

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES AND INTEREST GROUPS

OSPRI is committed to listening and accommodating a wide range of views through thorough and genuine public consultation about the effects of its operations. This factsheet explains OSPRI's TBfree consultation and engagement processes.



OSPRI'S TBFREE PROGRAMME

The TBfree programme aims to manage and eventually eradicate bovine tuberculosis (TB) from New Zealand's farmed cattle and deer and wild animal populations. Controlling the disease prevents livestock production losses and protects the world-leading reputation of New Zealand's dairy, beef and deer products. We use possum control, along with regular herd testing and movement restrictions, to reach our eradication goals. Information gathered from wild animal surveys, recent and

historical findings of TB in wild animals, herd testing results and the operational history of the region is used when planning operations.

OSPRI, with Government and industry support, invested \$33.7 million in 2016/17 for the delivery of ground and aerial pest control operations, with approximately \$24.9 million on ground control (including monitoring and surveillance) and approximately \$8.8 million on aerial operations. On average, these operations are being carried out over three million hectares of land throughout New Zealand each year, which affects over 200,000 land

occupiers. Effective communications and engagement with these land occupiers is essential to the success of the overall programme.





WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

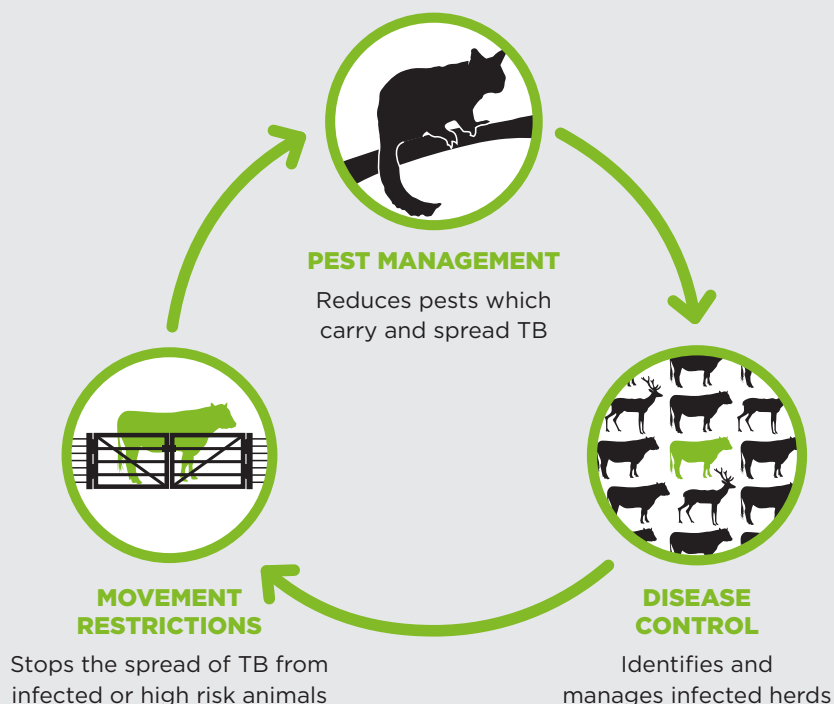
OSPRI is committed to listening and accommodating a wide range of views through thorough and genuine public consultation about the effects of its operations. For all operations OSPRI aims to ensure that communities, land occupiers and land users are notified well in advance and have the opportunity to submit feedback about any possible risks or sensitive areas that need to be managed. This includes sharing plans with:

- Landowners/occupiers who may be directly affected by operations
- Commercial companies
- Iwi groups and trusts
- Hunting associations and outdoor recreation groups
- Regional and local government
- District public health units and Medical Officers of Health
- Conservation groups
- Animal welfare groups
- General public.





HOW WE CONTROL TB



TB FREE OPERATIONS CONSULTATION PROCESS

OSPRI's TBfree consultation process involves a range of steps, from planning and operational design to postoperative reporting. Central to this is delivering national, regional and local consultations to provide an opportunity for people and organisations to gain an overview of the proposed operations and to identify what further information they may require.

NATIONAL APPROACH

A key step of the consultation process is an annual national consultation on proposed operations for the coming year. This is to ensure that affected parties, land occupiers and land users are advised, well in advance, of our proposed TBfree pest control operations and provide interested individuals and organisations the opportunity to submit feedback and comment about planned operations and possible risks or problems that may need to be managed.

Operations may be modified where our consultation with the community identifies the need to do so. For example, previous consultation with deer hunting groups in the central North Island has led to widespread use of deer repellent on 1080 baits across areas of high hunting value.

REGIONAL APPROACH

As part of our regional consultation process land occupiers within and adjacent to operations are notified well before the commencement of operations also receive specific notification and personal visits. Another important step involves

further general public notification that includes newspaper notices and clear signposting at all likely access points to operational areas. Community meetings may be held where operations are likely to be of wide or significant community interest.

