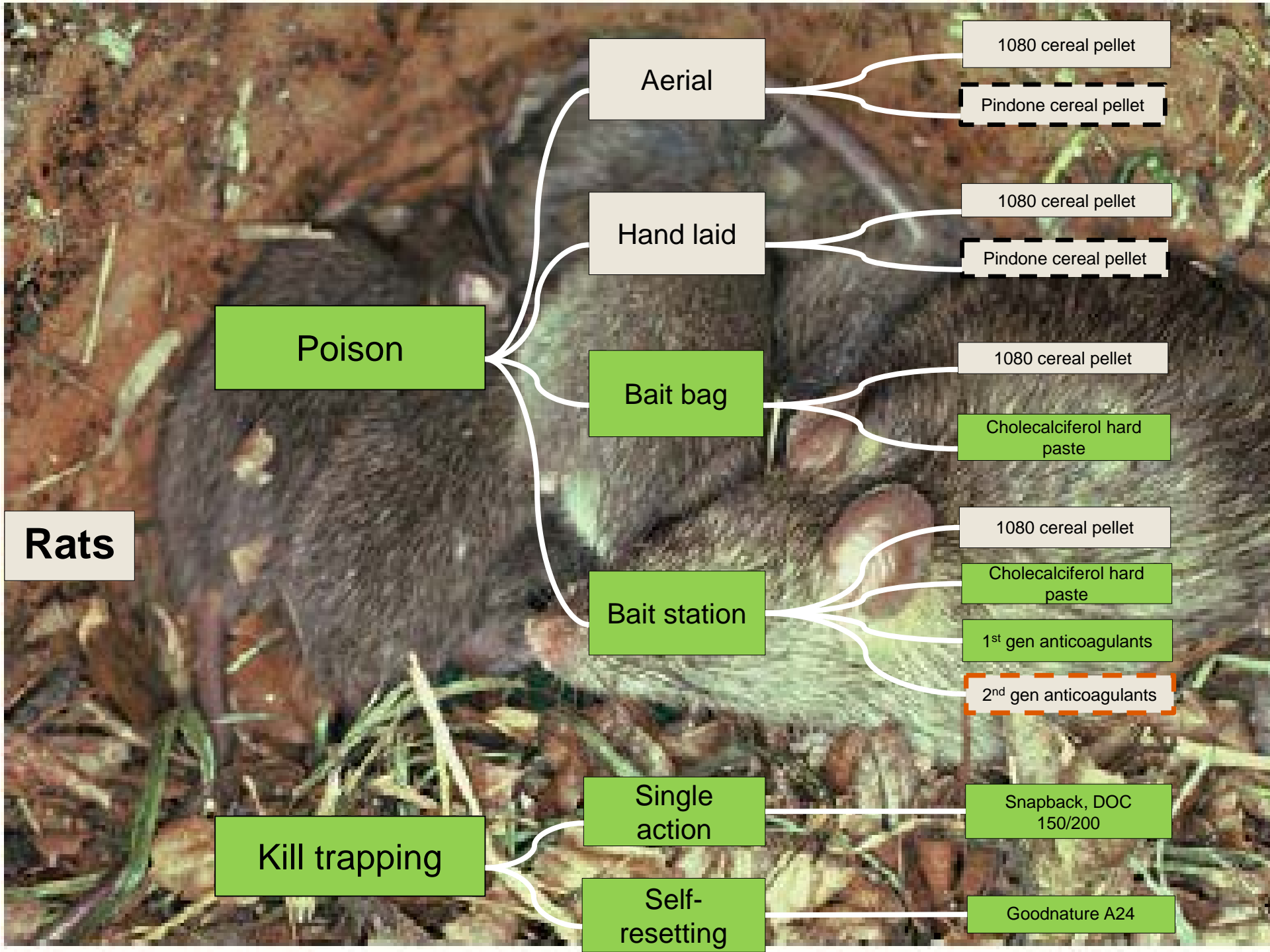


Region



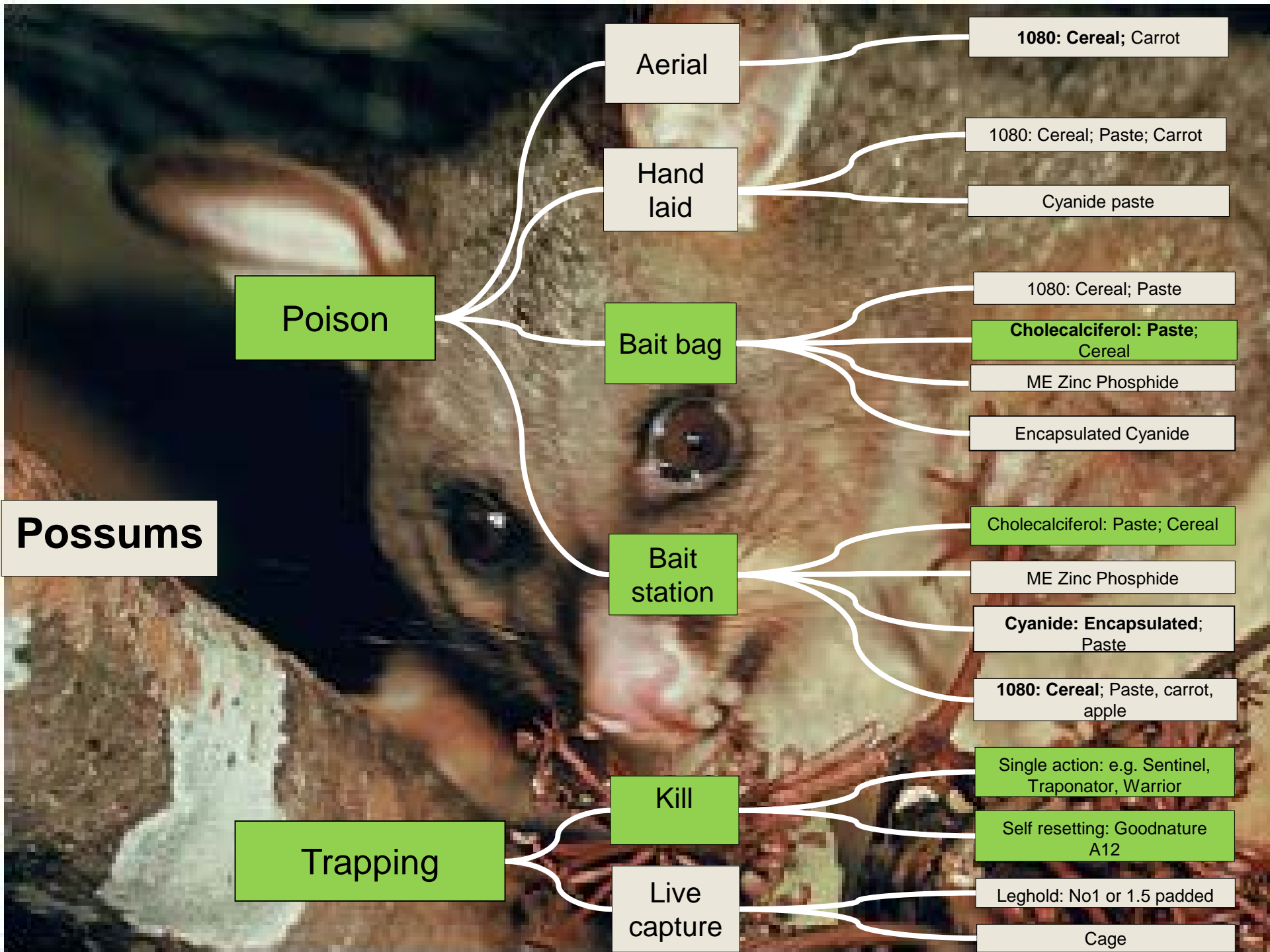
* Are any parts inaccessible for ground control? 





