



9 May 2016

Hon. Dr Nick Smith  
Minister for the Environment  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

Dear Minister

### **Proposed Pest Control Regulations**

I am writing in response to the MfE consultation document '*Streamlining the regulatory regime for pest control*'.

It will come as no surprise that I strongly support the proposal to use a regulation under section 360(1) of the Resource Management Act to simplify and standardise the regulatory framework for vertebrate toxins in New Zealand (Question 1).

The scope of the proposed regulation (Question 2) is appropriate – the proposed new regulation should be limited to the use of poisons that have been thoroughly assessed under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act.

The proposed conditions are also appropriate although the third condition seems unnecessary. I note that the first condition makes it clear that landholder permission for any poisoning operation would always be required, as it should be.

Managing mammalian pests is crucial for the protection of New Zealand's unique plants and animals. Although there are some promising developments in pest control, we do not have anything else that does the job that 1080 can do. The success of the 2014 Battle for our Birds has demonstrated once again the great value of 1080.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jan Wright  
Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment