

Submitter quick reference guide

| Submitter Number | Name - First | Name - Last | Wish to be heard | Support moving to a contractor delivery model |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|---|
| 1 | David | Barnard | No | Yes |
| 2 | Sam | Von Dadelszen | No | No |
| 3 | Jen | Ellingham | No | Yes |
| 4 | Vicki | Butterworth | No | Yes |
| 5 | Jen | Gale | No | Yes |
| 6 | Eric | de Vries | Yes | Don't know |
| 7 | Bev | Kerr | No | Yes |
| 8 | Christine | Lawrence | No | Yes |
| 9 | Jess | Murray | No | Yes |
| 10 | Nathan | Alexander | No | Yes |
| 11 | Genevieve | BENNETT | No | Yes |
| 12 | Matt | Croft | No | Don't know |
| 13 | Fenton | Wilson | No | Yes |
| 14 | Edward | Visser | No | Yes |
| 15 | Annette | BLACK | No | Yes |
| 16 | Kathryn | Bayliss | No | Yes |
| 17 | David | Hooker | No | Yes |
| 18 | Donald | Cooper | No | Yes |
| 19 | John | Lyons | No | Yes |
| 20 | Hayley | Lawrence | No | Yes |
| 21 | Kirsty | Masterson | No | No |
| 22 | Sam | Deller | No | Yes |
| 23 | Campbell | Ebbett | No | Yes |
| 24 | Gaius | Smith | Yes | No |
| 25 | Margueritee | Brien | No | Yes |
| 26 | Will | Coltart | Yes | Yes |
| 27 | Mike | Lusk | No | Yes |
| 28 | Phil | Kitchin | No | Yes |
| 29 | Aileen | Campbell | No | Yes |
| 30 | Will | Martin | No | Yes |

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|----|---------|-----------------|-----|------------|
| 31 | Louise | van Jaarsveldt | No | Yes |
| 32 | Dale | Tatam | No | No |
| 33 | Garth | Goodwin | No | No |
| 34 | Dave | Edwards | No | Don't know |
| 35 | Tania | Kerr | No | Yes |
| 36 | Timothy | Cullwick | No | Yes |
| 37 | Terry | Hickling | No | Yes |
| 38 | David | Janett | No | Yes |
| 39 | Melanie | Lang | No | Yes |
| 40 | Marli | Dee | No | Yes |
| 41 | Guy | Bell | No | Yes |
| 42 | Sarah | Hall | No | Don't know |
| 43 | Ian | McQuillan | No | Yes |
| 44 | Brian | Hayr | No | Yes |
| 45 | John | McConville | No | Yes |
| 46 | Tony | Partridge | No | Yes |
| 47 | Marilyn | van Asch | No | Yes |
| 48 | Andrew | Renton-Green | No | Yes |
| 49 | Curt | Zant | Yes | No |
| 50 | Robyn | Gibbs | No | No |
| 51 | Becs | Armitage | No | Yes |
| 52 | John | Kitchin | No | Yes |
| 53 | Melissa | Brignall-Theyer | No | Yes |
| 54 | Murray | Croucher | No | Yes |
| 55 | Glenn | Butters | No | Don't know |
| 56 | David | Martin | No | Yes |
| 57 | Gavin | Shute | No | No |
| 58 | Bruce | McGregor | No | Yes |
| 59 | kim | reade | No | No |
| 60 | Jan | McCoy | No | Yes |
| 61 | Steve | turner | No | No |
| 62 | Matt | Dodd | No | Yes |
| 63 | Mark | Kilmister | No | Don't know |
| 64 | Andrew | Dillon | No | Yes |
| 65 | Huib | Selderbeek | No | Yes |

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|-----|-----------|---------------|-----|------------|
| 66 | Victor | Minter | No | Yes |
| 67 | Selwyn | Dorward | No | Yes |
| 68 | Norm | Brown | No | No |
| 69 | Katherine | Hay | No | Yes |
| 70 | Paul | Bevin | No | Yes |
| 71 | Marina | Strong | No | No |
| 72 | Bruce | Thomas | No | No |
| 73 | Sam | Wood | No | Yes |
| 74 | Sue | Morgans | No | Yes |
| 75 | Mark | Jessep | No | Yes |
| 76 | Andrea | Smiley | No | Yes |
| 77 | Paul | Harris | Yes | No |
| 78 | Philippa | Wright | No | Yes |
| 79 | Hamish | Humphries | No | No |
| 80 | Warren | Dykes | No | No |
| 81 | Nick | Broad | No | Yes |
| 82 | Helen | Hallgarth | No | Yes |
| 83 | Shane | Boustead | No | No |
| 84 | Bruce | Peterson | No | Yes |
| 85 | Gary | Sedcole | No | No |
| 86 | Christine | Jorgensen | No | Don't know |
| 87 | charlie | bogard | No | No |
| 88 | Hayden | Ashby | No | Yes |
| 89 | Rob | Dunlop | No | No |
| 90 | Marc | Rocard | No | Yes |
| 91 | James | Hewitt | Yes | No |
| 92 | Michele | Matthews | No | No |
| 93 | Bronwyn | Curry | No | Yes |
| 94 | Paul | Russell | No | No |
| 95 | Bryan | Richardson | No | Yes |
| 96 | Andy | Smith | No | No |
| 97 | Christine | Herd | No | Yes |
| 98 | Peter | E Tod | No | No |
| 99 | Andy | Tait-Jamieson | No | Yes |
| 100 | shane | hyde | Yes | No |

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|-----|---------|------------|-----|------------|
| 101 | Ben | McNeill | No | Yes |
| 102 | Haley | Mccoskery | No | No |
| 103 | Ben | Tosswill | No | Don't know |
| 104 | Alanda | Rafferty | No | Yes |
| 105 | James | Macphee | No | Yes |
| 106 | John | Macphee | Yes | No |
| 107 | Hooly | Thin | No | No |
| 108 | Daniel | Butler | No | Yes |
| 109 | Louise | Price | No | Don't know |
| 110 | Marie | Lepper | No | Yes |
| 111 | Sue | Macphee | No | No |
| 112 | Ian | Adcock | No | No |
| 113 | Matthew | Magill | No | No |
| 114 | Ben | Thomas | No | Yes |
| 115 | Alex | Walker | No | Yes |
| 116 | Paul | Robottom | Yes | Yes |
| 117 | Tracy | Gay | No | Yes |
| 118 | Ava | Mannering | No | Don't know |
| 119 | Gerald | Wilson | No | Yes |
| 120 | Matt | Wade | No | Yes |
| 121 | George | Coleman | No | Yes |
| 122 | George | Williams | No | Don't know |
| 123 | Rachel | Munro | No | Yes |
| 124 | Mark | Holder | No | Yes |
| 125 | Steve | Bell | No | Yes |
| 126 | Clint | Deckard | No | No |
| 127 | Gael | Roebuck | No | Yes |
| 128 | James | Wilson | No | Yes |
| 129 | tim | gilbertson | Yes | No |
| 130 | Denise | Fastier | No | Yes |
| 131 | Kate | Collins | No | Yes |
| 132 | Mark | Maxwell | No | Yes |
| 133 | will | telford | No | Yes |
| 134 | Logan | LeComte | No | Yes |
| 135 | Tessa | Appleby | No | Yes |

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|-----|-----------|-----------|-----|------------|
| 136 | Jerry | Greer | Yes | Yes |
| 137 | Caroline | Smith | No | Yes |
| 138 | Willie | Lyons | No | Yes |
| 139 | Neal | Vella | No | Yes |
| 140 | Rhea | Dasent | Yes | No |
| 141 | Graeme | Maxwell | No | Yes |
| 142 | Neil | Aitken | Yes | Yes |
| 143 | Charles | Daugherty | No | Yes |
| 144 | Lloyd | Holloway | No | Yes |
| 145 | Ann | Williams | No | Yes |
| 146 | Tim | Brownlie | No | Yes |
| 147 | Brent | Smith | No | No |
| 148 | Alan | Jones | No | No |
| 149 | Jake | Bowcock | Yes | No |
| 150 | Callum | Beattie | No | Don't know |
| 151 | Troy | Duncan | No | Yes |
| 152 | Anikya | Scotland | No | Yes |
| 153 | Charlotte | Pederson | No | Yes |
| 154 | Tom | Kay | No | Yes |
| 155 | Gary | Bowcock | Yes | Yes |

| No. | Name | Submission | Relief | Recommendations | Reasons |
|-----|---------------|---|--|-----------------|--|
| 1 | David Barnard | What about the cats ?....why not a combined effort to remove these predators ? | Include other pests to the Possum Control Area programme | Reject | The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of this review which focuses on possums. |
| 3 | Jen Ellingham | The farmers typically don't have the time/money /resource or expertise to deal with possums. Bring it back to knowledgeable contractors to sort out | No relief stated, but implies support for a contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 5 | Jen Gale | It makes sense to carry out controls on a larger scale to allow for economy of scale. It is also clear from the report that owner led possum control has not been particularly effective based on a lack of participation. To try and force compliance with the current system would probably have a higher cost than any benefit gained. | No relief stated, but implies support for a contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 6 | Eric de Vries | These questions can't be answered with a blanket Yes or No or Don't Know. It's an immoral form of questioning. There is no option to say: if certain conditions are met I am for contractors. The important condition is that land owners will not be bullied into accepting a form | Property owners need to be consulted and included in the methods used and alternative methods must be available for those owners who don't agree | Note | All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and |

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| | | of possum control on their property to which they ethically or on any other way object. So my answer is property owners need to be consulted and included in the methods used and alternative methods must be available for those owners who don't agree with the method of choice. | with the method of choice. | | contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. |
| 7 | Bev Kerr | I caught the second possum yesterday after sighting two on our drive. These are the first we have seen here in 20 or so years. The trouble with the contractors is that some do and some don't do their job and the people on small lifestyle blocks, for example at the end of our road, simply don't care. We are witnessing the return of possums on Clareinch mangakuri road after years of seeing none. If they are on the road they are on the farms. Don't rely on landowners to drive this please. | Need to ensure that there is sufficient auditing with contractors. | Note | Contractors will be managed by HBRC and will have process driven audits and monitoring conducted to ensure the validity of their process. |
| 8 | Christine Lawrence | I support moving to a contractor delivery model for possum control. This will give greater consistency across the region, and should produce better control of possums and reduce their numbers significantly in | Support moving to a contractor model for Biodiversity outcomes | Note | |

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| | | <p>some areas where little or no possum control is being undertaken at present. Including production forestry as well is excellent, as this will further reduce the number of possums migrating to adjacent areas. This will benefit areas such as Blowhard Bush on the edge of the Kaweka Forest as it is surrounded by Pan Pac forests on several of its boundaries, and thereby will help increase the biodiversity in Blowhard Bush.</p> | | | |
| 10 | Nathan Alexander | <p>A high level of attention to detail carried out by a professional will always yield greater positive outcomes. I believe we should endeavor to achieve greater outcomes whenever we are talking about our natural assets, environment, and agricultural industry. These are some of the fundamental parts that make Hawkes Bay and New Zealand such a good place to live and we should protect them not just for our own sakes but for future generations.</p> | <p>Support moving to a contractor model for Biodiversity outcomes</p> | Note | |
| 11 | Genevieve BENNETT | <p>Have noticed a considerable increase in possum presence in the last few years across HB. Lived in Waipukurau Town till last year and there</p> | <p>Support moving to a contractor model based on current owner occupiers not always having</p> | Note | |

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| | | <p>were always possums living in the backyard. Was too nervous to do any trapping due to the number of pet cats in the area. A contractor with the right tools, experience and ability to coordinate across multiple properties would make a big difference. We now live at Hatuma and do some trapping of possums. Lots of possums about. Lots of new subdivisions and small lifestyle blocks around here and lots of new neighbours who are squeamish about killing possums, don't know how to kill possums or don't think they're a problem. To protect and enhance the biodiversity at Lake Whatuma and across the wider landscape a more coordinated and considered approach to possum control would be incredibly valuable. Again, having someone coordinate this with the right skills, experience and tools would make a big difference.</p> | <p>the knowledge to perform these duties.</p> | | |
| 12 | Matt Croft | <p>Matariki Forests has selected the "don't know" option for the question do you support the proposed model. The non committal answer is due to the uncertainty on what the actual cost could be for</p> | <p>Only support proposed model if it is cost effective compared to present pest control operations.</p> | Note | <p>No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue</p> |

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| | | <p>land owners. If the proposed model is cost effective compared to our present pest control operations, then yes we would support the model with the following conditions: - at present we have pest control contractors that work on our land. They know our forests and pests, they are safe to work in amongst our other forests operations. Our expectation is that these contractors would be given some sort of first right to manage pest control on our land (they would have to be cost competitive of course) - safe access and interaction with our other forest operations is our main concern with a new model and potentially new contractors, auditors, and council staff. Our expectation is that there would need to be a visible planned access calendar that all landowners can access so we know who is intending to be on our land and when. Perhaps a realtime GPS location system for safety should be considered. - we would need to see the actual effectiveness of the operations. Information such as amounts of poison used,</p> | <p>Expectation that existing contractors would be given some sort of first right to manage pest control on forestry land</p> <p>Expectation is that there would need to be a visible planned access calendar that all landowners can access so they know who is intending to be on our land and when</p> <p>A process needs to be in place to regularly review the model.</p> | | <p>and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> <p>The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on what contractors and tools will be used. However, staff will engage with the forestry sector to work through contracting and reporting requirements, including Health and Safety.</p> |
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| | | pests killed and trap catch rates need to be provided - A process needs to be in place to regularly review the model. Information on effectiveness and cost need to be openly discussed with landowners. If the model doesn't achieve its targets then a return to the status quo is an option | | | |
| 13 | Fenton Wilson | I agree the farmer inputs into control on their farms have dropped over the years even though they are contractually obliged through the PCA. The regulatory response has not worked. I agree with the council taking over possum control including delivery. However I only agree with the funding model if there are some savings elsewhere. If it is an addition to an already bloated rates package then I wouldn't support it. I wouldn't support extra staff in total to deliver it. I would also like to see what the corporate overhead component is or at least expose this issue to councillors. It is an sad reality going forward as the extortionate rate increases of the last three years have delivered a huge amount in outputs but sadly the cost | Support a contractor model however not at the increase of rates per property | Note | The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP. |

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| | | benefit has been woeful in the form of tangible outcomes. | | | |
| 17 | David Hooker | The current system relies on everyone to actively control on their own land. The result is the timing of control can be different between neighbours resulting in re-infestation from neighbouring properties. A better solution would be having this done in a coordinated way. The big watch out is the communication of work being done and the quality of contractors. The system relies on going on to peoples property and entering without permission or warning will result in strong push back in rural communities. | A coordinated approach to possum control will yield better results | Note | All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. |

