



Report 04.418
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Committee Landcare
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Karori Sanctuary

1. Purpose

To seek the Landcare Committee's endorsement of a work programme to assist Karori Wildlife Sanctuary.

2. Background

Greater Wellington has been a strategic partner of Karori Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS) since KWS's inception. The Sanctuary's land was acquired by the KWS Trust from Greater Wellington. Greater Wellington contributed towards KWS's pest animal eradication programme in 1999/2000.

In May 2004, KWS made a submission to the Greater Wellington 2004/05 Annual Plan, requesting funds to assist biosecurity maintenance and a number of restoration activities in the sanctuary. The Council agreed to include an extra \$10,000 in its budget for 2004/2005.

3. Work Programme

Karori Wildlife Sanctuary have requested that the \$10,000 for 2004/2005 be used to fell pine trees on the inside of the perimeter fence. The pines pose a significant risk to the security of the Sanctuary. Storm events can bring these large trees down across the predator-proof fence allowing pests, such as mustelids, to enter the Sanctuary. The felling of the pine trees is in keeping with Karori Sanctuary's goal of restoring the indigenous character of the valley. All exotic species within the fenced 250ha are to be either eradicated or controlled to negligible levels.

The KWS have a permit from Wellington City Council to fell 1km of pine trees each year and undertake most of this work using KWS staff. Some trees however need to be felled by specialists and the Sanctuary would like GWRC to hire contractors to complete this work. The KWS staff have indicated that this work will need to continue for a number of years.

Parks and Forests officers endorse KWS aims for pine eradication to restore and protect the Sanctuary.

4. Communications

Parks and Forests will prepare a press release to publicise the Council's role in assisting Karori Sanctuary in its environmental restoration objectives.

5. Recommendations

That the Landcare Committee:

- (1) Receive the report.*
- (2) Note that the funds allocated to assist Karori Wildlife Sanctuary will be used to remove pine trees from within KWS boundaries.*
- (3) Endorse the 2004/2005 work programme for the use of the Greater Wellington's \$10,000 in the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary*

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