

1080 is the *Dompost* real killer *4/1/14*

Barry Baxter, in parroting the parliamentary commissioner for the environment's call for the use of more 1080 (Letters, Dec 28), ignores the reality of what he proposes. It's a poison that kills every creature that needs oxygen for its metabolic processes. It's an ecosystem poison.

Logically, it's the fastest breeders, particularly rats and stoats, which are able to recover quickly and which will come to dominate the forest. Slower breeding natives are massively disadvantaged.

The resulting plague of rats is the direct result of 1080. What's more, it drives the so-called "pest" crisis blamed for killing birds. It's a crisis that "conservation" organisations use to garner money from the public and corporates.

The same crisis is used to maintain a more than \$120 million a year government-owned poisons industry. It's government agencies

which spread 1080 over forests, lakes and rivers. Scientists who've raised concerns have lost their jobs or had their funding cut, so the rest go along with it.

Contrary to the commissioner and Mr Baxter, it's poisons, not "pests", killing our birds and destroying forest ecosystems.

BILL BENFIELD
Martinborough