



**greater WELLINGTON**  
**REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Te Pane Matua Taiao**

If calling please ask for: Democratic Services

9 May 2019

## **Wellington Regional Council**

Order Paper for the meeting of the Wellington Regional Council to be held in the Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington on:

**Tuesday, 14 May 2019 at 9.30am**

### **Membership**

Cr Laidlaw (Chair)

Cr Blakeley  
Cr Donaldson  
Cr Kedgley  
Cr Lamason  
Cr Ogden  
Cr Staples

Cr Brash  
Cr Gaylor  
Cr Laban  
Cr McKinnon  
Cr Ponter  
Cr Swain

***Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council***

## Wellington Regional Council

Order Paper for the meeting of the Wellington Regional Council to be held on Tuesday, 14 May 2019 in the Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.30am.

### Public Business

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| 1. Apologies   |                      |          |
| 2. Declarations of conflict of interest                                |                      |          |
| 3. Public participation  |                      |          |
| 4. <a href="#">Confirmation of the Public minutes of 10 April 2019</a> | <b>Report 19.148</b> | <b>4</b> |

### Strategy/Policy/Major Issues

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| 5. <a href="#">Decision on the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan</a> | <b>Report 19.179</b> | <b>11</b> |
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### Governance

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| 6. <a href="#">Greater Wellington Regional Council's Communication policy for the 2019 pre-election period</a> | <b>Report 19.74</b>  | <b>379</b> |
| 7. <a href="#">Establishment of an Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee</a>                                   | <b>Report 19.169</b> | <b>386</b> |
| 8. <a href="#">Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee: amendment to the Terms of Reference</a>                  | <b>Report 19.177</b> | <b>391</b> |

### Corporate

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| 9. <a href="#">Health, Safety and Wellbeing report</a>   | <b>Report 19.56</b>  | <b>401</b> |
| 10. <a href="#">Summary report for the third quarter</a> | <b>Report 19.174</b> | <b>406</b> |
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### Public Excluded Business

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| 12. <a href="#">Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of 10 April 2019</a> | <b>Report PE19.153</b> | <b>430</b> |
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13. Greater Wellington Regional Council office accommodation

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14. Procurement of Ferry Services

**Report PE19.142 (To come)**

### **Restricted Public Excluded Business**

15. Future Fleet

**Report RPE19.143 (To come)**

16. Request for Change of Ownership Consent

**Report RPE19.175 (To come)**



**greater WELLINGTON**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Pane Matua Taiao

**Please note that these minutes remain unconfirmed until the meeting of the Council on 14 May 2019.**

**Report 19.148**

10/04/2019

File: CCAB-8-2219

**Public minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 10 April 2019 in the Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.30am**

**Present**

Councillors Laidlaw (Chair), Blakeley, Brash, Donaldson, Gaylor, Kedgley, Laban, Lamason, Ogden, Ponter, Staples and Swain.

## **Public Business**

### **1 Apologies**

*Moved*

*(Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Lamason)*

*That the Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor McKinnon.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

### **2 Additional agenda item**

*Moved*

*(Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Blakeley)*

*That, in accordance with Standing Order 3.5.5, an item not on the agenda be dealt with before the Exclusion of the Public report, with the additional item being "Proposed remits to the LGNZ AGM 2019". The item is not on the agenda as the proposed remits had not been prepared at the time the Order Paper was issued, and the item cannot be delayed to a subsequent meeting because of the timeframe to obtain support from other councils for proposed LGNZ remits.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

3 **Declarations of conflict of interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4 **Public participation**

There was no public participation.

5 **Confirmation of the Public and Restricted Public Excluded minutes of 21 March 2019 and the Public minutes of 2 April 2019.**

*Moved* (Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Donaldson)

*That the Council confirms the Public minutes of 21 March 2019, Report 19.106, the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of 21 March 2019, Report RPE19.111, and the Public minutes of 2 April 2019, Report 19.145.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Strategy/Policy/Major Issues**

6 **Completion of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP)**

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, and Tim Sharp, Whaitua Programme Manager, introduced the report. Naomi Solomon, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, introduced the Ngāti Toa Rangatira statement. Stu Farrant (Chair) and Diane Strugnell of the Te-Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee spoke to the Committee's report.

**Report 19.121**

File: CCAB-8-2184

*Moved* (Cr Donaldson/ Cr Brash)

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Receives the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme.*
4. *Receives the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Implementation Programme - Ngāti Toa Rangatira Statement*
5. *Agrees to refer the regulatory proposals within the WIP and Ngāti Toa Rangatira Statement to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee for incorporation into the Regional Plan through a plan change or variation process.*
6. *Agrees to further develop the non-regulatory proposals within the WIP and Ngāti Toa Rangatira Statement in conjunction with relevant external organisations, and to consider them in the development of the next Long Term Plan.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Noted:** Cr Lamason left the meeting at 10.20am, during discussion on the above item of business.

The meeting adjourned at 10.23am, and reconvened at 10.43am. Cr Lamason rejoined the meeting when it reconvened.

7 **Wellington Water proposed governance changes**

**Report 19.118**

File: LEGL-5-470

*Moved*

*(Cr Brash/ Cr Blakeley)*

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Notes the content of the letter from Simpson Grierson dated 26 March 2019, as Attachment 1 to the report.*
4. *Adopts the changes to the Shareholders' Agreement, attached as Attachment 2 to the report.*
5. *Adopts the changes to the Constitution, attached as Attachment 3 to the report.*
6. *Adopts the changes to the Terms of Reference of the Wellington Water Committee, attached as Attachment 4 to the report.*
7. *Delegates to the Chief Executive the power to finalise the Shareholders' Agreement and Constitution and make minor amendments to make them consistent with that is approved by other shareholders, subject to Councillors being advised of any amendments by email and noting that changes that alter the meaning or content of the documents will require Council approval.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Noted:** Cr Kedgley was absent from the meeting from 10.43am until 10.47am, during the consideration of the above item.

8 **Review of the Resource Management Charging Policy**

**Report 19.144**

File: RMPOL-965945108-24

*Moved*

*(Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Brash)*

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report*
2. *Notes the content of the report*

3. *Approves the Statement of Proposal (Attachment 1) and Summary of Information (Attachment 2) for the proposed amendments to the Resource Management Charing Policy.*
4. *Notes the submission period from late April to late May 2019 and the proposed consultation and engagement activities.*
5. *Delegates to the following officers the authority to receive verbal submissions to the proposed amendments to the Resource Management Charing Policy: Shaun Andrewartha, Manager Environmental Regulation; Stephen Thawley, Project Leader Environmental Regulation.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

9 **2019 Local Government New Zealand national conference and Annual General Meeting**

**Report 19.110**

File: CCAB-8-2176

*Moved*

*(Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Donaldson)*

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Approves the attendance of Councillors Laidlaw, Blakeley, Brash and Donaldson, and Greg Campbell, Chief Executive, at the 2019 LGNZ national conference.*
4. *Approves the attendance of Councillors Laidlaw, Blakeley and Donaldson, and Greg Campbell, Chief Executive, at the 2019 LGNZ Annual General Meeting.*
5. *Nominates Councillor Laidlaw as the Presiding Delegate for voting on behalf of the Council at the 2019 LGNZ Annual General Meeting.*
6. *Nominates Councillors Blakeley and Donaldson, and Greg Campbell, Chief Executive, as Alternate Delegates for voting on behalf of the Council at the 2019 LGNZ Annual General Meeting if Councillor Laidlaw is absent from the Annual General Meeting.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

10 **Health, Safety and Wellness update**

Nigel Corry, General Manager, People and Customer, introduced the report.

**Report 19.56**

File: CCAB-8-2193

*Moved*

*(Cr Donaldson/ Cr Lamason)*

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report*
2. *Notes the content of the report*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

11 **WRC Holdings Group 2019/20 draft Statement of Intent**

**Report 19.105**

File: CCAB-8-2156

*Moved*

*(Cr Lamason/ Cr Laidlaw)*

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Receives the draft Statement of Intent of WRC Holdings Group for 2019/20 and makes the following comments for forwarding to the directors of WRC Holdings for their consideration:*
  - *Requests that the WRC Holdings Group identifies, mitigates and reports to Council on the impact of climate change on the performance and assets of each of its subsidiaries and on any reduction in emissions.*
  - *Notes that CentrePort, in its letter of 31 January 2019 from the CentrePort Chairman to the Acting Chair of Port Investments Limited, in response to the letter of expectations from Port Investments Limited dated 21 December 2018, states that CentrePort:*
    - i. *Will complete an integrated carbon management plan as part of the Port Regeneration Plan, with the plan including emission reduction targets, reduction opportunities and ongoing monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions, including independent verification.*
    - ii. *Will ensure that the timing of the integrated carbon management plan aligns with current climate change policy developments such as the Zero Carbon Bill, and that the plan will be developed in collaboration with shareholders and other stakeholders, and reviewed on an ongoing basis.*
    - iii. *Will ensure that CentrePort is aligned with all relevant targets, with the long term target of achieving carbon zero by 2050 proposed under the Zero carbon Bill.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

12 **Local Government Funding Agency's Draft Statement of Intent 2019/20**

**Report 19.112**

File: CCAB-8-2181

*Moved*

*(Cr Staples/ Cr Lamason)*



*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Receives the draft Statement of Intent of the Local Government Funding Agency.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

13 **Additional item: Proposed remits to the LGNZ AGM 2019**

Moved

(Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Blakeley)

*That remits on the following matters be finalised for submission to the LGNZ AGM 2019, subject to each remit receiving the required level of support from other councils:*

- *The establishment by Government of an independent expert working group to develop a new funding policy framework for adapting to climate change impacts.*
- *Councils adopting vehicle procurement policies that give priority to purchasing electric vehicles.*
- *That the Government commences a review of the Public Transport Operating Model in this term of Government.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

14 **Exclusion of the public**

**Report 19.143**

Moved

(Cr Laidlaw/ Cr Donaldson)

*That the Council:*

*Excludes the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

1. *Insurance – below ground bulk water supply assets*
2. *PT Ticketing Event Opportunity*

*The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered:</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
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- |    |  |   |  |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1. | <i>Insurance - below ground bulk water supply assets</i> | <i>This report contains information provided by insurance providers relating to pricing for the</i> | <i>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting</i> |
|----|--|---|--|

*renewal of GWRC's insurance. Release of this information would likely prejudice the insurers' commercial position as it would reveal their pricing. GWRC has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice to the insurers' commercial position.*

*would be likely to result in the disclosure of information which good reason for withholding exists under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act (i.e. would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.)*

2. *PT Ticketing Event Opportunity*
- The information contained in this report relates to an event ticketing opportunity. The report outlines terms of the proposed ticketing agreement which is still subject to negotiation and acceptance. Having this part of the meeting open to the public would disadvantage GWRC if further negotiations were to take place as it would reveal GWRC's negotiation strategy. GWRC Greater Wellington Regional Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.*
- That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7(2)(i) of the Act (i.e. to carry out negotiations without prejudice).*

*This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as specified above.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

The public part of the meeting closed at 12.22pm.

Cr C Laidlaw  
(Chair)

Date:



<b>Report</b>	19.179
Date	14 May 2019
File	CCAB-8-2235
<b>Committee</b>	Council
<b>Author</b>	Cr Jenny Brash, Chair, Regional Pest Management Plan Hearing Panel

## **Decision on the GWRC Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan**

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this paper is to:

- a. Present to Council the recommendations from the Hearing Panel on the provisions of and submissions on the Regional Pest Management Plan (the Plan);
- b. Seek Council's approval to adopt the recommendations on the Plan; and
- c. Seek Council's approval to publicly notify the decisions on the Plan.

### **2. Background**

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is reviewing its Regional Pest Management Strategy (RPMS). The GWRC RPMS provides the strategic and statutory framework for effective pest animal and pest plant management in the Wellington Region. The current version of the RPMS has served the pest management needs of the greater Wellington community for nine years, its lifespan being 2002-2022. Since 1996 the GWRC RPMS has been reviewed twice. It was last reviewed in 2007, and the amended document was implemented in 2009.

To respond to changing national biosecurity requirements, the Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012 was introduced. In particular, amendments have been made to Part 5 of the Act 'Pest Management', which legislates for regional pest management.

Regional Councils were involved through a range of consultative processes, ensuring that the amended Act met the requirements for regional pest management. The subsequent amendments to the Act led to the development of

the National Policy Direction for Pest Management 2015 (the NPD) to guide the review and development process of what are now known as Regional Pest Management Plans (RPMP).

GWRC was required by law to determine whether the RPMP was consistent with the NPD for pest management which came into force on 24 September 2015. It was determined on 06 March 2017, by the Environment Committee (Report 17.64) as required by section 100E of the Biosecurity Act 1993, that the Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 was inconsistent with the National Policy Direction. It was further determined, that the inconsistency between the Regional Pest Management Plan and the National Policy Direction, would be resolved by a full review initiated under section 100D of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Following the decision by the Council on 26 June 2018 (Report 18.261) the Greater Wellington Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan was publicly notified on 30 June 2018 for a period of submissions until 27 July 2018.

### **3. Comment**

The submission period was followed by a hearing of submissions received, which took place in October 2018. The Hearing Panel met multiple times following the hearing of submissions in order to conduct its deliberations.

### **4. Hearing Panel**

The role of the Hearing Panel for the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan was to consider and hear submissions on the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan and make recommendations to Council.

The membership of the Hearing Panel for the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan consisted of (Report 18.337 refers):

- Cr Jenny Brash, Chair
- Cr Adrienne Staples
- John Simmons, independent member
- Rawiri Faulkner, independent member, representing mana whenua interests.

The process for making a regional pest management plan is set out in sections 70 to 75 of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act). The process involves six key steps which are summarised in [Attachment 1](#). The Hearing Panel has undertaken the third to fifth steps of the plan making process and has made recommendations to the Council as part of the sixth step. The Hearing Panel

was also required to be satisfied that sufficient consultation had been undertaken in accordance with section 72(1) of the Act and that the issues raised in all of the consultation undertaken on the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan was considered in accordance with section 73(1) of the Act.

A draft plan was prepared by Council officers in accordance with sections 73 and 74 of the Act and provided to the Hearing Panel. The Hearing Panel has prepared recommendations to Council on the RPMP and submissions lodged. These recommendations are articulated in the recommendations report ([Attachment 2](#)). An amended version of the draft RPMP, incorporating the recommended changes, is included as [Attachment 3](#).

## **5. Recommended amendments**

The Hearing Panel recommended a number of amendments to the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan. These included minor corrections to the text to improve readability or articulate important information more clearly, as well as more substantive changes. A full list of recommended amendments can be found in the decision report ([Attachment 2](#)); the significant changes are summarised here.

1. A more detailed explanation of Council's relationship with mana whenua in pest management has been inserted.
2. Wilding conifers have been inserted into the Regional Pest Management Plan as a pest species.
3. Unnecessary technical language has been removed.
4. Information on animal welfare has been expanded.
5. Information on regional parks and the pest management work conducted in them has been inserted.
6. Feral deer have been inserted into the Regional Pest Management Plan as a pest species.

