



Report: 07.488  
Date: 23 July 2007  
File: WB/03/01/15

Committee Rural Services and Wairarapa  
Author Graeme Butcher, Operations Controller (Bovine Tb)

## Bovine Tb Vector Control - Annual Report

### 1. Purpose

To update the Committee on progress against the Animal Health Board approved 2006/07 vector control programme.

### 2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 3. 2006/07 Vector Control Programme

The original Animal Health Board approved programme for the 2006/07 year included the following areas:

- 280,650 ha of possum control
- 21,116 ha of ferret and possum surveys
- 82,316 ha of pig surveys

Following a review of new monitoring information in the second quarter of 2006/07, the programme was revised and amendments made as per Table 1. This table summarises the revised areas tendered, and the successful contractors, for the 2006/07 year.

**Table 1**

Contractor	Possum (ha)	Ferret & Possum Surveys (ha)	Pig Survey (ha)	Total
BioWorks	121,317	10,807		132,124
Target Pest Control	49,097	11,174		60,271
Professional Guiding	56,159	3,301	6,781	66,241
J G McCaslin	11,545	860		12,405
EPRO Ltd	14,455			14,455
KBES	5,972			5,972
L Bowring			37,362	37,362
T Oakly			100,518	100,518
Totals	258,545	26,142	144,661	429,348

Table 2 details areas of the 2006/07 programme which were completed by mid July 2007. These areas have been assessed by performance monitor or audit in the case of input contracts and feral surveys. Completed areas total 84.4% of the contracted programme. However, contractors consider they have completed 88% of the programme with other areas not yet ready for monitoring or waiting to be monitored.

**Table 2**

	Possum (ha)	Ferret & Possum Surveys (ha)	Pig Survey (ha)	Total
BioWorks	83,973	10,807	0	94,780
Target Pest Contracting	43,081	11,174	0	54,255
Professional Guiding	55009	3,301	0	58,310
J McCaslin	11,545	860	0	12,405
EPRO Ltd	14,455	0	0	14,455
KBES	5,972	0	0	5,972
L Bowring	0	0	0	0
T Oakly	0	0	144,661	144,661
<b>Totals</b>	<b>214,035</b>	<b>26,142</b>	<b>144,661</b>	<b>384,838</b>

### 3.1 Operations still to be completed

Table 3 details possum control for the 2006/07 year which was not completed by early July 2007.

**Table 3**

Operation	Strata	Strata ha	Approx ha to complete	Comment
<b>BioWorks</b>				
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HR 1	1770	1200	Contract completion date: 20/7/07
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HR 2	2023	800	Contract completion date: 20/7/07
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HR 3	2252	250	
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HR 4	1307	100	
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HR 5	305	30	
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HMR 1	1644	1644	Contract completion date: 27/7/07
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HMR 3	2009	2009	Aerial
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HMR 4	6288	6288	Aerial
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HMR 5	1256	100	Partial Aerial
Mangaroa Kaitoke	HMR 6	709	709	

Tararua Range	MR 11	1113	1113	Aerial
Moore's Valley	HR 1	2509	1255	Rework Underway
Otaki Buffer	HR 1	2403	200	
Otaki Buffer	HMR 1	3028	2500	Rework Underway
Otaki Buffer	HMR 2	1587	1587	Partial Aerial
Otaki Crown	HMR 1	3483	3483	Aerial
South East Wairarapa Stg 3	HR 5	3658	3658	Rework Underway
		<b>37344</b>	<b>26926</b>	
<b>Target Pest</b>				
Carterton Flats	MR 1	3641	3641	Double RTC failure, contract terminated
Whangaehu Mauriceville	HR 3	2375	2375	Double RTC failure, contract terminated
		<b>6016</b>	<b>6016</b>	
<b>Professional Guiding</b>				
South East Wairarapa Stg 2	HR 2	1150	1150	Re-allocated in June following Target Pests receivership
<b>Totals</b>		<b>44510</b>	<b>34092</b>	

Uncompleted areas have had funds carried forward to the 2007/08 year to ensure payments can be made once the contracts are completed. Exceptions to this include two stratum (6,016 ha) failed by Target Pests which have been terminated and will not be undertaken in the 2007/08 year.