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| 18 | Donald Cooper | <p>I was never in favour of going to farm control from the very start. After all the good work that was done (some years ago now!) it was quite clear that a lot of people who said they would control the possums on their property were never going to continue with it if they ever got started!! As we live on the boundary of a lot of lifestyle blocks, this has clearly created another problem where the owners don't want to or just wont take responsibility to even attempt to control them. We often see possums on the roads in our area at night time while driving. Just make sure the cost is shared evenly! Thank you.</p> | <p>Support a contractor model however please ensure costs are split equally.</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
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| 19 | John Lyons | <p>Happy to have the possum control to be officially taken over by the HBRC, as I already have a large possum population on parts of the farm that is being helped in the control of said population. No doubt there will be an extra cost on our rates, just didn't see that mentioned anywhere . As it is probably the most important factor in proposed change -- going from a " carrot" to a "stick" approach , I am interested to see the cost differences.</p> | <p>Support a contractor model however would like more information pertaining to costs.</p> | Note | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 20 | Hayley Lawrence | <p>Possum control is essential and the current model is not working adequately. If it's done by contractors the HBRC can oversee to ensure it's done properly. There is also great opportunity for tangata whenua to be involved, as Kaitiaki of their takiwā. Preference should be given to contractors who are tangata whenua, and if that is not possible, there should be requirements for them to train and employ staff from the hapū with mana whenua.</p> | <p>Preference should be given to contractors who are tangata whenua, or require them to train and employ staff from the hapū with mana whenua.</p> <p>Need to assist tangata whenua to become contractors</p> | Note | <p>The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on what contractors and tools will be used. However, staff will engage with tangata whenua to discuss opportunities when developing an implementation plan for this programme if the Proposal is approved by Council.</p> |

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| | | The HBRC also needs to assist tangata whenua to become contractors. | | | |
| 21 | Kirsty Masterson | <p>We maintain strict control over repeated possum insurgence. The family farm behind us has been under your chosen method of possum contractor/poison control & is inadequately controlled/monitored. The contractor is doing a poor job & you want to force us to use a contractor. All our possums come in from that farm area. We do an excellent job. We use guns & dogs & traps to eradicate the various farm influxes. We do NOT want poison on our property. We have dogs, birds, children etc. We want to retain full control over our own property. We do not want a person to have access to our property by a right issued by council. On another pest, feral cats, the council contractor for the farm does nothing, we are killing those that come in for my chooks, between 10-30/year. Feral cats are a huge problem, what is council doing to address that?.</p> | <p>Do not want a person to have access to property by a right issued by council</p> <p>Property owners need to be consulted and included in the methods used and alternative methods must be available for those owners who don't agree with the method of choice.</p> | Note | <p>Council currently has the ability to monitor and undertake enforcement action for possum management through the Hawke's Bay Regional Pest Management Plan. This Plan is underpinned by the Biosecurity Act. If the PCA programme moves to a contractor delivery model, these same powers remain.</p> <p>Council analysis shows that nearly 70% of current PCA properties do not use a contractor of which approximately 50% are likely doing little to no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work.</p> |

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| 22 | Sam Deller | Look, the contractor delivery model just needs to happen, ok? | Support a contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 24 | Gaius Smith | We have traps set all the time and bait stations. The bait stations seldom have baits taken, we think it is birds that are taking baits. We regularly go out spotlighting looking for possums especially when we have visitors and are usually disappointed at not finding any. The last time we found possums in this area and they were across the road on neighbors place, was 3 years ago just after some forrestery was cut down on Middleton road. | No possums on property, birds stealing bait instead. | Note | We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. |

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| 25 | Margueritee Brien | To achieve consistency in the eradication of possums, I think that the use of Council contractors is a more sensible and effective approach than leaving the responsibility solely on occupiers. The costs should be spread among HBRC, occupiers and also urban dwellers - all of whom derive benefit directly or indirectly from possum control programmes. It would be patently unfair if urban dwellers do not help in some way to bear the cost of pest control such as this. | Support moving to a contractor based delivery model however costs need to be evenly spread between rural and urban rate payers. | Note | The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP. |
| 27 | Mike Lusk | Your explanation and data given above make good sense to me | Support a contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 28 | Phil Kitchin | Because where I live there are many smaller lifestyle blocks and unfortunately it only takes a few to neglect possum control for the numbers to visibly begin creeping up after years of successful control. | No relief stated, but implies support for a contractor delivery model | Note | |

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| 30 | Will Martin | <p>To whom it may concern. I am in favour of the contractor control model. Farmers have the best intentions to do possum control but there are always other pressing matters at hand and if you can't see a possum problem during the day, you probably think you don't have a problem! Farmers pay a fair amount of the regional council rates and feel they get no benefit from the costly rates they pay. I have a property in the Horizons regional council and possum control is done with contractors at least twice a year with great results. These are funded by my rates and I have no extra expenses forced on me. Feel free to contact me with any further questions if needed. Kind regards Will Martin Hunter Hills Pastoral Company</p> | Support moving to a contractor based delivery model however costs need to be evenly distributed | Note | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 31 | Louise van Jaarsveldt | As long as they practice humane best practice control options | Animal welfare | Note | <p>Here at HBRC we engage highly skilled contractors that use a range of methods for controlling possums and other feral animals. The methods employed by the contractor will be at their discretion however humane best practice is mandatory whenever trapping is being done.</p> |
| 32 | Dale Tatam | We have been doing our own possum control and targeting rats at the same time using | Currently doing own controls and do not | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift</p> |

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| | | <p>Double Tap . We purchase this ourselves and because of this we don't claim a subsidy. We use this product as it allows a neighbor to have deer controlled by helicopter shooting and used for pet food. When we are monitored we have no chew cards touched. It is a job I enjoy doing and takes little extra time as I fill the bait stations as I move the sheep from each paddock. Because of this I don't feel we need the extra cost of employing a contractor.</p> | <p>support paying for a contractor.</p> | | <p>to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |
| 33 | Garth Goodwin | <p>You know who isn't doing the possum control (Finn Dinneen did a great job identifying them) so do your job properly and come down heavy on them not the ones who have been doing a good job of possum control. You also need to start seriously thinking about your job of controlling another noxious pest, Deer. You have done very little and numbers are getting ridiculous. Start doing your job and not taking the soft option. Contractors .are not cost effective and only necessary for those who break the rules</p> | <p>Should be focusing on auditing failing RTC properties instead alongside managing feral deer</p> | Reject | <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually. The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing other pests, including deer. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums.</p> |

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| 34 | Dave Edwards | <p>Hi I don't live in your region but I guess I got this as I signed up for your newsletters to get an idea on what was happening with animal pest control in your project. My comments are it's hardly surprising that not everyone has got on board with using Toxins especially on that Bio accumulated and is banned on DOC land. When Farmer in an area of BOP were asked to get on board with possum control as Kokako were expanding out of the control area none were interested in toxins. A different group I helped out with sharing knowledge have great success in farmers landowners trapping possums. It sounds like council have fairly much made up their mind beforehand. Only a suggestion but why not give Landowners the option of trapping possums. One of the problems with trapping is a suitable kill trap, Experienced people shake their heads at your Zip method of possum control, only two traps worth considering the Warrior and Sentinel, I won't let inexperienced people use Warrior traps . A couple of</p> | Why not allow land occupiers to trap possums | Reject | <p>A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area allow a range of traps and toxins to be used to a high standard. This coordinated control will have wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. Please see attachment 1.</p> |
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| | | <p>years ago I made some changes to the Sentinel traps to make them user friendly, have about 70 volunteers using them in BOP and currently a heap more traps being installed some in DOC projects. I have attached the latest paper I wrote in case it's of interest, by the way I have no connection with the manufacture of sentinels traps in fact they do not deserve the business my modification is bringing them cheers Dave E</p> | | | |
| 35 | Tania Kerr | <p>As a farmer who is active in controlling pests, and investing in biodiversity, it is disheartening to realise others within the community are not being proactive. We have had to invest in additional bait stations and traps to intensify our boundary to protect both our cattle from the TB risk, and our native ecosystems from possums. The current system is not the most effective system for a regional response.</p> | <p>Support due to Biodiversity benefits for the region.</p> | Note | |
| 36 | Timothy Cullwick | <p>Yes, 100%. We notice breakdowns in some locations which have always been a result of no control measures, hence the presence of increasing</p> | <p>Support contractor model</p> | Note | <p>Maraekakaho is within the existing PCA programme and would transition to a contractor delivery model. These contractors have a range of tools they can use to control possums in different habitats, from dense native vegetation through to urban areas.</p> |

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| | | <p>possum numbers. Contractor control measures when whole regions are well managed can mitigate the need for annual control to biennial. This will make the monitoring of each region so much simpler and cheaper. If the status quo were to remain then closer monitoring of non-contractural farmers has to happen. At Maraekakaho there is a large number of Lifestyle properties and they have an ongoing battle with possums, which in turn seeds surrounding farmland. How are you going to control areas like Maraekakaho which have extensive cover ?</p> | | | |
| 37 | Terry Hickling | <p>We control possums on our property but nothing is done on neighboring properties that are covered in scrub and blackberry</p> | <p>No relief stated, but implies support for a contractor delivery model</p> | Note | <p>By moving to a contractor approach model HBRC will be able to manage and implement best practice methods to all properties, minimising hot spots from unattended properties.</p> |
| 38 | David Janett | <p>Cost effective and we need a whole area solution to get good control. We see neighbours unwilling or unable to do control leading to reinfection when we do control. Totally support the proposal. This should be extended to larger wild animal control such as goats as these are seriously</p> | <p>Support contractor delivery model</p> | Note | |

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| | | <p>hampering native regeneration efforts. I realise this is not probably acceptable to many but without more grazing and browsing control coordinated it feels like a losing battle at times and we question the money and time we spend on this when many other landowners will ignore this and act as reinfection sources.</p> | | | |
| 39 | Melanie Lang | <p>We live on a lifestyle block and do not do any possum control. We think this needs to include wild cats as well.</p> | <p>Want cats included in PCA programme</p> | <p>Reject</p> | <p>The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums.</p> |
| 40 | Marli Dee | <p>We need to drastically bring down the possum numbers so we can work towards elimination. This is important on a national level and Hawkes Bay will be doing a great thing by bringing in a contractor delivery model.</p> | <p>Support contractor delivery model</p> | <p>Note</p> | |
| 41 | Guy Bell | <p>Professionally done and at the correct time and constantly monitored by contractors is the best way to go. All properties covered which is needed. Farmers have enough to do without doing possum control, but</p> | <p>Support contractor deliver model.</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme.</p> |

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| | | can help monitor it . There are some areas that have a growing number of possums also, DOC land Wakarara into the Ruahine Range, along the coastline Pourerere north close to sea level that is not very accessible . The possums live in the flax and scrub land along the coastline. | | | |
| 42 | Sarah Hall | We are a lifestyle block on the edge of Te Awanga. We are currently possum-free and effectively been eradicating any we see through shooting and trapping. Understanding the wider picture, we support the initiative but don't want to be laboured with a cost when we are pretty self-sufficient in pest-control | Support contractor deliver model but do not want to pay any additional cost | Note | A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP. |
| 43 | Ian McQuillan | It makes sense to move to a contactor service. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |

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| 44 | Brian Hayr | I agree that the contractor model would be more effective and efficient. It also takes out ambiguities / inconsistencies between landowners e.g forestry c.f. farming. If adopted I would like to see areas in forestry operations that are logging/ or due to be harvested, prioritised for vector control v's a 4-5 year transition period. This is to minimise reinvasion problems for adjoining landowners. | Support contractor deliver model and want forestry that is about to be harvested prioritised for control when transitioning the programme from occupier responsibility to contractor delivered. | Note | The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on how this will be rolled out. That said, your point has been noted and will be taken into account when developing an implementation plan for this programme if the Proposal is approved by Council. Please also note that HBRC increased its monitoring programme this financial year from 114,534 ha to 308,000 ha in an attempt to identify those land occupiers not undertaking control prior to transitioning to a contractor delivered model. Any property that fails this monitoring will be required to undertake control to reduce possums to low levels at their expense. Further to this, staff are notified of forestry that is going to be harvested in the region of which a targeted possum monitoring is undertaken if it is within the PCA programme. |
| 45 | John McConville | I support a possible increase in rates to cover contractual possum control. Your recent letter, HBRC research and my own observations of neighbours (including myself) few property owners are actively involved in possum control. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 46 | Tony Partridge | We are trapping possums from neighbours trees simply because other lifestyles haven't a clue or are not interested. There never should have been the option for occupiers to control the possum population in the | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |

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| | | first place. Same goes for rabbits. When rabbiters disappeared in the early 90s it was inevitable rabbit control would be half-hearted. Paragraph 4 of the letter states the bleeding obvious. | | | |
| 48 | Andrew Renton-Green | We have used a contractor (subsidised) for the past 15 years and it seems to work well as we have not seen or heard a possum, nor seen possum damage here during this timeframe. | No relief stated | Note | |
| 49 | Curt Zant | What the hell is wrong with you people? Why not just take over all personal property rights and get it over with? Are you mad? You cannot mandate us and bi pass us as owners of the land. We will continue to do our own possum control. You should focus on fixing the bloody roads. Private property: stop oppressing us. So effectively, NO, we dont want this. | Not supportive of moving to a contractor deliver model | Note | Compliance is costly and ineffective which is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually. |
| 50 | Robyn Gibbs | Property owners need to take responsibility. They have where I live and there are no possum risks locally. I object to subsidizing the lazy/unmotivated in other areas. | Not supportive of moving to a contractor deliver model | Note | Compliance is costly and ineffective which is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually. |

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| 51 | Becs Armitage | We firmly believe better pest control can be achieved using professionals. Personally we do what we can (caught 4 feral cats in the last 8 days on our property) but it all takes time, money and a concerted effort by everyone to get good results. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 52 | John Kitchin | I currently use a contractor for their expertise and regularly timed program | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 54 | Murray Croucher | Private individuals will not be vigilant all the time and slack as time goes on. Contractors must be reviewed regularly and if not performing should be replaced, this is not JOBS FOR THE BOYS, also many residents have traps installed on there property and should be part on continuing contact and if they have caught one have the opportunity to contact the contractor for collecting so record's of numbers are correct. | Support contractor deliver model but recommends auditing contractor performance and using existing pest control infrastructure | Note | |
| 55 | Glenn Butters | i dont mind , but im not interested in paying for a contractor , i have zero possum proplem on my property , i have not seen a single possum since owning the property since 2015 i only have wild cats , i live in the tuki tuki reserve, i asked coucil for some cat traps and told them i would be happy | Support contractor deliver model but does not want to pay for a contractor | Note | <p>The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums.</p> <p>No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made.</p> |

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| | | to set check and monitor these traps as the cats are destroying the bird population. i have spoken to 2 different people at council whom said they would arrange approx 2 years ago now , Im yet to receive a trap. i just dont see point in keeping tuki tuki reserving a wildlife sanctuary if we not protecting it ? | | | These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP. |
| 56 | David Martin | Consistency. Experts. Timing. Cost effective. More likely to be effective as not left to individual response or lack of it. Better for all landowners /stake holders. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 57 | Gavin Shute | I chose to opt out of the proposed PCA programme as our neighborhood already has an effective possum control programme in place | Does not support contractor deliver model | Note | The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. |
| 58 | Bruce McGregor | It's going to achieve a better and more consistent result. Monitoring will be more meaningful. Make sure lifestyle blocks share the cost please. | Support contractor deliver model but requests lifestyle blocks share the cost. | Note | No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). |

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| 59 | Kim reade | I dont want people on my property I absolutely will not have any poison used on my property I cant tell what the financial implications are for me - having already a number of financial implications with the FEMP requirements treating us like a working farm. | Does not support a contractor deliver model as does not want contractors on property. | Note | <p>Council currently has the ability to monitor and undertake enforcement action for possum management through the Hawke’s Bay Regional Pest Management Plan. This Plan is underpinned by the Biosecurity Act. If the PCA programme moves to a contractor delivery model, these same powers remain.</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work.</p> <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the</p> |
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| | | | | | 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP. |
| 61 | Steve turner | I control pests on my property and I don't want another bill to pay when I only have 1.74 acres and control pests that find their way into my property I also walk agacent property to control theirs best as I'm able | Does not support a contractor deliver model | Note | <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective which is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually.</p> <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP</p> |