## **6. Next Steps**

The Council must give public notice of its decision on the Plan and state where the Plan resulting from the Council's decision may be read (section 75(4)).

The Council must also give a copy of the written report to every person who made a submission (section 75(3)).

Submitters have 15 working days after the date of the public notice to make an application to the Environment Court on:

- a. Any aspect of the Plan;
- b. Whether the Plan is inconsistent with the NPD; and
- c. Whether the process requirements for a plan in the NPD were complied with.

Applications are made under section 291 of the RMA.

Section 76(7) provides that the Environment Court must hold a public hearing on the application. We note that in respect of the application by Forest and Bird in relation to Kauri dieback disease, even though Forest and Bird and the Northland Regional Council reached agreement on the application, the Environment Court considered that it was still required to hold a hearing.

The Court must either dismiss the application or direct the council to modify the plan, delete a provision from the plan, or insert a provision in the plan.

The Plan is made, and commences when, the Council fixes the seal to the Plan (section 77).

If there are no Environment Court applications the Council must go ahead and make the Plan by fixing the Council's seal to the Plan.

If there are Environment Court applications, if the matters that are the subject of the application are severable from the rest of the Plan, the Council may go ahead and make the remainder of the Plan by fixing the Council's seal to the Plan.

The Council must give notice of the making of the Plan and the commencement date of the Plan.

## **7. Consideration of climate change**

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

### **7.1 Mitigation assessment**

Operational emissions associated with biosecurity operations are measured and reported via the GWRC Carbon Inventory and subject to the emissions reduction initiatives set out in the GWRC Corporate Sustainability Action Plan.

GWRC's role in enabling forests in the region to draw CO<sub>2</sub> down from the atmosphere (carbon sequestration) is significant. Biosecurity operations contribute to protecting native and plantation forest and vegetation by maintaining large scale pest animal management programmes.

Possum control and KNE programmes help maintain the carbon sequestration capacity of forests located within the 168,000 ha under GWRC control (the KNE programme encompasses 48,000 ha of mostly forest ecosystems and regional possum control covers over 120,000 ha of the region). Trees planted through Biodiversity and Parks programmes along with erosion control initiatives have resulted in thousands of new trees being planted each year.

## **7.2 Adaptation assessment**

Biosecurity threats are expected to increase as the climate in the Wellington Region continues to change. Future challenges will include new exotic pests, weeds and diseases which have previously not been able to flourish becoming established. The potential establishment of subtropical pests and current seasonal immigrants are of greatest concern, along with taxa that are already recognised as high risk.

Biosecurity impacts related to climate change have been considered in the draft RPMP. Subsequent RPMP Operational Plans will address threats identified in the plan, as well as options for managing the effects climate change is expected to have on the departments' operations (for example severe weather can impact service delivery of aerial and ground based pest control).

## **8. The decision-making process and significance**

The matters requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

### **8.1 Significance of the decision**

The decision-making process in this case is explicitly prescribed for by the Biosecurity Act 1993 (Attachment 1 refers).

### **8.2 Engagement**

Upon Council's resolution to accept the Hearing Panel recommendations and notify the draft RPMP there will be extensive advertising in the printed and electronic media informing public as well as individual communication to the submitters informing them on the Panel's decision and process as explained in section 6.

## **9. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

- 1. Receives the written report*
- 2. Adopts the written Hearing Panel Recommendations report as the Council's written report and decision on the Regional Pest Management Plan under section 75 of the Biosecurity Act*

3. *Resolves that the Council's decision on the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan be publicly notified and that the draft Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2039be notified under section 75(4).*

Report prepared by:

**Cr Jenny Brash**

Chair, RPMS Hearing Panel

**Attachment 1:** Diagram summarising six (6) step process for making a regional pest management plan

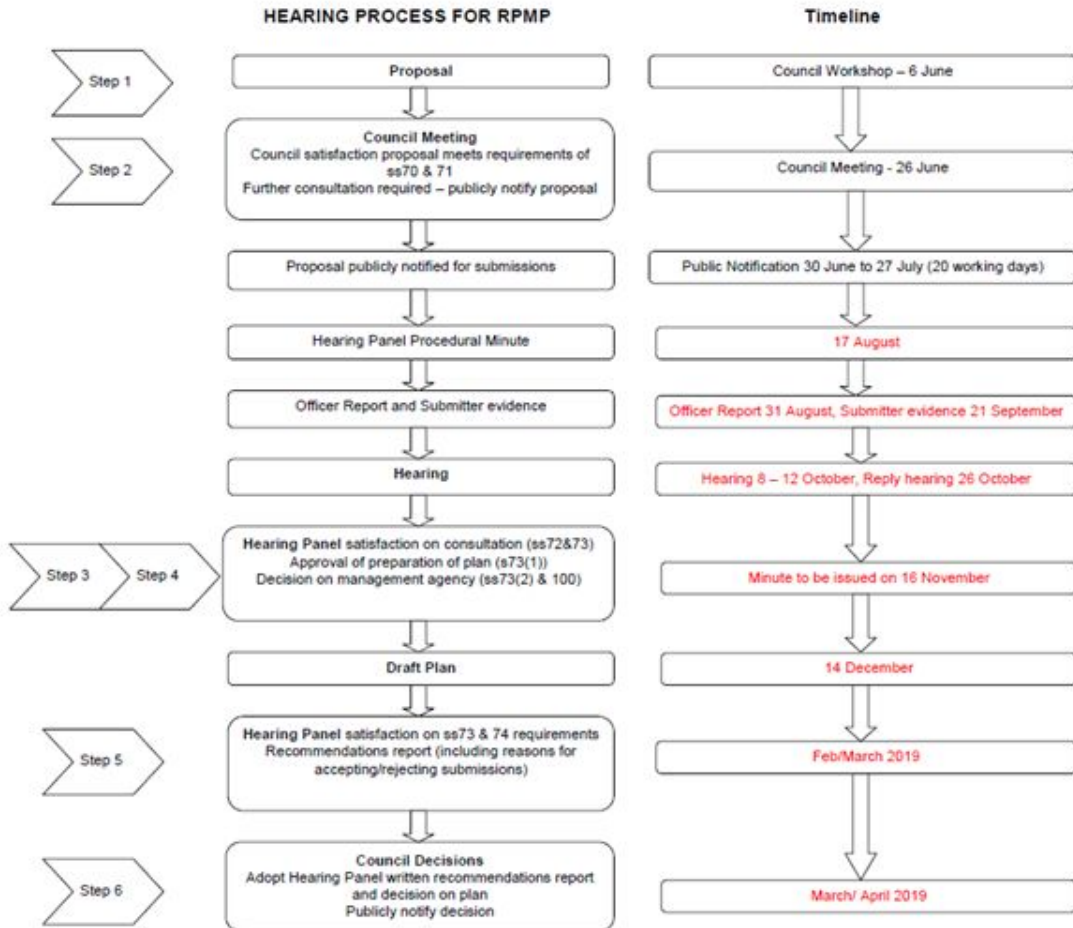
**Attachment 2:** Hearing Panel Recommendations Report for Greater Wellington Regional Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan

**Attachment 3:** Amended version of Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan, incorporating amendments



**Attachment 1 to Report 19.179**

Diagram summarising six (6) step process for making a regional pest management plan



Attachment 2 to Report 19.179

## **Recommendation Report**

# **Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan for the Wellington Region**

Under section 75 of the Biosecurity Act 1993



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**Table 1: List of abbreviations**

