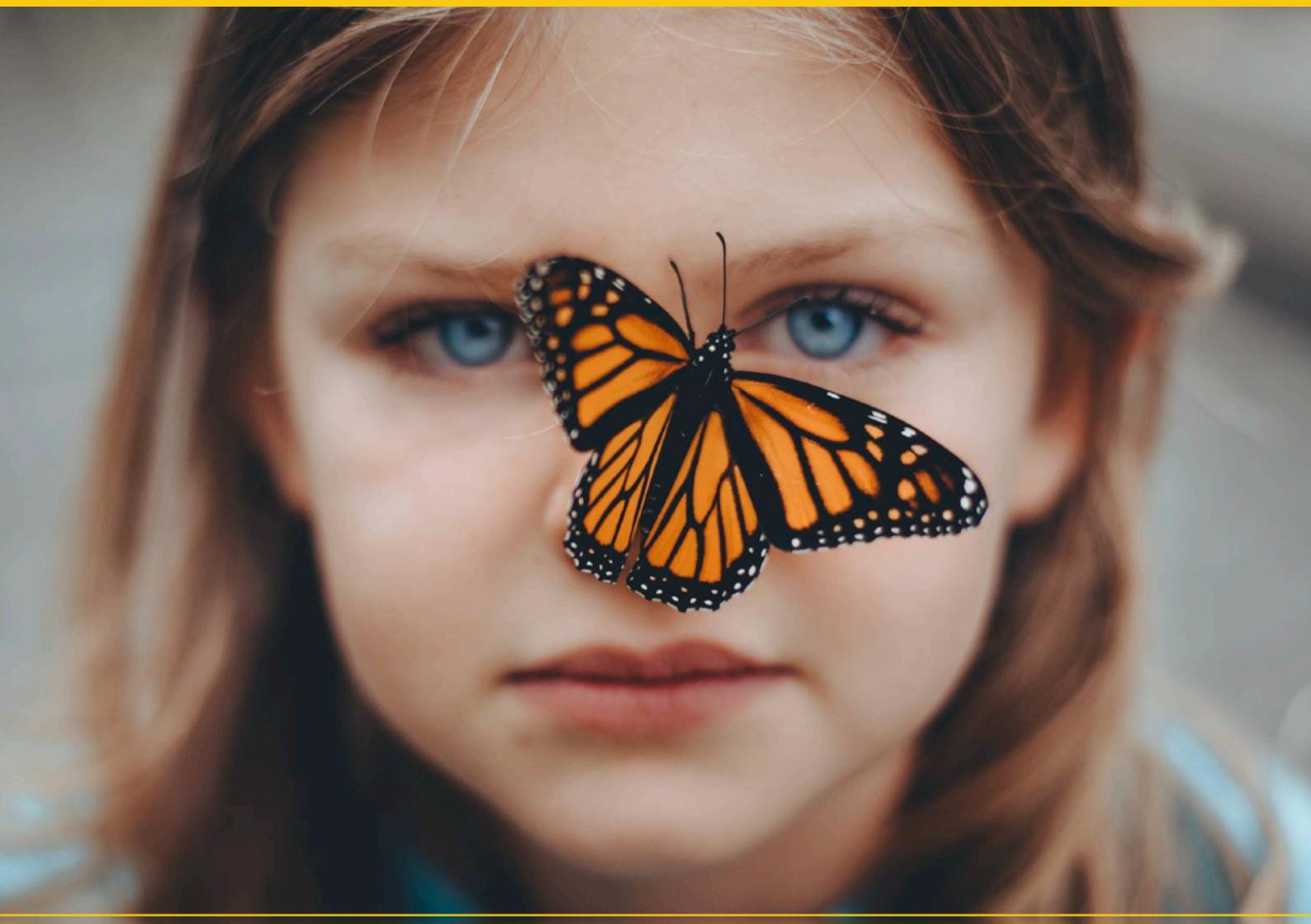


The People's Inquiry 2020 - 2024

Te Uiuinga a Ngā Tāngata

A New Zealand citizen-led inquiry into the impacts and effects of toxic chemicals and poisons on our people, wildlife & environment.



Public Submissions Catalogue
VOICES FROM AOTEAROA, NEW ZEALAND
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He tino tapu te ora

- Life is very sacred

Title - Public Submissions Catalogue: Voices from Aotearoa New Zealand
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This is a digital Catalogue, for full access to all submissions and links go online to: www.peoplesinquiry2020.nz

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Published April 2024

GLOSSARY – Te Reo Māori

tangata whenua: (noun) local people, hosts, indigenous people - people born of the whenua, i.e. of the placenta and of the land where the people's ancestors have lived and where their placenta are buried.

kaitiakitanga: (noun) guardianship, stewardship, trusteeship, trustee

whānau: (noun) extended family, family group, a familiar term of address to a number of people - the primary economic unit of traditional Māori society. In the modern context the term is sometimes used to include friends who may not have any kinship ties to other members.

Marae : (noun) courtyard - the open area in front of the *wharenui*, where formal greetings and discussions take place. Often also used to include the complex of buildings around the *marae*.

Wharenui: (noun) meeting house, large house - main building of a marae where guests are accommodated.

Kaupapa: (noun) topic, policy, matter for discussion, plan, purpose, scheme, proposal, agenda, subject, programme, theme, issue, initiative.

Whakataukī (noun) proverb, significant saying, formulaic saying, aphorism.

Reference: www.maoridictionary.co.nz

“New Zealand has never had a pesticide policy, let alone a pesticide risk reduction policy, and in this we are conspicuous, especially amongst OECD countries.” “... there is now sufficient evidence to indict low level exposures to pesticides as a serious threat to health and well-being of children”

- Dr. Meriel Watts

“The inability to prevent the imposition of unwanted pesticides may affect mental if not physical health, certification for organic growers, and the ability of tangata whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga...”

- Helen Hughes, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (1987-1996)

** tangata whenua people of the land * kaitiakitanga guardianship/care of the land*

“Aerial poisoning arouses particular fear because the poison is not targeted but spread widely. It has associations in many people with bombing and warfare. It is wrong to dismiss these fears as irrational, especially as there is still scientific disagreement on the persistence of 1080 in the environment. Local iwi see it as a treaty issue and have in many cases not been adequately consulted. Farmers complain of losing dogs and stock, even months after the poison is dropped. Aerial poisoning disempowers communities. It suggests they have no role in protecting their local environment. Their labour is not wanted. A progressive society sees people as part of the environment. They will only value it if they understand it. And they will only understand it if they interact with it. The best long term protection for a forest is a local community which sees it as part of their life and themselves as part of it, and responsible for it.”

- Jeanette Fitzsimmons (1945 - 2020), Green MP 1996 - Hansard)

“A Who's Who of pesticides is therefore of concern to us all. If we are going to live so intimately with these chemicals eating and drinking them, taking them into the very marrow of our bones - we had better know something about their nature and their power.”

— Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

1. Message from the Committee



The New Zealand People's Inquiry 2020-2024

An inquiry into the impacts and effects of toxic chemicals and poisons on our people, wildlife and environment

A message from the Committee about these submissions:

From May 2021 - August 2021, 84 submissions were submitted to the *People's Inquiry 2020 into the impacts and effects of toxic chemicals and poisons on our people, wildlife and environment*.

The submissions come from 76 Individuals, with a number of them representing whole whanau and wider communities. These include:

- The first [People's Inquiry in 2006](#) that collected over 160 testimonies and resulted in a 100+ page Inquiry Report on the spraying of suburbs of Auckland with insecticide Foray 48B to control the Painted Apple Moth.
- Sawmill Workers Against Poisons (SWAP), representing decades of intergenerational harm from timber treatment chemicals.
- Brook Valley community, Nelson, harmed by conservation poisons
- Wharereroa Marae, Mt Maunganui, heavily impacted by toxic industrial pollution
- [The Poison Register](#) a crucial working document recording incidents of 1080 and Brodifacoum poisoning from as far back as the 1950's.

The submissions come from people directly harmed by chemical exposure, in agriculture, horticulture, conservation, weed management, timber treatment. Researchers, scientists and advocates have also made submissions. They detail thousands of pages of personal stories, reports, official government papers, letters, articles, affidavits, research data, academic papers, several books, as well as 22 videos and 3 documentaries. Many of these submissions also cite numerous important references to academic research that has deliberately been censored or obscured from public view.

Alongside the submissions we conducted 10 individual interviews and 3 full days of online oral testimonies, which included over 30 people giving evidence to a Panel of Independent [Commissioners](#). These testimonies are all publicly available on the [Inquiry YouTube channel](#) for people to watch and are linked within this document.

Despite the short period of accepting submissions and the limited reach of our small unfunded team, the body of evidence that has come through this Inquiry is overwhelming and deeply disturbing.

From the Far North to the Deep South... the roadside chemical sprays, the aerial poison operations over our forests, the 50,000 historical sheep dips and 700 toxic timber mill dump sites, the horticultural chemicals used to grow our food, lead in industry and homes, and the industrial pollutants poisoning Marae and rural communities - it's all here within these pages. These submissions represent the tip of an enormous iceberg that must be addressed.

Special thanks and acknowledgement goes to all those people who gave interviews, testimonies and shared their submissions, some of whom have not long passed from this world. We feel humbled that you have entrusted us to be caretakers of your stories and to share your collective voices. We would also like to give special acknowledgement to the many people who we know wanted to share their stories but were unable to for various reasons, including declining health.

Working on this Inquiry over the last 4 years has been a challenging, difficult journey for each of our committee members. We feel the burden of pain that continues to be caused by outdated, harmful policies and practices. Yet like many of those who shared their experiences with us, we are committed to being part of the crucial and necessary positive changes in Aotearoa New Zealand and the wider world.

We thank the Independent Commissioners, who bring their expertise, experience and drive to this Inquiry. It is a huge undertaking for them to volunteer their time and energy for this vitally important kaupapa - for this we are incredibly grateful.