Rats





Possums

Poison

Aerial

1080: Cereal; Carrot

Hand laid

1080: Cereal; Paste; Carrot

Cyanide paste

Bait bag

1080: Cereal; Paste

Cholecalciferol: Paste; Cereal

ME Zinc Phosphide

Encapsulated Cyanide

Bait station

Cholecalciferol: Paste; Cereal

ME Zinc Phosphide

Cyanide: Encapsulated; Paste

1080: Cereal; Paste, carrot, apple

Trapping

Kill

Single action: e.g. Sentinel, Traponator, Warrior

Self resetting: Goodnature A12

Live capture

Leghold: No1 or 1.5 padded

Cage

Best practice methodology

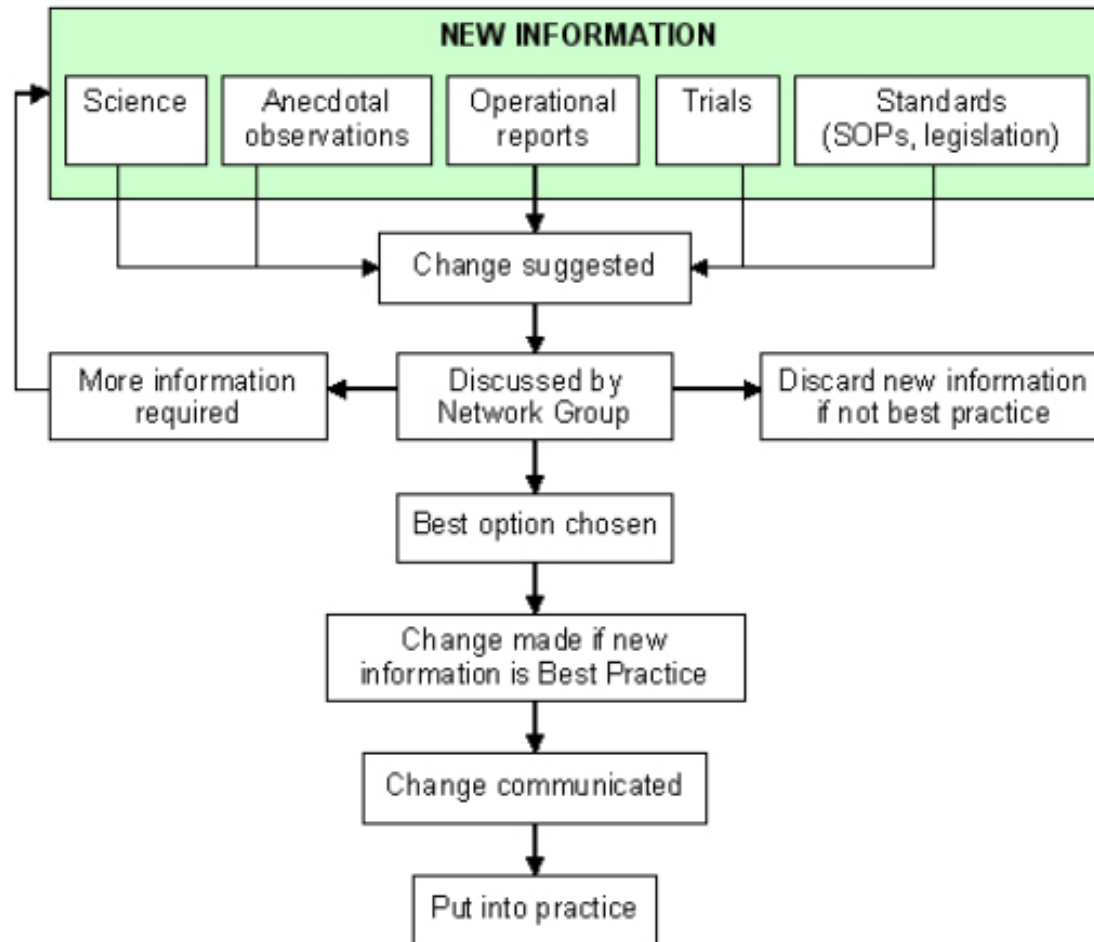
Sources of information include:

- DOC best practice material
- Landcare Research Vertebrate Pest Control site
- Predator Free NZ website. (predatorfreenz.org)
- NPCA webpage. (www.npca.org.nz). In future this material will be hosted by MPI led Bionet toolkit.
- Predator Free 2050 toolkit is under construction





How best practice is agreed



Rat control by kill trapping

- Rat traps on lines no greater than 100m apart. Traps no greater than 50m apart.
- 25m apart on boundary lines; 25 m apart in high density areas.
- Initially checked daily until knockdown is achieved (10-20 checks)

Ship rat home ranges in podocarp hardwood forest were 0.6 to 3.2 ha for females; 5.6 to 18.9 ha for males (Perry et al 2009).