<b>List of Abbreviations</b>	
Biosecurity Act 1993	BSA
Cost-Benefit analysis	CBA
Department of Conservation	DOC
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	Federated Farmers
Greater Wellington Regional Council	GWRC, Council
Hutt City Council	HCC
Hutt Valley New Zealand Deerstalkers Association	HVNZDA
Kapiti Coast District Council	KCDC
Key Native Ecosystem	KNE
Masterton District Council	MDC
Mainland Island Restoration Operation	MIRO
Ministry for Primary Industries	MPI
Natural Resources Plan	NRP
New Zealand Transport Agency	NZTA
Regional Pest Management Plan	RPMP
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand	Forest and Bird
Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	SPCA
Upper Hutt City Council	UHCC
Wellington Botanical Society	Botanical Society
Wellington City Council	WCC

Wellington Fish and Game Council	Fish and Game
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## **1. Introduction**

1. The Greater Wellington Regional Council ('GWRC' or 'Council') under clause 32 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 appointed us as the Hearing Panel on the Proposal for the Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan ('RPMP').
2. We are: Councillor Jenny Brash (chair), Councillor Adrienne Staples, Rawiri Faulkner, and John Simmons.
3. GWRC delegated to us the powers, functions and duties of GWRC set out in:
  - a) Sections 72 to 74 (excluding section 72(5)) and sections 100D(6)(b) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 ('BSA'), in respect of the RPMP; and
  - b) Sections 75(1) and (2) of the BSA to prepare a written report on the RPMP.
4. These include the powers, functions and duties of hearing submissions on the RPMP, and of making recommendations to GWRC on the RPMP.
5. The Proposed Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2039 is to replace the Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002 – 2022.
6. Part 5 of the BSA sets out a six-step process that must be followed when making a regional pest management plan (set out in sections 70 to 75 of the BSA). These are as follows:
7. The first step, set out by section 70 of the BSA, is the initiation of the proposed regional pest management plan. The Act requires the proposal to identify pest organisms, their adverse effects, objectives regarding these pests, the main measures for achieving these objectives, and the costs and benefits of the plan (among other things). The proposal must also include rules for pest management and particular information around funding.
8. The second step, set out in section 71 of the BSA, is satisfaction of requirements. Once the requirements of section 70 have been met, the Council must be satisfied that the proposal is not inconsistent with national policy direction, other pest

management plans, and regional policy statements and plans. The Council must also be satisfied that each of the identified pests can cause adverse effects on people, the economy, or the environment.

9. Once the Council is satisfied the requirements of section 71 have been met, the third step can be addressed (as per section 72). Simply put, the Council must be satisfied with the consultation with affected Ministers, tangata whenua, local authorities, and the public. If the Council is satisfied then the process may proceed to the fourth step; if not, the Council may be required to conduct further consultation.
10. If the Council is satisfied that the first three steps have been met, then the Council may (as per section 73) may approve the preparation of the plan. Section 73 requires that the plan specifies the pests to be managed and how they will be managed, as well as any rules and provisions for compensation.
11. Once the fourth step has been completed, the Council may proceed to the fifth step. Section 74 requires that the Council must be satisfied with the plan and its contents before moving to the sixth and final step – this step largely mirrors the second step set out by the Act.
12. Section 75 of the Act sets out the sixth and final step: reaching a decision on the plan. This step requires that the Council prepare a report on the plan, responding to all submissions on the proposal and giving a reason for accepting or rejecting each submission. The Council must provide a copy of this report to each person who made a submission. The Council must also give public notice of the final decision on the plan, stating where the plan resulting from the decision can be read by the public.
13. This report addresses steps 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the process, including our recommendations on the Plan, together with reasons for accepting or rejecting submissions lodged on the RPMP.
14. A table setting out our reasons for accepting or rejecting submissions lodged on the RPMP is attached as Appendix 1. A copy of the Wellington Regional Pest



Management Plan incorporating our recommendations is attached as Appendix 2.

## **2. The hearing process**

15. The Proposal was open for submissions from 30 June – 27 July 2018. A total of 134 submissions were lodged on the Proposal.
16. The public hearings occupied three (3) days in October 2018. The hearings were held in Lower Hutt. Two days were made available for submitters to present before the Panel, with a third day for council officers to respond to our questions.
17. The hearing process enabled submitters to present their submissions to us in a public forum. Where we had questions of submitters, we asked these, and also provided for opportunities for clarification from the parties.
18. We are grateful for the assistance of both the council officers and submitters in the hearing process for providing thoughtful, informed and useful information to us. The presentations made to us have influenced the final document.
19. Following the completion of the hearings, we were required to satisfy ourselves that sufficient consultation had been undertaken on the proposed RPMP, determine the management agency for the RPMP and approve the preparation of the Plan. We address each of these steps below. Council officers provided to us a recommended revised proposal, incorporating their responses to submissions and matters raised at the hearing. Having heard the parties, and considered evidence presented to us, we had the opportunity to direct any changes to that document.

## **3. Step 3: Consultation**

20. Under section 72(1) of the BSA we are required to be satisfied:
  - (a) that, if Ministers' responsibilities may be affected by the plan, the Ministers have been consulted;
  - (b) that, if local authorities' responsibilities may be affected by the plan, the authorities have been consulted; and

(c) that the tangata whenua of the area who may be affected by the plan where consulted through iwi authorities and tribal runanga; and

(d) that, if consultation with other persons is appropriate, sufficient consultation has occurred.

21. The consultation undertaken prior to public notification and hearing of submissions on the Greater Wellington Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan is summarised in Section 2.6 of the proposed RPMP.

22. We address each of the requirements of section 72(1) below.

#### **Consultation with Ministers**

23. The responsibilities of the Minister for Primary Industries, the Minister of Conservation and the Minister of Land Information may be affected by the plan.

24. Each of these Ministers were consulted with prior to public notification of the proposed RPMP through a workshop with the Department of Conservation (DOC) officers and personal contact with officers from Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). Following public notification of the proposed RPMP, DOC and MPI lodged submissions on the proposed RPMP and presented at the public hearings.

25. We are satisfied, in accordance with section 72(1)(a) that the Ministers whose responsibilities may be affected by the plan have been consulted.

#### **Consultation with local authorities**

26. The responsibilities of local authorities in Greater Wellington and local authorities neighbouring Greater Wellington may be affected by the plan. The relevant local authorities were consulted with prior to public notification of the proposed RPMP through workshops with Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council and Porirua City Council and through personal contact with officers from other local authorities in the region. Following public notification of the proposed RPMP, Wellington City Council, Kapiti Coast District Council and Masterton District Council lodged submissions on the proposed Plan.

27. We are satisfied, in accordance with section 72(1)(b) that the local authorities whose responsibilities may be affected by the plan have been consulted.

**Consultation with tangata whenua**

28. During the production of the proposed RPMP, staff engaged with representatives of Ngati Toa Rangatira, the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust (representing Taranaki Whanui), Nga Hapu o Otaki (representing Ngati Raukawa ki te Tonga), Te Atiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitane o Wairarapa.
29. Following public notification, no were received from our iwi partners.
30. We are satisfied, in accordance with section 72(1)(c) that the tangata whenua who may be affected by the plan have been consulted.

**Consultation with other persons**

31. In considering whether we are satisfied that sufficient consultation has occurred with other persons as required by section 72(1)(d), the Panel must have regard to the following matters under section 72(2) of the BSA;
- (a) The scale of the impacts on persons who are likely to be affected by the plan; and
  - (b) Whether the persons likely to be affected by the plan or their representatives have already been consulted and, if so, the nature of the consultation; and
  - (c) The level of support for, or opposition to, the proposal from persons who are likely to be affected by it.
32. A discussion document was released in May 2017 to 30 June 2017 for public consultation. This was followed by various workshops and key stakeholder meetings.