It is our hope that these submissions, and the forthcoming Inquiry Report from the Commissioners, will help to bring about a paradigm shift towards a genuinely clean, green, and most importantly safe, healthy environment, for us all.

Mauri Ora!

The People's Inquiry Committee

Asha Andersen
Hana Blackmore
Stephanie McKee
Ursula Edgington
Hira Hunapo-O'Callaghan

www.peoplesinquiry2020.nz

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*We all deserve to live in a safe and healthy environment,
free of harmful toxic chemicals and poisons.*



2. Catalogue of Submissions

Catalogue of Published Submissions 2024

Important Information on how these submissions have been sorted:

Each submission has been published according to the wishes of the person who made it. Each has a cover page, a number, and a name where permission was given. A list of attachments, key words, themes and other information is provided for ease of navigation and search ability.

All personal details such as emails, phone numbers or addresses have been redacted to protect the submitter's privacy. If the document is an official document with a letterhead or footer we have left it as is.

Where a person has made multiple submissions we have tried to compile them together, unless there was a significant gap between when they made the submission or the topic of the submission is sufficiently different. Where there are too many large attachments they are provided as separate documents linked alongside the submission in this catalogue. Occasionally documents may be withheld if there is not permission to share them. If the person was interviewed or gave an oral testimony at the PI Hearing, that is linked on the cover page also (the link is to the testimony's timestamp within the Hearing video).

In some cases a submitter has asked that their submission be kept private, be withdrawn or made available on request only and this has been noted.

Note: The Committee and Commissioners cannot be held liable for the accounts or documents provided within these submissions. The opinions, experiences and claims given are those of the people alone, who made the submissions. (*Please see page 50 for full disclaimer*)

Submission No. 1

Region: Canterbury

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal story (4 pages), 1 x photo (withheld)

Main issues: Chemical exposure, serious health impacts

Chemical: Organophosphates

Industry: Horticulture

Submission No. 2

Region: Northland, Bay of Islands

Name: Carl Mather

Written submission type: Personal story (3 pages)

Main issues: Chemical exposure, environment, soil, health impacts, spray drift

Chemical: Various agricultural, horticultural, domestic chemical sprays

Industry: Agriculture, horticulture

Submission No. 3

Region: West Coast, South Island

Name: Kathleen Ann Bartlett

Interview: TV Campbell Live [Interview](#)

Written submission type: Affidavit (8 pages)

Main issues: 1080 dust, pesticide exposure from aerial poisoning, chronic ill health

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 4

Region: Coromandel

Name: John Veysey

Written submission type: Personal story (5 pages)

Main issues: 1080 pesticide exposure from aerial poisoning, health impacts, drinking water contamination, wildlife death

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 5

Region: Coromandel

Name: Ajita Kennedy Grace

Written submission type: Personal story (4 pages)

Main issues: Multiple chemical exposure, chronic ill health, major personal financial impact

Chemical: Escort Metsulfuron, 2-4-D, Golf Course spray, Pyrethrin, Foray 48B, Round-up

Industry: Various, agriculture, horticulture, conservation, biosecurity, landscaping

Submission No. 6 (Also see [submission No. 71](#))

Region: Waikato

Name: Frank Rowson

Oral testimony: [Testimony 7 - Glyphosate, Fluoride and Failures of EPA](#)

Written submission type: Report (4 pages)

Main issues: Highlighting the deficiencies of government, lack of public trust, glyphosate based herbicides, water fluoridation and 1080

Chemical: Glyphosate, Fluoride, 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Multiple

Submission No. 7

Region: Coromandel

Name: Robert Orr (Bob)

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page)

Main issues: Damage to property, environmental and wildlife harm

Chemical: Chemical weed control (likely Glyphosate based herbicides)

Industry: Weed management

Submission No. 8

Region: West Coast, South Island

Name: Christopher St Johanser

Interview: [Brook Valley Community Experience - Christopher St Johanser](#)

Written submission type: Personal account (2 pages)

Main issues: Removal of public participation regarding aerial poisoning, collusion in judiciary, contaminated drinking water catchment, harm to wildlife

Chemical: Brodifacoum

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 9

Region: Russell, Northland

Name: Louise Armstrong

Written submission type: Personal Report (1 page), FNDC response to complaints (1 page), Russell Landcare Trust letter to Council (1 page)

Main issues: Harm to native trees through over spraying, harm to multiple dogs including death, impact on ability to collect Rongoa plant medicine, increased fire hazard, 90 residential complaints

Chemical: Glyphosate based herbicides

Industry: Weed management

Submission No. 10 (Also see [Submission No. 28](#))

Region: Picton, South Island

Name: Les Kelly

Written submission type: Report (13 pages including 5 DOC reports)

Main issues: Harm to environment, wildlife and human health, extreme cruelty to animals, illegal manufacture of 1080, impact on tourism, alternative methods non-toxic and humane

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 11

Region: Rural Northland (Tutukaka)

Name: Nora Shayeb

Oral testimony: [Testimony 5 - Personal harm forestry herbicides and pesticides](#)

Written submission type: Personal story (3 pages), Submission to the Northland Regional Council Long Term Plan (10 pages)

Main issues: Contaminated water; chronic ill health; harm to wildlife and environment, biodiversity issues, land management, proposed solutions

Chemical: Tordon; Glyphosate; other pesticides

Industry: Forestry; Weed management; Conservation, Local Government

Submission No. 12

Region: Auckland, Waitakere

Name: Raine Drops (pseudonym)

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page) Update (1 page)

Main issues: Chronic ill health, Chronic pain, Roadside sprays

Chemical: Glyphosate based herbicides

Industry: Weed management

Submission No. 13

Region: Nationwide; Rural

Name: Mervin Smith (1943 - 2021)

Written submission type: Personal story; Open letter (34 pages including extracts from various reports and emails)

Main issues: Systemic ecosystem harm; Contaminated water; Wildlife death; Multiple dog death; Animal cruelty; Misleading public

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 14

Region: Auckland

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal story (2 pages)

Main issues: Multiple chemical exposure; Contaminated water; Chronic ill health;

Chemical: Glyphosate based herbicides; other pesticides

Industry: Multiple

Submission No. 15

Region: Wellington

Name: Katherine Short

Written submission type: Personal story; Email correspondence (4 pages, emails, 3 photos)

Main issues: Roadside, pathway chemical exposure; ill health;

Chemical: Glyphosate based herbicides; others

Industry: Weed management

Submission No. 16

Region: Whangarei, Northland

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page)

Main issues: Urban; Domestic; Chemical/Solvent exposure; Chronic ill health; harm to son

Chemical: Chemical solvent

Industry: Hired cleaning equipment “The Rug Doctor”

Submission No. 17

Region: Waikato

Name: On behalf of Daniel Peat

Written submission type: Affidavit (5 pages including letter of support)

Main issues: Chemical exposure; Chronic ill health; Wildlife death; Domestic stock death; Threat of job-loss for speaking out

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, Pindone, Brodifacoum

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 18. (Also see Submissions 22, 23, 24, 44, 75)

Region: Waikato, Coromandel

Name: Graeme Sturgeon (1948 - 2022)

Interview: [Graeme Sturgeon a Bushman Speaks](#)

Written submission type: Affidavit: The most expensive possums ever killed (2 pages)

Main issues: Costing and misuse of public funds for possum control

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 19 (Also see Submissions 21 & 32)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Ursula Edgington

Oral testimony: [Testimony 8 - Dr. Ursula Edgington, Waikato - Collecting evidence for Poisons Register, DHB Meetings, Charities Act & PFNZ tax exemptions.](#)

Written submission type: Affidavit (11 pages)

Main issues: Harm to human health, wildlife, water contamination, human rights

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Rural Conservation

Submission No. 20

Region: Auckland, Hunua Ranges

Name: On behalf of Dr. Sinc C

Written submission type: Court Case exhibit: Report from Dr Barnfarther risk assess from 2018 1080 aerial operation (11 pages)

Main issues: Harm to human health, wildlife, water contamination, human rights,

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Rural Conservation

Submission No. 21 (Also see submission 19 & 32)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Ursula Edgington

Oral testimony: Testimony 8 - Dr. Ursula Edgington, Waikato - Collecting evidence for Poisons Register, DHB Meetings, Charities Act & PFNZ tax exemptions.

Written submission type: Poison Register Report currently detailing >100 incidents (36 pages)

Main issues: Harm to human health, wildlife, water contamination, human rights,

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, Brodifacoum

Industry: Rural Conservation

Submission No. 22 (Also see submissions 18, 23, 24, 44, 75)

Region: North Island

Name: Graeme Sturgeon (1948 - 2022)

Interview: Graeme Sturgeon a Bushman Speaks

Written submission type: Affidavit: Public Health Dangers of releasing 1080 toxin into the environment (5 pages) Department of Conservation Study extract (2 pages)

Main issues: Dog deaths, contaminated water, toxic carcasses, secondary poisoning; Tomtit mortality related to 1080 poison drops 1977 - 2003

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Rural, Conservation

Submission No. 23 (also see 18, 22, 24, 44, 75)

Region: North Island

Name: Graeme Sturgeon (1948 - 2022)

Interview: Graeme Sturgeon a Bushman Speaks

Written submission type: Affidavit: Public Health Hazards in the use of the synthetic toxin 1080: toxic dust (4 pages)

Main issues: Toxic dust & carcasses, livelihoods, native wildlife deaths, secondary poisoning

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 24 (also see 18, 22, 23, 44, 75)

Region: Wanganui National Park

Name: Graeme Sturgeon (1948 - 2022)

Interview: Graeme Sturgeon a Bushman Speaks

Written submission type: Affidavit: Public Health Hazards created by the distribution of 1080: Storage by rats (3 pages)

Main issues: Contamination of hut area, contamination of drinking water, storage by rats, toxic carcasses.

