

New Zealand Pig Hunting Association Inc



Newsletter Information - 20th January 2014

The Game Animal Council Bill, this finally past through Parliament and came into effect 28/11/2013. The Minister of Conservation is seeking nominations for membership of the committee of the Game Animal Council. Nominations will close 5pm Monday 27th January 2014.

The GAC committee will come into effect from 1/6/2014. The Minister is seeking to appoint members to the Council who will collectively have knowledge and experience relating to Game Animals, eg experience in Recreational and Commercial hunting, Deer farming, hunting related Tourism, Farming generally, Forestry, Scientific disciplines, Kaitiakitanga and Nature Conservation.

To find out more, use a computer to Google: Game Animal Council

The NZPHA has nominated 3 persons to the Minister of Environment and his advisors to select for the Game Animal Council committee.

Conservation Boards The latest round of Conservation Boards are coming up for election. Have you thought about standing to represent your local area.

Environmental Protection Agency On the 6th November 2013 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the use of Encapsulated Sodium Nitrite (ESN) as a toxin for use on possums and wild pigs.

The NZPHA became involved in this matter in 2010 when the applicant, Connovation Ltd, made application for a poison for the control of possums and Feral pigs. The level of opposition and lobbying then resulted in the application being postponed as the EPA requested more information to be provided and assessed.

- **2011** the applicant was still "undertaking a number of field trials and cage / pen trials".
- **2012** the applicant was still doing studies "on bird toxicity and also the environmental degradation of the substance".
- **2013** a hearing on the application for ERMA200570, Sodium Nitrite was finally set.

Of the 95 opposition submissions, 26 indicated that they wanted to be heard at the hearing, however after 2 1/2 years only 4 speakers made themselves available to state their opposition. The NZPHA had 2 of those 4 speakers.

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The NZPHA has no issue with the use of Sodium Nitrite (ESN) in bait stations for possums, as

1. There is an antidote.
2. There is a low risk of secondary poisoning.
3. Sub lethal doses are metabolised quickly.
4. It is not persistent in the environment thus allowing quicker return to hunting.

Sodium Nitrite

- has been "approved with controls" for wild pigs.
- It is only to be used in permitted bait boxes,
- It is not to be applied aerially

In extreme situations, such as:

1. In areas of geothermal activity, where the safety of dogs or hunters could be compromised, then ESN in bait boxes might be the answer.
2. On offshore Islands with lack of public access, then ESN in bait boxes might be a economical alternative for the eradication of wild pigs.
3. Should Kauri die back be proven as being transmitted by wild pigs (at the moment it is only alleged) then the use of ESN in bait boxes, would be another tool in the protection of the Kauri.

For wild pig control, It will need the notification of the nearest Medical Officer of Health and all veterinarians operating in the area close to the area of application at least 1 month prior.

Annual Jaw Competition The first NZPHA Annual Jaw of the year sponsored by Ridgeline has closed. The winner being Darren Ward with a Wild Boar jaw of 25 4/8ths which was measured at the Whareorino Pig hunting competition in August 2013. Congratulations Darren. The NZPHA will be in contact shortly to present your prize.

The 2014 competition has started, rules are on the NZPHA website.

East Coast Road Trip some of the committee members of the NZPHA will be doing a road trip around the East Coast Region of the North Island, in February 2014. If you know a pig hunting club who would be interested in hosting a meeting, then give Steve McFall a call 021 1113 911.

Tracking Collars the Tracking collars are with Radio Spectrum Management for compliance testing as this newsletter goes to print.

Animal Cruelty Policy the NZPHA is working through a Animal Cruelty policy which is a timely reminder to ALL hunters to monitor what they load into the social media, (Facebook etc). What you might show to your mates may not be suitable to general audience and the NZSPCA and other like groups are watching and waiting for a reason to prosecute and make an example of any breaches to the Animal Welfare Act.

The NZPHA is compiling a list of Accredited Kiwi Aversion operators. The list will be put on the NZPHA website.

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Kiwi Aversion the NZPHA is compiling a list of Accredited Kiwi Aversion operators. The list will be put on the NZPHA website.

Web Site Club Information NZPHA are updating the information that will be posted about our Affiliated Clubs, you will find enclosed a Club Profile form for you to complete and return in the postage paid envelope. Please remember to put in as much information as possible this will help prospective members get in contact with your club.

Please keep checking out the NZPHA web site, information will be posted on this site when available.

If you would like this newsletter e-mailed to you please e-mail contact@nzpighunting.org.nz

www.nzpighunting.org.nz