33. Further opportunity for feedback has been provided through the public notification of the proposed RPMP where the community has had an opportunity to submit on the proposed RPMP and present to us at the hearing.
34. We have considered the scale of the impacts of the proposed RPMP, which are wide ranging across the region. The impacts affect a range of stakeholders and community members and many of those affected presented to us on the issues that were faced as a result of the provisions of the proposed Plan.
35. There was a strong support for the regionally coordinated pest management especially for biodiversity benefits and submitters raised a range of issues. A number of submitters proposed inclusion of additional pests in the plan (eg, deer, Canada geese, old man's beard) and some submitters opposed inclusion of pest cat category in the plan.
36. Given the wide ranging scale of impacts, we are satisfied that public notification of the proposed RPMP, together with hearings on submissions has enabled us to consider those impacts. We consider that the consultation process has enabled interested stakeholders to express their views freely and fairly, including anonymously via online submissions.
37. Having regard to the matters set out in section 72(2) of the BSA, we are satisfied that the requirements of section 72(1)(d) have been met and sufficient consultation has occurred with other appropriate persons.

**Whether issues raised in all the consultation undertaken on the proposed Plan have been considered**

38. We are also required to be satisfied under section 73(1) of the BSA that all issues raised in all the consultation undertaken on the proposed RPMP have been considered.
39. As set out in section 2.6 of the proposed RPMP, all feedback received (both during the formal process and in subsequent feedback received) on the discussion document was acknowledged and used to formulate the proposed RPMP, where appropriate.

40. We have carefully considered the issues raised in submissions, together with the staff reports, evidence lodged, oral presentations, written comments and any further matters raised at the hearing. In response we have recommended changes to the proposed RPMP which are addressed in this Report.

#### **Conclusion on consultation**

41. We are satisfied that the consultation required by section 72(1) has occurred and that all of the issues raised in all the consultation undertaken on the proposed RPMP have been considered in accordance with section 73(1).

### **4. Step 4: Approval of preparation of plan and decision on management agency**

#### **Approval of preparation of plan**

42. Having been satisfied that the consultation required by section 72(1) has occurred and that all of the issues raised in all the consultation undertaken on the proposed RPMP have been considered as required by section 73(1), we approved the preparation of a plan and directed staff to prepare a revised version of the proposed RPMP that addressed the matters in sections 73 and 74 of the BSA. We received the revised version of the RPMP and made further directions for changes to be made.

#### **Management Agency**

43. The Panel must apply section 100 of the BSA to decide which body is to be the management agency. Under section 100(1), the management agency specified in a plan must be a department, a council, a territorial authority or a body corporate.
44. In deciding which body is to be the management agency, the Panel must take the following into consideration:
- (a) The need for accountability to those providing the funds to implement the plan; and
  - (b) The acceptability of the body to –

- (i) Those providing the funds to implement the plan; and
  - (ii) Those subject to management provisions under the plan; and
  - (c) The capacity of the body to manage the plan, including the competence and expertise of the body's employees and contractors.
45. It is proposed that the Greater Wellington Regional Council will be the management agency responsible for implementing the RPMP. We have considered the matters set out in section 100 and in our view, the Greater Wellington Regional Council is the most appropriate organisation to implement the RPMP, given the Council's significant expertise in pest management, its financial resources, and its relationships with other pest management agencies in the region.

## **5. Overview of the Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan**

46. A pest management plan provides a regulatory tool that is part of the tool box for the management of animal and plant pests within a region. It is developed in accordance with the process set out in the BSA and has mandatory content as set out in that Act. It works alongside other plans and strategies developed by GWRC under other legislation such as the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Local Government Act 2002.
47. Alongside the RPMP sit a range of non-regulatory actions and approaches that form part of a management agency's response to pests. In the case of GWRC, this includes monitoring, public education, and working alongside community organisations and government departments.
48. The RPMP is divided into a number of chapters, covering three broad categories. The first group of chapters provide contextual information for the RPMP, explaining the statutory background as well as the obligations and responsibilities incumbent on various groups and individuals.
49. The second grouping of chapters provides the specific objectives and rules for each identified pest species, as well as explaining what various classifications and statuses mean.

50. The final grouping of chapters focuses on implementation, monitoring, effects of implementation, and funding.
51. Organisms listed in the RPMP are identified as one of the following: pests, harmful organisms, or unwanted organisms. These identifiers are set out by legislation.
52. We are satisfied that the RPMP structure is appropriate.
53. GWRC received submissions from 134 submitters with a total of 1047 individual submission points.
54. The submitters are diverse, including members of the public, local and central government, industry bodies, community organisations, and advocacy groups. As a result, the range of viewpoints expressed in submissions is broad but there are several common or recurring themes and concerns.
55. We have grouped the matters raised in submissions into three broad categories: general and overarching matters, pest animals, and pest plants. Each of these is further divided into a number of specific topics.

## **6. Submissions on general and overarching matters**

56. Aside from submissions on particular animal or plant pest species (which will be discussed later in this report), we also received a large number of submissions discussing general and overarching matters relating to the RPMP. We also noted some concerns we had with general aspects of the RPMP throughout our deliberation process.
57. There are several general and overarching issues that will be discussed here. These include (but are not limited to): overarching goals, good neighbour rules, funding, animal welfare, mana whenua, collaborative processes, and minor errors.

### **6.1 Overarching goals**

58. During deliberations the Panel noted that the RPMP in its current form does not have any overarching goals or vision for the Wellington region. We asked officers if the RPMP should include overarching long-term goals.

59. Officers have stated that in their view it is more appropriate to set shorter term goals achievable over the life of the RPMP, as directed by national templates and by statute. This is not to say that there is no place for ambitious long-term goals; officers have stated that they view the Biodiversity Strategy as the most appropriate place for such thinking.
60. We disagree and consider that it is important to have long term goals or vision in the RPMP. We recommend a long term vision statement is adopted, worded as follows: “That over the twenty year term of this plan biodiversity loss due to plant and animal pests particularly in KNE areas will be reversed, and then a pest free status for considerable areas of the Wellington region can become a reality”.

## **6.2 Good neighbour rules**

61. Good neighbour rules serve to bind Crown agencies such as KiwiRail and NZTA to ensure that these agencies control pest species on their land. The rationale is that such transport corridors take up significant land and if not managed can allow pest species (particularly plants) to quickly spread across the region. Such rules could also be applied to individuals and businesses.
62. The Department of Conservation (DOC) has submitted that good neighbour rules should apply to individuals as well as Crown agencies. Officers have stated that the CBA for such rules simply will not show such rules to be viable. We accept this request in principle but note it is a moot point as the RPMP does not include good neighbour rules.
63. Paul Callister, Michael Stace, and Shane Cave have expressed concern regarding good neighbour rules for transport corridors such as motorways and railways, and have asked that GWRC enforce resource consent conditions pertaining to pest management along these corridors. WCC has also requested increased oversight of the New Zealand Transport Agency (‘NZTA’) and KiwiRail regarding control of pest plants on their land. We have been informed that communication the submitters had with a Council Consents & Compliance Officer (outside of this review) determined that NZTA has complied with its obligations. We consider resource consent issues to be outside of the scope of the RPMP.



64. NZTA has raised several concerns with how the RPMP discusses road reserves. They seek further clarification of the obligations of landowners adjacent to road reserves, and suggest such landowners or occupiers should be subject to good neighbour rules. NZTA is also concerned that the current method of determining road reserve boundaries is impractical, and has suggested that surveys are used to determine these boundaries.
65. Officers have stated there are no obligations on landowners to undertake control unless the species is listed in the proposed plan and the rule states that control is required by an occupier. Officers do agree with NZTA on determining boundaries however, and have suggested that in the second paragraph of 3.3.5 Road reserves, be amended as follows: “Where a road reserve boundary is unknown, a survey will indicate the location of a road or rail reserve boundary (should this be necessary)”. We support this suggestion and recommend the RPMP is amended to include it.
66. NZTA is also seeking further engagement between itself, adjoining landowners, and GWRC on pest management strategies in areas that are difficult to access. Officers have stated that GWRC can act as an intermediary where necessary and when required to assist in achieving biosecurity outcomes. We support this course of action but consider that it is outside the scope of the RPMP as it is more of an operational matter.
67. We questioned officers as to whether the RPMP should contain good neighbour rules for possums and rabbits.
68. Officers have stated that they considered but ultimately rejected GNR for possums. The rationale for this was that the only potential areas where possum re-invasion could pose a threat for the GWRC control are boundary areas with Crown land. As these areas are under OSPRI control until bovine TB is eradicated from the regions (planned for 2035), officers considered that there was no need to bind Crown to possum control at this point in time.
69. Officers consider that rabbit numbers in the region do not warrant GNR as, based on regular monitoring, there are no areas identified in the region where rabbits maintain consistently high and damaging populations that would pose

externality costs to the adjoining landowners. We are satisfied with these responses and do not consider there is a need for good neighbour rules for possums or rabbits.

70. NZTA states it is unclear if there is a pest control obligation on landowners adjoining a legal road who have access to that legal road, and have proposed that a rule is inserted placing obligations on these adjoining landowners to control pests on road reserves. Officers have noted that the control of pests on road reserve is the responsibility of the road controlling authority. We consider this to be sufficiently clear and do not recommend any amendment.
71. NZTA also states that the reference to road works contributing to the establishment of pests is ambiguous and ought to be clearer. The Panel believes that the explanation provided in the PNRP is sufficiently clear as it is and that no amendment is required.
72. DOC has requested that section 3.3.2 is updated to reflect the work DOC and MPI do in pest control. We agree that Central Government Agencies should be recognised as contributing to pest management outcomes in the region, and recommend that section 3.3.2 is amended to reflect this. As part of this amendment we recommend that the Defence Force is added to section 3.3.2.
73. DOC has requested that OSPRI is included under the list of affected parties in section 3.3. We note that OSPRI is referred to under section 2.3 in relation to national pest management plan for bovine Tb, and consider that expanding this explanation would be beneficial. We recommend section 3.3 is amended to read as follows: “Significant pest management control by OSPRI, to reduce bovine Tb vectors (possums, mustelids etc.) in our region, under the National Pest Management Plan for Bovine Tb is continuing for the duration of this Plan and supports the outcomes this Plan seeks to achieve.”
74. NZTA has requested that good neighbour rules are applied to moth plant, blue passionflower, banana passionfruit, and old man’s beard. Officers have stated that GWRC will carry out control work on these, but landowners are not asked to carry it out themselves. GWRC however would need to liaise with NZTA in some instances for access. Officers stand by their decision to not create good

neighbour rules. We consider this response is reasonable and do not recommend the adoption of good neighbour rules.

75. The Panel notes that the RPMP does not contain good neighbour rules and the frustration expressed by some submitters as a result. One submitter has commented that one reason for this may be financial implications for GWRC. We asked officers if GWRC would experience financial costs from including good neighbour rules in the RPMP.
76. Officers have stated that there were historically no financial impacts on GWRC as landowner from Boundary Control or Good Neighbour rules. We have been informed that officers have no records of complaints against GWRC as a landowner under the current RPMS, and there were very few complaints from neighbours of NZTA, rail corridor and TLA land. Based on this we surmise that GWRC would be extremely unlikely to face financial costs of implementing good neighbour rules, and are satisfied with this explanation.
77. NZTA is also interested in more information regarding the relationship between state highways and KNEs, and for more clarity to be provided. Officers have stated they will discuss KNE areas with NZTA as they relate to the state highway network. We support this action but do not consider an amendment to the RPMP is required.

### **6.3 Mana whenua**

78. During deliberations we became concerned that the RPMP does not give sufficient attention to mana whenua. We refer to this in two contexts: statutory and collaborative.
79. We have noted that in our view the statutory background outlined in the RPMP provides a brief and incomplete outline of relevant legislation that is pertinent to mana whenua and the RPMP. In particular, the Treaty of Waitangi settlement legislation is an important aspect we believe is missing from the proposed version of the RPMP.
80. We also consider that the proposed RPMP does not adequately address ongoing collaboration with mana whenua. In particular, the RPMP does not provide

adequate commitment to ongoing collaboration or detail as to how and when mana whenua will be engaged in pest management.

81. When questioned by the Panel, officers stated that the wording used was based on discussions with Te Hunga Whiriwhiri, the unit of GWRC responsible for mana whenua outreach, and followed the national template.
82. Officers made it clear to us that the brevity regarding mana whenua does not reflect the high levels of engagement and collaboration with iwi in the region.
83. Nonetheless, officers have sought further advice from Te Hunga Whiriwhiri as to how this aspect of the RPMP may be expanded. We support this course of action and recommend that the RPMP is amended to better reflect GWRC's relationship with mana whenua with regard to pest management.

#### **6.4 Collaborative processes**

84. Graham Bellamy, the chairperson of Upper Hutt Forest and Bird, has requested greater liaison and cooperation between GWRC and community groups involved in pest management. Officers have stated that they will meet with Graham Bellamy and his branch to discuss how GWRC can help community groups most feasibly and effectively. We support this course of action.
85. Mr Bellamy has also suggested that GWRC could send out annual letters or make visits to acknowledge the work done by volunteers and ensure they know their work is appreciated. Officers have suggested this should be added to the annual operational schedule. Again, we support this course of action but note it is outside the scope of the RPMP.
86. Fish and Game Wellington has requested that they are consulted during any future reviews of the RPMP. Officers have agreed, and we support this course of action.
87. Treliwick Park Group has requested clarification of WCC's role in GWRC's broader pest management framework. Officers have explained that there is a Memorandum of Understanding between GWRC and WCC, and that the two councils will work together to produce a document that clarifies roles and areas

and communicate this with community groups. We are satisfied with this response and do not consider that the RPMP requires amendment

88. NZTA has requested further discussion as to how NZTA will be supported in controlling plants that are not in the RPMP. Officers have stated that they will work with NZTA when required, with the goal of determining what information NZTA requires and developing a plan of action. We support this course of action but do not consider the RPMP needs to be amended to include it.
89. It seems to the Panel that there is little to no onus on private landowners to undertake pest control on their land, and we have questioned officers as to whether they consider this to be appropriate.
90. Officers have stated that in their experience the service delivery model used in the RPMP means that control work is undertaken to higher quality, at the correct timing for particular pest species and in general better outcomes are achieved. The service delivery model is also widely supported by the affected landowners. Conversely, officers have stated that enforced control is not effective. If the enforcement model – landowner control model is used, the cost is spent on enforcement and not actual control work. We accept this rationale.
91. DOC has submitted that the RPMP should specify that GWRC will work with DOC to protect marine biodiversity and biosecurity in the region. We agree this would be beneficial, and recommend that section 2.1.1.5 of the RPMP is amended to read as follows: "For this reason, as the national marine biosecurity surveillance and response capability increases, throughout the life of this plan, Greater Wellington will work with central and local...". We also recommend the RPMP includes a statement early in the document explaining the applicability to marine pests.
92. The Morgan Foundation has suggested there needs to be a clearer explanation as to how GWRC will support pest plant control work undertaken by volunteers. Officers have stated that they view this as an operational aspect that sits outside the scope of the RPMP, and have noted that GWRC is preparing to engage with our communities even more closely in the future. We accept this

response but note that the RPMP forecasts no increases in budget and that funding may need to be increased to meet community expectations in this area.