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 25

Region: Pureora Forest, Waikato

Name: On behalf of Lawrence Ryder

Written submission type: Affidavit (17 pages)

Main issues: human health impact, chronic illness, near death, water contamination, hut contamination, chemical exposure while hunting

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation, Hunting

Submission No. 26

Region: Nationwide

Name: On behalf of Quinn Whiting-O'keefe

Written submission type: Expert Report (16 pages)

Main issues: human health, native wildlife, bird deaths, ground and water contamination, alternatives, affected livelihoods

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 27

Region: Takaka, Golden Bay

Name: On behalf of Alice Erana Birch

Written submission type: Affidavit (1 page)

Main issues: secondary poisoning, pet dog death, toxic carcass, extreme pain, emotional harm

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Rural, conservation

Submission No. 28 (Also see 10)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Les Kelly

Written submission type: Report (3 pages)

Main issues: Human, wildlife, ecological harm, water and land contamination, cruel inhuman, death, secondary poisoning, poison propaganda, government negligence

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Rural, Conservation

Submission No. 29

Region: Waikato

Name: On behalf of Name Withheld

Written submission type: Personal Story (1 page) + 4 attached Land Covenant Documents (24 pages) + [Waikato Regional Plan Air Module \(81 pages as separate pdf document\)](#)

Main issues: spray drift, council conflict of interest, covenants removing right of complaint re: spray drift, human rights, negligence of duty regarding enforcement and monitoring

Chemical: varied spray drift

Industry: Horticulture, Agriculture

Submission No. 30 and No. 31

These two submissions have been withdrawn by the submitter for privacy reasons.

Submission No. 32 (Also see 19 & 21)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Ursula Edgington

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 8 - Dr. Ursula Edgington, Waikato - Collecting evidence for Poisons Register, DHB Meetings, Charities Act & PFNZ tax exemptions.](#)

Written submission type: Presentation to the PI Hearing (12 pages),

Article; Time to end dangerous and irresponsible hazardous chemical dumps. (5 pages) Article; Bowman Landfills Fate of Sodium Monofluoroacetate (1080) Following Disposal of Pest Bait to Landfill (5 pages) 1080 Safety Data Sheet: Animal Products Ltd. (5 pages) Article; Mack Beckoff, Teaching New Zealand Kids to Kill Animals Is Very Worrisome (3 pages)

Main issues: Human health, non-compliance, monitoring, chemical dumps, psychology, children, education, regulatory capture, negligence

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 33

Region: Nationwide

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Slide Presentation by Professor Huber (9 pages) The Glyphosate Monograph by The Pesticide Action Network (97 pages) Addendum; Fact Sheet on Glyphosate 2021 by Meriel Watts (12 pages) Academic Article Glyphosate Effects on Diseases of Plants, Johal & Huber (9 pages) Biography of Dr Huber (10 pages) Factsheet Glyphosate PAN AP (5 pages)

Main issues: Effects of Glyphosate, Human Health, Animal and Plant Health

Chemical: Glyphosate

Industry: Agriculture, Conservation, Weed Management

Submission No. 34

Region: Waikato

Name: Kate Barber

Written submission type: Personal Story (6 pages) Photo evidence (1 page)

Main issues: Human and animal health, non-compliance, spray drift

Chemical: Glyphosate and others

Industry: Agriculture, Conservation

Submission No. 35

Region: Nationwide

Name: Justine Phillip

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 1 - Dr. Justine Philip, Otago - Historical summary of wildlife conservation & pesticide use in NZ.](#)

Written submission type: Academic Article, When Conservation Turns Violent: Examining New Zealand's Use of Toxins in Defense of the Environment (10 pages)

Main issues: Human and animal health, non-compliance, violence of conservation

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate and others

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 36

Region: Northland

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal Story (1 page)

Main issues: Spray drift, Glyphosate exposure to animals, people, children, waterways

Chemical: Glyphosate

Industry: Urban Weed Management

[Submission No. 37](#)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Michelle Hood

Written submission type: Article; What are the Psychological Impacts of Aerial Poisoning in New Zealand, Michelle Hood (2 pages) Academic Article; Primary school education resources on conservation in New Zealand over-emphasise

killing of non-native mammals, Michael C. Morris, Royal Agricultural University (20 pages); Article Sustainable Solutions: Financial Strategies for Safe Alternatives to Poison (18 pages)

Main issues: Mental health, psychology, human health, ethics, killing non-natives, children, primary school education

Chemical: Aerial poisons all

Industry: Conservation

[Submission No. 38 \(Also see 51\)](#)

Region: Waikato / Nationwide

Name: Reihana Robinson

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 6 - Reihana Robinson, Coromandel - Conservation poison harm and kai contamination](#)

Written submission type: Book Cover, Save Our Wild Pigs (1 page) Book extract, Save Our Wild Pigs (75 pages)

Main issues: Poisoning wildlife, poisoning wild food sources, cultural assault on rural people

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

[Submission No. 39](#)

Region: International

Name: Maria Sause

Written submission type: International Community experience (1 page)

Main issues: Aerial poisons

Chemical: Multiple

Industry: Forestry, Conservation

[Submission No. 40](#)

Region: Northland

Name: Joe Christaldi

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 2 - Joe Christaldi, Horticultural spray drift affect on health](#)

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page)

Main issues: Spray drift from orchards, chronic and acute health condition

Chemical: Hi-cane and others

Industry: Agriculture, Horticulture

[Submission No. 41](#)

Region: Waikato

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page) + Glyphosate Tribunal Personal story (4 page + email attachments withheld)

Main issues: Glyphosate (Roundup) use for weed control caused chronic ill health, Non Hodgkins Lymphoma, ACC complaint

Chemical: Glyphosate Roundup

Industry: Nursery weed management

Submission No. 42

Region: Southland

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Police Statement, Personal story (6 pages)

Main issues: 1080 poison exposure, poison pellets dropped on person in public area, ill health

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 43

Region: Nelson

Name: Nadine Connock

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 6 - Nadine Connock, Nelson - Forestry herbicides including Glyphosate](#)

Written submission type: Personal statement (10 pages)

Main issues: Human and animal health, water contamination, regulator capture, abuse LGOIMA and OIA by officials, violation of SNA (Significant Natural Area), Agrichemical exposure to workers

Chemical: Glyphosate, Meturon, Organosilicone and Grazon

Industry: Forestry, Conservation, Agriculture

Submission No. 44 (Also see submissions 18, 22, 23, 24, 75)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Graeme Sturgeon (1948 - 2022)

Interview: [Graeme Sturgeon a Bushman Speaks](#)

Written submission type: Affidavit "Agent Orange" Testimony of a foot soldier (5 pages)

Main issues: Chemical exposure, Chronic ill health

Chemical: Agent Orange, 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Military, Conservation, Forestry

Submission No. 45 - [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#)

Region: Nationwide / Waikato

Name: Clyde Graf

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 9 - Kathy White & Clyde Graf, Waikato - Conservation: Collecting evidence, 1080, Regional Councils and DHBs](#)

Written submission type: Part 1: Submission to WRC (Waikato Regional Council) from Joji Varghese spokesperson for the Kochuman Family, who were poisoned by wild pork (14 pages)

Part 2: Mitchell Report (WRC) Aerial 1080 Review of Compliance (64 pages); Chairman of the Environmental Performance Committee Response to the Mitchell Report (9 pages)

Part 3: Personal Report (3 pages); 6 x Official Information Act Documents (20 pages); Kiwi chicks graph (1page); 4 Images (Kiwi Chick Deaths); Video Evidence Documentary Film List (2 pages)

Main issues: Animal & human health, secondary poisoning, native bird deaths, non-compliance

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, Brodifacoum

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 46

Region: Marsden, Whangarei

Name: Brian Clinton Arndt

Interview: [Brian Arndt Lead Poisoning in New Zealand at Marsden Oil Refinery](#)

Written submission type: Personal report and update (3 pages), Photo evidence (1), Report on Teeth Analysis (6 pages), Newspaper, Memos, Reports, Department of Health Correspondence (33 pages)

Main issues: Lead poisoning in the workplace, chronic ill health

Chemical: Lead

Industry: Manufacturing, Oil refinery

Submission No. 47

Region: Northland

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page)

Main issues: Health issues, non-compliance

Chemical: Glyphosate

Industry: Horticulture

Submission No. 48

Region: Various

Name: Heather Gilbert

Written submission type: Personal Report (3 pages)

Main issues: Chronic health issues

Chemical: Various agricultural sprays and other substances, 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Agriculture, Conservation

Submission No. 49

Region: Nationwide

Name: On behalf of Dr. X

Written submission type: Personal story (8 pages), report (2 pages), Academic Article (7 pages)

Main issues: Chemical sensitivities, workplace harm

Chemical: Various pesticides, fragrance, air freshener

Industry: Workplace, general environment

Submission No. 50 (Update also see submission 73)

Region: Glenorchy, South Island

Name: Dr. Fiona McQueen

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 3 - Dr. Fiona McQueen - The Silent Forest: the Case Against 1080](#)

Written submission type: Personal account (3 pages) (Author of "The Quiet Forest" 2017) Letters to the Editor (8 pages)

Main issues: ecological harm, human health, non-compliance, animal welfare

Chemical: 1080 sodium monofluoroacetate, glyphosate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 51 (Also see submission 38)

Region: Port Charles, Coromandel Peninsula

Name: Reihana Robinson

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 6 - Reihana Robinson, Coromandel - Conservation poison harm and kai contamination](#)

Written submission type: Personal statement on safety (4 pages), Appendix directory (3 pages), Appendix contents: Letters from Ombudsman and EPA + emails, Application form EPA, DOC report Papakai, Moehau Operational Report (54 pages)

Main issues: risk assessment, safety guidelines, non-compliance, human health, propaganda.

