

Rat Response Plan

*A current plan for reducing
rat activity in Ada County*



208-327-7400

- *Rats cannot be eradicated from our area now that they are established.*
- *CDH's goal is to reduce rat activity and offer practical ways to manage the issues.*



How CDH is Using Rat Response Funds

The CDH Board of Health allocated funding for resident support, pilot projects, local data and public outreach.

Where the Money Is Going



\$100,000 — Help for residents: Help qualifying Ada County households pay for pest control. Assistance may be capped at \$600 per household. Free snap traps may also be provided.



\$55,000 — Nonlethal control pilot: Test a nonpoisonous birth-control product that may reduce the rat population over time. The pilot would be in a Boise neighborhood chosen using infestation and sighting reports and Nextdoor involvement.



\$46,500 — Mapping and outreach: Purchase the existing Pied Piper rat-mapping website and build on its community trust. Resident reports and its heat map will help CDH find areas of high activity and focus outreach.



\$10,000 — Use Smart Traps in public space/waterways to monitor movement: In addition to euthanizing rats (by impact), smart traps provide information about movements and population sizes which will help determine where further efforts are needed.

This plan will evolve as CDH learns what works.

Other Community Actions

- Public workshops, neighborhood outreach and consistent online information
- Owl and raptor nesting-box support provided by Ada County
- Testing remotely monitored traps in public spaces with community partners
- Sample ordinances communities can adapt to reduce rat attractants and shelter

Accountability

CDH will review results, coordinate with partners and use what it learns to guide future work.