93. WCC has also requested that they are involved in any review of site-led programmes in their district and are consulted more over the long term. Officers have stated they are open to discussing the development of site-led programmes, and we support this course of action but do not consider any amendment is necessary.
94. NZTA has requested information sharing with GWRC on pest plants and their management, particularly concerning best practice for control. NZTA also asks to be advised by GWRC of coordinated pest management programmes. Officers have agreed to work with NZTA regarding information on pest plant distribution and control methods on NZTA land. Officers have noted that GWRC has updated its GIS layers and this information can be shared with NZTA where appropriate, either in the form of annual report or access to the GIS layers. We support this action but note it is an operational matter and outside the scope of the RPMP.
95. NZTA notes they have not been listed as a key stakeholder and have requested they are involved with future work where stakeholders are engaged. Officers support this, as they consider NZTA to be a significant stakeholder in the region and that early and increased communication will be beneficial to both organisations and the region. We support this action but do not consider it requires amendment to the RPMP.
96. Forest and Bird has proposed that the RPMP include a service delivery plan to focus on GWRC supporting community groups who are undertaking pest control in areas undergoing ecological restoration. Officers have stated that to undertake that work would require additional funding or other work to cease under the plan. We agree that including the service delivery plan would be beneficial and recommend that a new subsection is inserted into the RPMP articulating the service delivery plan. We however note that additional work will likely require additional funding, which must be allocated through the long-term plan process.

97. Gordon George of HVNZDA has requested that the organisation is involved by GWRC when there is evidence of a deer or pig problem. Officers have said they will organise to meet with HVNZDA to discuss agreements and the practicalities of involving NZDA members for deer and goat control. Officers have made it clear they are willing to engage with NZDA to improve biosecurity and biodiversity outcomes. We support this course of action but do not consider it is necessary to amend the RPMP to reflect this.
98. Federated Farmers has suggested that the RPMP includes a new section discussing the potential for multi-species landscape scale pest management, such as through the Wairarapa's Pukaha to Palliser project, which we note is focused on freshwater and environmental management rather than biosecurity. Officers have stated that GWRC is preparing to work with communities on these emerging programmes, and GWRC may review the RPMP to incorporate changes that result from such programmes. We are satisfied with this response and do not consider that amendment is necessary for the time being.
99. Federated Farmers has requested improved communication between landowners, GWRC, DOC, and OSPRI regarding possum control programmes. Officers have stated that communication and collaboration is ongoing, but that GWRC has minimal input on the TBfree strategy nationally. We are satisfied with this response and do not consider an amendment to the RPMP is necessary.
100. Federated Farmers has requested that references to beneficiaries and exacerbators are replaced with references to landowners as partners. Officers have stated that the former are terms used in national templates. We consider this response reasonable and thus reject this request.
101. Federated Farmers has requested that in addition to direct service delivery and indirect advocacy and education the RPMP includes a third category for active partnerships and resourcing of landowners. We note that the plan clearly defines GWRC responsibility for the delivery of the programmes. Officers have informed us that active partnerships and co-funding opportunities will be dealt with through the operational delivery of the programme. We therefore do not consider amendment to be necessary and reject this request.

102. DOC has suggested that the RPMP ought to acknowledge the leadership role in pest management coordination assigned by the BSA to GWRC. We agree that such an amendment would be beneficial, as it would provide absolute clarity. We recommend that the RPMP is amended to read as follows:

“Regional councils are mandated under Part 2 (functions, powers and duties), Section 12B of the Act to provide regional leadership in activities that prevent, reduce or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms that are present in their regions. Section 12B sets out the ways in which regional councils provide leadership. These include helping to develop and align RPMPs and regional pathway management plans in the region, promoting public support for managing pests, and helping those involved in managing pests to communicate and cooperate to make programmes more effective, efficient and equitable. Section 13(1) sets out powers that support regional councils in this leadership role.

These include powers to:

- Monitor and survey pests, pest agents and unwanted organisms
- Provide for the assessment and eradication or management of pests in accordance with relevant pest management plans
- Prepare proposals for, make and implement RPMPs
- Appoint a management agency for a plan
- Disallow an operational plan or part of it
- Review, amend, revoke and replace, or revoke a plan
- Declare and implement small scale management programmes
- Gather information, keep records and undertake research.”

103. Federated Farmers suggests that information technology applications such as TrapNZ could be used to improve information on monitoring and mapping available to the GWRC. Officers have noted that GWRC and other Regional



Councils actively support and contribute to the development of Trap NZ. We accept this request but do not consider the RPMP needs to be amended to reflect this.

104. NZTA has requested that they be involved as a key stakeholder in future biosecurity and pest management discussions and engagement. As officers consider NZTA to be a significant stakeholder in the region, early and increased communication will be beneficial to both organisations and the region. We therefore accept this request but do not consider the RPMP needs to be amended to require this.

105. Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust has suggested that GWRC adopt mobile community hubs that sell bait, repair traps, and educate the public about pest management. We note that GWRC currently provides advice and education and sells bait at cost price, and supporting community back yard efforts is a significant component of pest management operations. We do not consider amendment to be necessary.

106. Raumati South Residents Association has requested that the RPMP requires regular publicity about pest control and extermination. Officers have stated that regular communications will be part of the operational delivery of the Plan. We note this response and support it, but do not consider it is necessary to amend the RPMP to reflect or require this.

## **6.5 Funding**

107. Tom Hurdley has requested additional funding for controlling pest cats in the region. Mr Hurdley has also suggested making traps available at discounted prices to make it more affordable for members of the public to get involved in pest management on their properties. Officers note that traps are sold at wholesale prices through both GWRC and Predator Free programmes, and that funding is assessed against other Council priorities in the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes. We thus consider these requests to be outside the scope of the RPMP, as they are operational and LTP issues respectively.

108. WCC has requested clarification as to what increases in funding for KNEs will result from the RPMP. According to officers there will be no change, as funding

to the KNE Programme is allocated through GWRC's Long Term Plan 2018-2028 funding. We accept this response and do not consider any amendment to be necessary at this point, but we want to make it clear to the Council that funding for the KNE programme will need to be reviewed and given greater funding so that it may expand over time to meet community expectations.

109. Gary James has proposed an annual increase in funding of 5% throughout the lifetime the RPMP and the Kapiti Project has requested more detail on the proposed spending, noting that is not forecasted to increase in the future. In regard to a similar question we posed regarding the unchanging biosecurity funding levels, officers have stated that this budget simply reflects Long Term Plan allocation figures and is presented without inflation. We accept the rationale provided by officers, but reemphasise our response in the paragraph above concerning future funding reviews.
110. Federated Farmers has suggested restructuring the budget figures to show spending on species-based, site-based, and landscape programmes. Officers consider this to be a good idea and we agree. We recommend the budget figures are amended to show spending on each of the three kinds of programmes mentioned above.