### 3.2 Contractor Performance (hectares completed %)

**Table 4**

	Possum	Survey	Total
J G McCaslin	100	100	100
EPRO	100	100	100
KBES	100	100	100
Professional Guiding Services	98	100	98
Target Pest Contracting	88	100	90
BioWorks	69	100	72

### 3.3 Failed performance monitors

The following performance monitors failed during the 2006/07 year.

**Table 5**

Operation	Contractor	Failed Mean RTC Results
Carterton Flats MR 1	Target Pest Contracting	3.4 % +/- 2.8%
Carterton Flats MR 1	Target Pest Contracting	4.4 % +/- 3.2 %
South East Wairarapa – Stg 3 HR 7	Target Pest Contracting	5.4 % +/- 4.2 %
South East Wairarapa – Stg 3 HR 7	Target Pest Contracting	5.8 % +/- 3.8 %
Stronvar MR 1	Target Pest Contracting	3.1 % +/- 2.6 %
Whangaehu Mauriceville HR 3	Target Pest Contracting	2.8 % +/- 3.4 %
Whangaehu Mauriceville HR 3	Target Pest Contracting	2.3 % +/- 1.7 %
East Alfredton HR 1	BioWorks	2.0 % +/-1.8 %
Moores Valley HR 1	BioWorks	10.0 % +/- 8.4 %
South East Wairarapa – Stg 3 HR 1	BioWorks	7.6 % +/- 3.3 %
South East Wairarapa – Stg 3 HR 5	BioWorks	3.6 % +/- 2.0 %
Taueru Maungaraki MR 1	BioWorks	5.4 % +/- 6.5 %
Whangaehu Mauriceville HR 2	BioWorks	3.4 % +/- 1.7 %
Waiorongomai HR 2	KBES	1.8 % +/- 1.8 %

### 3.3.1 Performance Monitoring pass rate

**Table 6**

Contractor	Fail	Pass	Total	Pass Rate %
Professional Guiding Services	0	14	14	100
J G McCaslin	0	4	4	100
BioWorks	6	27	33	82
Target Pest Contracting	7	15	22	68
KBES	1	2	3	67
EPRO	Had one input operation, no performance monitor required.			

Of the operational failures 71% were in high risk areas and 29% were in medium risk areas.

Target Pests had three double failures. No other contractor had a double failure.

### 3.4 Trend monitoring

One hundred trend monitors were completed during the year. The only trend monitor not undertaken was Mt Bruce Reserve Crown. However, the Department of Conservation usually monitor this stratum and provide GW with the data. Unfortunately, this monitor was not undertaken by DoC.

A list of all monitoring results is attached to this report as Attachment 1.

### 3.5 Pig Surveys

Table 7 indicates where feral pig surveys were undertaken and the number of heads presented for autopsy identified. Laboratory culture of several samples has been requested, but the results are not yet available.

**Table 7**

Survey Area	Hectares	Heads
Akatarawa Pig Survey	20539	8
Bideford Pig Survey	29635	2
Castle Hill Pig Survey	4529	6
East Alfredton Pig Survey	4888	2
Mataikona Pig Survey	6781	17
Moonshine Pig Survey	6036	2
Mt Bruce Waipoua Pig Survey	860	0
Otaki Crown Pig Survey	6357	6
Pakowhai Survey	6867	17
Tinui Pig Survey	35683	42
Kapiti Pig survey	22486	6

#### **4. Other Vector Activities**

**Deer Survey** - GW obtained 17 feral deer samples from hunting activities in the Tararua Ranges. These samples were obtained from a helicopter hunter who was undertaking this activity as part of their normal hunting programme approved by DoC. No post-mortem or laboratory culture results are yet available.

**Feral cattle** - Control was undertaken in the South East Wairarapa Stage 2 operation. Cattle were retrieved by landowners initially and then control continued with AHB funding. This work is ongoing in the 2007/08 year by landowners and a helicopter company. Thirty-five cattle were shot in December 2006. Six of these cattle were disposed of into an offal hole as inspections by a veterinarian revealed they had suspicious Tb lesions. A further carcass was confirmed Tb positive at the abattoir.

#### **5. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

**Graeme Butcher**  
Operations Controller (Bovine Tb)

**Wayne O'Donnell**  
Manager, Biosecurity

**Geoff Dick**  
Divisional Manager,  
Catchment Management

Attachment 1: