

Student 5 – Low Achieved

Viewpoints

Basically Bush

Against the use of 1080. They hold this viewpoint because they are a possum fur company who rely on the possum pelts. When the possums are poisoned with 1080, it can take several days for them to die, and they are often lost because they wander off into the bush. Basically Bush prefer to use cyanide because it acts faster and the possum dies near the poison station. Using 1080 reduces the number of possums Basically Bush can get so they are against 1080 being used in areas they are trapping.

1

Basically Bush have changed from total opposition to 1080 ever since DOC has limited its use to mainly places that they can't access and where the possum numbers are getting out of control.

2

Courses of action

Maintain the use of 1080 poison

A strength of using 1080 is that it effectively kills large numbers of possums and keeps the numbers down. Where 1080 drops happen the possum numbers drop drastically, it can be dropped in any part of the country by helicopters...

3

The weakness of using 1080 is that it kills a lot of native animals and birds e.g. keas. This poison is very dangerous if used near where people go or near farms as it can also kill farm animals and pets.

4

Ban 1080 and rely on hunting

Strengths for this are that the native animals won't get killed like with 1080. Hunters will only be after possums and they can use the fur, like the trappers for Basically Bush.

5

A problem with hunting is that you can't kill possums in areas where people can't get to like in Fiordland which is rugged and isolated, but 1080 can be dropped here from helicopters.

6

Recommendation

Ban 1080 and rely mainly on biological control.

This is the best course of action because it means the possums can no longer reproduce which will definitely decrease the number of possums and finally they will die out... It also means that other animals...and birds... are safe...

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