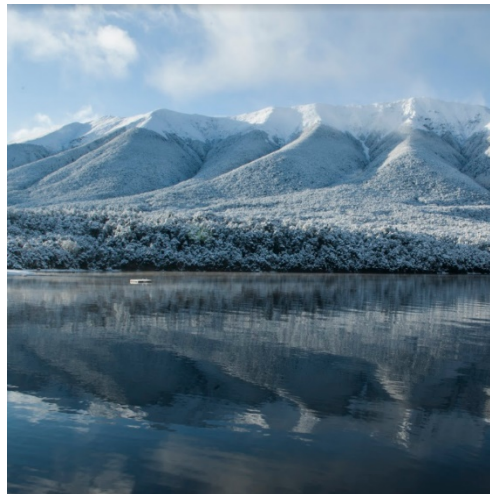


Deadline for next issue:  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Please send your newsletter items  
to: [rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto:rotoitinews@gmail.com)

This newsletter was produced  
with the help of the Rotoiti  
District Community Council,  
Department of Conservation and  
Mark & Tania Gill.

You can download a copy of  
previous newsletters from  
[www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters](http://www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters)



### VEHICLES CAUSING DAMAGE AT THE LAKEFRONT

DOC staff were alerted to vehicles skidding and doing 'wheelies' on the grass at the lakefront over the last week.

This is very disappointing as you will all be aware of how much time and effort DOC and others put into restoring the lakefront grass area for picnics, recreation and enjoying our beautiful scenery. The reinstatement of the grass for was something the local community really valued, and the surface has now been damaged.

A group seen on Thursday skidding on the lawn were in the vicinity young children and other vehicles, creating the potential for serious injury to innocent bystanders.

#### How you can help

Please contact DOC if you see cars intentionally doing skids, slides and causing general mayhem. Please contact the DOC Visitor Centre during work hours (03 521 1806) or the DOC Hotline (0800 DOC HOT or 0800 362 468).

A good description of the vehicle and a registration number would be extremely helpful, as would the time, date and any other helpful details or photos. Do not put yourself into harm's way to collect this information.

DOC Nelson Lakes staff take intentional damage to this area very seriously and the recent incidents are being actively investigated.

Thank you

Tracey Grose

Senior Community Ranger, Department of Conservation  
E [tgrose@doc.govt.nz](mailto:tgrose@doc.govt.nz) M 027 204 2125 T 03 521 1072

### Coming up

#### Armchair Travellers

24 August 4pm  
DOC meeting room

#### Te Reo

Maori language sessions  
First lesson 8 August 7pm  
Lake Rotoiti School  
Sue Ford  
[sue.ford@lakerotoiti.school.nz](mailto:sue.ford@lakerotoiti.school.nz)

#### Craft Group

Thursdays 1-3.30pm  
Community Hall  
(Note - 22 August only - at  
Louisa Buchanan's at 5 Kehu  
Lane)  
Jane McConochie 521 1844

#### Village Trapping Group

Pip Berkett 521 1130 or  
Julie Robilliard 521 1874

#### Alpine Flash Mob

Social singing group  
Last Monday of each month  
Contact Jan 521 1999

Sundays 10.30 am

#### Lake Rotoiti Chapel

services are run by locals  
and non-denominational.  
Everyone welcome.

Sundays 3pm

#### The Hub

#### Christian Worship Group

Contact Nigel or Sarah  
Calder 027 4413776

**Sport activities** are listed  
in the ACTIVE section of  
the newsletter.



## ARMCHAIR TRAVELLERS

You are invited to the first session of St Arnaud Armchair Travellers.

Local people have undertaken some fascinating travel. Come along and share the adventure.



Tim and Julie Robilliard will give a talk called "Adventures in Madagascar".

Saturday 24 August at 4:00 pm  
in the DOC meeting room.

You are welcome to come along from 3:00pm for a cup of tea and a chat first. Some baking would be appreciated.

Gold coin donation for a charity of the speaker's choice.

### About Armchair Travellers

The men who attended Karl's talk before Christmas about hunting in Canada gave us the idea to give people who've travelled to some interesting places or done something adventurous the opportunity to share their experiences and photos. Similar groups run in other towns and they are very popular. We'd like this to be a monthly event over the cooler months and we'll meet for a cup of tea first to catch up with friends and neighbours. Some nice baking would be appreciated.

Talks should be about 45-50 mins with a few minutes for questions. About 25 photos is about right. A map is helpful if you've taken a particular route or gone somewhere less known.

You might like to give a general overview or the trip or focus on a particular section or place of a longer trip, or even focus on particular theme during a trip.

Presentations will ideally be in PowerPoint to make screening them easier. (Contact Tracey for help with this).

Interested in sharing one of your recent adventures?

Contact:

Julie Robilliard 03 521 1874,  
[robilliard@farmside.co.nz](mailto:robilliard@farmside.co.nz)  
Tracey Grose 021 475 514,  
[traceygrose@gmail.com](mailto:traceygrose@gmail.com)

### CARDS GALORE



Looking for cards??

I have a very large collection of quality greeting cards for sale which I have imported from the UK.

Priced from \$2.00 each.

Contact Tracy Younger on 0278927630

or [tracyyounger0603@gmail.com](mailto:tracyyounger0603@gmail.com).

Check out my website - [www.tycards.online](http://www.tycards.online)

## Lake Rotoiti WATER TAXIS *your wilderness link*

### Water Taxi News

Giddy St Arnaud

Isn't it great to see the sun again? This winter has been very quiet. A lot of that has to do with all the cold overcast wet days we have been having. Also perhaps a small retracting in the market place.

I'm expecting slightly softer trading conditions this summer though it could always go the other way as well. So I hope I'm wrong on that prediction.

This year the pond was skateable for a total of 16 days, however we only hired out skates on 8 of these. Although the ice was thick enough, it rained, and no one wanted to go skating which is fair enough.

On the first of September the Water Taxi operation will be increasing its fares from the current \$100 minimum tariff one-way ad hoc taxi to \$110. Also individual fares will be increasing to \$35 per adult one way and to \$20 per child under 14 years.

All our fares are inclusive of GST and a percentage goes to the Department of Conservation for upkeep of the park.

We have a 5% surcharge for all credit cards. There is no surcharge for cash, cheque or Eftpos.

Last but not least, a big thank you to Alan and Shepherd for helping out with the boats and the ice skates and Gabi for typing this up because my typing is tragically slow!

Anyway St Arnaud

Take care

*Hamish*





#### EXERCISE NOTICE

*The New Zealand Defence Force intends to conduct mountain flying training within the Raglan and Rainbow Conservation area, Tapuae-O-Uenuku Scenic Reserve, Inland Kaikoura Ranges and Mt Richmond Forest Park between **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.***

*Activities will include night flying, low level flying and the use of smoke for marking landing sites.*

*This training is essential to maintain the Search and Rescue capability of our defence force in the service of the people of New Zealand.*

**RURAL FENCING AND FORESTRY SERVICES**

- ✓ Wire and Batten
- ✓ Deer / Sheep Netting
- ✓ Post and Rail
- ✓ Repairs
- ✓ Thinning to Waste
- ✓ Tree Felling
- ✓ Scrub Cutting
- ✓ FIREWOOD FOR SALE

**CALL CHIP CLARK 027 832 9490**

**WATER TANK CLEANING**  
John Ross  
Ph: 0212 450 550

Wakefield based  
Fully mobile  
Discounts when you organise  
with neighbours



#### Regular activities in and around St Arnaud

##### Badminton

Mondays 7pm

Community Hall

\$3 per person to cover hall and shuttle cocks.

Ed 521 1106

##### "Circuit Breakers" exercise group

Monday, Wednesday, Fridays 10 am,  
Community Hall

All welcome, gold coin donation

Gael 027 280 4078,

##### Seido-Karate

Community Hall

Tuesdays 6pm - kids & beginners

Thursdays 6 pm – General Class

Graeme 021 0859 4088. Gold coin donation

##### Yoga – all levels

Alpine Yoga and massage

Ashton 022 525 7871

#### CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEWSLETTER

Please send your contributions in the following formats:

- Advertising and notices sized to fit the newsletter columns. Accepted formats: MSWord, PDF or JPG.
- Full page ads incur a fee - \$30 (b&w) or \$70 (colour). This is a contribution towards photocopying costs. Please pay at the Rotoiti/Nelson Lakes Visitor Centre.
- Articles: plain text submitted in MS Word format, or in the body of an email.
- Photos: JPG files up to 5MB, attached to an email (not embedded in text).

Contact: [rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto:rotoitinews@gmail.com)



**FIRE**  
**EMERGENCY**

NEW ZEALAND

## MEDIA RELEASE

6 August 2019

### New way to apply for a fire permit

A new online fire permitting system is being implemented in the Nelson-Tasman district by Fire and Emergency New Zealand on Tuesday 6 August.

“Fire permits are a key part of Fire and Emergency’s strategy to reduce the risk of fire, particularly over the summer fire season,” Fire and Emergency National Manager Risk Reduction Roxanne Hilliard said. “Fire permitting allows us to engage with New Zealanders to advise them about the types of fire they can or can’t light in the prevailing conditions, and to ensure they have the knowledge to manage the fire safely. This reduces the instances of uncontrolled fire emergencies.”

Most of Nelson-Tasman is currently in a restricted fire season, so people will need a permit to light many types of fire.

The new system provides the public with a user-friendly web-based system for checking the fire season status in their specific location and applying for all types of fire permits. In addition, applicants will be able to check on the progress of their applications online, view and activate their approved fire permits and apply to renew any expired fire permits or declined fire permit applications.

Roxanne Hilliard said the new National Fire Permit System was an important part of the recently introduced National Framework for Fire Control that contains the policies, processes, tools and systems to support consistent, national and robust fire control across the unified organisation.