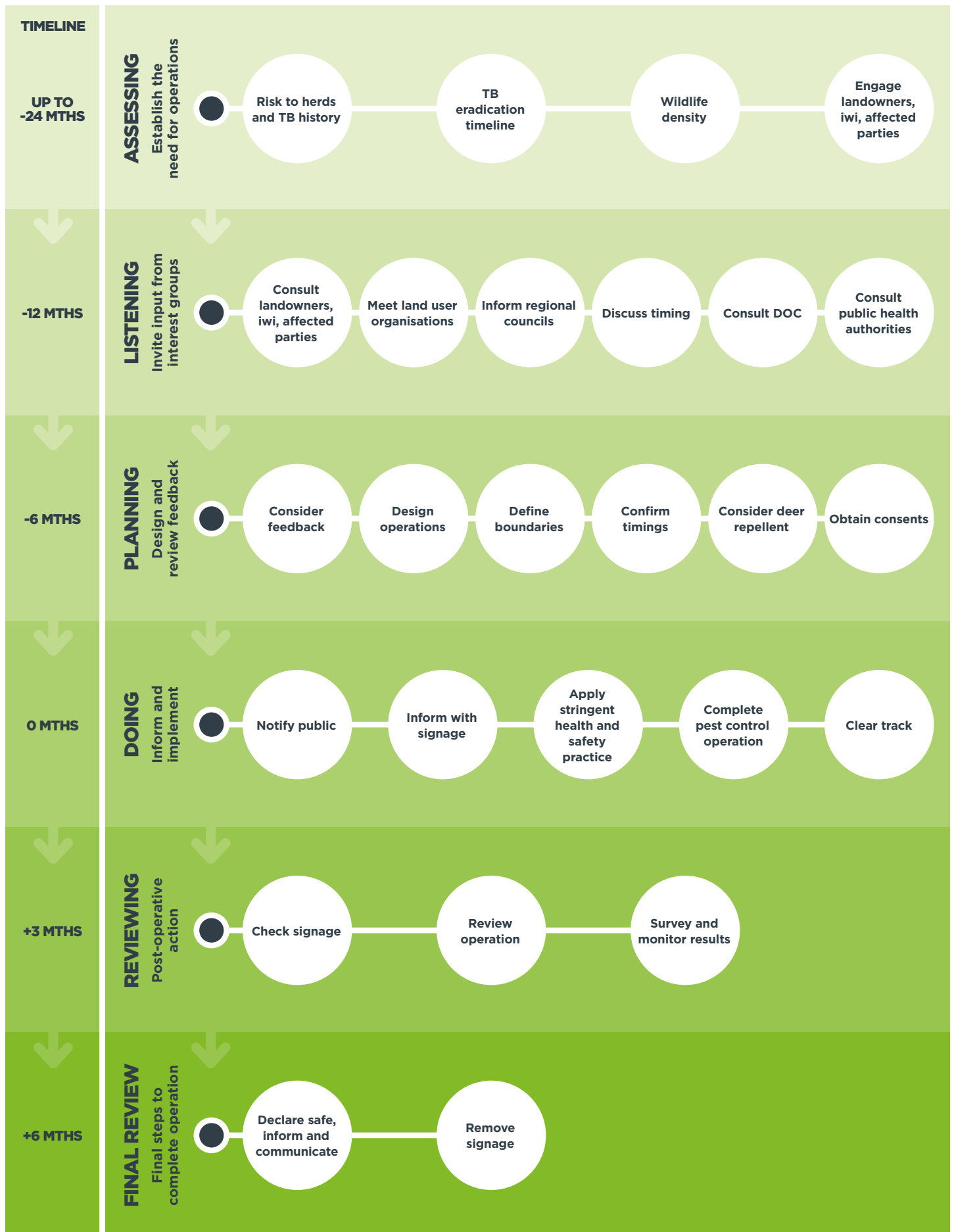
The two diagrams in this factsheet (aerial operation and ground control) show the various steps and timings through every stage of a proposed aerial and ground operation, from planning and operational design to postoperative reporting. It is important to note these are indicative and may change as a result of design modifications to specific operational details.



GROUND CONTROL PLANNING AND CONSULTATION PROCESS



AERIAL OPERATION PLANNING AND CONSULTATION PROCESS





NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR USING POISONS

The use of certain vertebrate toxic agents (VTAs) for animal pest control is regulated under the Hazardous Substances and New Organism (HSNO) Act. It is important to note that these VTA's are well regulated with notification and consent requirements related to their use which may include:

- Placement of warning signs at points of entry
- Written permission under HSNO delegated to the Ministry of Health and their Public Health Units (PHU)
- Written notice to land occupiers – which in practice involves notification followed by visits to seek their written permission (and so avoid the use of legal powers)
- Written notice to neighbouring land occupiers – which in practice involves notification followed by visits to ensure safe operational boundary management
- Notifying local and regional councils
- DOC permission for operations on public conservation estate
- Public notification in local newspapers

- Notification to Police
- MOH and DOC may specify further consultation or notification requirements as condition of their consent.

LEGAL POWERS AND OBLIGATIONS

Under the Biosecurity Act 1993, OSPRI has certain legal powers necessary for implementing the TBfree programme. These powers must generally be exercised by persons Authorised for use of those powers under the Biosecurity Act and broadly stated are to:

- Enter land and detect or manage pests on that land
- Direct land occupiers to carry out pest management
- Test cattle or deer (or other organisms) for TB
- Enter land to muster and test, or destroy untested cattle or deer.

However, generally avoided though negotiated agreement with land occupiers, including written agreement for the use of specified pest control methods on their land. As a matter of policy such agreements are facilitated by reasonable prior written notice of operational intent, and for some operations (eg trapping and poisoning

baiting) by visiting landowners to obtain written permission for specific activities on their land. Certain notifications and visits may be delegated by TBfree to contractors.

When land occupiers or livestock owners refuse permission, legal powers may be used to enforce disease or pest management requirements but our primary objective is to work with landowners.



FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information and guidance about the use of VTAs under the HSNO Act please refer to:

www.worksafe.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance