

1080 EJECTORS

What are Ejectors?

M-44 ejectors are baited, spring-activated devices that propel the contents of a Capsule (1080) into the mouth of a wild dog or fox as it pulls upwards with sufficient force on a baited lure head. Ejectors have been deployed in the United States by the US Department of Agriculture since the late 1930's for the control of coyotes, red and grey foxes, and wild dogs.

The lure head can be made of a variety of meat based products like lambs tongue, salami, manufactured meat and smacks just to name a few. The lure head sits above ground so it facilitates a more attractive offer to wild dogs and foxes whilst improving the safety of off-target animals targeting the bait. e.g kangaroos, quolls, wombats etc.

How do we use them in NPWS?

The threat posed by wild dogs and foxes to wildlife, livestock and community wellbeing is widely recognised in the Central Coast and Hunter Region. NPWS are committed to control these serious pests under state legislation, local plans and agreements with other landholders such as Council, Forests and neighbours.

NPWS traditionally use conventional baiting practices such as mound baiting e.g buried meat baits and trapping with mixed success.

M-44 ejectors are another tool that we can use and have been proven effective for wild dog and fox control.

The Benefits of 1080 Ejectors

NPWS use ejectors because;

- they are target specific – only large animals with sufficient strength can activate the device;
- they can be used as sentinel stations – ejectors can be set for long periods in the field as the 1080 is protected within a sealed capsule;
- they cannot be moved or cached – resulting in less risk to non-target animals (particularly domestic dogs). Remember domestic dogs are not allowed in NPWS reserves at any time.

Risk Management

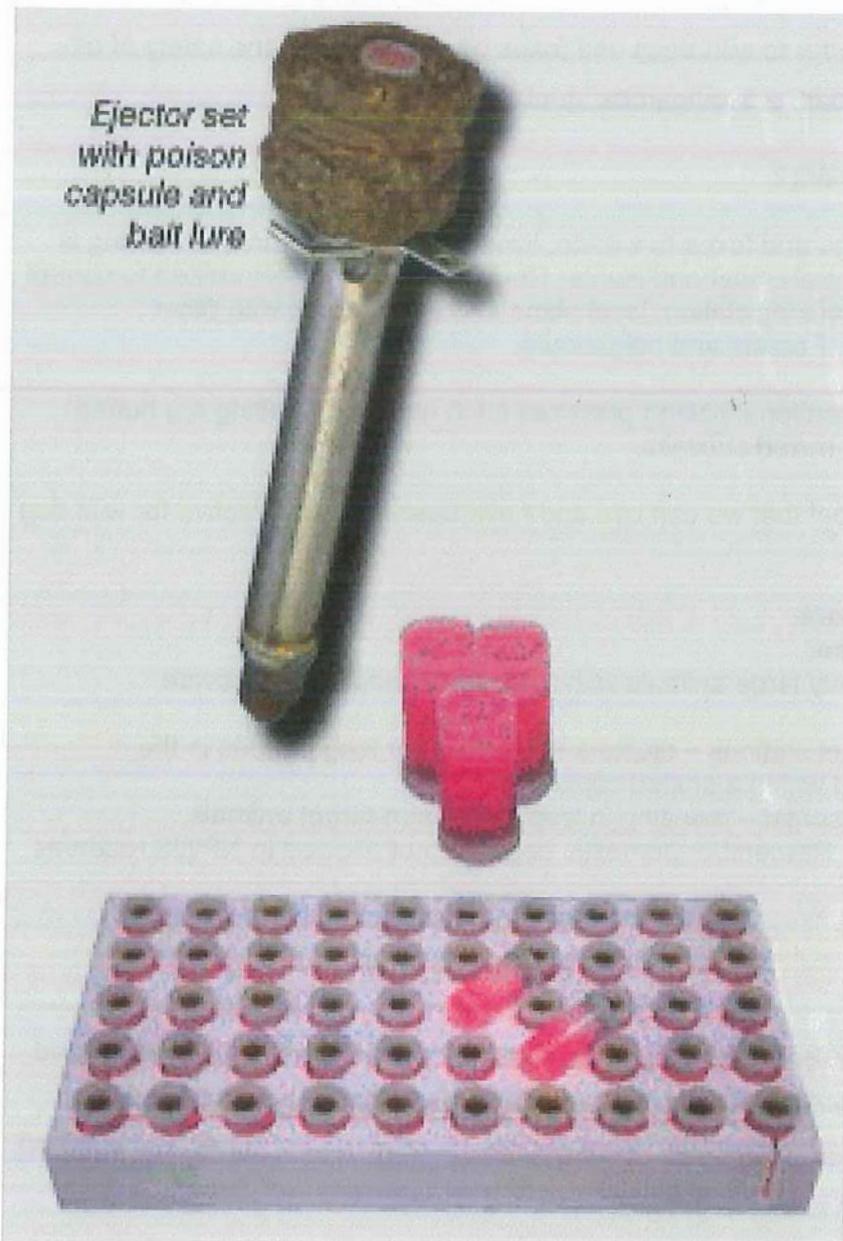
Ejectors are placed along the edge fire trails where they will target travelling wild dogs and foxes the best. Ejectors are discrete and often hard to discover (we gps and map the locations) but once discovered pose a risk of contact if triggered. This is mainly because the lure/bait head of the ejectors is above ground.

There is an increased risk to domestic dogs if discovered and triggered

For domestic dogs a trigger event with an ejector is more than likely to be fatal, for humans a triggered event is not likely to pose a risk. Based on the lowest known lethal dose for

humans (0.71 mg/kg bw), an 80 kg person would have to consume approximately 56mg of fluoroacetic acid (more than 8 canid pest ejector capsules 6mg DOG, to receive a potential lethal dose.)

NPWS Rangers/ Discovery Guides should provide a brief (which may include a picture of an ejector, safety brief and a map of ejector locations) to any known visitor groups planning to visit a reserve whilst a program is running.



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