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| 62 | Matt Dodd | Live in BOP so support contractor undertaking possum control | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 63 | Mark Kilmister | We have established Pine on 111 hectares at Old Hill Road Porangahau. We have an active pest control programme so that we protect our trees and look after our neighbours so there is no TB etc in the district. We support active and ongoing pest control but do not support paying twice for the contractor and our own management and contractors. We never support additional costs being imposed on any business that is already exceeding the expected standard but have no issue with making slack land environment custodians play the game. In short we don't need the service if it costs anything for it. | Do not support a contractor deliver model if it results in additional costs | Note | The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP |
| 64 | Andrew Dillon | What about doing something about the rabbits ,they seem to be as big if not bigger problem than the possums . No point one person doing it on there property and then all the neighbors rabbits just coming though the fence . | Wants rabbits controlled | Reject | The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums. |
| 65 | Huib Selderbeek | Control seems to have slipped since the program | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |

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| | | changed to a land occupier responsibility . In addition for small landowners like ourselves it has been very difficult to get the contractors to engage with us. | | | |
| 66 | Victor Minter | Possum numbers appear to be rising in the forestry areas surrounding my residence. Particularly in the warmer months they are frequently present where dogs detect them and they are shot. Residential neighbours have noted the same and trapping is productive. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 67 | Selwyn Dorward | From my point of view it's always on the to do list and doesn't take priority and just having a contractor recently has made me aware of the population growth of possums. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 68 | Norm Brown | With any dealings I have had with contracts all but one have been deceitful and immoral companies. The worst being Epro and OSPRI. I do not believe the HBRC can keep out the corruption already in place. The resurgence of Blue Ducks in local rivers has not been the result of 1080 programs but has more to do with water quality and control of | Does not support a contractor deliver model | Note | All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. |

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| | | effluent upstream. I do not believe in the blanket application of toxins is good around communities and there water takes or for other non target species. | | | |
| 69 | Katherine Hay | Although we are outside the Hawke's Bay region, the Waikato Branch of Forest and Bird has considerable experience with possum control under the contractor-based model that you are proposing. This model is used in our region and has produced very good control results and the associated improvements in biodiversity. The parts of our region that are under professional, contracted possum control have seen considerable improvements in bird life and other biodiversity. When possum control is a landowner's responsibility, the outcomes are very patchy -- some people do it very well and conscientiously, some don't do it all. As a result, the effectiveness of control over large areas is diminished. Having contractors engaged by the council and required to meet performance standards for the whole operational area is a much | Support contractor deliver model | Note | The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums. |

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| | | <p>more cost effective approach. Although this proposal is focused on possum control, we hope you also will look for opportunities for the contractors to control other predators (rats, mustelids, cats, etc.) while they are in the field, especially in high biodiversity value areas.</p> <p>Katherine Hay, Chair, Waikato Branch of Forest and Bird</p> | | | |
| 70 | Paul Bevin | <p>A centralised control of opossums, through contractors is in my view the only efficient way of obtaining the outcomes we are wanting. This programme should be financed by a targeted rate that ALL landowners contribute to. The positive benefits of no opossums, apply to everyone in our community.</p> | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 71 | Marina Strong | <p>I do not support contractor delivery of possum control as I wish to maintain control over what I do with my own property and when. I will not, in any way shape or form, allow any contractor access to my property for the purposes of possum control. My property is a tiny part of Hawke's Bay that I wish to remain free of any poisons. I</p> | Do not support a contractor deliver model | Note | <p>Council currently has the ability to monitor and undertake enforcement action for possum management through the Hawke's Bay Regional Pest Management Plan. This Plan is underpinned by the Biosecurity Act. If the PCA programme moves to a contractor delivery model, these same powers remain.</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. The contractor will be expected to work with landowners to broker solutions that meet the needs of</p> |

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| | | <p>believe all landowners should have autonomy over what they do with their land where possum control is concerned. I am 100% against this move toward contractor management.</p> | | | <p>landowners and the contractor's mandate to carry out work. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake work.</p> <p>Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed by landowners this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |
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| 72 | Bruce Thomas | <p>The current proposal is lacking. At lacks detail in the cost-benefit analysis. There is no analysis or data provided on the costs currently incurring by ratepayers for possum control, either privately or as a portion of rates levied by the council. Further, there is no analysis of how the expected costs that fall from this proposal will be spread across existing ratepayers. There is no detail about how the costs for possum control will be fairly apportioned. It is unclear whether, for example, properly holders with no forestry blocks nor native bush and little tree planting, will pay an 'equal' cross and thus cross-subsidise those properties that have large forestry blocks, native bush or other tree planting. The proposal is written from an entirely council-centric and macro-benefits viewpoint. It lacks the analysis needed by ratepayers to make an informed decision.</p> | <p>Do not support a contractor deliver model due to lack of information regarding costs</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
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| 73 | Sam Wood | <p>We only have 120 acres but have been controlling possums on our property while most neighbors don't do it so it gets left to the few that do. If it was a contractors responsibility and the landowner was charged per hectare or similar and the cost per year wasn't too much it would mean that everybody would be contributing based on the land that they have.....maybe the smaller properties like lifestyle blocks should have a minimum standard charge to keep it simple?</p> | <p>Support contractor deliver model. Suggests a minimum charge for lifestyle blocks</p> | Note | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 74 | Sue Morgans | <p>We live near the border of Hawkes Bay in the Tararua district. We have noted over the years the difference between the two districts as far as possum numbers go with Hawkes Bay appearing to have a lot more than us. Our possum control is undertaken by regional council and has been in general rather successful. There are a few possums returning and they appear to be coming from a northerly</p> | <p>Support contractor deliver model</p> | Note | |

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| | | direction, ie Hawkes Bay. By using contractors there may be a more consistent approach to eradication of these pests. | | | |
| 75 | Mark Jessep | As stated it is another farm task that I have to get too, and is often missed. I agree with having a consistent approach that ensures the possum numbers are kept down. A lot of money has been spent to get the numbers to where they are now, I haven't seen a possum on my farm for 20 years and don't want to go back to the numbers witness post that. | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |
| 76 | Andrea Smiley | Better co-ordination and coverage - Possum control is vital to meet biosecurity and biodiversity targets Better co-ordination with OSPRI for the current possum control areas they are working Will cover public land - eg riparian zones Please ensure DOC & iwi land gets covered as well | Support contractor deliver model. Request DOC and Iwi land is included. | Note | The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forest and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme. |
| 77 | Paul Harris | Ospri currently undertake control in our area, they have been effective and are well funded through industry levy. The duplication would seem pointless and more costly in an area where its already hard to get adequate staff levels to deliver the service levels required. One | Recommend OSPRI manage possums | Reject | OSPRI only undertake vector management, which includes possum control, when TB is present in an area. Once an area is no longer considered to have a TB risk (proof of freedom), OSPRI cease vector control. These areas have then entered the HBRC PCA programme. HBRC and OSPRI do not both undertake possum control in the same area at the same time. There has been confusion between the OSPRI vector management programme and the HBRC |

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| | | contractor responsible to one agencies would seem more accountable and focused. We have previously had multiple agencies chasing the same possum ... i actually think it caused more default and a casual approach to professional control efforts. I am happy to discuss this submission. | | | predator control programme (ferrets, stoats, weasels and cats) in the Tutira area. |
| 78 | Philippa Wright | I think that there will be hopefully more consistent coverage of pest control. I believe that all areas of River corridors, NCC, HDC, HBRC areas, production forest (not just boundaries) DOC and Maori land should all be covered by the same required rules for RTC percentages. | Support contractor deliver model and want all land treated the same regardless of land tenure | Note | The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forest and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme. |
| 79 | Hamish Humphries | It doesn't matter whether you are a contractor or a landowner if the monitoring is done regularly enough it should pick up problem areas. Maybe there needs to be more focus on council areas like roads etc that haven't been getting poisoned | Increase monitoring programme | Reject | HBRC currently has contracts in place managing possums on HBRC waterways. Further to this, HBRC estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually. |
| 80 | Warren Dykes | I have been on this property for 16 years, during this time | Does not support a contractor delivery | Note | The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum |

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| | | I have regularly set traps and poison baits. I have never caught a single possum in a trap and the bait has never been taken. I have never seen any possum sign on the property and our untouched fruit trees and rose bushes prove to me that there are no possums on the property. Paying a contractor, would be just another unnecessary cost for completely no return. | model as it would be another unnecessary cost | | control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. |
| 81 | Nick Broad | Already using a contractor Annually | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 82 | Helen Hallgarth | Excellent idea but please include lifestyle blocks, parks and orchards in the proposal as they are great nurseries for the possum breeding population. Road kill provides proof of this. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including lifestyle blocks. |
| 83 | Shane Boustead | Ernslaw One Ltd have our own possum contractor that monitors and controls the possum numbers yearly in Ernslaw Forests at Te Uri, Johnson Road and Wimbledon, Birch Road East. Own contractors have being do our possum control for a number of years with great results, know the area well and meet all Ernslaw and HBRC requirements. Ernslaw are also an Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) | Want to continue using own contractor | Reject | We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. The contractor will be expected to work with landowners to broker solutions that meet the needs of landowners and the contractor's mandate to |

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| | | <p>forest company so can only use FSC approved pesticides which Ernslaw monitors. Ernslaw currently do possum monitoring and control over the entirety of our forest blocks in the Hawkes Bay region so there are no areas which are not control, so have no issues with being being treated as the same as other primary production land uses. If Ernslaw had to uses HBRC approved possum contractors they would be required to go through Ernslaw One's thorough health and safety documentation audit/induction and I'm unsure what health and safety system these possum contractors have in place and if they would meet Ernslaw requirements. By only using HBRC approved possum contractors, will that mean Ernslaw has no choice in which contractors it can use increasing these possum control/monitoring costs going forward. Why would Ernslaw change to HBRC approved possum contractors when our current contractor is achieving the required results?</p> | | | <p>carry out work. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake work.</p> <p>Health and safety concerns would be addressed when the contractor is working with the land occupier to write up the land access agreement including the health and safety plan. Through this process the land occupier can make the contractor aware of any hazards, health and safety concerns or the requirement of a site induction before work is undertaken, in accordance with any obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. While this action would not discharge the ongoing obligations of the land occupier (e.g. to advise the contractor of any new hazards or changes in circumstances), it will be the contractor's responsibility to act in accordance with the health and safety plan.</p> |
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| 84 | Bruce Peterson | I think this will give us better continuity invite along turn control I may be biased as we operate in this space. Also would like to know here too become an approved contractor when the time comes | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 85 | Gary Sedcole | We have a small land holding that I control the pests on. I'm not interested in paying extra rates to manage possum control on other properties in the district. | Want to undertake own control. Do not want to pay extra cost | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 86 | Christine Jorgensen | I have been sent notification to 99 Rangiuuru Road Otaki Beach . It's no longer my address and I no longer live in Hawkes Bay region . Please delete my address from your records Regards Christine Jorgensen | Incorrect address | Note | |
| 87 | Charlie bogard | Managed historical possum control on our own property perfectly well with good communication with neighbours about when we were baiting. To be fair following 2yrs drought 20 & 21 we did take our eye off | Want to undertake own control and suggest increasing public awareness | Reject | We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high |

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| | | <p>the ball and failed a test in 21, but have caught up and no issues evident currently. Much prefer to manage our own destiny. Do accept your argument about small holdings not doing their share. Perhaps its more a case of publicising and applying the penalties to a few recalcitrant land owners so that we raise awareness for all.</p> | | | <p>standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |
| 88 | Hayden Ashby | <p>I believe consistency of control is needed and support this motion. We carry out a structured control programme across all of our properties using contractors and have seen the benefits. Neighboring properties that do not have a structured programme in place are obvious as we see higher population densities on those boundaries.</p> | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 89 | Rob Dunlop | <p>I think for some small holders, contractor rates are too much and we can manage to keep the ground swell down with our own trapping programs, with expert advice if needed. Especially those of us living</p> | Want to undertake own control and suggests increasing public awareness | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high</p> |

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| | | <p>or bordering on urban areas, and in smaller farmlets, where the populations are very transient, but they move through out of town as population density increases. Is it not cheaper to encourage the urban dwellers to drop some traps on their properties as well. Long term education and maintenance of the trapping control program would work better if disseminated amongst the wider, affected community i believe!</p> | | | <p>standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke’s Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |
| 90 | Marc Rocard | Efficient and makes sure it actually happens | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 91 | James Hewitt | Please see attachment 4 | Do not support an increase in cost and want to continue doing their own possum control | Reject | We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn’t the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke’s Bay is of a reliably high standard alongside maximising regional biodiversity outcomes. |
| | | | Farmers do not have excess money. Council needs to look for ways to reduce costs A move to a contractor model impacts too much those on smaller | Note | No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are |

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| | | | properties with lesser overall income | | implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP. |
| | | | Retain monitoring and compliance model | Reject | <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control.</p> <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity.</p> |
| | | | Farmers can run their poisoning programme at a time that suits their farming enterprise | Note | All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. |
| 92 | Michele Matthews | So that we know that possum control is being completed by everyone. Also I hope that forestry blocks are included and that they have to pay for it too. | Support contractor delivery model Want forestry included in programme | Note | The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of |

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| | | | | | possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme. |
| 94 | Paul Russell | The growing pine forest areas and retirement of river banks and native areas mean possums are going to be a growing issue in the region. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 95 | Bryan Richardson | I totally reject your proposal to hand over opossum control to contractors. I am a small farmer (64h) and do my own opossum control, eg filling 8 bait stations once a year. It is hard enough making a living on a small farm with all the other environmental costs and this will be another. Perhaps the HBRC should do more to encourage and remind farmers of their responsibility and spot audit farms instead of just passing the job over to contractors as the easy way out. | Want to undertake own control and suggests increasing public awareness | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |
| 96 | Andy Smith | That's what you pay rates for. There are other pests that are just as big a problem ie CATS, FERRETS and PIGS. These pests are not territorial | Want other pests managed | Reject | The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future |

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| | | | | | these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums. |
| 97 | Christine Herd | The owners of the property should be Responsible for possum control, they can then chose if they want To employ an approved possum control contractor. | Owners of the property should be Responsible for possum control | Reject | The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region |
| 98 | Peter E Tod | To get better widespread control, particularly around small urban areas and rural towns. I believe control is lax on small lifestyle blocks in particular and this allows a build up of numbers which then move into our farming systems | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 100 | Shane hyde | As the President of FERAC it would be natural for me to support the use of contractors in pest control when economic efficiency and effectiveness is being required to manage landscape scale. Though I would encourage that the tendering for all working areas be presented in a way | Support contractor delivery model. | Note | |

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| | | that encourages "start up" contractors to gain entry to the industry. In support to your contractor direction I have included a written piece that supports such model (please see attachment 5) . Kind Regards Shane Hyde | | | |
| 101 | Ben McNeill | I have been successfully using cyanide for possum control (as demonstrated by HBRC monitoring). | Want to undertake own control | Reject | We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. |
| 102 | Haley Mccoskery | I am very interested in following this and would like notifications of hearings etc Please add me to any comms lists you may be running. | Would like notifications of hearings process | Note | A public notice was put out to the general public advising of the hearings. Only people who indicated they wished to speak on the day were contacted directly. However, information pertaining to the hearings and all submissions will be released onto our website in the coming weeks. |
| 103 | Ben Tosswill | I am 100% behind improving possum control. However, we do have a very good relationship with our current contractor (Baytrap) and would like to continue that partnership with them. They provide a great service and sound advice. Would this relationship be affected if this new model comes into play? We would not like to change this relationship. | Support contractor delivery model if they can continue using their current contractor | Reject | We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control and have existing relationships with contractors, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors at scale across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. It is not feasible for each property to choose their own contractor as this would add considerable |