“The system is easy to use and effective for both Fire and Emergency and the communities we serve. For the first time we will have easily accessible nationwide information about fire permitting and its effectiveness as a risk reduction tool,” Roxanne Hilliard said.

“The new fire permit system is straightforward for all of our permit customers to use, and will provide them with more visibility and ownership of their applications and permits,” said Fire and Emergency Principal Rural Fire Officer Ian Reade.

“The new online permit application system is another tool to improve our efficiency in administering open fire management,” Ian Reade said. “In light of the devastating fires we experienced in the district earlier this year, providing education on ways to reduce fire risk is vital. The new streamlined process will allow our personnel to focus more on providing fire reduction information to people in the Nelson Tasman district.”

The new National Fire Permit System can be accessed through [www.checkitsalright.nz](http://www.checkitsalright.nz) or the Fire and Emergency website [www.fireandemergency.nz](http://www.fireandemergency.nz). People without online access can send an application form to Fire and Emergency or call on 0800 658 628.

### For media queries:

Email [media@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:media@fireandemergency.nz)

Fire and Emergency media phone – 027 591 8837

Ian Reade, Principal Rural Fire Officer – 027 445 7049

# Talking about rat control in the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project September 2019



**The Department of Conservation, Nelson Lakes Area Office, plans to control rats over 1128 hectares of the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project in September 2019 (see map overleaf).**

## How it is happening

Rat poison bait (Pindone 0.5g/kg) in the form of pellets will be secured in bait stations within the control site.

## Timeframe

Bait application will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019. The Department of Conservation (DOC) will place warning signs immediately prior to the operation starting.

## Why we are controlling rats

Rat predation can take a heavy toll on populations of small native birds. Within the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project the robin population in particular has declined in the past when rats have not been controlled and increased when rats have been controlled.

Controlling rats during the spring, when birds are breeding, allows bird populations to recover. DOC will monitor the effectiveness of the rat control and the response of native bird populations.

## Key facts

Pindone, like any anticoagulant rat poison, is toxic to humans and domestic animals. Poisoning can occur through eating baits or poisoned animals.

Dogs (prohibited in the national park) may get sick from eating a rat or mouse carcass and this risk will remain until carcasses have rotted, perhaps up to six months. These risks can be eliminated by following these simple rules:

- DO NOT touch bait
- WATCH CHILDREN at all times
- DO NOT EAT animals from this area or from within a 2km 'buffer zone' outside the operational area boundary
- Remember, poison baits or carcasses could be DEADLY to DOGS

Observe these rules whenever you see warning signs about pesticides. Warning signs indicate that pesticide residues may still be present in baits or animals. When signs are removed, this means that you can resume normal activities in the area.

Please report suspected vandalism or unauthorised removal of signs. If in doubt, check with DOC, Nelson Lakes Office.



## Operational planning

The Department of Conservation assesses and approves all vertebrate pesticide operations on public conservation land on behalf of the Environmental Risk Management Authority (ERMA), following procedures approved by ERMA. DOC approving managers apply conditions to ensure that all legal and policy requirements are met, and that any potential risks of the operation are managed.

The use of this pesticide is a Permitted Activity under Section 36.6.2 of the Tasman Resource Management Plan 2008 (Discharges of Pesticides to Land). DOC is also required to notify the Public Health Officer.

To satisfy ERMA approval to carry out this operation, a detailed assessment of the risks involved in the work was completed. This is called an Assessment of Environmental Effects. A copy for this operation may be viewed at the Nelson Lakes Area Office in St Arnaud. DOC imposes additional conditions on the operation to further safeguard the public and the environment.

We consulted people most affected by this operation prior to finalising the operational detail. This involved considering their concerns and

needs regarding the operational method and its timing. We have notified other people using this fact sheet.

## If you suspect poisoning

Contact your local doctor, or a local medical facility:  
Wakefield Health Centre: Ph 03 541 8911.  
Nelson Hospital: Ph 03 546 1800.


Details on treatment in case of poisoning:  
National Poisons Centre:  
0800 764 766 (urgent calls) or  
03 479 7227 (non-urgent and general enquiries)  
or dial 111.


## For more information

Nelson Lakes Area Office  
Department of Conservation  
View Rd, St Arnaud 7053.  
Email: [nelsonlakesvc@doc.govt.nz](mailto:nelsonlakesvc@doc.govt.nz)  
Ph 03 521 1806 (reception)

Please get in touch if you want to be notified again prior to the operation.




**DANGER POISON**

**PINDONE**  
**TOXIC to PEOPLE and ANIMALS**

will be present in bait stations from:

- DO NOT TOUCH poison bait
- WATCH CHILDREN at all times
- DO NOT EAT animals from this area
- Poison bait or carcasses are DEADLY to DOGS



Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Atahua  
New Zealand Government

For more information, contact  
Senior Ranger, Biodiversity Nelson Lakes Office  
Ph: 03 521 1806 Department of Conservation

Unauthorised removal of signs or baits is an offence



