

More rats and stoats

This year there will be more rats and stoats because the mast, or heavy fruiting of beech, podocarp and broadleaf trees, means more food for them.

Protecting native species

An increase in rats and stoats means a serious increased threat to our native species.

Vulnerable species in this area include: the Wellington green gecko, tītipounamu (rifleman), miromiro (tomtit), pōpokotea (whitehead) and kākāriki.

If we keep rat numbers down before the next bird-breeding season in spring and summer, we can help protect them.



*Rat invading a bird nest
(Ngā Manu Nature Images)*



Rata trees in flower

Did you know?

East Harbour Regional Park is one of the region's Key Native Ecosystem sites (KNEs). It has:

- 46 nationally, regionally or locally rare or threatened plants and animals
- 33 species of native orchid and one of the richest orchid floras
- Most of the region's rātā trees

Protecting this and other KNE sites is an investment in the future of the Wellington regions' ecosystems. To find out more about KNE's see www.gw.govt.nz/KNE

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Regional Council



October 2019
GW/BIO-G-19/115



Pest control to protect East Harbour Regional Park – 2019



greater WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao



Wellington Green Gecko

What's happening?

We will be continuing the current pest control and monitoring of rat populations in the *Mainland Island area and the wider Northern Forest of East Harbour Regional Park.

Our August monitoring showed that rats have increased to a problematic level (94% coverage in the control area). We will increase the pest control by:

- installing bait in the secure bait stations in the Mainland Island, and
- using an additional and faster acting toxin for one month.

We will monitor this closely to measure whether there is a need to do further management, or to reduce back to normal levels of control.

Keeping safe

In areas where there are pest control activities:

- Keep dogs under control and on a leash at all times.
- Do not touch or handle the bait or bait stations
- Stay on formed tracks at all times

All vets, schools, and other relevant organisations in this area will be notified.



What will be used?

Ratabate is a peanut-based bait in paste form, dyed green, and will be inside potato starch bait stations called 'strikers'.



Ratabate bait (containing the toxin Diphacinone) is stapled to the tree near to ground level.

A dog would need to consume their entire body weight in Ratabate strikers to be at risk.

If you suspect poisoning

Dial 111 or contact:

The National Poisons Centre –
0800 764 766 (urgent calls).

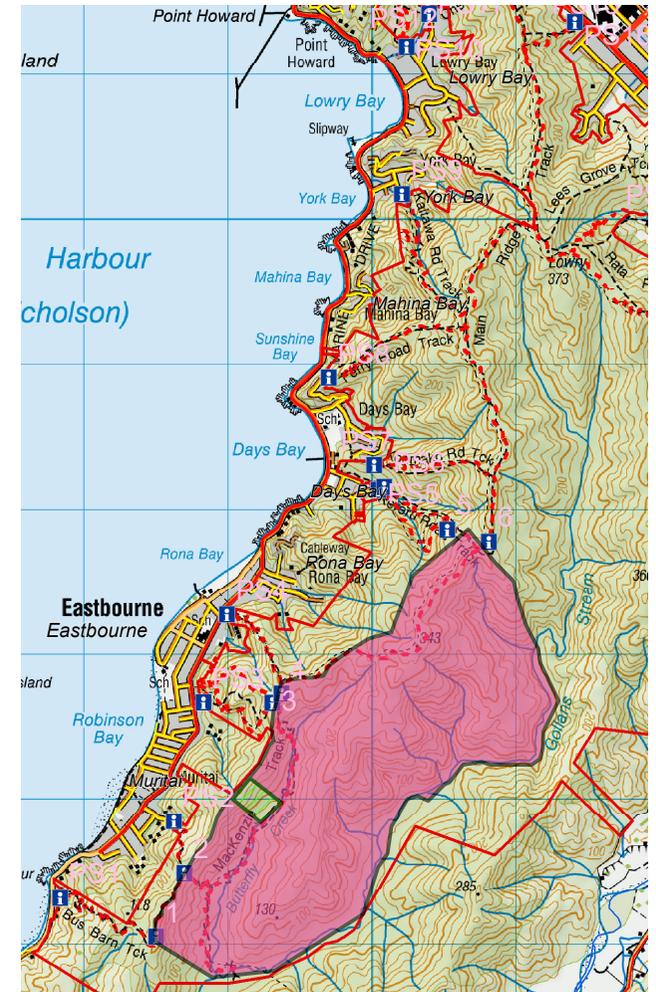
If you suspect your pet has been poisoned, contact your local vet immediately.

*What is a Mainland Island?

These are land areas that are protected by fencing, geographical features or intensive management of pests.

Find out more about pest control operations:
www.gw.govt.nz/pestcontroloperations

Where will this occur?



The pest control activities will be in the area highlighted in pink. Look out for any signs and follow all instructions closely.