Chemical: 1080 sodium monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 52

Region: Coromandel Peninsula

Name: On behalf of John Watson

Written submission type: Personal statement (1 page), 2 Letters under OIA (2 pages), Reply from MOH to redirect OIA request to Waikato DHB (1 page)

Main issues: refusal to answer OIA letters, sublethal exposure to 1080 dust, poisoning of endangered species in Papakai Forest including Forest Ringlet Butterfly, Coromandel Striped Gecko, Archey's Frog, insect kingdom.

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 53

Region: Lower Hutt, Wellington

Name: Dido Dunlop

Written submission type: Personal Account (2 pages)

Main issues: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome for 20 years, harm to insects and wildlife, Solutions

Chemical: 245T Poisoning, Glyphosate

Industry: Weed management, Gorse Spraying in Wellington hills

Submission No. 54

Region: Pukekohe, Auckland

Name: Julio Dos Santos Gomes

Written submission type: Personal account of health effects and medical journey (5 pages)

Main issues: Suspected pesticide poisoning causing liver failure and resulting in bone marrow transplant.

Chemical: Unknown, suspected contamination from commercial non-organic celery

Industry: Horticulture

Submission No. 55

Region: Coromandel Peninsula

Name: On behalf of Naomi Pond

Written submission type: Affidavit (1 page), Letter to Officials (2 pages)

Main issues: Lack of consultation and notification by DoC, violation of the HSNO Act, Poisoning of Rongoā traditional plant medicine, poisoning of wildlife, water and the food chain.

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 56

Region: Gisborne

Name: Ananda Card

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page) including [video link \(20 min news report\)](#)

Main issues: Lead contamination is not tested for, serious health risks to children in particular

Chemical: Lead

Industry: Construction, old houses, paint, crockery, water supplies etc.

Submission No. 57

Region: Nationwide

Name: Tim Bensem

Written submission type: Personal story (3 pages), Photos of poison baits on public track 1,2,3), Images from news article (2), Screenshot extract from Vertebrate Pesticide Residue Database (1), Link to DOC's Vertebrate Pesticide Residue Database (large excel spreadsheet filtered by toxin)

Main issues: Chemical spray drift, aerial 1080 dropped overhead, Official Information Act refusal to answer, 1080 poisoned Kea and Kiwi, propaganda and wildlife deaths.

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, MCPA herbicide (spray for thistles)

Industry: Council weed management, Agriculture, Conservation

Submission No. 58

Region: Whakatane

Name: SWAP Sawmill Workers Against Poisoning

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 3 SWAP representatives - Sawmill Workers Against Poisons SWAP - Dioxin Whakatane sawmill, long-term contamination & health impacts](#)

Written submission type: SWAP Overview Report (20 pages), Appendices x 10 documents, health studies, academic articles and reports as listed on page 3 of the SWAP report.

Main issues: Poisoning of sawmill workers and families, Contamination of land

Chemical: PCP, dioxin, others

Industry: Forestry, Timber Treatment



1080 poison in bee hive

Submission No. 59

Submission No. 59

Region: Coromandel Town

Name: Wendy Pond

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 4 - Dr. Wendy Pond, Conservation: Consultation Failures](#)

Interview: [Part 1 - Aerial Poisoning of Sacred Mt Moehau](#)
[Part 2 - Closing the door on public consultation](#)

Written submission type: Written report (7 pages), Photo of green dye in honeycomb (1 image), Letter of concern (3 pages), DOC OIA reply (2 pages), Beekeeper testimony (3 pages), Affidavit (1 page), Oral Testimony speech (4 pages)

Main issues: Consultation failures, Hazardous Substances laws not fit for purpose, HSNO Act violations, privatisation of poisoning, militarisation of conservation

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 60

Region: Koputauaki, Coromandel Peninsula

Name: Frances Henare

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 5 - Frances Henare, Coromandel - Rāhui over Mt Moehau by Rongo-U O Te-Pa-Ta-Tahi Iwi](#)

Written submission type: Report Summary (5 pages), Application for a Permission for the Use of Vertebrate Toxic Agent(s) from Moehau 2013 (35 pages), Extract from Application for a Permission for the Use of Vertebrate Toxic Agent(s), Papakai 2017 (2 pages), Radio NZ Interview with Awanui Black (1 page) DOC, letter from Hilary Aikman, Director Operations, 18 August 2021(2 pages)

Main issues: Doc Fraudulent Consultation, repeated poisoning/desecration of sacred mountain Moehau by Doc, ignoring the rahui of mana whenua

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 61

Region: Nationwide

Name: Jo A

Written submission type: Personal Story (13 pages), including comprehensive images, maps and photos of various issues related to poisoning of environment and public health risks.

Main issues: spray drift, inadequate laws, poisoning waterways with eco-toxic chemicals, storing chemicals in known flood zone

Chemical: Glyphosate and other toxins

Industry: Conservation, Horticulture, Weed management

Submission No. 62

Region: Nationwide

Name: Jodie Bruning

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 4 - Jodie Bruning - Failures of EPA: Glyphosate, Biosolids](#)

Written submission type: Report (22 pages), 33 slides from PI presentation.

Main issues: international perspective, regulatory capture of the NZ EPA and legal failures in protecting public health, policy failures.

Chemical: All toxins including glyphosate and 1080, all synthetic chemical pollution

Industry: Multi-agency, environmental, conservation, EPA

Submission No. 63

Region: Nationwide

Name: Kathy White

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 9 - Kathy White & Clyde Graf, Waikato - Conservation: Collecting evidence, 1080, Regional Councils and DHBs](#)

Written submission type: Personal Statement (6 pages), Attachments: (1) [The Waikato Region Aerial 1080 Report](#), which Clyde Graf and myself presented to the EPC in November 2014 (15 pages). (2) [PowerPoint presentation that accompanied the report](#) (48 pages). (3) DOC'S email regarding streams with unregistered water intakes. (4) Extract from Waikato Regional Council agenda, 25 December 2015. (5) Warning sign (6-7) Waikato Regional Council resolutions passed about 1080 during the 2013-16 council term. (8) [Letter from Professor Ian Shaw at Canterbury University, symptoms indicated 1080, not botulism](#) (2 pages).

Other additions: Opinion Piece (2 pages), Attachments (9) [Summary Penny Fisher Environmental Residues of Anticoagulants](#) (5 pages). (10) [Journal article by Dowding about the high mortality of dotterels - Notornis](#) (5 pages). (11) [Powerpoint Presentation by Penny Fisher et. al Anticoagulants in New Zealand Birds](#) (15 pages). (12) OIA Request to Auckland Council re: monitoring results of Brodifacoum in pigs in the Hauraki Gulf Islands (1 page) **(Attachments 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11 are separate documents)**



Main issues: Consent process, contaminated water, failure to notify, failure to provide alternative water supply, failure to notify risks, policy and operational failures, contaminated meat poisoning, DHB cover up, regulatory capture, deaths of dogs, livestock, wildlife.

Chemical: 1080 sodium monofluoroacetate, Brodifacoum and others

Industry: Conservation, Regional Council Environmental Management

Warning sign for Sodium Fluoroacetate

Submission No. 63



Chemicals surrounding Whareroa. See also the contaminated site currently owned by the Port and confirmed PFAS sites. Three points of discharge in to bay adjacent to marae should also be noted. The green line shows the boundary of Whareroa marae, Kohanga Reo, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Te Rangi and resident community.

Submission No. 64

Submission No. 64

Region: Mt Maunganui, Tauranga

Name: Joel Ngātuere on behalf of Ngāti Kuku and Whareroa Marae

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 2 - Joel Ngātuere, Mount Maunganui - Cocktail of chemical contamination around Whareroa Marae, Mt Maunganui](#)

Written submission type: Report (33 pages)

Main issues: human health, contamination, Tiriti o Waitangi, ethnic cleansing, industrial contamination of communities, cumulative harm from poisonous heavy industry

Chemical: Multiple including methyl bromide, dust, PFAS, Sulphur Dioxide, Hydrogen Sulphide, Nitrogen Oxide and Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide, Hydrogen Sulphide and more.

Industry: Multiple industrial sites surround the marae including Ballance Agri-Nutrients, Waste Management NZ, NZ Oil Services, Lawter Chemical Solutions, The Port of Tauranga, CRS Containers, Tauranga Airport

Submission No. 65

Region: Nationwide

Name: Mark Dobson

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page)

Main issues: Spouse experienced workplace chemical exposure, developed multiple chemical sensitivity, serious negative impacts on life, health and wellbeing, lack of regulation/protections

Chemical: Multiple, environmental toxins, household and commonly used chemicals

Industry: Multiple

Submission No. 66

Region: Nationwide

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal Story (4 pages)

Main issues: Misuse of herbicide, deliberate targeting with chemicals, spray drift, personal exposure and health impacts, spray drift into house, poisoned garden, poisoned cat

Chemical: Glyphosate and other unknown herbicides

Industry: Agricultural, Weed Management, Property Management, Landlord

Submission No. 67

Region: Northland

Name: Judy Brake

Written submission type: Personal story (1 page)

Main issues: Hi-cane chemical exposure, negative health impacts, Leukemia, Kiwi fruit orchards expose residents to chemical spray drift, high cancer rates

Chemical: Hi-cane (Hydrogen Cyanamide)

Industry: Kiwifruit Industry, Horticulture



Pesticide Foray 48B sprayed over suburbs of Auckland.

Submission No. 68

Submission No. 68

Region: Auckland

Name: Hana Blackmore

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 7 - Hana Blackmore, Auckland area - Pesticides herbicides roadside, biosecurity, health, environment & social impacts](#)

Interview: [Frontline activism in NZ](#)

Written submission type: Report (8 pages), Appendix A - Project Streetscapes - Chemical harmonisation - unpacking the facts from the fiction (pages 13), Appendix B - Painted Apple Moth Health effect table - 2001-2006 (pages 58)

Main issues: Ecology and human health, exposure to glyphosate, negative health impacts, subverting of democratic process by Auckland Transport

Chemical: Glyphosate and other herbicides, insecticide Foray 48B

Industry: Weed management, Biosecurity

Submission No. 69

Region: Nationwide

Name: Hira Hunapo-O'Callaghan

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 1 - Hira Hunapo O'Callaghan, Auckland - Matauranga Maori, Tiriti o Waitangi, EPA and HSNO Act breaches](#)

Written submission type: Personal statement (9 pages)

Main issues: EPA failures and breaches of HASNO Act, human health, animal health and environmental contamination, Breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Te Ao Maori, Whakapapa

Chemical: All pesticides and toxins, environmental toxins

Industry: All chemical based industry, Conservation, Agriculture, Horticulture, Biosecurity etc.

Submission No. 70

Region: Mt Maunganui, Tauranga

Name: Emma Jones, Clean the Air Charitable Trust

Written submission type: Report (5 pages)

Main issues: Health impacts of industrial air pollution, mental health impacts, regulatory failure

Chemical: Multiple industrial chemical pollutants

Industry: Multiple

Submission No. 71 (Also see Submission 6)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Frank Rowson

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 7 - Frank Rowson, Glyphosate, Fluoride and Failures of EPA](#)

Written submission type: Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics (4 pages), Enough is Enough (2 pages), Illegality 101 (2 pages)

Main issues: GE and pesticides, Fluoride and drinking water, Human rights, Rights of the child, illegality, regulatory failure to protect

Chemical: pesticides, herbicides, fluoride and other chemicals

Industry: Conservation, Agriculture, Horticulture, Weed management

Submission No. 72

Region: Auckland

Name: Grant Philpott

Written submission type: Personal Story (4 pages)

Main issues: Exposure to photographic chemicals in the workplace, chronic health problems, ACC negligence, additional exposure to Foray 48b during painted apple moth spraying campaign in Auckland, unlawful destruction of medical records, developed Leukaemia.

Chemical: Chloramphenicol & Foray 48b

Industry: Photographic development chemicals, Biosecurity spray campaign

Submission No. 73 updates linked below (Also see submission 50)

Region: Nationwide

Name: Fiona McQueen

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 3 - Dr. Fiona McQueen, Otago](#) / [The Silent Forest: the Case Against 1080 \[book\]](#)

Written submission type: [Powerpoint Presentation \(16 pages\) + Academic paper extract Murphy Stoat Gut Study \(1 page\)](#), [Nature Magazine article Gene drives meet the resistance \(1 page\)](#)

Separate attachments: [Meads Report on Invertebrates and 1080 \(23 pages\)](#), [Ruscoe Ecology](#)

Letters: [Unexpected consequences of control: competitive vs. predator release in a four-species assemblage of invasive mammals 2011 \(9 pages\)](#), [Norwegian Statement on Gene Drives \(18 pages\)](#), Academic paper, [Notman Invertebrate Poisoning 1080 \(5 pages\)](#), Academic paper, [Ethics of gene drives Johnathan Pugh 2016 \(5 pages\)](#).

Main issues: Ecological harm, 1080 studies, Invertebrate poisoning, species interactions, genetic engineering

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, Genetic Engineering/Gene Drives

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 74

Region: Nationwide

Name: Withheld

Written submission type: Personal story (3 pages)

Main issues: Impact of possums overstated, Ecological harm from possum control

Chemical: 1080 sodium monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 75 (Also see submissions [18](#), [22](#), [23](#), [24](#), [44](#))

Region: Coromandel, Nationwide

Name: Graeme Sturgeon (1948 - 2022)

Interview: [Graeme Sturgeon a Bushman Speaks](#)

Written submission type: Affidavit: Irregularities in the conduct of an aerial 1080 operation at Whenuakite (6 pages), Letter to the Mayor: Trapping in the Coromandel Ranges (3 pages), Report Possums in their habitat (2 pages)

Main issues: Ecological harm, local economy, possum control, misconduct in aerial operation

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 76

Region: Coromandel Peninsula

Name: Stephanie McKee

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 9 - Stephanie McKee, Coromandel - Historical patterns of harm-denial from a cocktail of poisons in NZ ecosystems](#)

Written submission type: Article: "Rahui over Moehau" (3 pages), Article: "Raruraru in Whitianga" (11 pages), Powerpoint presentation to People's Inquiry, 7 recommendations (36 pages).

Main issues: The "Poison-Industrial Complex", the Precautionary Principle, criminal recklessness of use of toxins, social license, perception management, public relations 'spin campaigns', Paradigm shift needed.

Chemicals: 1080, 245T, glyphosate, haloxyfop methyl, methyl bromide, brodifacoum, PFAS firefighting foams and more.

Industry: Conservation, Horticulture, Agriculture, Timber preservation, Firefighting, Vegetation Control

Submission No. 77

Region: Coromandel Peninsula

Name: Sally Steedman

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 2 - Sally Steedman, Coromandel - The importance of valid consultation about chemicals](#)

Written submission type: Powerpoint: Consultation on who can speak for landowners / shareholders (7 pages)

Main issues: Waikato Regional Council awarding money to private companies to poison the whenua. Lack of consultation with landowners of ancestral Māori land.

Chemical: 1080 sodium monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 78

This submission is available by request only.

Submission No. 79

Region: Nationwide

Name: Marcus James

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 7 - Marcus James - Conservation: Case study three 1080 clusters, Featherston, Karamea, Upper Whanganui River](#)

Written submission type: Report (62 pages) covering History and Case Studies

Main issues: human and animal health impacts, non-compliance, clusters of birth defects, miscarriages

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 80

Region: Marlborough

Name: Tony Broad

Written submission type: Report (8 pages)

Main issues: 1080 dumped in community water catchment, misconduct and negligence in 1080 aerial operations, no-fly zone ignored, contamination

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 81

Region: Auckland, Nationwide

Name: Denys Trussell for Friends of the Earth

Written submission type: 2018 Submission to the Royal Society on Gene Editing (25 pages)

Main issues: Challenges dated concepts around DNA, the proposed use of gene-editing-CRISPR technology for pest control: pros & cons. Evidence of US military funding and dangers. (p17) Challenges pest-control concepts that ignore damage to the environment by humans. Refers to the research of Meads, Benfield, Caughley et al. Discusses Hunua 1080 aerial drops, by-kill, impacts on water & more. Discussed ethical risks of gene editing technology when linked to eugenic beliefs. (p18)

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, Brodifacoum, Cyanide, Gene Editing, Genetic Engineering

Industry: Conservation

Submission No. 82

Region: Northland

Name: Doug Wheeler

Written submission type: Personal story (5 pages), Letter to Minister for the Environment David Parker (2 pages), Northland Regional Council CEO Letter (2 pages), Letter from Minister for the Environment David Parker (1 page), [Separate Attachment: Wheeler Environment Court Ruling 2021-01-28 Wheeler Evidence](#) (29 pages)

Main issues: Chemical spray drift from neighbouring potato market garden, regulator failure, zero enforcement of standards, ineffectiveness of RMA and HSNO Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) in Northland.

Chemical: Ecotoxic cocktail of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides

Industry: Agriculture, Potato cropping

Submission No. 83

This submission has been withdrawn at the request of the submitter due to being unfinished.

Submission No. 84

Region: Northland

Name: Asha Andersen

Oral Testimony: [Testimony 8 - Asha Andersen, Northland - People's Inquiry, 1080 poison, Human Rights, Rights of Nature, Westport wildlife catastrophe, Testing](#)

Written submission type: Report (19 pages) includes: articles, media releases, letters to Northland Regional Council, records of incidents, human rights law

Main issues: chemical poisoning of land, air, water, wildlife and people, human and animal poisoning, contamination, regulatory capture, fraudulent consultations, inadequate testing, breach of Te Tiriti and human rights laws and norms

Chemical: 1080 Sodium Monofluoroacetate, Agricultural and Weed management sprays, Glyphosate etc.

Industry: Conservation, Weed management, Agriculture



Left to right: Photo from residents of a dead eel washed up in the river after the Russell State Forest aerial 1080 poisoning 2018. Photo of hundreds of dead animals (rats, birds, aquatic life) washed up on Westport Beach November 2019, a number of animals tested positive for 1080 poison, green dye marker and metabolites of 1080 poison. (Credit: Image 1 resident from Russell State Forest. Image 2. Volunteer in Westport)

3. Quotes from Submissions and Testimonies

Quotes

Reefton

*"While picnicking in a place (margin of a stream) commonly visited by the public, my sister and I were showered with **1080** pellets. We breathed in toxic 1080 dust. My health has been permanently harmed. Ministry for Health conducted an enquiry but did not file a final report incorporating our corrections."*

- **Kathleen Ann Bartlett** (Submission no. 3)

Taranaki

"I spent three years of my life working for the regional Council poisoning the hell out of Mount Taranaki and surrounding farms. I'm quite certain without any doubt how harmful it is, I'm probably responsible for killing more native birds in three years than all the states in that region did in 20 years. I brought in a dead Kiwi from one of my poison lines believing my bosses would want to have its cause of death tested, to be told "why the hell did you bring that in for get it to the incinerator fast if that gets out we will all be out of a job."

- **Jason Down re: 1080 featured in The Poison Register** (Submission no. 21)

West Coast

*"We went through and cleared all the waterways that we could of people's supplies, which were around about 43 water takes from the bush. We took a considerable amount of [**1080** poison] pellets out of people's water systems that we could find."*

- **Emille Leaf from an Interview** (Submission no. 84)

Golden Bay

"We lived in the bush at the end of the valley and our dog found a dead possum down near the creek and brought it up to the house paddock to eat it. Not long after our dog started yelping in pain and tearing around looking terrified. He ran under the deck and we could hear the boards banging like a great fight was happening, and all the time I could hear his awful yelping and howling. Our calling and calling to him had no effect."

