

Health and Safety for Trappers

It is the responsibility of the group co-ordinator to have the relevant health and safety requirements in place when trapping, and to make sure all volunteers involved also understand the risks/procedures. Here are some of the potential hazards to consider when undertaking pest animal monitoring and control to help you with your health and safety planning.

Group:

Location:

WHAT COULD GO WRONG?	WHY WOULD THIS OCCUR?	HOW COULD WE PREVENT IT FROM GOING WRONG?	WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT?	EMERGENCY PLAN?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injury from incorrect use of traps/tunnels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient knowledge regarding use of traps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware that failing to use equipment according to manufacturer's guidelines may cause injury Keep body parts well clear of closing mechanism Seek instruction from an experience user and/or view an online demonstration of how to hold and set prior to using trapping equipment Ensure all volunteers are confident setting and clearing traps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leader(s) to ensure volunteers of the group receive adequate training Individual responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid kit present when setting/clearing traps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakage to trap causing injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to maintain traps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use equipment in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and keep well maintained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid kit present

WHAT COULD GO WRONG?	WHY WOULD THIS OCCUR?	HOW COULD WE PREVENT IT FROM GOING WRONG?	WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT?	EMERGENCY PLAN?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injury from handling live or dead animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal still alive in trap (trap did not kill cleanly) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dispatch animal or if not confident to do so swiftly, contact your local DOC office or vet. Be aware of potential for scratches, bites and lacerations, and handle with care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid kit present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exposure to infectious diseases and harmful pathogens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal still alive in trap (trap did not kill cleanly) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice a high standard of hygiene (Cover broken skin before clearing traps, wear gloves, wash hands etc.) Only handle animals if you feel competent and confident to do so and/or ensure animal is dead before handling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek medical advice if feeling unwell after handling animals or equipment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of the public/child injured by trap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unprotected trap use in public places and around children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps must be housed in a closed tunnel with a warning label/contact information of Community Group responsible for the traps Tunnels must never be left open while unattended by a responsible and competent user Always seek permission from landowner before deploying traps and follow any regulations and guidelines stipulated by them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group leader Individual responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer first aid if present and required

Procedures for trapping on council land (*ignore this section if backyard trapping*):

- * Make sure that your traps are well-labelled with contact information for your group on the trap itself
- * Traps or boxes should be clearly marked with a warning to prevent accidents or injuries
- * Traps should meet NAWAC humane standards
- * Away from vehicle or foot traffic (i.e. no less than 2 metres from a path/track)
- * The location of all traps should be mapped (ideally with GPS locations recorded) and kept on file/TrapNZ

Tips for trappers:

- * Never set-off the traps without a suitable object to absorb the impact of the kill bar as this can cause stress to working parts and may result in breakage
- * Be aware that unsecured traps can move and jump when triggered and do not lean directly over equipment while setting

I have read and understand the 'Health and Safety for Trappers' document:

Date: _____ **Printed Name:** _____ **Signature:** _____