



## **The 1080 Waterway Safety Guide**

*(High-Risk Protocols for Riverbank Colonies)*

### **FIELD GUIDE: WATERWAY SAFETY & BUFFER ZONES**

#### **Protecting Colonies in 1080 Operational Zones**

**The Conflict:** DOC 1080 operations often maintain "safety buffers" around major waterways. While toxins aren't dropped in the water, these riverbanks become "**Rat Highways**" where rodent activity is highest.

#### **The Protocol for Guardians:**

- **The 50m Rule:** Move all feeding stations at least 50 metres back from the high-water mark to keep cats away from the riverbank "Rat Highway" where they are most likely to be targeted by contractors.
- **The Scent Stake:** Place unwashed bedding from the colony near the riverbank. This maintains the **Sentinel Shield** (scent barrier) to deter swimming rats without putting the cats at physical risk.
- **Signage:** Post the **SGL Notice of Stewardship** clearly at all access points to the waterway to warn contractors that these animals are legally managed.