"After a while he tore out from under the deck past me and I still remember the the terrified agony on his face, his back arched like a cat and his frothing mouth as he ran around the yard. I rang the neighbour to bring his gun to shoot the dog. When the neighbour arrived, the dog had died. Rigour mortis was instant. My partner was a hard man. It was the only time I saw him cry. I vomited. The dog's agony and terror was sickening and shocking to experience."

- **Alice Birch re: 1080** (Submission no. 27)

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Brook Valley, Nelson

*"To kill off 'predators' - a colonized word - given public opposition to 1080, it was decided to conduct a series of aerial drops of **brodifacoum**. Who could object? After all, you could buy it in the supermarket, and still can. A plain fraud was perpetrated to avoid having this poisoning the subject of public consultation. The same three owners of the company which built the fence (all at public expense) owned Wildland Consultants, the so-called independent environmental assessor, who gave the pre-planned thumbs up, with the poisoning ruled as having a 'less than minor' effect on the environment. Palpable nonsense, but this convenient phrase, signed off on by Alec Louverdis for the NCC, denied the public any consultation. It was all pre-arranged. We protested anyway, but the poisoning went ahead. Do I sound bitter?"*

"We took the Sanctuary Trust to the High Court, which ruled against us. The grounds for doing so, believe it or not, was that a hazardous substance is not a substance. The fix was in."

- **Christopher St Johanser** (Submission no. 8)

Waikato

*"In January 1993 I began working for Environment Waikato based near Taupo, who at the time were responsible for pest destruction in the greater Taupo area. I sat my poison licences as part of the requirements for the job and learned what I thought was all there was to know about the poisons I was dealing with. These included cyanide paste and later feratox capsules, phosphorus paste, talon under numerous marketing names, **brodifacoum**, **magtoxin**, **cholecalciferol** and of course **1080**.*

...colleagues and I were continuously advised that these poisons, especially 1080 were non-accumulative in the human body and other "facts" such as it being quickly broken down in water. Being naive enough to believe such statements I continuously handled 1080 without gloves in pellet, jam and carrot form as did dozens of other staff."

- **Daniel Peat, former pest control worker** (Submission no. 17)

Coromandel

*"The baits (**1080**) had landed in big numbers directly in the waterways. I tackled one of the DOC staff about this and was told "They're not waterways! It's gotta be 4 meters wide and 1 meter deep before it can be considered a "waterway".". I had a lot to learn. The following day, accompanied by three neighbours, I walked into the area at first light. I walked along the top ridge. Bright green baits lay at my feet. A finch was pecking at a bait and flew off as I approached."*

- **John Veysey** (Submission no. 4)

"Having watched two of my dogs die from 1080 poisoning, I can say there is no way 1080 is a 'Humane' poison. As the vets say it's like being electrocuted the whole time you are dying - up to three days for deer and if a smaller dose is taken then the health problems remain the rest of their life. Secondary poisoning from 1080 is the biggest killer. Every poisoned body is like another dozen poison baits laying there and these dead animals and birds kill everything from microorganisms to insects to larger predators such as hawks and owls, falcons. wekas and keas and also freshwater life such eels, crayfish, and insects that fish eat."

- **Mervin Smith (1943 - 2021)** (Submission no. 13)

Coromandel

"After aerial 1080 drops I have found rats, possums, deer, pigs and stoats dead in river beds, exposed and unburied. I have seen rats in a water tank, their swollen green bellies leaching 1080 poison into the water supply. The green dye identified the poison as 1080. In 2002 poisoned carcasses and poisoned baits were spread through the town and along the waterfront carried by a stream in flood."

- **Graeme Sturgeon, Bushman & Veteran (1948 - 2022)** (Submission no. 22)

Picton

*"How is it possible for any government, if not legally, to morally continue every year to disperse tens of thousands of tonnes of this deadly substance throughout and onto our forests into our fragile ecosystems and our water catchment areas and then into streams, rivers and lakes? Our government's priority has to be: **first, do no harm.**"*

- **Les Kelly, Author & Founder of the original Predator Free NZ** (Submission no. 10 & 28)

*"Another important point to understand in New Zealand's use of **vertebrate pesticides** is the refusal of the New Zealand government to acknowledge international research and standards for the application and use of these chemicals, and that they have never been considered as responsible for the biodiversity crisis that New Zealand is now facing."*

*"It's well known that **DDT** is harmful to the environment and particularly to avian populations. It affects reproduction and causes shell thinning particularly in birds high up the food chain such as eagles and owls. For New Zealand known as the land of the birds, the use of DDT should have rung alarm bells."*

- **Justine Philip Ecologist, (Testimony 1, Day 3)**

"In 1974 the Accident Compensation Corporation comes into existence in N Z. Intended as a 'no fault' accident scheme, avoiding costly American-style litigation. However, it is ill suited to chemical exposure, denying compensation for "any injury caused by a gradual process".

- **Marcus James** (Submission no. 80)

Canterbury

*"Several months later and the worsening of symptoms, my GP relented and suggested that I might have M.E - Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. With his endorsement I began to see a respected specialist whom deals with those that struggle with this baffling illness. As a practitioner of both mainstream and alternative medicine he was able to make a specific diagnosis that the **organophosphates** used to combat white fly was a major contributing factor to my mysterious illness. I was to become his regular patient for the next twelve years as the symptoms of pesticide poisoning festered and fluctuated. He tried various forms of medical detoxification with varying degrees of success. My darkest moments would be those days when I was so debilitated that I was bedridden and didn't even have the strength to utter a few words. "*

- Name Withheld (Submission no. 1)

Coromandel

"Over the past 34 years exposure to chemical pesticides has impacted my life – mainly my health which has limited my career and my ability to earn... However the greatest grief has been the chronic un-wellness resulting from pesticide exposure which has impacted my immune system, nervous system, endocrine system and digestive system."

- Ajita Kennedy Grace (Submission no. 5)

Waikato

*"Another example is the approval of **glyphosate-based herbicides** (GBH) as 'safe'. How could public servants be so daft as to not be aware that glyphosate was first patented in 1964 as a chemical chelator because it binds to and removes a number of minerals such as calcium, copper, manganese, magnesium and zinc – a valuable cleaner for some pipelines prone to such accretions."*

- Frank Rawson, Retired Vet Surgeon Writer and Researcher (Submission no. 6)

Whangarei

"On or about 21 December 2020, he used the Rug Doctor upholstery cleaner to clean up a bloody mess left on the carpet by our cat. He sprayed the upholstery cleaner onto the carpet and straight away noticed his tongue felt strange after breathing in the fumes. He also had exposure to the cleaner via the bare skin on his hands.

Within 24 hours of exposure he was having a major autoimmune flare and admitted himself to hospital on 23 December 2020. His symptoms were severe and included loss of coordination and movement especially down the left side of his body, blindness in left eye, inability to eat and swallow and loss of taste and smell."

- Name Withheld (Submission no. 16)

Whakatāne

"We had gardens there, fruit trees. When the water subsided, the kids would be crawling around the grass and eating the fruit. Most of us had gardens there, stone fruit, grapes. So, after living down Marshalls Road which was 500 metres from the sawmill, I swam in that and the irony is today that we are cleaning that up. SWAP initiated that...From there I moved to Wairaka, which we all know that the Mātaatua Reserve is contaminated. We actually played in that, during the dumping process we were told it wasn't toxic, no skull on the crossbones per se. We built underground huts as kids will do. What we know now that we did not know back then was PCP had its own problems. We are only talking about dioxins that attach themselves to dust, blown around. They are known carcinogenic substances, but the actual PCP is water soluble and can move around in the water. Pipis and mussels are bi-valves, they have two puku, two stomachs. They can accumulate 100 times more in their environment that goes through their system. Same as oysters. We ate them all back then."

- **SWAP Report** (Submission no. 58)

Northland

"The hardest aspect of the condition is that because symptoms are not necessarily visible – persuading people and friends that you are not well is difficult. No-one wants to think that normal life (which includes the use of chemicals) is not acceptable. More often than not, I find that the condition is put to the side and considered too hard to handle. Until the government and authorities accept that the overuse of chemicals is not conducive to good health, nothing will be done to change the behaviour of the industrial, agricultural and horticultural sectors. We need Government to show leadership, so that the public can lead healthy lives."

- **Name Withheld** (Submission no. 14)

Northland

"The sheer volume of spraying here ensures that there is a constant, albeit invisible, mist of toxins floating around the area until washed out by rainfall, which then drenches the soils with all sorts of toxins yet again as it runs on down to the streams, rivers and seas."

- **Carl Mather** (Submission no. 2)

"The bias and corruption of this [agrichemical] industry that has infiltrated into New Zealand's political framework is staggering. Every door slams firmly shut on each mention of an investigation.

Every week there seems to be a new article on an array of pollutants and chemical poisoning in New Zealand. No agencies will speak out. Media journalism is far from investigative."

- **Nadine Connock** (Submission no. 43)

Whangarei

*"In 2009 I started to experience constant headaches; blistering and inflammation of the mucus membranes of the nose, throat and lungs; irritated red and burning eyes; chronic fatigue; dizziness; nausea; depression; muscle and joint pains. I went to my GP and underwent various blood tests; allergy tests; had my teeth and ears checked to find the source of my headaches and the other ailments, with no results. Finally, I had a hair analysis done by an alternative health practitioner, which indicated that I was poisoned with **Tordon**. This is a herbicide commonly used by forestry operations. Its ingredient **picloram** was a component of the notorious 'Agent Orange', used in the Vietnam war."*

- **Nora Shayeb** Coordinator for Northland Toxin Awareness Group (Submission no. 11)

Auckland

"I would like to submit my story about how Round up affects my life. I can be fine one moment and the next I am struggling to stand on my feet, walk with swollen red angry looking feet. I first experienced the negative effects of Round up at the age of 22."