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| | | | | | <p>complexity in managing possums at scale in a coordinated fashion.</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. The contractor will be expected to work with landowners to broker solutions that meet the needs of landowners and the contractor's mandate to carry out work. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake work.</p> |
| 104 | Alanda Rafferty | <p>But instead of poisons you should use/ install automatic kill traps that don't need as much monitoring. This will save money and be more effective. I.e. Goodnature rat, stoat and possum traps. Other sorts of traps need more manpower to monitor and bait, and there is a risk to stock and pets with poisons/ toxins. Goodnature can also report kill numbers and report when lure and CO2 gas needs replacing. Again, saving on manpower and allowing real-time</p> | <p>Recommends using self-resetting traps instead of poisons</p> | <p>Reject</p> | <p>Here at HBRC we endeavour to use highly skilled contractors that use a range of methods for controlling possums and other feral wildlife. The methods employed by the contractor will be at their discretion and may vary between properties.</p> |

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| | | monitoring of kills to get a more accurate assessment of control. | | | |
| 105 | James Macphee | <p>I believe we are more than capable of filling and maintaining possum bait stations and object to having to pay for someone to complete this service (whether this is through direct payment to a contractor, or within our rates). We currently check and fill our bait stations every six months and this is completed by a combination of ourselves and a young boy living next door, who thoroughly enjoys the task. In time as my own children reach a suitable age I consider this will be an excellent job for them to undertake as a contribution to the farm. In a time of expensive and hard to find labour it seems ridiculous to force these costs on the majority of farmers who are capable of completing the work themselves. Whilst I strongly oppose a contractor based model I believe council could do better to monitor the work being undertaken within a land occupier model. This would ensure adequate possum control is being</p> | <p>Want to undertake own control and suggests increasing monitoring programme</p> | <p>Reject</p> | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually.</p> |

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| | | undertaken and highlight the bad performers, without putting a cost burden on farmers. This could be as simple as having farmers register when they have filled bait stations (and not allowing options for alternative methods of possum control) giving council a clear understanding of where potential problems might arise and forcing a plan on farmers early, and hopefully before possum numbers increase. | | | |
| 106 | John Macphee | We have filled all our bait stations religiously every year (and sometimes more often) since the programme began. We have purchased new bait stations and replaced old, broken, or missing ones. Over time we have purchased more land and our only hassle has been getting the HBRC to provide us with maps of the bait stations on that land. (further comment will be made by my son on behalf of Mason Ridge Land Company Ltd that owns the other part of the land we farm. I can see the reasoning and am well aware that many farmers are somewhat lax about fulfilling their obligations - that is not good | Want to undertake own control | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider</p> |

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| | | <p>enough and perhaps those that haven't should be required to use a contractor to ensure the job is done. But for those of us that have done it properly over the years then why should we have to bare the extra cost of using a contractor. It is my wife's job and she enjoys getting out and ensuring that all the bait stations are in place and regularly filled</p> | | | <p>positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually.</p> |
| 107 | Hooly Thin | <p>Just had Sam Joblin and his team across the road in the reserve catching possums and rats. They got 64 possums, it was 99 when they came five years ago. What a brilliant job they have done, I wish they could come every year. I've been living across the road from the reserve for the last eighteen years and while I have put considerable effort into pest control the number of possums I've caught is a fraction of what contractors can manage. So all power to the pest control contractors, that's obviously the way to go.</p> | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 108 | Daniel Butler | <p>Quite torn on this issue. Because I do our farm possum control, and I believe I do a better job than a contractor, because I know</p> | No relief stated | Note | |

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| | | <p>the bad areas and pay particular attention to them and. Having eyes on the ground 7 days a week I can hit possum sign straight away. On the other hand I know of farmers with a neighbour being one, who does absolutely nothing, and we are constantly killing possums coming up the creek from the neighbouring farm. So these people need to be forced into pest control.</p> | | | |
| 109 | Louise Price | <p>Most of us have great intentions of filling the stations and monitoring possums, but just don't get there or are not diligent enough. We feel strongly that we all should pay a bit more in rates (urban and rural as there are a lot of possums in town) and move back to a contractor delivery programme. They did a great job in the past and the possum population around here was virtually nil. It is not just the TB problem, it is also the devastating effect they have on our native fauna and animals.</p> | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 110 | Marie Lepper | <p>My husband John always been proactive in pest control and as a result find it easier to keep on top himself</p> | No relief stated | Note | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control</p> |

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| | | | | | in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. |
| 111 | Sue Macphee | We are fulfilling our obligations ourselves and see no need to employ a contractor. Why should we have to pay someone else to do the job that we are capable of doing ourselves. Don't dictate to those doing the right thing. | Want to undertake own control | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually.</p> |

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| 112 | Ian Adcock | At Bridge Pa we appear to have few possums, we have poisoned two in twelve years and see little sign of them. However we are overrun with rabbits and we would rather money be spent on controlling them. Presumably a contractor model for possum control will just mean an increase in our rates for little benefit. | Want rabbits controlled | Reject | The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing pests other than possums. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums. |
| 113 | Matthew Magill | Mainly for the reasons given in the covering letter. With good intensions possum baiting could easily fall into the, I will do it later category. With a contractor doing the job you know it will be done on time every time, done properly and monitored. Nothing will be left to chance. If we are serious about keeping possums under control contractors in my view are the way to go. The work the contractors did a number of years ago that was initiated by the council was outstanding. We went from possums all over the place to no possums at all. To maintain that benefit contractors are what is needed. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |

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| 116 | Paul Robottom | Have noticed an increase in numbers over the last 3 years. Obviously some landowners are not controlling it themselves. I would like the current farmland next to DOC land be subsidised as it has been the last 5 years to continue. Even the numbers have increased in the council subsidised pest control areas. | Want farmland next to DOC land subsidised | Reject | The proposal intends for all land within the PCA area to be managed by contractors, of which the existing buffer control programmes will be incorporated into. How this programme is funded will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). |
| 117 | Tracy Gay | All I know is possums are back at our beach destroying all our trees we have planted same with a plaque of rabbits on sand dunes. Please help get rid of them | No relief stated | Note | |
| 118 | Ava Mannering | Please see attachment 8 We support moving to a contractor delivery model, provided Pan Pac has input into the contractors completing the work in our forest. Ideally Pan Pac would be able to set up as a contractor and employ our current sub-contractors. Pan Pac has strict forest and health & safety requirements that could potentially be an issue if Pan Pac didn't have oversight over the contractors. Operations are constantly moving throughout the forest and by having Pan Pac as the | Support contractor delivery model but want input into procurement process for selecting suitable possum control contractors. | Note | The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on how this will be rolled out. That said, your point has been noted and will be taken into account when developing an implementation plan for this programme if the Proposal is approved by Council. |

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| | | contractor, work could be completed both safely and more efficiently. | | | |
| 119 | Gerald Wilson | If needs to be compulsory again to be done properly TB is a real risk and we can't have the ones taking a few easy options stuffing it up for the rest | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 120 | Matt Wade | I agree with moving to a contractor model however believe there needs to be strong oversight to ensure KPIs are met and there's no wasted spending. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 121 | George Coleman | Thought a quote to bait my farm was excessive Got a contractor in 5 years ago \$2000 for a morning 500 ha Done nothing since | No relief stated | Note | |
| 122 | George Williams | I hope this applies to Gwavas Forest too. We should be able to choose our own contractor we have used Bay Trap for many years. | Support contractor delivery model if they can continue using their current contractor | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control and have existing relationships with contractors, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors at scale across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. It is not feasible for each property to choose their own contractor as this would add considerable complexity in managing possums at scale in a coordinated fashion.</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. The contractor will be expected to work with landowners to</p> |

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| | | | | | broker solutions that meet the needs of landowners and the contractor's mandate to carry out work. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake work. |
| 123 | Rachel Munro | I don't know how to control possums. | No relief stated | Note | |
| 124 | Mark Holder | Noticing numbers increased recently in spite of trapping and poisoning on my own property. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 125 | Steve Bell | FMNZ do not support the proposed changes to the management of possum control in Hawkes Bay. The proposed changes appear to be a step backwards in terms of the way possum control was managed previously in the Region. The additional cost to ratepayers for the level of service likely to be achieved is unlikely to be beneficial overall. We believe contractor availability may cause issues and that Forest Managers are able to provide the resource required without relying on external contractors to undertake | Do not support a contractor delivery model Want to manage their own pests | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> <p>Staff met with the forestry sector on 13 April to outline the proposed approach and discuss issues. Several companies raised the issue of using their own contractors. While this relates to how the policy will be implemented rather than the policy itself, we did discuss option of continuing to use contractors</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is</p> |

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| | | <p>control. Forest Managers currently spend significantly more on eradication than most farmers and we believe we achieve the same or better outcomes by managing our own pest control schemes. Forest Managers are generally larger entities, more well equipped and genuinely fulfilling our obligations - even under the current management systems. We also believe there was not enough consultation prior to this process and that the process appears to be rushed. FMNZ would happily engage on an individual basis rather than in a hearing setting to discuss the proposed changes and their ramifications on forest owners. A one size fits all approach to the management where forestry operators are treated the same as other primary production users seems counter intuitive to what should be a targeted approach to possum eradication where existing systems which are already working well are incorporated into an improved system. Additional</p> | | | <p>undertaken on their property. The contractor will be expected to work with landowners to broker solutions that meet the needs of landowners and the contractor's mandate to carry out work. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake work.</p> <p>Health and safety concerns would be addressed when the contractor is working with the land occupier to write up the land access agreement including the health and safety plan. Through this process the land occupier can make the contractor aware of any hazards, health and safety concerns or the requirement of a site induction before work is undertaken, in accordance with any obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. While this action would not discharge the ongoing obligations of the land occupier (e.g. to advise the contractor of any new hazards or changes in circumstances), it will be the contractor's responsibility to act in accordance with the health and safety plan.</p> <p>HBRC held a meeting on the 13th April 2022 specially with the forestry sector prior to consultation and offered to meet with individuals to discuss.</p> |
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| | | monitoring in forestry properties could be a better way to utilize existing resources while enabling HBRC to ensure individual obligations are met. | | | |
| 126 | Clint Deckard | Control of possums is very important for the protection and restoration of our remaining native forests. I hope that this initiative will provide a better environmental outcome than the current system. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 127 | Gael Roebuck | Possoms are not being kept under control using the present system. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |
| 128 | James Wilson | On our property we don't have a lot of habitat for possums , so control is possible to maintain with shooting. If other people want to pay a charge for contractors thats fine but we don't want to be lumped in to a charge which wouldn't be value for money. | Want to undertake own control | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region</p> <p>The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually.</p> |
| 129 | Tim gilbertson | <p>It is disappointing but not surprising that HBRC has taken so long to realise the obvious :That pest control is only fully effective if it is done through out the whole region by a coordinated body ,rather than relying on dispersed individual efforts . This was apparent as far back as the 1940's when rabbit boards were set up . Everyone was rated and everyone was covered . . Congratulations for reinventing the wheel . While it is outside your current brief, it is pertinent to note that HBRC pest control is fatally flawed because it does not include feral cats , rabbits or mustelids on a regional control basis. Last year 230 of our sheep aborted because of toxo caused by feral cats .This cost ,in lost</p> | <p>Support contractor delivery model. Wants other pests added to programme</p> | Reject | <p>The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing pests other than possums. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums.</p> |

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| | | <p>income , more than \$25000 ,which is about five times the rates i pay HBRC . It is a bizarre result when you fund an organisation that is instrumental in destroying your profitability while it claims to be the guardian of the environment and economy.. Cats,as you well know ,also kill god knows how many geckos and birds. We have trapped and killed thirty cats in the last two years .My neighbour has trapped and killed over 130 over the last five years ,leading to a massive increase in native bird life. So while HBRC fluffs about finally getting possum control right ,the armies of other pests HBRC ignores marches happily on . Please try harder .</p> | | | |
| 130 | Denise Fastier | <p>Possum control done by professional contractors will be able to be approached strategically, is likely to be more consistent, and should result in better outcomes for the environment (possums contribute to climate change by suppressing regeneration, and from their 'emissions'), biodiversity (possums negatively impact both flora and fauna), and human</p> | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |

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| | | health (possums are vectors of TB, an outbreak of which HB is currently managing). | | | |
| 131 | Kate Collins | Support the use of contractors in principle however Silver Fern Farms have a number of conditions of entry to our sites that would need to be adhered to. This includes but is not limited to: - advising dates in advance for the intended control works to be complete - the contractor would need to meet the required insurance requirements to enter the site: \$10m public liability insurance - the contractor would need to sign into our site using the 'whos on location' kiosk at reception - the contractor would need to complete the relevant H&S site inductions - the contractor would need to comply with any Covid-19 measures while onsite e.g. RAT testing, temperature checking, mask wearing etc | Support contractor delivery model so long as specific H&S requirements are met | Note | All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. Any health and safety concerns can be addressed when the contractor is working with the land occupier to write up the land access agreement including the health and safety plan. Through this process the land occupier can make the contractor aware of any hazards, health and safety concerns or the requirement of a site induction before work is undertaken, in accordance with any obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. While this action would not discharge the ongoing obligations of the land occupier (e.g. to advise the contractor of any new hazards or changes in circumstances), it will be the contractor's responsibility to act in accordance with the health and safety plan. |
| 132 | Mark Maxwell | I live and work rurally around the Bay View, Eskdale, Tangoio area. Over recent years i have noticed an increase in opossum sign in | Support contractor delivery model. Recommends including forestry, | Note | The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an |

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| | | <p>areas i frequent. One of the main causes i believe to be forestry activity; ie harvesting/logging, destroying habitat opossums are living in and forcing them to relocate onto farm land and lifestyle areas. I believe more pressure should be put on forestry management companies to maintain control measures in there blocks. Just today(29/07) I happened to be working along the Waipatiki stream where it boundaries the reserve and noticed a large amount of fresh opossum sign. Im unsure whether this reserve is under DOC or Regional council control, it is clear that NO opossum management has been carried out for some time as the new growth that should be evident on the mature native bush is not there. This reserve is surrounded by forestry which is in the harvest stage now. I also agree with the proposal to use contractors to maintain opossum management on smaller properties(under 20ha) as I know from personal observation that many 'lifestylers' are not</p> | <p>lifestyle and DOC land.</p> | | <p>agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme.</p> |
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| | | <p>doing pest control. Reasons are many and varied; a lot just don't bother, some are involved in activities off property so become negligent, many others are unable to bring themselves to kill creatures. due to tougher firearms laws and denser population we are no longer blessed to be able to go out and shoot the odd opossum that is raiding fruit trees on our properties either. I know of people who have live trapped a opossum on there property and have not had access to someone to dispense it an been unable to kill it themselves so have driven it out to a rural area and released it ! This is not an ideal situation at all but it happens. If contractors are tasked with the job of pest control on lifestyle blocks then they will be able to form a reporte with landowners and ensure ongoing control ;ie if a landowner notices fruit trees being raided or live trap an opossum they have someone to call to dispense it.</p> | | | |
| 133 | Will telford | Further possum control coverage. Certainty of control. | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |

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| 135 | Tessa Appleby (OSPRI) | Please see attachment 7 | Support moving to contractor delivery for continuity of future work | Note | |
| | | | Request a fair and competitive tendering environment | Note | The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on what contractors and tools will be used. However, staff will engage with OSPRI to discuss concerns/opportunities when developing an implementation plan for this programme if the Proposal is approved by Council. |
| | | | How will HBRC ensure ongoing effective control into areas that remain inaccessible by ground | Note | Here at HBRC we engage highly skilled contractors that use a range of methods for controlling possums and other feral animals. The methods employed by the contractor will be at their discretion however humane best practice is mandatory whenever trapping is being done. All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. |

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| | | | | | <p>Any health and safety concerns can be addressed when the contractor is working with the land occupier to write up the land access agreement including the health and safety plan. Through this process the land occupier can make the contractor aware of any hazards, health and safety concerns or the requirement of a site induction before work is undertaken, in accordance with any obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. While this action would not discharge the ongoing obligations of the land occupier (e.g. to advise the contractor of any new hazards or changes in circumstances), it will be the contractor's responsibility to act in accordance with the health and safety plan.</p> |
| | | | <p>Concerned that existing responsibilities for forestry remain in place until 2024 and that there is a risk of increasing possum numbers before the new model would be implemented</p> | Note | <p>The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP) and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. The existing PCA programme rules will remain in place until the programme is funded through the LTP, noting there will also be a roll out period.</p> <p>We acknowledge your concern over possum numbers increasing. HBRC shares these concerns and has increased its monitoring programme this financial year from 114,534 ha to 308,000 ha in an attempt to identify those land occupiers not undertaking control prior to transitioning to a contractor delivered model. Any property that fails this monitoring will be required to undertake control to reduce possums to low levels at their expense. Further to this, staff are notified of forestry that is going to be harvested in the region of which a targeted possum monitoring is undertaken if it is within the PCA programme.</p> |

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| 136 | Jerry Greer | <p>We have been farming at the same properties for over 20 years and have always used a contractor to look after baiting bait stations annually. As Hbrc staff would tell you I have had concerns over the rising number of possums in our region and have done my own investigation locally into what i think has gone wrong so the best option I think is to move to the compulsory use of a contractor under the control of Hbrc. I wish to present a submission in person which would cover our own experience over the years with possum control.</p> | <p>Fair and competitive tendering environment</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>Under the current proposed change model there has been no decision on how landblocks around the Hawkes Bay will be tendered and contracted out. This review is focusing in changing the mode of delivery solely, with a transition model yet to be established.</p> |
| 138 | Willie Lyons | <p>Let the specialists do the job.</p> | <p>Methods of control, especially in areas that have limited access</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>Here at HBRC we engage highly skilled contractors that use a range of methods for controlling possums and other feral animals. The methods employed by the contractor will be at their discretion however humane best practice is mandatory whenever trapping is being done. All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work.</p> |

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| | | | | | Any health and safety concerns can be addressed when the contractor is working with the land occupier to write up the land access agreement including the health and safety plan. Through this process the land occupier can make the contractor aware of any hazards, health and safety concerns or the requirement of a site induction before work is undertaken, in accordance with any obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. While this action would not discharge the ongoing obligations of the land occupier (e.g. to advise the contractor of any new hazards or changes in circumstances), it will be the contractor's responsibility to act in accordance with the health and safety plan. |
| 139 | Neal Vella | We already pay for pest control on our rates. For what? We have not seen possums around since you sent out people a few yrs ago to target them....We are going to manage our own stations... What you need to do is sort out the rabbit and hare population, and i'm sure it's not just our area.... You charge us for pest control, start doing something about the other pests. I see you choose a date that alot of rural people are busy with lambing and calving, is this so not many turn up and you go ahead with they way you want to do things. We are | Concern for why this will only be implemented in 2024 | Note | The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP) and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. |

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| | | not paying any more , we pay now and get less..... | | | |
| 140 | Rhea Dasent (Federated Farmers) | Please see attached submission 6 Federated Farmers supports the contractor model to carry out region-wide possum control, with an option retained for skilled landowners to continue their own control. | Risk of increasing possum numbers before the new model would be implimented | Note | The risk of possum numbers increasing can be concerning, however HBRC increased the monitoring programme this financial year from 114,534 ha to 308,000 ha in an attempt to identify those land occupiers not undertaking control prior to transitioning to a contractor delivered model. Any property that fails this monitoring will be required to undertake control to reduce possums to low levels at their expense. |
| | | Access arrangements onto private property must be negotiated with landowners | Land access negotiated with land owners | Note | All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work. |
| | | Federated Farmers supports the inclusion of increased biodiversity as a public good of possum control. Also agree that the reduced availability of Brodifacoum for public use will further reduce landowners' ability to carry out possum control themselves. | Support inclusion of increased biodiversity as public good and potential availability issues with brodifacoum | Note | |

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| | | <p>Federated Farmers expects the proposed changes to be cost-neutral on rates. Federated Farmers does not support a change to rely more on the general rate to fund possum control activities. Instead, we support a hybrid targeted rates model made up of a flat fee per property for the public good aspect, and a cents per hectare rate (with land use differentials) to recognise bigger properties receive more benefit. Rates collected for possum control must be ring fenced for that activity.</p> | <p>Expect proposed changes to be cost-neutral on rates hybrid Recommend targeted rates model where funds are ring-fenced</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The existing funding split for the PCA programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| | | <p>Hill country farmers must have assurance that they will receive good levels of service, despite being further from main centres and having challenging terrain</p> | <p>Hill country farmers must receive good levels of service</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on how this will be rolled out. There will be a phase in period where not all land will be able to be covered. How much and where will not be determined until funding has been secured through the Long Term Plan 2024-34. That said, your point has been noted and will be taken into account when developing an implementation plan for this programme if the Proposal is approved by Council.</p> |
| 141 | Graeme Maxwell | <p>I am lucky as Rangiora Trust is part of Poutiri Ao A Tane. We have been regularly</p> | <p>Forestry needs to be treated the same as other land types</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only</p> |

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| | | <p>poisoned and trapped. More so since TB was discovered in our region. What I really want to know is if this regimen will include forestry. I personally believe it's about time Forests we're expected to be trapped/ poisoned from end to end. Not just inside so many metres. Particularly now with the TB debacle in our area. Rangiora Trust runs alongside the Waikari River on the other side is the Mohaka Forest . Every time the current contractors poison here they cannot completely eliminate possums coming across the River up a small section of Maori stream and onto Heays Access road giving them access to my place and the neighbours. Soft soaping forestry blocks has to stop.</p> | <p>in the PCA programme</p> | | <p>a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme.</p> |
| 142 | Neil Aitken | <p>I agree with Contractors doing the possum control as long as it includes all forestry, Iwi, DOC and all other land. The RTC should be at 2% for everyone. I don't agree with an overall pricing. eg hard to access areas should pay more</p> | <p>Support contractor delivery model so long as it includes forestry, DOC, Iwi land and is priced according to land type</p> | Note | <p>The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme.</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 143 | Charles Daugherty | <p>The present programme has been highly successful in controlling possums until the last few years. Hawke's Bay is one of only two regions where bovine tuberculosis has returned in recent years. Evidence shows clearly that the present model is no longer working well, so a change is clearly warranted. I believe that the consistency of best practice application of possum control methods that can be obtained using contractors is well justified</p> | Support contractor delivery model | Note | |

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| | | <p>and the best way to proceed. I'd hate to lose the gains in possum control that have been achieved. I also believe that as Predator Free 2050 programmes advance, all regions will need to take highly systematic approaches to possum control and eventually eradication. The Predator Free 2050 programme targets possums as the first pest mammal species to be eradicated. Consistency in use of best practice methods by contractors seems clearly the best way to proceed, and supports the task (full eradication) that Predator Free 2050 will need to address soon.</p> | | | |
| 144 | Lloyd Holloway | <p>Every Landowner should be treated the same, Whether it is Forestry,DOC, Maori Land or General Farm Land everything must be poisoned to the same standard.We cannot afford to have exceptions otherwise we will have another breakdown like we are having in Hawkes Bay now.</p> | <p>Supports contractor delivery model and all land should be treated equally</p> | Note | <p>The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme.</p> |

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| 145 | Ann Williams | <p>There needs to be efficient and equitable management of this issue both in rural and urban situations. Naturally as a small holder with no real income from my land, costs concern me, and if the costs could be managed under the current rating system that would be much appreciated. I trust that the system will be managed with accountability and with efficient operators.</p> | <p>Support contractor delivery model but want rates kept at existing level</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 146 | Tim Brownlie | <p>Because I've we take care of possums ourselves. If routine monitoring shows were doing a good job then allow me to continue!</p> | <p>Want to manage their own possums</p> | <p>Reject</p> | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. The Regional Council estimates that 70% of current PCA properties do their own possum control. However, Council analysis also suggests that about 50% of those occupiers are likely doing little or no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a</p> |

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| | | | | | reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region. |
| 147 | Brent Smith | <p>(1) I am not comfortable with more people/agencies having access to my private property. (2) I Disagree with poison sales only as proof of owner controls, e.g. I use 'Goodnature' auto traps and shoot regularly, as well as having dogs that hunt and kill possums and other pests. (3) Testing on properties by arrangement should be stepped up to encourage owners to keep on top of things. (4) Testers should be mindful of possum movements, e.g. I notice possum tracks from large gorse thickets towards trees on my property from a neighbouring neglected farm owned by a property developer, these would count against me should they encounter the test cards. I believe the possums live in the dense gorse bushes and roam at night to feed. (5) I have also noticed sudden increases in possum numbers at home when forestry plantations are being felled in the area, are forestry blocks monitored currently? (6) Are small lifestyle sections monitored? Many have</p> | <p>Do not want agencies accessing property.</p> <p>Need to increase monitoring programme.</p> <p>Concerned about the safety of dogs around toxins</p> | Reject | <p>We acknowledge some land occupiers are undertaking adequate control, however this isn't the case across the entire PCA area. A shift to using professional contractors across the entire PCA area will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard.</p> <p>Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to a contractor-based model will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually</p> <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. The contractor will be expected to work with landowners to broker solutions that meet the needs of landowners and the contractor's mandate to carry out work. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake work.</p> |

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| | | <p>possum habitat. (7) I am not averse to poison use but only when other methods are insufficient. I have bush that I am working to regenerate and have dogs that hunt vermin including the odd possum so am concerned for their health should they eat poisoned animals. (I have noticed vast improvements in native birdlife from my own pest control methods).</p> <p>(8) Neighbourhood support groups are a useful way to meet and identify property owners/residents and to spread the message and help formulate coordinated control plans. I would have liked to have appeared in person but am unavailable on 17 August. I am happy to be contacted at the phone number given if it would be of any use.</p> | | | |
| 148 | Alan Jones | Already have monitoring possum control on our property | No relief stated | Note | The proposal is to transition the current PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to the use of approved possum control contractors. The transition to the contractor-based model will ensure consistency for possum control outcomes as well as maximising biodiversity outcomes. |
| 149 | Jake Bowcock | After 14 years of contracting to the HBRC and other councils I have mixed opinions on this proposal. | Increase enforcement action of existing programme | Reject | Compliance is costly and ineffective, this is evident with the current model and other compliance models carried out in other regions. The transition to the contractor-based model |

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| | | <p>The main change here looks to be HBRC as the coordinator on all possum control activities in the region. This has many benefits in managing control activities regionally but runs the risk of reducing efficiency and effectiveness as has been seen in past and present large scale control projects. At present landowners are free to undertake whatever possum control they want if any. If they are monitored and fail the usual message they get from HBRC is get a contractor in and we will leave you alone. If they have already been engaging with a contractor then they would likely get them back to fix the problem or use another contractor - Good contractors are still here and bad ones just don't last the distance. The current RPMP has a rule that - An occupier within a Possum Control Area shall maintain possum densities on their land at or below 4% residual trap catch, in accordance with the Hawke's Bay Regional Possum Control Technical Protocol (PN4969). Unfortunately when this rule</p> | | | <p>will not only ensure consistency for possum control outcomes but also ensure positive outcomes for biodiversity which benefits the region mutually.</p> |
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| | | <p>is broken the offending occupier is simply told to get a contractor in and is left unchecked until the next monitor which will be many years away. No enforcement action is taken and no checking to see if RTC levels have dropped to a compliant level. The rule has no teeth to it. I believe that enforcing this rule would be more effective at financially targeting the estimated 35% that don't do any possum control. Most of the properties that utilise my business for there possum control are paying less than \$2/ha per year. and are happy to continue with this arrangement. If Council is to take control of coordinating all possum control they are going to need some know how from the people that have been doing it for a living!!! Anyway I'm running out of time before the 8PM cut off so I will stop here but as always if you need any more please let me know</p> | | | |
| 150 | Callum Beattie Maungaharuru- Tangitū Trust | <p>Please see attachment 2</p> <p>Support shift to a contractor deliver model as it:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) positively affect biodiversity and | Support contractor deliver model | Note | |

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| | | <p>species that are taonga to the Hapū by ensuring more consistent and effective control and monitoring;</p> <p>2) prevent possum hot spots developing that require more intensive possum control efforts in the future; and</p> <p>3) reduce burdens on individual land owners</p> | | | |
| | | <p>Ensures any possum control occurs with the consent of all relevant landowners</p> <p>Ensures that possum control occurs with the consent of the relevant mana whenua entities in areas of significance to mana whenua</p> <p>Engages with MTT as to the methods of pest control used within the takwiā of the Hapū</p> | <p>Ensures consent of all relevant landowners and mana whenua is obtained</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>All landowners will be contacted by a contractor before any possum control work is undertaken on their property. Landowners will have an opportunity to talk to a pest control expert about any concerns they may have regarding health and safety, methods of control, land access around certain times of the year, and any additional concerns or comments. Following this, a land access agreement between the landowner and contractor will be produced which captures these agreed preferences that will guide how the contractor will undertake the work.</p> |
| | | <p>During the transition to the proposed new model, creates training opportunities for tangata whenua and/or provides funding to tangata whenua entities to train Hapū members to undertake possum control activities</p> | <p>Create opportunities for tangata whenua to be involved in possum control activities</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The proposal recommends transitioning the existing PCA programme from land occupier responsibility to a contractor delivery model. It is outside the remit of this Proposal to make decisions on what contractors and tools will be used. However, staff are open to engaging with tangata whenua to discuss opportunities when developing an implementation plan for this</p> |

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| | | <p>with a view to creating employment opportunities for Hapū members for taiao related work within Hawke's Bay and the areas over which Hapū members hold mana whenua.</p> <p>Gives preference to mana whenua contractors where the capability exists.</p> <p>Keeps MTT updated as to contracting opportunities related to possum control.</p> | | | <p>programme if the Proposal is approved by Council.</p> |
| | | <p>MTT is however, concerned about the significance of the rates uplift that is suggested to be required as part of this proposal (noting that this will form part of the HBRC's next review of rates). Hapū members are landowners throughout Hawke's Bay and impositions of further costs on Hapū members who are not responsible for possum numbers at a time where costs of living are elevated should be avoided.</p> | <p>Avoid increasing rates</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 151 | Troy Duncan (QEII) | <p>Please see attachment 3</p> | <p>One entity to be established for possum control, with better relationships with OSPRI maintained.</p> <p>Forestry, DOC and Iwi land exemptions needs to change so</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme</p> |

