

# APP202879 - PredaStop for feral cats

Submission Reference no: 101

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**Submitter Type:** Not specified

**Source:** Email

**Overall Notes:**

**Clause**

What is your position on the application

**Position**

I oppose the application

**Notes**

**Clause**

All submissions are taken into account by the decision makers. In addition, please indicate whether or not you also wish to speak at a hearing if one is held.

**Position**

Yes I wish to speak about my submission at the hearing

**Notes**

**The submitter have elected to withhold their personal details from publication.**



# *The New Zealand Cat Foundation*

## HELPING THE HELPLESS

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EPA

Submission regarding APP202879 Predastop for feral cats.

Dear Sirs

Firstly, I would like to state at the outset I am totally against the use of this poison in any areas at all just as I am against the use of 1080.

It is cruel and will kill any cat ( regardless of whether it is feral, stray or domestic) and it takes at least 45 MINUTES ("usually") of terrible SUFFERING for a poisoned CAT before becoming UNCONSCIOUS (not dead) in the NAMES OF "CONSERVATION" AND "NATIVE BIODIVERSITY" -----

**NOT ACCEPTABLE !      CATS ARE NOT PESTS !!!**

It is clearly stated by the manufacturer that Predastop is not intended for use in areas of habitation and yet in their submission Connovation states that one of the reasons they are requesting a reduction in the notification distance is the high cost of notifying 1000's of households within the 3 km area! In a rural area there are unlikely to be 1000's of households to notify so clearly they are using this bait in areas of high habitation! An extremely dangerous practice generally and one that is particularly dangerous for cats.

So this is all about MONEY, more \$\$\$\$ for Connovation who would sell more and less expensive for those who want to use it!

Who are the main users of this Predastop cat bait? DOC? Forest and Bird?

We know that they are out to rid New Zealand of any introduced species including ALL cats whether domestic, stray or feral.

It is also all about KILLING CATS. This is a " feral cat bait" but the bait doesn't know when a cat is" feral" and has no power of discrimination.

**Under the Code of Welfare for Cats (2007) as gazetted by the Minister of MPI in NZ, cats are defined as:**

**Companion:** Common domestic cat (including a kitten) that lives with humans as a companion and is dependent on human s for its welfare.

**Stray:** A companion cat which is lost or abandoned and which is living as an individual or in a group (colony). Stray cats have many of their needs indirectly supplied by humans, and live around centres of human habitation. Stray cats are likely to interbreed with the unneutered companion cat population.

**Feral:** a cat which is not a stray cat and which has none of its needs provided by humans. Feral cats generally do not live around centres of human habitation. Feral cat population size fluctuates largely independently of humans, is self-sustaining and is not dependent on input from the companion cat population.

**"Community cats"** is an increasingly popular description of stray, semi-owned or un-owned cats, whose reliance on the community they live in for their care is essential. These cats are naturally free-roaming, "un-owned" or "semi-owned" cats, who may live on their own or in

colonies. The community often takes an interest in them and many in that community would like to look after them and to make sure their welfare and other needs are met.

**Feral cats do not rely on humans for any form of their sustenance or survival whilst stray cats are an off-shoot of domestic cats and do rely on humans for at least some part of their sustenance hence living around area of habitation.**

**So if this bait is being used in areas of habitation it is the domestic and stray cats that will be killed.  
NOT FERAL!**

**Reduction in distance means less public awareness.**

Another reason they are wanting to reduce the notification distance is because there will be less people aware of what they are doing , thus less public outcry against them and when their cat just doesn't come home or is found dead they will not relate it to the "feral cat bait". It also means fewer people will be given the opportunity of saving their cat from a SUFFERING A TERRIBLE PAINFUL DEATH !  
This proves in my mind the people laying this bait actually are targeting the domestic and stray cat population and NOT FERAL!

**Conservations and cat haters keep changing the story to suit themselves!**

It is also interesting to note that the Conservationists keep changing the story to suit themselves! One moment they are saying that cats are proven ( thanks to their cameras etc) to wander many kilometres from their home, "raping and pillaging" the neighbourhood ( a turn of phrase!) and need to be stopped ! They "say" they are responsible for killing millions of birdlife ( once again unproven) during these forays into the wilderness and yet now ( SURPRISE SURPRISE!) they state it is "proven" that most cats do not wander further than 200 metres from their homes!!! And that a distance of 500 metres is more than sufficient to ensure domestic cats are not poisoned!

One of the reasons touted for compulsory microchipping is that cats are known to be wanderers and this gives a wonderful opportunity for them to be returned home!

So what is it to be?

Please see below two of many instances when cats have been found FAR from home.  
Quite apart from these it is well documented that a large number of cats do regularly wander a couple of kilometres from their homes and this is quite normal for cats.

This reduction of the notification distance from 3 kms to 500 metres would seriously endanger cats , in particular domestic and stray ( abandoned, lost, ) cats and cause their deaths.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/.../olly-the-cat-found-almost-30km-fr...>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/.../matamata-pussycat-missing-for-six...>

To sum up I STRONGLY OPPOSE Connovations submission to reduce the notification distance down from 3 kms to 500 metres and in fact I ALSO OPPOSE the use of Predastop at all.

Thank you and I hope you will think very carefully whilst making your decision . Sadly , very few of the general public are aware of this submission hence you may not get many submissions opposing Connovation's request but this is not because the general public would not be against it.

Rather they have been kept in the dark.

Sincerely,

Anne Batley Burton

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