"He (my husband) used roundup at work and goodness knows what else. I had 2 toddlers, we had an old wringer washing machine. And me being the homemaker doing all my daily chores including washing his work clothes. I all of a sudden started suffering severe pain and swelling in all my joints. I could hardly do anything. It caused me great depression as I would try to hobble around to deal with my crying children in the night, do simple tasks such as hanging out washing or any task in the matter. I became suicidal, my Doctor had me tested for arthritis symptoms and other things but nothing was found. I am unsure of how I got on to a place that was in Helensville where they did testing for chemicals in my body. I had 9 different poisons that were affecting my everyday life. There was roundup, 245T, Pesticides and Herbicides."

- **Raine Drops** (Submission no. 12)

Northland

"I was travelling, in April 2019, when I was shocked to see the spraying, by DOC, of ecotoxic substances into one of the unique dune lakes up north here."

"I captured these images of the spraying into what would be the waterline/submersed due to regular water level fluctuations. Active conservation work with replanting, etc, is being done around this lake. Water quality is a big focus, as I understand it, so I was shocked. A glyphosate (or similar spray) is also used, to clear kikuyu, for planting around the lake perimeters. The farm land draining into this lake is also regularly sprayed with toxic sprays, from trucks and, occasionally, from helicopters. Council also spray roadside here regularly after mowing."

- **Jo A** (Submission no. 61, re: image 1 pg. 44)



“In one publication DoC irresponsibly and unscientifically claimed that up to 26% of local kea could die in a poisoning operation, and there would still be a net benefit to kea survival through the killing of stoats. Now with 50% of its monitored kea dying, even by its own contrived standards, DoC’s carnage is too great.”

— Dr. Jo Pollard, Independent Scientist, Zoologist 1080 Science

“Dairying or not, the rivers trouble starts with their passage from the mountains to the sea,” “For instance in river headwaters, insecticide 1080 - a super toxin - is spread by air. Not strictly an agricultural impact is Aotearoa’s bizarre and almost unique conservation, by whole ecosystem poisoning in the pious hope the good will survive and the baddies die. It has a major impact on the insect food chain of both birds and fish.”

— Bill Benfield, Author and Conservationist (1939 - 2018)

4. The Hearing of Oral Testimonies

The 3-Day Online Hearing

The People's Inquiry held a 3-day online Hearing from September 2nd - 4th, 2021, where men and women from around Aotearoa New Zealand shared their experiences and expert knowledge on the impacts of toxic chemicals and poisons on people wildlife and environment with the Commissioners. This included survivors, scientists, researchers and advocates speaking on issues including health, human rights, Te Tiriti O Waitangi, wildlife welfare, regulatory failures and harm to communities. Testimonies are typically between 10 - 25 minutes in length and include questions from the Commissioners. The Commissioners' final Inquiry Report will be based on the written submissions and oral testimonies.



Dr. Meriel Watts

Dr. Tom Kerns

Hema Wihongi

Prof. Catherine Iorns

THE COMMISSIONERS



Inquiry Hearing, Day 1 - Thursday 2nd September 2021

Morning Session:

Welcome Introduction Committee and Commissioners

[Testimony 1](#) - John, Northland - Orchard spray drift of horticultural chemicals, chemical trespass, wildlife death, ill health from exposure

[Testimony 2](#) - Joe Christaldi, Northland - Orchard spray drift of horticultural chemicals, ill health from exposure

[Testimony 3](#) - Lorraine Hatton, Northland - Exposure to Glyphosate, chronic ill health from exposure

Afternoon Session:

[Testimony 4](#) - Shane Hyde, Northland - Personal harm from herbicides in conservation

[Testimony 5](#) - Nora Shayeb, Northland - Personal harm forestry herbicides and pesticides

[Testimony 6](#) - Nadine Connock, Nelson - Forestry herbicides including Glyphosate contamination, regulatory capture, contamination of pristine natural areas

[Testimony 7](#) - Hana Blackmore, Auckland area - Pesticides/herbicides roadside, biosecurity, health, environment & social impacts

Inquiry Hearing, Day 2 - Friday 3rd September 2021

Morning Session:

[Welcome Introduction Committee and Commissioners](#)

[Testimony 1](#) - Hira Hunapo O'Callaghan, Auckland - Matauranga Maori, Tiriti o Waitangi, EPA breaches HSNO Act

[Testimony 2](#) - Sally Steedman, Coromandel - The importance of valid consultation about chemicals, Māori land, impacts on tangata whenua

[Testimony 3](#) - Sawmill Workers Against Poisons SWAP, Whakatane - Dioxin Whakatane sawmill, long-term contamination & health impacts, intergenerational harm

Afternoon Session:

[Testimony 4](#) - Dr. Wendy Pond, Coromandel - Conservation: Consultation failures. Hazardous Substances laws not fit for purpose, privatisation of poisoning

[Testimony 5](#) - Frances Henare, Coromandel - Rāhui over Mt Moehau by Rongo-U O Te-Pa-Tu-Ta-Tahi Iwi for poisons, ignoring mana whenua

[Testimony 6](#) - Reihana Robinson, Coromandel - Conservation poison harm and kai contamination

[Testimony 7](#) - Marcus James, Hunter Valley NSW - Conservation: Case study three 1080 clusters, Featherston, Karamea, Upper Whanganui River

[Testimony 8](#) - Dr. Ursula Edgington, Waikato - Collecting evidence for Poisons Register, DHB Meetings, Charities Act & PFNZ tax exemptions.

[Testimony 9](#) - Kathy White & Clyde Graf, Waikato - Conservation: Collecting evidence, 1080, Regional Councils and DHBs, Contaminated wild game, Kiwi deaths, Kiwi removal

[Summing up](#) Committee/Commissioners

Inquiry Hearing, Day 3 - Saturday 4th September 2021

Morning Session:

Welcome Introduction Committee and Commissioners

Testimony 1 - Dr. Justine Philip, Otago - Historical summary of wildlife conservation & pesticide use in NZ from an ecologist.

Testimony 2 - Joel Ngātuere, Mount Maunganui - Cocktail of chemical contamination around Whareroa Marae, Mt Maunganui

Testimony 3 - Dr. Fiona McQueen, Otago - The Silent Forest: the Case Against 1080 [book]

Afternoon Session:

Testimony 4 - Jodie Bruning, Whakamarama - Failures of EPA: Glyphosate, Biosolids

Testimony 5 - Dr Hugh Jellie, Taupo area - The impact of glyphosate on ecological health

Testimony 6 - Max Purnell, Waitakaruru - Observations of a citizen farmer

Testimony 7 - Frank Rowson, King Country - Glyphosate, Fluoride and Failures of EPA

Testimony 8 - Asha Andersen, Northland - People's Inquiry, 1080 poison, Climate, Human Rights, Rights of Nature

Testimony 9 - Stephanie McKee, Coromandel - Historical patterns of harm-denial from a cocktail of poisons in NZ ecosystems

Summing Up Appreciation, Closing Remarks & Presentation of Taonga to Commissioners

5. Interviews, Videos and Photographs

Interviews, Videos and Photographs

[Aerial helicopter spray drift harm](#) (14 mins)

Michele Mitcalfe

[Poison operations fabricated consultations](#) (16 mins)

Dr. Wendy Pond Part 1

[Poison operations fabricated consultations](#) (11 mins)

Dr. Wendy Pond Part 2

[Kaitiakitanga, Kawanatanga, Harm from Poisons](#) (29 mins)

Sonya Ihimaera

[Glyphosate Harm on Farms](#) (41 mins)

Dr. Hugh Jellie

[Conservation Poisoning & Te Ao Maori](#) (47 mins)

Nyree Porter

[Exposure to Tractor Spray Drift & Harm to Health](#) (22 mins)

Felicity Taylor

[Orchard Breeches & Hi-Cane Poisoning](#) (7 mins)

John

[Community Harm from Brodifacoum Poison Operations](#) (21 mins)

Christopher St Johanser

[Conservation Workplace Herbicide Poisoning](#) (27 mins)

Shane Hyde

[Lead Poisoning in New Zealand, Marsden Oil Refinery](#) (18:57 mins)

Brian Arndt

[A Bushman Speaks](#) (23 mins)

Graeme Sturgeon

[How much does NZ really know about lead?](#) (20:26 mins)

Ananda Card

[Campbell Live 1080 Sisters](#) (6 mins)

Kathleen Bartlet

[Frontline activism in NZ](#) (36 mins)

Hana Blackmore

[Organics and the damage of chemicals and monoculture to soil and water](#) (37 mins)

Brendan Hoare

[1080 Poison Talk with Emille Leaf and Nyree Porter Part 1](#) (8:48 mins)

[1080 Poison Talk with Emille Leaf and Nyree Porter Part 2](#) (16:20 mins)

Video Evidence and Interviews from TV Wild

[Poisoning Paradise](#) - Festival version of award winning feature length documentary (1hr 37min)

[Indian Family Poisoned by Wild Pork](#) - Interview With Family Spokesmen (31 mins)

[Toxicologist Professor Ian Shaw Discusses the Mysterious Botulism Misdiagnosis](#) (21 mins)

[Exclusive Interview With Wild Boar Poisoned Family After Release From Hospital](#) (35 mins)

[Waikato District Health Board Feed Public Porkies Over Poisoned Wild Pork Test Results](#) (19:45 mins)

[District Health Boards Respond to 1080-Poisoned Families Concerns](#) (23:58 mins)

[Deer Mass-poisoned](#) - Taupo Farmer Speaks Out (16 mins)

[Rats Studied on Stewart Island](#) (13 mins)

[Rescue Helicopters spread 1080 poison bait across tourists, Mt Aspiring National Park](#) (29 mins)

[Deer Mass-poisoned in New Zealand](#) (24:48 mins)