Field trials and operational reports

Rats can quickly move in from the immediately adjoining untreated area (Innes 2005)

More rats require more killing capacity

Single action traps kill only 1 rat per device.

Ship rat density estimates

Operational reports

How to trap & kill rats in the bush



This quick guide is for anyone who is keen to help save NZ's native wildlife by setting and managing rat traps.

Where should I put my rat traps?

- Set them on lines 100m apart with a trap every 50m (100m x 50m), or closer in areas with a large number of rats.
- Place traps inside rat tunnels (see Predator Free NZ's link below for where to buy traps and tunnels).
- Put a number on each trap and keep track of how many you've set, when and where.

What equipment will I need?

The Victor professional snapback trap. Watch DOC's video 'How to set and service a Victor rat trap' on YouTube.

Goodnature's A24 self-resetting traps save time if you're covering large areas.

For more information, visit www.predatorfreenz.org

Photo: © Herb Christophers

When should I check my traps?

Preferably daily until you're getting results and the catch rate goes down, then check every 2-3 weeks. The more rats in the area, the more checks you'll need to do.

A24s need to be checked monthly or to the manufacturer's specifications.

Lures/baits

Serve up some peanut butter, and refresh often.



How to trap & kill rats at home



This quick guide is for anyone who is keen to help save NZ's native wildlife by setting and managing rat traps.

Where should I put my rat traps?

- Set up 2-3 per back yard and place inside rat tunnels to protect kids and pets (see Predator Free NZ's link below for where to buy traps and tunnels).
- Place them on a flat surface near walls/compost or under cover. If you're not getting results, try a different spot.

When should I check my traps?

Preferably daily until you're getting results and the catch rate goes down, then check every 2-3 weeks. The more rats in the area, the more checks you'll need to do.

For more information, visit www.predatorfreenz.org

Photo: © Herb Christophers

What equipment will I need?

The Victor professional snapback trap. Watch DOC's video 'How to set and service a Victor rat trap' on YouTube.

If you don't want to handle dead rats, try Goodnature's A24 self-resetting traps.

Lures/baits

Serve up some peanut butter, and refresh often.



Stoat control by kill trapping

- Stoat traps on lines no greater than 800m to 1km apart, traps up to 200m apart
- Lines follow habitat perimeter, ridges, tracks, roads, altitudinal contours and waterways.
- Traps should be set on both sides of large rivers and in all available habitats

40-256 ha home ranges, core range may be smaller (King and Murphy 2005). Modelling suggests some females may not have sufficient encounters when traps are spaced more widely.

These features seem to result in higher catch rates of stoats (Dillks et al 1996) and make servicing easier.

There are indications that some individual stoats may not use all habitats (e.g. stoats in alpine zone may not be caught in adjacent forest habitat) (Smith and Jamieson 2005))

How to trap & kill stoats



This quick guide is for anyone who is keen to help save NZ's native wildlife by setting and managing stoat traps.

Where should I put stoat traps?

- Along ridges, tracks, roads, and creeks/ rivers - basically, anywhere that's easy to reach.
- Set them on lines about **1km apart with a trap every 100m** (1km x 100m).
- Put a number on each trap and **keep track of how many you've set**, when and where.

When should I check my traps?

About **12 times a year**. Set and bait/lure traps during each check and make sure the traps are still working.

Maintenance of traps is critical. For details, watch the YouTube video 'How to install a DOC 200 kill trap for conservation'

What equipment will I need?

The DOC 150 or the DOC 200 traps.

What bait/lure should I use?

Serve up some fresh rabbit, hare, possum, Eraze, salted rabbit, freeze-dried rabbit and/or fresh hen eggs.

Lures should be changed regularly (exactly when and how often will depend on where the traps are) and disposed of away from the trap.

For more information, visit
www.predatorfreenz.org

Photo: © Shing Kamcyama, DOC



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

'How to set traps'



These Department of Conservation 'current best practice' tunnel designs, must be used with Victor Professional traps. These tunnels are designed to exclude non target species, guide target species and



A24
INSTALL YOUR GOODNATURE A24

Robbie demonstrates how to install a Goodnature Automatic Multi-Kill Trap. Follow these easy steps for success and remember to rebait your traps monthly.



A24
REBAIT YOUR GOODNATURE A24

In this video Robbie demonstrates how to rebait a Goodnature A24 Automatic Multi-Kill Trap. To get the best results from your traps, refresh the lure at least once a month.

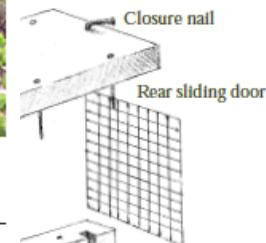


A24
UNINSTALL YOUR GOODNATURE A24

Watch how to safely uninstall a Goodnature A24 Trap. Follow these steps to shift your trap to a new location, and use detector cards to pinpoint a suitable new trap site.

AWAC for rats, idards.

Lid 400mm x 145mm x 20mm

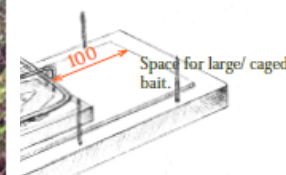


Closure nail

Rear sliding door

5mm saw grooves 20mm from end.

Side 425mm x 140mm x 25mm.



Space for large/ caged bait.

Half tsp. peanut butter placed upon treadle end and a half white chocolate button bait slid under 'V'. Treadle set low.

Drawings: Phil Waddington

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A12
INSTALL YOUR A12 POSSUM TRAP

Robbie demonstrates how to install a Goodnature A12 Multi-Kill Trap for possums. Follow these easy steps for success and remember to rebait your traps monthly.



A12
REBAIT YOUR A12 POSSUM TRAP

In this video Robbie demonstrates how to rebait a Goodnature A12 Multi-Kill Trap for possums. To get the best from your traps refresh the lure at least once a month.



A12
UNINSTALL YOUR A12 POSSUM TRAP

Watch how to safely uninstall a Goodnature A12 Trap. Follow these steps to shift your trap to a new location. Ensure it is re-installed to Goodnature guidelines.

Information from operations and field trials

- More effective use of devices: Trap maintenance (example see *Moehau Environment Group* input in DOCSkillable).
- Efficacy trials: Kepler rat control with Goodnature A24 traps. *Fiordland Conservation Trust & DOC*
- Trap comparisons. Standard DOC trap box vs run through design. *Friends of Rotoiti & DOC*
- Operational use and reporting of new methods: Use of PredaSTOP (PAPP) for stoats. *Whakatane Kiwi Trust*



Animal Welfare and trapping



Trap	Possum	Rat (Ship, Norway)	Stoat	Ferret	Weasel	H.hog	Feral Cat
DOC 150 ¹		<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DOC 200 ¹		<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DOC 250 ¹		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Goodnature A24		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Victor snapback (mod)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
Victor snapback		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
KaMate		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
Nooski		<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Snap E		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
Victor Power Kill		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
T Rex		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
Fenn MK4			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Fenn MK6			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Timms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
KBL Tunnel				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Possum master	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conibear 120				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Sentinel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Warrior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Trapinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Goodnature A12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
PodiTRAP				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
SA Coni	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Twizel kill trap							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belisle Super X 220							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conibear 220							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SA2 Kat trap	<input type="checkbox"/>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Victor No.1.5 padded ²							<input type="checkbox"/>
Victor No.1 unpadded ²	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>			



New information needs

- Stoat catch rate comparison trial between DOC200 and Goodnature A24 traps
- Reports from more operations using Goodnature A24 traps for rat control
- More trials to evaluate the efficacy of Goodnature A24 traps for stoat control and non-target exclusion
- More rat trap systems tested to NAWAC guideline
- DOC best practice system is to be revised and updated

Summary

- Make use of best practice material for choosing methods and applying them well. There are a number of information sources.
- Best practice changes (improves), and those doing the hands on work contribute to the improvement.
- Consider the welfare of pest animals. Potential for suffering of trapped animals can be minimised by using traps in accordance with best practice material.