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| | | | <p>as to promote fairness and better biodiversity outcomes</p> <p>Cost Management needs to be delivered efficiently and fairly</p> | | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
| 152 | Anikya Scotland | <p>I think that the farmers have enough to worry about. It is a time factor. Plus how do they keep up to date with the change in baits and trapping methods?</p> | Support contract delivery model | Note | |
| 154 | Tom Kay (Forest and Bird) | <p>Please see attached submission 9</p> <p>Carbon Absorption needs to be added as a benefit to changing the model</p> | <p>Include carbon absorption as a benefit, take a collaborative approach and ensure best practice methods are used.</p> | Note | <p>Council analysis shows that nearly 70% of current PCA properties do not use a contractor of which approximately 50% are likely doing little to no control. Additionally, if best practice trapping and baiting techniques are not being employed this may cause possums to become bait or trap-shy which can make removing these individuals costly in the long term. A shift to</p> |

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| | | <p>Collaborative approach by working with Iwi, Biodiversity HB and Forest and Bird</p> <p>Ensure best practice methods are used</p> | | | <p>using professional contractors will ensure that possum control in the Hawke's Bay is of a reliably high standard, with wider positive flow-on benefits for biodiversity around the region.</p> |
| | | <p>Deer should be prioritised so as to not undermine the work done to promote forest growth and regeneration</p> | <p>Deer should be prioritised</p> | <p>Reject</p> | <p>The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) has a number of other pest programs that provides support to landowners in managing these pests. Although there may be opportunities for these pests to be under region wide control at some point in the future these issues fall outside of the scope of the PCA review which focuses on possums.</p> |
| 155 | Gary Bowcock | <p>Please see attached submission 10</p> | <p>Support moving to contractor delivery for continuity of future work and a more organised approach in terms of travel and administration</p> | <p>Note</p> | |
| | | | <p>Ensure that land tenure and costs associated are equally distributed</p> | <p>Note</p> | <p>The proposed contractor model intends on including all land within the PCA programme, including forestry and DOC land. Although only a 500m buffer can be applied to Crown Land under the Biosecurity Act, HBRC has an agreement with DOC to undertake control of possums on DOC estate within the PCA programme.</p> |

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|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | <p>The existing funding split for this programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. Given the primary driver of this programme is biodiversity, it is proposed that the funding split is substantially changed to account for this. It is proposed that the programme be primarily funded by a general rate with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits. No Council decisions on new PCA budgets or any revised allocation of costs have been made. These issues will be considered and discussed with the community as part of the 2024 Long Term Plan (LTP). The changes envisioned in this proposal are enabling, but would not be enacted until the 2024-34 LTP and the Revenue and Financing Policy have been reviewed. Until any changes to the PCA programme are implemented, revenue sources and the allocation of costs will remain unchanged from the current RPMP.</p> |
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Guidelines for Modifying and Installing Sentinel Possum Kill Traps Easy to Set and User Friendly

Dave Edwards

This info sheet will cover guidelines to what parts are required to allow the standard Sentinel Trap to be permanently Tree mounted, which allows the use of a Setting Tool, making them a safer more user friendly Possum Trap.

I'm working on the basis that you have some practical skills and experience with Traps. I take NO responsibility for your actions.

To convert a standard Sentinel to be permanently tree mounted using good quality hot dip Galvanised components will cost about \$3 per trap.

Link to Trap setting video, this version has different OKT covers but you will get the idea <https://youtu.be/h4VanCz8feQ>

Parts required

To convert a standard Sentinel you will need

1/ A galvanised steel saddle Clamp (pipe saddle) to suit 20 mm OD pipe
note: I find giving the saddle a slight squeeze in a vice to elongate the opening helps allow enough free play in the bottom of trap.

2/ A Nylon Cable Tie 4mm x150 mm

3/ 1 Galv Tek screw 75 mm 14 g (12 g is ok) only need one socket if using 12g

4/ 2 Galv Tek screws 25 mm 12 gauge

note: use type T17 Tek screws as they have a sharp point on the end

5/ A No 8 wire U clip, or heavy 2 mm tie wire, basically anything to stop the trap falling off the alkathene pipe.

Note: Do not mix galvanised with stainless, keep everything the same.



Make two small holes in the Cover near the bottom and Install the Cable Tie.

This will fix the cover in place and stop it blowing away.

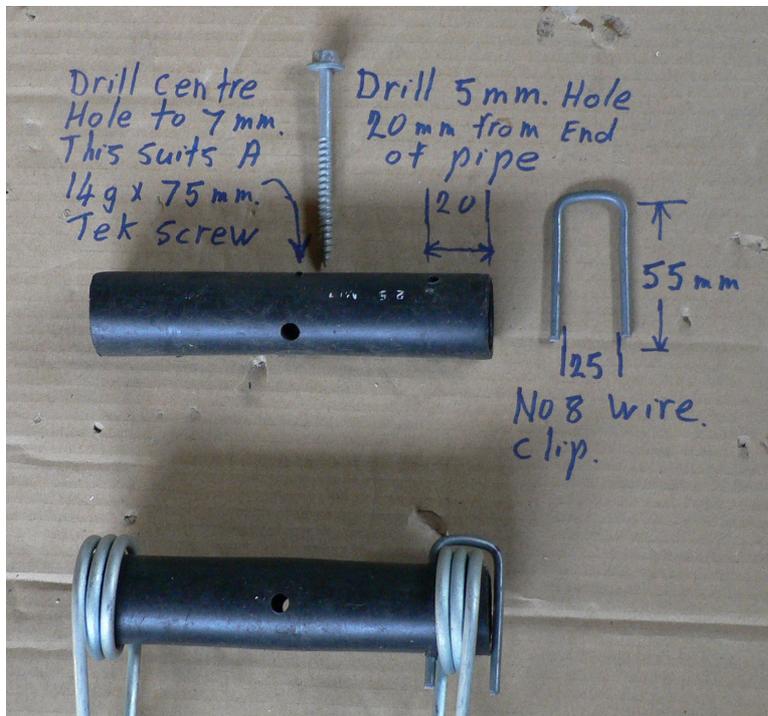


Saddle Clamp Installed

With the clamp installed the bottom of the trap must be free to move in and out about 5 to 10 mm.

If you have a problem getting enough movement give the Saddle a small squeeze in a vice to elongate them, or use a larger saddle clamp.

Check that the Galvanised bait Plate can still move freely.



To suit a 14 g Tek Screw drill the centre hole in Alkathene pipe out to 7mm diameter. If using 12G screws then 6mm is better

(NO washer is required)

Drill a 5mm hole 20mm from one end. To stop the trap falling off the Alkathene pipe make a No 8 wire clip,



Alternative Idea which I have NOT used in the Field.

Drill a 5mm hole in front of pipe 20mm from the end, use a piece of 2mm tie wire slide it through pipe and out the hole, twist off as per photo.

Whatever you do make sure it does not interfere with the lower kill Bar arm, and that the Trap is still slightly loose on the pipe. Sentinels hate to be bound tight anywhere as it affects trigger sensitivity.

Installing the Trap

In Bush situations you can look for the normal animal runs, possum sign, ridges etc to install the traps. At home fruit trees or anywhere a possum goes to get a feed. Look for tracks in the grass where they might be travelling.

Possoms like most animals tend to be neophobic yet are naturally curious and attracted to novel items like the white trap covers. They also like to investigate the traps and lure before committing to sticking their head in a trap, so providing a spot where they can do so in comfort by using a running board or similar platform is an advantage.

Where there are Kiwi or Weka Traps must be a minimum 700 mm off the ground and the installation must be kiwi safe. Where used running boards should be installed at a minimum 50 deg angle, a good guide for getting the board at the minimum angle of 50 deg is. Boards 1.2 metres long are ideal so if you measure vertically up the tree 900mm and have flat ground that will be 50 deg. Boards should be 90 – 100 mm wide and 20mm thick.

Running Boards give a higher possum catch rate than straight Trees.

Straight Trees with trunks around 140 - 280 mm in diameter seem to make for good installations, trees that have suitable bark where possums can easily grip the trunk are ideal and for those situations larger diameter trunks are ok. Where there are only larger diameter trees with smooth hard bark you are probably best to use a running board.

Generally installing the trap at a height of 1.1 to 1.3 metres is ideal for when setting the trap.

If using a running board first let it sit against the tree in the correct position so you can correctly position the Trap, 200 - 240 mm from top of board to the bottom of trap is about right. After installation of the trap place the board in line with the trap and secure it in place with a couple of 75 or 90 mm nails.

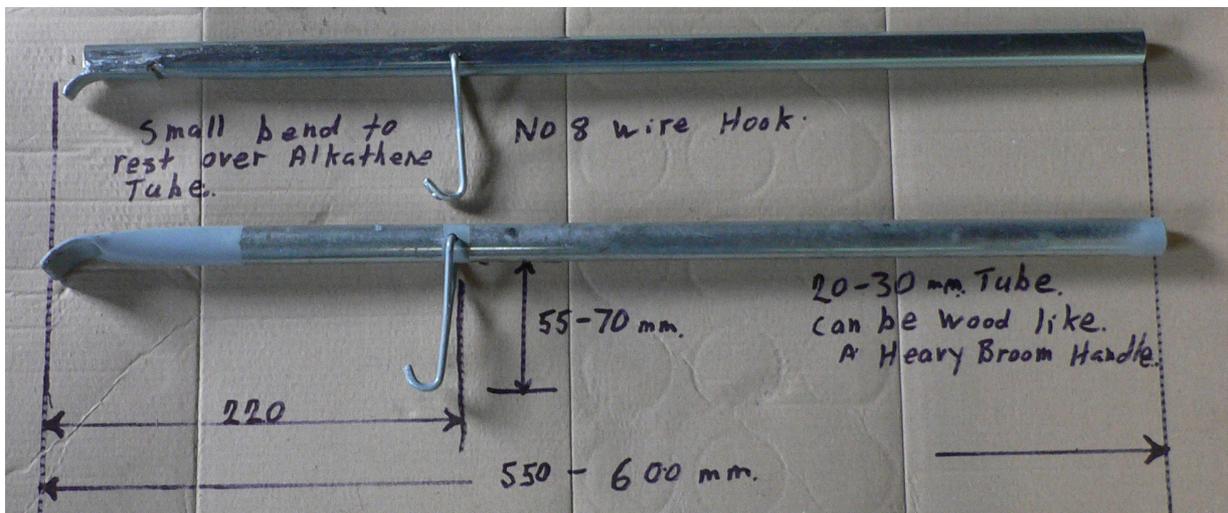
Hold the Trap against the tree in the desired position to make sure it is going to sit ok and that you don't have protrusions etc that might interfere.

Slide a 75 mm Tek screw through the Alkathene pipe and Coreflute Cover, hold it on the tree and give the head of the Tek screw a couple of whacks with a hammer to get it started, wind it in the rest of the way with a socket and ratchet, you don't need to tightly wind in the screw, a small bit of play is good as it gives room for the tree to grow. (unwind the screw as tree grows)

Now fit the bottom Saddle Clamp using two 25 mm 12 gauge Tek screws, Check that the lower part of the trap can freely move out about 5-10 mm, also check that the galvanised Bait Plate moves freely. If the plate does not move freely this can affect trigger sensitivity.



Install a 60 mm nail in the Tree so that you can latch the cover up out of the way while setting the trap.



With the Sentinel permanently mounted on a tree allows the use of a setting Tool.

If you use a Setting Tool or not will be a personal preference, some people will have enough arm strength and co ordination to set the trap without a tool and some won't. Me I use one because I find it makes the job easy.

Make your own Setting Tool as per photo, or I will sell you a hand crafted super light one for \$20.



Correct use of the Setting Tool.



Using a Running Board on a Larger Tree. Board at 50 deg. 200 – 240mm from the Top of the board to the Bottom of the Trap.



Sentinel Trap mounted on a Tree approx 180mm diameter.

Trap Installation using a fork in Tree
Possum can sit and checkout the Trap and lure.

(This trap has caught 17 possums)





Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
Napier 4110

29 Hōngongoi (July) 2022

Tēnā koe,

Changes to possum control in Hawke's Bay

This letter is written on behalf of the Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust (MTT). MTT is the post-settlement governance entity representing the hapū – Marangatūhetaua (Ngāti Tū), Ngāti Whakaari, Ngāti Tauira, Ngāti Kurumōkihi (formerly known as Ngāti Tatara), Ngāti Te Ruruku ki Tangoio and Ngāti Tahu (Hapū). The takiwā (traditional area) of the MTT Hapū encompasses the Waitaha River in the north to Keteketerau in the south (the outlet of the earlier Te Whanganui-a-Orotū also known as the Napier Inner Harbour which was in existence before the 1931 Napier earthquake), and from the Maungaharuru Range in the west to the coast and beyond to Tangitū (the sea) in the east. The Hapū's marae is Tangoio Marae located approximately 20km north of Napier. MTT is mandated by the Hapū to be their "voice" and represent them on environmental matters.

MTT supports the proposed shift from landowner responsibility for possum control to HBRC responsibility (including on land utilised for production forestry) via the use of contractors because the proposal has the potential to:

- positively affect biodiversity and species that are taonga to the Hapū by ensuring more consistent and effective control and monitoring;

Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust



- prevent possum hot spots developing that require more intensive possum control efforts in the future; and
- reduce burdens on individual land owners.

As part of the proposed changes, MTT submits that HBRC:

- ensures any possum control occurs with the consent of all relevant landowners;
- ensures that possum control occurs with the consent of the relevant mana whenua entities in areas of significance to mana whenua;
- engages with MTT as to the methods of pest control used within the takwiā of the Hapū;
- during the transition to the proposed new model, creates training opportunities for tangata whenua and/or provides funding to tangata whenua entities to train Hapū members to undertake possum control activities with a view to creating employment opportunities for Hapū members for taiao related work within Hawke's Bay and the areas over which Hapū members hold mana whenua;
- gives preference to mana whenua contractors where the capability exists; and
- keeps MTT updated as to contracting opportunities related to possum control.

MTT is however, concerned about the significance of the rates uplift that is suggested to be required as part of this proposal (noting that this will form part of the HBRC's next review of rates). Hapū members are landowners throughout Hawke's Bay and impositions of further costs on Hapū members who are not responsible for possum numbers at a time where costs of living are elevated should be avoided.

MTT does not wish to be heard in relation to this submission.

Nāku noa i runga i āku mihi ki a koe,



Nā Callum Beattie, Kaitātari Kaupapa Here
Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust

Please give your reasons and/or any other feedback (optional)

Having personally been involved in Hawkes Bay as a possum monitoring contractor for ten years I have a reasonable understanding of the landscape of the region and the possum control effort and history in it.

As the representative for the QEII National Trust I see the benefits of good possum control regularly. Landowners with QEII covenants also benefit from assistance with possum control in their covenant areas. In HB it has been a given for some time that possum numbers are low or should be and that other efforts in the biodiversity / land management arena are supported by having low possum numbers ie poplar poles are not damage, native vegetation canopy is not threatened. This is not the same with my colleagues in many other parts of the country. Hawkes Bays situation needs to be upheld into the future. Recent hiccups in possum control in relation to the TBFree programme have shown gaps, or failures in the defence against possums. This has been developing over some time and is an example of what can happen without good governance and management of the situation.

Without going into details in here I believe the dynamics of possum control in the region is best delivered by one entity or at least one plus OSPRI until the point they are no longer active in that area. These organisations must also improve their relationship and work closer together.

The exemption for forestry only being required to control and be monitored a small distance into their forests must change. This rule makes no sense and in some instances puts unfair burden on neighbouring landowners. DOC must also be engaged and involved in possum control not just for TB purposes or delivered by OSPRI on DOC estate. There should be better outcomes for regarding the good neighbour rule in cases where farmland and or neighbouring forest is being compromised by adjoining crown land.

