



**Once you have completed this form**

**Send by post to:** Environmental Protection Authority, Private Bag 63002, Wellington 6140

**OR email to:** [submissions@epa.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@epa.govt.nz)

**Once your submission has been received the submission becomes a public document and may be made publicly available to anyone who requests it. You may request that your contact details be kept confidential, but your name, organisation and your submission itself will become a public document.**

<b>Submission on application number:</b>	APP203336 Samurai Wasp to control Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
<b>Name of submitter or contact for joint submission:</b>	Cath Wallace
<b>Organisation name (if on behalf of an organisation):</b>	Environment and Conservation Organisations of NZ Inc
<b>Postal address:</b>	P O Box 11-057, Wellington
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I wish to keep my contact details confidential

The EPA will deal with any personal information you supply in your submission in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993. We will use your contact details for the purposes of processing the application that it relates to (or in exceptional situations for other reasons permitted under the Privacy Act 1993). Where your submission is made publicly available, your contact details will be removed only if you have indicated this as your preference in the tick box above. We may also use your contact details for the purpose of requesting your participation in customer surveys.

The EPA is likely to post your submission on its website at [www.epa.govt.nz](http://www.epa.govt.nz). We also may make your submission available in response to a request under the Official Information Act 1982.

- I support the application
- I oppose the application
- I neither support or oppose the application

**The reasons for making my submission are<sup>1</sup>: (further information can be appended to your submission, see footnote).**

We recognise the harm that the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug could cause, and so support in principle the application to allow rapid response if the BMSB is found in New Zealand. But we are also concerned that the proposal for introduction involves risks to New Zealand insect species. We accept that some of these may actually be introduced, but there remains a high level of uncertainty as to the impacts that may result for native fauna. Thus we request that a condition of approval of this application be that more work is done to examine the potential impacts of any samurai wasp introduction, especially on the endemic and native species. We also request that the EPA establishes a fund from applicants and government to allow environmental protection responses in the event of harms being detected. Monitoring, reporting and response provisions should be conditions on any (and every) approval and that these continue for at least 55 years.

**All submissions are taken into account by the decision makers. In addition, please indicate whether or not you also wish to speak at a hearing if one is held.**

- I wish to be heard in support of my submission (this means that you can speak at the hearing)
- I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission (this means that you cannot speak at the hearing)

**If neither box is ticked, it will be assumed you do not wish to appear at a hearing.**

**I wish for the EPA to make the following decision:**

We request that the application be approved subject to several conditions. One condition of approval of this application should be that more work is done to examine the potential impacts of any samurai wasp introduction, especially on the endemic and native species. The nature and results of this research should be publicly reported with independent peer review over the coming months and years. Monitoring, reporting (publicly) and environmental protection and response conditions should be conditions on any approval. If significant impacts are detected, early reporting should be mandatory. the approval should be put on hold and a process of re-evaluation should be conducted. We suggest that reporting provisions be conditions on any approval and that these continue for at least 55 years. Given that introductions of new species is an inherently uncertain process, we recommend that the EPA establish a fund from money from applicants and from government to provide for responses to protect the environment. An essential element of any application to import new organisms for biocontrol (or any other purpose) should be a credible and researched eradication plan for the imported organism. Given that this has not been supplied here, we suggest that it be made a condition of this application to import the samurai wasp.

<sup>1</sup> Further information can be appended to your submission, if you are sending this submission electronically and attaching a file we accept the following formats – Microsoft Word, Text, PDF, ZIP, JPEG and JPG. The file must be not more than 8Mb.