["Independent" Poisoned Cows Investigation - EPA Exposed](#) (14:40 mins)

[DoC Independent Poisoned Cow Investigation - Nothing "independent" About it](#) (14:21 mins)

[Cows and Endangered Birds Poisoned in Taranaki Aerial Operations](#) (11:40 mins)

[DoC Says Threats to Staff are on Increase - Let's go Back to the Start](#) (8 mins)

[Hungry Bees 1080 Poison Threat to New Zealand Honey Says DoC](#) (11:11 mins)

[1080 Poison Use in New Zealand - An Introduction](#) (5:19 mins)

[Department of Conservation - Kiwi Thriving Without Poisons](#) (2:57 mins)

[The Crown vs Graeme Sturgeon - Charges dropped](#) (5:46 mins)

[DoC 1080 Poison Drop Kills 8 Cows - Farmers Involved Tell Their Story](#) (21:14 mins)

[1080 Poisoned Trout Risk Greater Than First Declared Says Researcher](#) (23 mins)

[NZ First Exposes TB Fraud?](#) (18:18 mins)

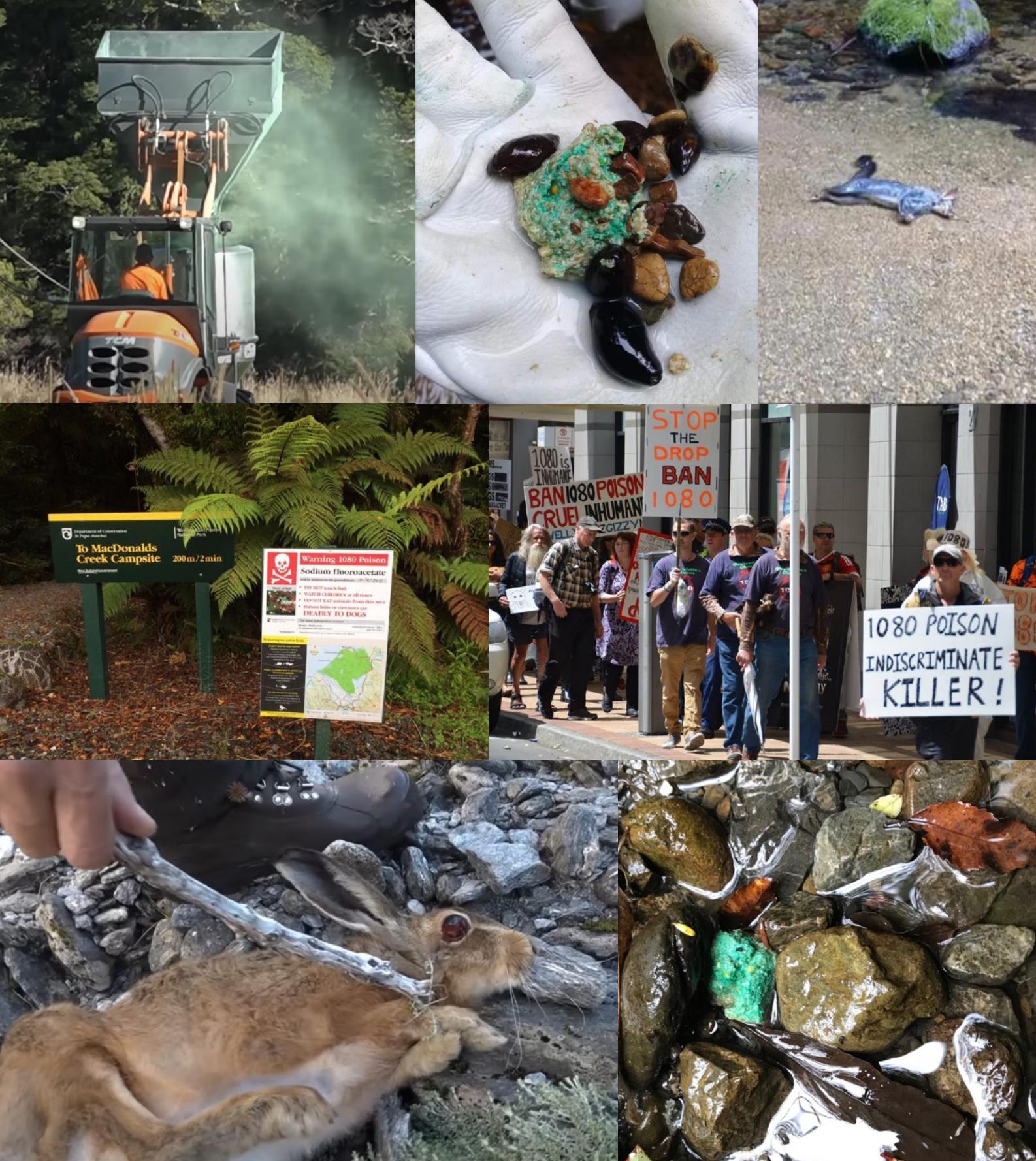
[49 Dead Kiwi at Mt Bruce](#) (18:08 mins)

TV Wild - <https://www.tv-wild.com>



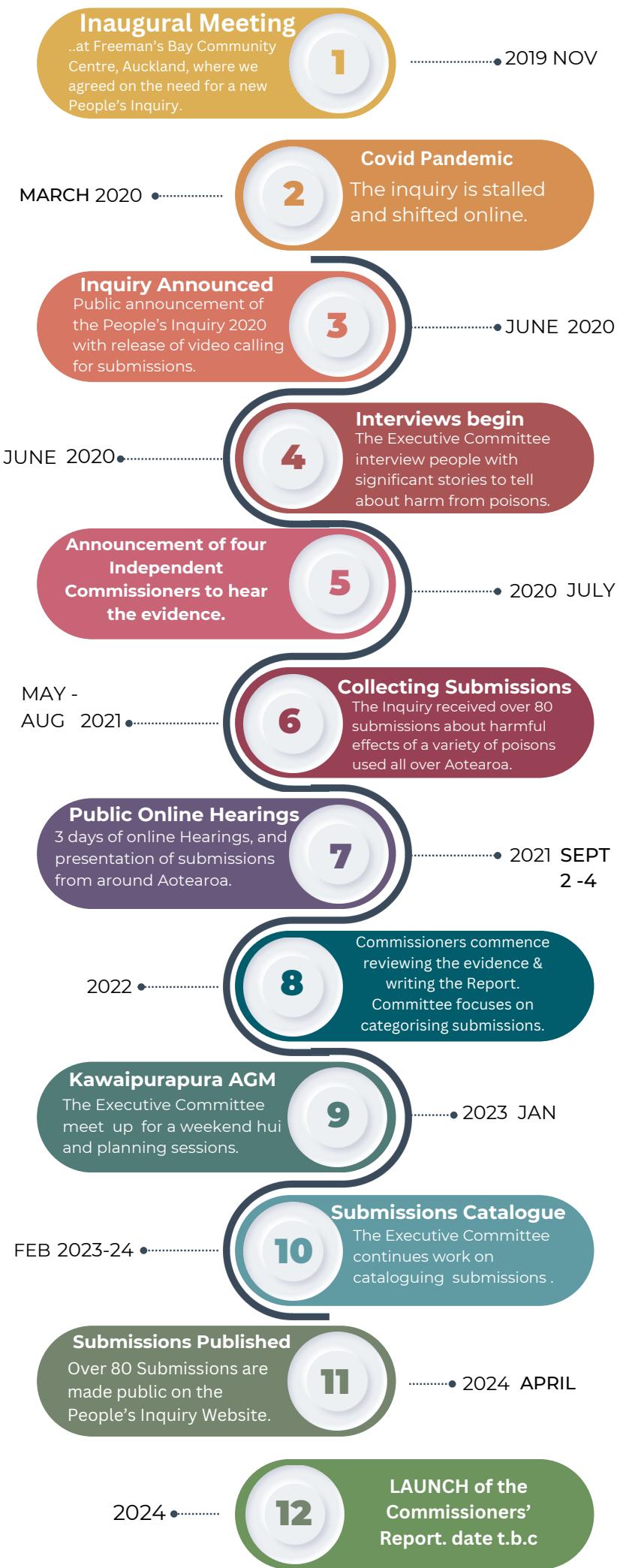
Top left to right: 1. DoC worker sprays vegetation at lakebed with “eco toxic” poisons. 2. Council contractor sprays unknown chemical around Kerikeri village and along sidewalk. 3. Heavily sprayed roadside on the school bus route, exposing children to toxic poisons. 4. Dead Kauri Snails on poisoned roadside. 5. Picnic table with spray burn around it. 6. Squashed cockroach with Brodifacoum in it from [Stuff article](#) on poisoned Tuatara (Cameron Hawken)

Credits: Images 1 & 5 Jo A. Image 2 & 4 A. Andersen. Image 6 Cameron Hawken)



Top left to right: 1. Toxic 1080 dust pours off helicopter buckets as they are loaded and as they drop poison across the landscape. 2-3. Non-target species, aquatic snails eat a bait and a dead possum floats in the river from the Russell State Forest drop. 4. Sign at DoC campsite warning of poisoned areas. 5. People protest the use of 1080 poison. 6. A dead rabbit, by-kill from aerial 1080 poisoning. 7. A poison bait in a running stream, despite claims that waterways don't get poisoned this happens in every aerial poison operation.

6. The People's Inquiry Timeline



**Te toto o te tangata
he kai, te oranga o
te tangata, he
whenua, he oneone**
– a person's blood is
nourished by food,
our wellbeing is
drawn from the land
and soils.



With the greatest thanks and respect to all those who have shared their experiences, expertise and knowledge within these submissions, interviews and testimonies.

Together we stand strong in the call for a paradigm shift towards a healthy, safe, toxin-free environment.



Published in 2024 by The People's Inquiry Committee for the people of New Zealand, all those affected or harmed by chemical poisons and for all future generations to come.

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