The rider to my support of a model like is being proposed is that it must be delivered cost effectively at no increase or at minimum a decrease in cost to rural landowners running a commercial business. For example, a 700ha farm currently paying a contractor \$1/ha should not have the cost for possum control rated on them at higher than that, higher than they are currently paying.

Iwi owned land should not be exempt from possum control being rated on the land. As with forestry exemptions being removed. The programme needs to be viewed as for the greater good of the region which requires all to contribute, which will make it more palatable across the board. As is the initiative to include urban rate payers into contributing to the programme.

Troy Duncan

Troy Duncan | HB Representative

QEII National Trust

SUBMISSION AGAINST MOVING TO A CONTRACTOR MODEL FROM: JAMES AND SUE HEWITT

We strongly submit against the proposal to move to a contractor model for the following reasons:

1. We were involved in the original set-up of the possum control programme, being ones who helped instigate this in our immediate area. Three important points:
 - 1) **It was set up under a land occupier model to ensure the control was done, but without putting unnecessary costs on to the land occupier.** How farmers complied was their decision. That was what was agreed upon by farmers, and this should stay. We don't believe that many farmers would have signed up to this scheme if they knew that increased costs were going to be imposed on them regardless of their individual actions.
 - 2) **It was set up with the HBRC in charge of the monitoring of the scheme, with compliance factors coming in to place ONLY if land occupiers did not fulfil their obligations to the agreement. If numbers are growing, then the HBRC is failing in their side of the bargain of the scheme – communicating to land occupiers, monitoring, and ensuring the success of the scheme.** As landowners/farmers we are rated by the HBRC for this and deserve to have the service done.
 - 3) **Significant changes such as being proposed would require a new agreement with land occupiers – not just consultation.**
2. **It is incorrect to state that farmers do not have the skills to control pests on their own property.** It is part of our farming operation, along with things like weed and other pest control.
3. Removing the responsibility of possum control management from land occupiers equates to **INCREASING COSTS to landowners**, when compliance to the scheme forces unnecessary expenditure paying pest control controllers.
4. **It is wrong for landowners and/or business to have control of their expenditure taken away from them**, and wrong to impose costs on businesses, when those business can do the same job more cost effectively. Our farming operation is tight financially, with deer farming going through difficult times, and we cannot absorb more additional costs. Those in the HBRC need to understand this – farmers do not have excess money and need to look for ways to reduce costs, rather than absorb additional costs.
5. **A move to a contractor model impacts too much those on smaller properties with lesser overall income** – proportionately this cost will be higher (as a percentage of gross income). Those on smaller properties generally need to do more work directly themselves to balance the lower overall income potential of their property – and usually have sufficient time to do this.
6. **We do not agree that contractors are any better than ourselves at doing the job of controlling possums.** We are currently doing our own poisoning programme and having great success, with a **ZERO** rate when audited last. There is absolutely NO justification in making compliant land occupiers incur any additional and unnecessary costs - and more importantly – there will be absolutely NO benefit in that additional cost.
7. The HBRC currently has an audit process. **It is simple – if those doing their own poisoning fail an audit, then the HBRC could insist they move to a more monitored contractor model – those currently passing audit should not have to.**
8. **Farmers can run their poisoning programme at a time that suits their farming enterprise.** We will NOT allow access to our farm to a contractor when we have young deer on the farm, or during periods such as winter where contractors will make a mess and take away available feed on our farm. This will more likely result in a lack of adherence to the programme, rather than the reverse.

In summary we suggest that:

- **The original agreement should remain**
- **If possum numbers are on the increase:**
 - **it is the contractors themselves that need to be questioned; and/or**
 - **It is the HBRC that is failing in their communications on the importance of the scheme, and/or**
 - **It is the HBRC that is failing in their monitoring and enforcement of the scheme; and/or**
 - **MOST IMPORTANTLY – the HBRC needs to – monitor numbers and work closely with those that are not fulfilling their agreement to control possums. It is up to the HBPC to identify those failing and address an alternative option of control to those specifically failing the scheme (whether that being mandated through compliance, or not) – but not impose costs on those that are doing the job.**

Dear Editor

Recently NRC and Kiwi Coast announced a continuation of another 5 years of funding to Kiwi Coast to maintain and enhance the great pest control advocacy work they have delivered to date. Besides the NRC funding, The State also continually contributes to Kiwi Coast projects enabling contracted workers, hardware and material costs to be met, along with hundreds of non-paid hours donated by dedicated, motivated volunteers and landowners.

When comparing the recently released and publicly available Kiwi Coast and Taupo Volunteer pest control projects operational data with Eco-land Ltd.'s, we feel compelled to share the following.

NRC have committed to fund \$188,480 per year for the next 5 years for Kiwi Coast to deliver and increase its area of advocacy over and beyond the 235,000 hectares of privately owned land it is already assisting. Currently Kiwi Coast data indicates they are catching an average of 1900 pests each week which is 98,800 pests this year. On the surface this is a great effort and for the environment a great relief that something is being actively done.

Using this data, this year the Kiwi Coast advocacy alone will cost the ratepayers \$1.91 per pest caught or a meagre 80 cents per hectare of pest management. State managed agencies suggest \$12-15 per hectare to maintain suppression of pests is affordable. They only deliver control once every 3-5 years at a suggested cost of \$36 -\$45 per hectare; but note, this is only the cost to implement not the management costs as well.

I now ask if 80 cents per hectare is a fair contribution by the NRC to have the 235000ha actively managed and the area of control extended?

Kiwi Coast figures indicate that they are capturing 1 pest per week over 124 Ha on average, or 1 pest a year off every 2.3 hectare.

I wonder how many traps are required and how much funding is required to increase this Kiwi Coast capture to the same level as the Taupo Volunteer group, which is working 439 traps and maintaining a capture of 3.8 pests per trap annually. This same Taupo group has approximately \$21000 invested in hardware (ie. if the traps are \$50 each) to enable volunteers to develop skills in trapping, as well as maintaining social & recreational interests.

Eco-land Ltd is invested and actively involved in sustainable land use design and delivery. Since Eco-land Ltd.'s formation in 1999 the company has actively promoted and undertaken pest control work as a commercial service as well as large scale operational pest control contracts.

Over this time Eco-land Ltd also invested thousands of non-funded hours in improving pest capture efficiency and in actively protecting the N.Z Conservation asset.

This last year Eco-land Ltd privately funded and pushed the limits of the PF2050 predator free concepts on the home property near Kaeo, taking the previous 20 years of pest control work to a whole new level. A pest control tool hardware investment of \$7.100 was deployed over the 56-hectare property after a 0% trap capture across the property's entirety had been achieved over three consecutive nights (there was a continuous pest control effort over the previous 20 years, but we always caught more!) Incredibly by the end of the years trial we ended up averaging 15.3 pests caught per hectare.

When comparing the actual trap captures against that of the Taupo Volunteer group's 3.8 pests per trap, per annum, Eco-land Ltd arrived at an annual average of 19.93 pests captured per trap. This

capture was delivered over just 26 individual nights across the year with the traps being set once every 14 days and cleared and left unset the next day returning a capture success rate of 76 % per trap. This leaves another 313 days available each year which could be used to intensify (set additional traps) or extend the control over a larger area.

Pests caught averaged 15.3 per hectare or 16.4 possums / rats per week. If we were to extrapolate this capture rate to that of Kiwi Coast's 235000 hectares, the captured pests may look more like 3.595 million pests rather than the present 98800.

NRC recently stated to us that any pests within Eco-land Ltd.'s farm are our responsibility. If all landowners are held accountable, as thus suggested to us, I wonder why our capture numbers did not decrease. If all landowners are not held fully accountable then why should those, like us, that contribute willingly, at their own cost, be burdened to deal with continual re-invasion from neighboring properties?

Projects funded by State or Private Entities cannot maintain the battle on their own. Every year another 3-4 pests per ha will be caught on the same sites that have been endlessly funded. Our work has repetitively told the same story. Our "**actively doing**" research indicates that equalization of pest numbers within the landscape is a natural occurrence. Neither the ownership, boundaries, nor managers can influence pests once they choose to move. Within the landscape every day new pests arrive to challenge us. The best way to protect the gains made by groups and individuals, is to extend the work zone actively and rapidly, using a combination of professional pest control contractors equipped with the most effective and efficient pest control tools and highly motivated landscape managers, such as Kiwi Coast's has proven to be, in the coordinating of many landscape groups. Volunteer groups stepping in after professional pest control contractors have "knocked the populations down" then have a real chance to maintain the conservation gains whilst chipping away at any remaining pests.

The reality is professional contractors are the best way to maximize the capture of pests in both high and low pest population densities. They have invested in employee training and the tools of trade but currently lack consistent work being available (possibly via open public tender) as well as a fair economic acknowledgement / reward of the profession.

Many Volunteers have chosen to donate time in retirement. Others have left previous lines of work to gain paid positions in the management of volunteer reliant projects. There is an expectation that all materials and hardware will be provided by the State and few seem to have their "own skin in the game".

As a pest control contractor that can deliver the results described above, I have concern that pest control has become a haven for those seeking a State funded recreation at the expense of a profession that has been repetitively under-mined and under-valued by those who manage the funds. Those who manage the funds do so without any expectation of being accountable. As a single contractor connected to an industry body of professional contractors, we are available to dampen the flow of pests within the environment, but we shouldn't be expected to do this on the minimum wage whilst carrying all costs of the operation and the risks associated with non-achievement and thus nonpayment.

To make the efficient pest control contractors accountable for their funds but not the less efficient volunteer-based pest controllers is ridiculous (and unfair). Both should be accountable.

Environmentally, the cost of pest control (or any activity for that matter) is the embodied energy it takes to deliver the service or product.

In pest control this is

1/ the cost of management

2/ the cost of carbon emitted to undertake pest control, including any environmental impact to deliver the pest control e.g.: the fuels, vehicles and roads

3/ administration costs (the travel, training, compliances, insurances etc.) required to begin and maintain the operations

4/ The environmental impact also includes hardware production plus transportation, (inclusive of environmental impact, such as mining, to deliver) and its lifespan in operation or the efficiencies it delivers.

I now ask you, is it more environmentally friendly to deploy a contractor with the ability to catch 19.93 pests per trap per year and extending coverage each year or to endlessly maintain a permanent capture of 3.8 pest per trap per year on land actively managed by State and rate payer funds?

Kind Regards

Shane Hyde

SUBMISSION

| WEBSITE WWW.FEDFARM



To: Hawkes Bay Regional Council

Submission on: Changes to possum control in Hawke's Bay.
Partial review of the Regional Pest Management Plan.

Date: 31 July 2022

Submission by: Federated Farmers Hawkes Bay and Wairoa.
JIM GALLOWAY
HAWKE'S BAY PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT
Federated Farmers of New Zealand

ALLAN NEWTON
WAIROA BRANCH CHAIR
Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Address for service: **RHEA DASENT**
SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR
Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Federated Farmers welcomes this chance to submit on the partial review of the Regional Pest Management Plan to propose changes to possum control in Hawke's Bay.

We wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Summary

- Federated Farmers supports the contractor model to carry out region-wide possum control, with an option retained for skilled landowners to continue their own control.
- Access arrangements onto private property must be negotiated with landowners.
- We agree that the reduced availability of Brodifacoum for public use will further reduce landowners' ability to carry out possum control themselves.
- Federated Farmers supports the inclusion of increased biodiversity as a public good of possum control.
- Federated Farmers expects the proposed changes to be cost-neutral on rates.
- Federated Farmers does not support a change to rely more on the general rate to fund possum control activities.

- Instead, we support a hybrid targeted rates model made up of a flat fee per property for the public good aspect, and a cents per hectare rate (with land use differentials) to recognise bigger properties receive more benefit.
- Rates collected for possum control must be ring fenced for that activity.
- Hill country farmers must have assurance that they will receive good levels of service, despite being further from main centres and having challenging terrain.

Who does the control.

HBRC proposes to transition away from landowner possum control, to all work carried out by contractors.

Federated Farmers agrees that relying on only landowner control has been a challenge, which has contributed to the region's TB outbreak. Although disappointing for farmers who have been conscientious and thorough with their own possum control, a contractor model will better reach the goal of better region-wide possum control.

Many members have informed us that they already hire in a contractor to carry out the possum control on their property. A Wairoa member tells us that they have been impressed by the reduction of possums in the Erepeti PCA. At a calculation of 17 possums per stock unit and a cost of \$1.00/Ha for the contractor to refill the bait stations, he gets value for money. Another member tells us that their contractor seems to always pick a bad time of year to visit such as lambing, and so only does half of the farm at a time.

Some members who are skilled and experienced in possum control, would like the chance to continue on their own properties.

Federated Farmers expects that the Regional Council will negotiate a discounted rate per hectare compared to the costs paid by individual farmers hiring contractors. The Regional Council will also need to monitor the contractors to ensure the work is carried out to standard. The move away from landowners to Council tendered contractors will increase the Council administration costs of the programme, but we are willing to accept this if it means better region-wide possum control and is balanced by a reduced rate per hectare.

Contractor access onto private property must have the permission and knowledge of the landowner. Farmers must know when the contractor will be on their property in order to manage health and safety risks, or to suggest alternative days/times to work around seasonal activities like lambing.

Brodifacoum.

This poison is under Government review, which may mean it will not be available for public use for much longer. Requiring certification to use this for possum bait is likely to put off many landowners. However, contractors with Controlled Substance Licences (CSL) can use a wider range of toxins than farmers and other members of the public.

Landowner possum control using poisons is likely to be of reduced efficiency. It is easy to forget to keep bait topped up, or delay it when you get busy with other tasks. Because you can't see the results like you can for a dead possum in a trap, satisfaction and diligence with the activity can wane.

The use of Brodifacoum has had a negative effect on other forms of pest control. Federated Farmers knows of members who managed wild deer on their farms used contractors who would shoot the deer and then process the meat for dog food. However brodifacoum has put a stop to this form of deer control because of the long withholding period.

Biodiversity benefit.

Federated Farmers agrees that possum control has a public good aspect in that fewer possums will mean better native biodiversity, which everyone benefits from equally. In the existing model, possum control is only viewed as being a benefit for farmers by reducing Tb risk.

In past submissions to the Long Term Plan, Federated Farmers has urged that the public good of biodiversity be recognised and funded via a region-wide flat fee per SUIP. We are pleased that the proposal will incorporate this public benefit.

The general public are increasingly demanding good biodiversity outcomes, and Federated Farmers considers that all ratepayers should contribute financially. Pest and weed control is no longer just for the benefit of farmers, but for the wider community. The Regional Pest Management Plan acknowledged this public good in Section 1.1.

Rates impact.

Federated Farmers is disappointed that a clear rates proposal has not been provided in the consultation. We expect that the proposed changes will be cost-neutral, because farmers are already contributing a good amount towards this activity and it can be re-allocated to the new method.

The existing funding split for the possum control programme is 70% targeted rate, 30% general rate. The Council proposes be primarily funded by a general rate which is struck on land value, with a smaller percentage of targeted rate to reflect the greater proportion of biodiversity benefits than production benefits.

However, Federated Farmers prefers a specific targeted rate that will be ringfenced for animal pest control, rather than transferring costs to the general rate.

The General Rate has a number of disadvantages:

- The ratepayer doesn't know how much of the lump sum they are paying for the General Rate is going toward the specific pest animal control activity, unless they calculate it themselves.
- They can't see how the amount they pay for pest animal control changes over time, because it is lumped in with the rest of the general rate.
- Because it is not itemised out, it looks like a bucket that the Council can dip into and reallocate funding at will.
- A general rate places the onus of discovery on the ratepayer, rather than itemising it for them via targeted rates that they can easily read on their bill.

- There is no connection between their land value and the value the ratepayer receives from the pest animal control activity. Farmers with high land value will be paying disproportionately more compared to those with low land value. Properties with low land value such as native vegetation or forestry will receive biodiversity or silvicultural benefits, but will be contributing comparatively less towards rates.

For ten years Federated Farmers has been advocating that Regional Council uses a hybrid, targeted rates funding model for possum control, consisting of a flat rate per property to recognise the equal public benefit of better biodiversity, and the existing cents per hectare rate that recognises bigger properties receive more benefit from the service, and perhaps contribute more to the issue. This cents per hectare rate can even be differentiated by land use. Both the flat fee and the hectare rates are targeted, meaning they will be clearly itemised in the rates demand, and go into a bucket just for this activity. We continue to support a hybrid, targeted rates model.

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|----------|
| Animal Pest Strategy | Pest Animal Control | All rateable rural land containing 4.0469 hectares in the region excluding rating units greater than 200 hectares where the land is not used for productive purposes. (Council has defined land that is covered in more than 90% in indigenous vegetation as not productive). Rating factors are divided into Northern (N) and Southern (S) areas with the Ngaruroro River being the divide. Taupō, Napier and Wairoa are Northern, Central Hawkes Bay and Rangitikei are Southern. Hastings area is included in both Northern and Southern. Land that is used for forestry and has a land area between 40 and 4000 hectares will be levied a differential rate. Council has defined land that is covered in more than 75% in production forestry as being used for forestry purposes. | Area/Use |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|----------|

Long Term Plan 2021-2031 Part 6, page 189.

We support the continuation of a forestry differential, but on the condition that the amount it is struck at is lifted to recognise the exacerbating effect of forests on possum populations. We are sceptical at the “low infestation” category that forestry has been allocated on page 1 of the Cost-Benefit Analysis. Infestation will depend on the forest block, and we suspect that forestry up the Napier-Taupo Road will have more than a low infestation rate. Members who farm near forestry tell us that their more active trap lines and bait stations are along forest boundaries. The current strike of 71.65984 cents per hectare for forestry is well below the rate of 208.68988 cents per hectare for other rural properties.

| Rate description | Districts | Rates set on | Units of Charge | Calculation factor | Estimated rates revenue 2021-22 | Estimated amount of \$100k LV or CV, fixed amount or specified area basis per property | 2020-21 Rate (previous year) |
|---|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Biosecurity | | | | | | | |
| Regional Animal Pest Management Strategy | | | | | | | |
| | | | Hectare | Cents per hectare | | | |
| | Napier City | Area Basis | 4,450 | 208.68988 | \$9,288 | \$8.45 | \$7,830 |
| | Hastings District | Area Basis | 298,874 | 208.68988 | \$623,719 | \$8.45 | \$556,885 |
| | Wairoa District | Area Basis | 216,162 | 208.68988 | \$451,107 | \$8.45 | \$381,858 |
| | Central HB District | Area Basis | 293,485 | 208.68988 | \$612,474 | \$8.45 | \$543,074 |
| | Taupō District | Area Basis | 8,125 | 208.68988 | \$16,956 | \$8.45 | \$15,903 |
| | Rangitikei District | Area Basis | 11,982 | 208.68988 | \$25,005 | \$8.45 | \$43,259 |
| | TOTAL | | 833,078 | | \$1,738,549 | | \$1,548,810 |
| Animal Pest - Forestry | | | | | | | |
| | | | Hectare | Cents per hectare | | | |
| | Hastings District | Area Basis | 64,234 | 71.65984 | \$46,030 | \$2.90 | \$40,600 |
| | Wairoa District | Area Basis | 55,758 | 71.65984 | \$39,956 | \$2.90 | \$35,403 |
| | Central HB District | Area Basis | 7,306 | 71.65984 | \$5,236 | \$2.90 | \$4,640 |
| | Taupō District | Area Basis | 13,903 | 71.65984 | \$9,963 | \$2.90 | \$8,831 |
| | TOTAL | | 141,202 | | \$101,185 | | \$89,473 |

Long Term Plan 2021-2031, Part 6, page 204.

Hill Country Farmers.

Federated Farmers would like Council to ensure that the more remote hill country farmers will be receiving value from this possum control service. Their distance from main centres, and their steeper, more vegetated terrain that is challenging for contractors to access, will be factors that could mean they receive less service despite paying rates towards it.

The 2021-2031 Long Term Plan provides these rating examples, showing that individual farms are already paying substantial rates towards animal pest control, particularly the Wairoa example:

| Description of rates | Rating basis | Hastings | | Hastings | | Central HB | | Central HB | | Wairoa | | Wairoa | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
| Details for comparison | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Capital Value (\$) | CV | 4,440,000 | 4,440,000 | 4,970,000 | 4,970,000 | 2,720,000 | 2,720,000 | 9,200,000 | 9,200,000 | 5,927,000 | 5,927,000 | 1,092,000 | 1,092,000 |
| Land Value (\$) | LV | 3,540,000 | 3,540,000 | 4,030,000 | 4,030,000 | 2,120,000 | 2,120,000 | 7,900,000 | 7,900,000 | 5,113,000 | 5,113,000 | 1,001,000 | 1,001,000 |
| Area (Hectares) | Area | 436.55 | 436.55 | 610.86 | 610.86 | 282.98 | 282.98 | 437.96 | 437.96 | 1,293.45 | 1,293.45 | 598.00 | 598.00 |
| Animal Pest Strategy | Area/Use | 790.92 | 911.04 | 1,106.73 | 1,274.80 | 512.68 | 590.54 | 793.48 | 913.98 | 2,343.42 | 2,699.30 | 379.79 | 428.53 |

Long Term Plan 2021-2031 Part 6, page 187.

This was an issue that Wairarapa farmers have informed Federated Farmers about, under the [Greater Wellington Regional Possum and Predator Programme](#). At 80 cents per hectare in rates, farmers were not receiving the service they had paid for. An [article in the Wairarapa Times](#) dated 14 July 2021 says:

Barbie Barton, chairwoman of the Farmer’s Reference Group that operates alongside the regional council, said not all areas were properly covered by pest control services. “Many farmers say they are not getting what they pay for in their rates.

“The model at the moment doesn’t seem to be working. We are never going to get complete eradication, but pests can be controlled.”

Barton’s land borders the Tararua Forest Park and is susceptible to invasions. “The possum numbers have increased exponentially. I have seen them on the road behind Gladstone and Hinakura, and it has been years since I last saw them there.”



30th July 2022

OSPRI NZ Submission for the review of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council PCA Programme

Submission by:

Tessa Appleby, Field Services Manager Lower & Central North Island
Kevin Sigglekow, Supervisor Field Operations Hawke's Bay

OSPRI are in support of the overall proposal for the review of the PCA programme. The OSPRI and HBRC partnership plays an important impact for the disease eradication and biosecurity of our Te Matau-a-Māui whenua.

Please see below supporting comments regarding the proposal, followed by questions that OSPRI have which we can also bring to the submission panel on August 17th.

OSPRI support key aspects of the proposal that will assist;

- In the achievement of consistent and wide scale possum control best practice rather than relying on well-meant but often mis-applied practices that can inhibit outcomes i.e creating shyness towards bait and devices through the use of poor techniques.
- With delivering measurable quality control that is matched to areas that are suitably large enough and therefore achieve economies of scale within an acceptable time frame
- In providing consistent, standardised and accurate data collected by trained users that will be meaningful and able to be used accordingly for Programme analysis, regarding review, planning and improvement, particularly regarding more detailed possum pest intelligence to then plan targeted control into the specific locations it is needed, rather than wide scale routinely applied activities
- Ideally, by allowing specialist possum control contractors to utilise a suite of control devices and methodologies that may depend on the specifics of an land area or location, such as; geology, topography, climate, access, altitude, land use practices, hunting interests, etc., all designed to achieve the targeted outcome
- By ensuring control is targeted during the ideal seasonal food source scarcity and other relevant timing, to encourage bait uptake
- By inadvertently exposing land occupiers through observe to learn best practice pest control methods from profession control contractors, that may assist and encourage them in future to have-a-go at complimentary land occupier-based control

- In knowing that possum control is taking place, whereas before it was managed on an honesty basis with land occupiers.
- In the ability to audit service delivery compliance from 'pre-qualified' contractors against contracted specifications, legal and other applicable criteria
- OSPRI are in support of the change to a contract delivery model.
- OSPRI are in support of the 4% RTC requirement as this supports the progress made in the TBfree Programme and keep possums at a low density for disease management.

Questions from OSPRI:

1. How is HBRC going to manage the contractor-based procurement model to ensure it is fit-for-purpose; in that it maintains a fair but competitive tendering environment that is also able to sustain an effective control and monitoring contractor base, including to an acceptable cost structure?
2. When TBfree vacate, how will HBRC PCA manage those areas that have previously been controlled by aerial 1080 (i.e., Waikoau)?
3. Likewise, how will HBRC PCA ensure ongoing effective control into other areas that remain inaccessible by ground (either physically, safely or both), such as deep gullies and waterways that are recognised wildlife conduit corridors?
4. OSPRI is in full support of production forestry operations being included in the contractor-delivered possum control programme where forestry would be treated the same as any other primary production land.
What was the driver behind forestry's existing responsibilities still having effect till after 2024 and the 4-5 years following while the contractor-based model takes effect?
5. Does HBRC see this as a risk for further migration of high possum numbers in the meantime, and then a risk of another TB outbreak, as we have seen in current harvesting operations in certain areas of HB?

Date: 26 July 2022 >

Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
Private Bag 6006
Napier 4142

Changing Possum Control in Hawke's Bay

1. Background

- 1.1. Pan Pac Forest Products Limited (Pan Pac) is an integrated forest products company. Pan Pac operates a pulp and lumber manufacturing plant in Whirinaki and manages over 48,000 ha of production forest in the Hawke's Bay Region.
- 1.2. Pan Pac currently manages possum control within its forests, excluding the areas that are managed by OSPRI. Bait station networks follow roads and tracks within the forest boundary. In Kaweka and Gwavas forests we have independent contractors set up monitoring lines within the block, which we aim to establish across the rest of the forests. 10% of land managed by Pan Pac is indigenous forest and as we continue to put more resource towards biodiversity improvement, we have planned lines extending into areas of significant native.

2. Submission

- 2.1. Pan Pac supports the intention of the Changes to possum control in Hawke's Bay Proposal and believes having coordinated possum control will help keep possums at a reliably low level across the region. Forestry has been partially exempt in the past, with an unreasoned 500m boundary buffer rule but we support the new approach where the whole forest will be covered.
- 2.2. We support moving to a contractor delivery model, provided Pan Pac has input into the contractors completing the work in our forest. Ideally Pan Pac would be able to set up as a contractor and employ our current sub-contractors.

Pan Pac has strict forest and health & safety requirements that could potentially be an issue if Pan Pac didn't have oversight over the contractors. Operations are constantly moving throughout the forest and by having Pan Pac as the contractor, work could be completed both safely and more efficiently.

Kind Regards

PAN PAC FOREST PRODUCTS LTD



Ava Mannering

Environmental Coordinator



Forest & Bird
GIVING NATURE A VOICE

July 2022

Submission on Changing possum control in Hawke's Bay

From: Forest & Bird
PO Box 613
Wellington 6140

Supported by: Napier Branch of Forest and Bird

INTRODUCTION

The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (Forest & Bird) is New Zealand's largest independent conservation organisation. It is independently funded by private subscription, donations and bequests. Forest & Bird's mission is to protect New Zealand's unique flora and fauna and its habitat. Key matters of concern therefore relate to the protection of ecological values, particularly the sustainable management of New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity, natural landscapes, and publicly owned land, rivers and lakes.

1. Forest & Bird's feedback is in regard to possum control in the wider Hawkes Bay Area.
2. Forest & Bird could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
3. Forest & Bird wish to be heard in relation to this submission where we can elaborate on the points raised below.

SUBMISSION

4. Forest and Bird **supports** the option of contractor delivery model however we provide the following feedback on areas we think need to be addressed.

Further feedback

5. **Carbon** - We suggest that the significance of carbon absorption from more consistent possum control should be added into the benefits of this option. In addition, the monitoring

of carbon absorbed should be prioritised to enable the possibility of future carbon-based funding.

6. **Deer control** - Control of possums in the wider area, as you have outlined in the proposal, will lead to increased environmental outcomes. We advocate strongly for the prioritisation of deer control in addition to possum work so as not to undermine this work in regard to forest growth and regeneration. We commend these intentions towards possum control '*to boost biodiversity, support native bird life and bush to thrive and support the work of Osprey in preventing the spread of bovine tuberculosis*' but have concern that these aspirations maybe seriously challenged by the high numbers of deer in the Kawekas (ref. Eyles, Feb 2022). In Garth Eyles paper, which we understand was circulated to all councilors at the time, he points out reasons why deer control in the Kawekas and Ruahines is so critical to the future of the successful development of Hawke's Bay.
7. **Collaborative approach** - Furthermore to deer control, we advocate strongly that this programme run by contractors works closely with other environmental parties such as DOC, Biodiversity Hawke's Bay, local Iwi and Forest and Bird to make sure that there is cooperation and collaboration when it comes to pest control.
8. **Best practice/methods** - We advocate that this programme places importance on periodically reviewing best practice and all methods of possum control to make sure that the most effective and up to date means are applied. This also applies to monitoring positive outcomes of the shift that would come from more consistent control as outlined in your proposal.

Tom Kay

Regional Manager

Forest & Bird

pp Lynne Anderson, secretary, Napier Branch, Forest and Bird

I have been fully involved in Vertebrate Pest Control for 51 years and now semi retired have been fully involved in two successful eradication programs Have carried out a lot of varied possum control work, (ranging from Shooting through to Aerial Poisoning)

I support moving to a contractor delivery model for the following reasons

Continuity of work for the contractor who will know that if his performance is correct, will be able to retain and train staff to develop a career path

Be able to work in one big area and not have to travel all over the region and out side it,doing one or two properties then travelling to the opposite end of the region to do another couple of properties (saving travel, down time and administration costs)

The rate payer / contractor relationship is critical to the ongoing success to the possum control programme

Other Points

Iwi Land

Some unoccupied IWI land is leased out for grazing or to other organisation for wild game hunting therefore these areas need to be paying the same rates as the other PCA rate payers

Forestry Land

Exotic Forestry has to be brought under the same rules as the rest of the ratepayers in the PCA

Again large exotic forestry blocks are leased out for grazing as winter run offs

There is a lot of justifiable complaints from rate payers and contractors regarding possums coming in from exotic forests were little or not enough control is being done to eat their grass and crops as well as the potential to spread TB

(the 500 m boundary rule) does not work as possums do travel large distances (2km) to gain access to crops and spring grass

DOC Land

DOC do not pay rates and contribute very little to the control of possums in the DOC / pasture margins in the PCA areas

Again they should be paying their fair share to the PCA for the control of possums in these buffer zones

OSPRI Ltd

There needs to be much better corporation between OSPRI and the Regional Council / Contractors

In the past when OSPRI had finished in an area and moved out, it would not pass on it bait stations set up information of farms to contractors or regional council resulting in wasted bait stations and further costs for the regional council contractors in time and materials

In certain areas in the Hawkes Bay Regional Councils PCA programme there are areas that are going to need the use of aerial poisoning with 1080 for example in Exotic, Native bush and scrub lands to achieve the results required

There are contractors in Hawkes Bay who can carry out this work but it will need the some help of the regional council to use this method