## **6.6 Animal welfare**

111. Some submitters have raised concerns about the lack of reference to animal welfare in the RPMP. In particular some submitters are worried that branding animals as pests will encourage members of the public to kill these animals without concern for doing so humanely.
112. The SPCA has submitted on numerous species identified as pests in the RPMP advocating for education about humane animal treatment, research into humane control methods such as fertility control, and the use of humane killing methods when killing is required.
113. We share this concern regarding the minimal focus on animal welfare and the lack of guidance for members of the public as to how pests can be controlled humanely.

114. It is our view that the RPMP in its current form is too brief on animal welfare. Given the emphasis on eradication and involving community groups we believe it is essential that the RPMP places a stronger emphasis on protecting animal welfare. We therefore recommend that the RPMP is amended to provide more information to users on humane treatment of pest species.

## **6.7 Accessibility to the public**

115. During deliberations we also noted the use of what we considered to be excessive technical language and detail (a concern echoed by the Botanic Society), such as the reference to wasps consuming 957 grams of invertebrate biomass per hectare per season. In our view more accessible language, such as stating that wasps consume approximately 1 kilogram of invertebrate life per hectare per season would be more appropriate. We asked officers for their views on this.
116. Officers have concurred with our concern, and stated that this statement and other highly technical ones like it will be amended or removed from the RPMP. We support this course of action and recommend that all such overly technical phrasing is either amended to be made less technical or more general, or removed entirely.
117. NZTA has suggested a GIS layer showing locations of organisms declared as pests would be helpful. Officers have informed us that GWRC Biosecurity has updated their GIS layers and this information can be shared with NZTA where appropriate. Furthermore, officers can develop a public GIS, bearing in mind privacy limitations. We support this course of action and recommend that the RPMP contains the hyperlinks to GWRC's GIS system so the public can access this information.
118. Treliwick Park Group has stated that advice on monitoring for community groups is sparse and should be made more widely available to the public. Officers have informed us they will add monitoring tools or links to the GWRC website. Officers have also noted that if one Googles 'pest animal monitoring nz' there is a range websites and organisations that provides monitoring information and advice. We are satisfied with this response and accept the request. However, we do not consider that amendment to the RPMP is required to reflect this.

119. WBS has requested that the term 'unwanted organism' is added to the glossary. We note that the definition for 'Unwanted organism' is to be found on page 93 of the RPMP. However, we recommend that the classifications for organisms are explained in part 5, with plan users also being directed to the glossary.
120. In the Panel's view it is unclear to members of the public reading the document which organisations are responsible for which programmes and areas and how these all interact. Raumati South Residents Association has echoed this concern. We asked officers if this could be included in the RPMP.
121. Officers have explained the roles of the involved organisations as follows:
- Ministry for Primary Industries is in charge of border protection and responding to the incursions of new to New Zealand organisms.
  - The Department of Conservation undertakes pest management work on Crown land that is managed by the Department of Conservation. DOC is also the government agency responsible for facilitating the overall Predator Free 2050 programme.
  - OSPRI NZ is responsible for the implementation of the National Pest Management Plan for Bovine Tuberculosis. It runs the national bovine Tb programme which aims to eradicate bovine Tb by 2055. This programme is run by a subsidiary company called TBfree.
  - Territorial Authorities undertake pest management in their reserves or pest management on private land for selected pests. GWRC works closely with TAs (MoU between GWRC and a number of TAs for the delivery of KNE programme) and also delivers pest management service to a number of TA.
  - GWRC is the key organisation responsible for delivering large scale pest control beyond Crown land. They actively work with private landowners, territorial authorities, community groups and iwi in planning and undertaking "on the ground action" for pest control.
  - NZTA and KiwiRail are responsible for pest management on road and rail corridors.

122. We recommend an explanation of the above is inserted into the RPMP to help users understand who is responsible for what.
123. WBS has suggested combining sections 8.1 and 8.3. Officers have stated that the RPMP template was developed at the national level and the RPMP follows that template. We are satisfied with this explanation and do not consider amendment is necessary.
124. MPI has stated that the map of KNEs is too small. Officers agree, and have stated that maps will be full page in the final document as requested. We agree this would be beneficial and recommend this request is accepted.
125. WBS has stated that the RPMP does not state who it is for and who should read it. Officers have stated that the document is intended for the public of the Wellington Region. We are satisfied with this response but do consider that section 3.3.1.2 ought to be amended to emphasise that landowners should control harmful organisms on their land.
126. The Panel believes it is unclear whether regional parks are included in the RPMP, and sought clarification from officers on this matter. Officers have stated that the omission of explicit mention of Regional Parks in the Plan was an oversight on their behalf. A section relating to Regional Parks and the work that is undertaken in them will be included in the Plan, as well as a map of the regional parks with an overlay of where KNE's are in these parks. We support this amendment and recommend that the RPMP is amended to include these changes.
127. Mr Horne has requested the RPMP includes maps showing the distribution of feral deer, pigs, and goats in the region. According to officers these animals are widespread throughout the region, and therefore they see no practical point of including a map. We agree with officers.
128. DOC has submitted that major areas of Crown Land should be shown in Figure 1 and that coordination efforts should be explained for controlling pests on Crown Land in an integrated way. We consider that this would be beneficial and recommend that Figure 1 is amended to include an overlay showing Crown

Land, and that the wording is revised to include a statement about what Crown land is and how efforts are coordinated.

129. WCC has requested that maps are amended to show the SH1 boundary. Officers have stated that a more detailed map of Predator Free Wellington initiative will be added if PF Wellington boundaries are defined in any greater detail since the proposed Plan was released. We consider that this would be beneficial and recommend that officers review Predator Free boundaries and amend maps if these boundaries have been provided in more detail.
130. WCC has requested a summary page for greater accessibility. Officers have stated that this will be added in the final document. We recommend that this is done.
131. WBS has also requested a thorough cross-check of the glossary to ensure all technical terms are defined or explained there. Officers have confirmed that a thorough cross-check of terms will be done for the final document. We support this action.

## **6.8 Methods of control**

132. Susan Thrasher disagrees with the use of toxins in pest management operations, stating they have negative environmental and health impacts. She would instead prefer to see steam being used as an environmentally harmless means of killing weeds and pest plants.
133. Gordon George of HVNZDA has expressed opposition to indiscriminate use of 1080 but acknowledges its use may be acceptable when steps are taken to reduce by-kill of deer and other non-target animals. He suggests that GWRC makes use of deer repellent during 1080 drops. Forest and Bird Lower Hutt however have expressed opposition to the use of deer repellent during 1080 drops.
134. Mr Horne also suggests that GWRC conducts biennial 1080 drops in the Wainuiomata/Orongorongo catchment, Pakuratahi forest, Kaitoke Regional Park, the Hutt River catchment, and Akatarawa forest. Christopher Horne has also requested that GWRC research the potential of 1080 laced licks for use in reserves.

135. Officers have emphasised that 1080 and other poisons are used only as per manufacturers recommendations and directed by the national best practice, and only poisons approved by Environmental Protection Agency are used in pest management. Officers have also stated that they view the use of poisons as an operational matter that is separate from the strategic direction provided by the RPMP. We are satisfied with this response and thus do not recommend any amendments.

## **6.9 Points of clarification**

136. WCC seeks clarification as to how organisms listed as harmful species will be managed. Officers have explained that harmful organisms are capable of causing adverse effects but have not been accorded pest status because regulatory responses are not considered appropriate or necessary and do not meet the CBA criteria. Therefore, they are not included in an ‘exclusion’, ‘eradication’, ‘progressive containment’, ‘sustained control’ or a ‘site-led’ programme. We accept this explanation and do not consider that the RPMP requires amendment to include this explanation.
137. Forest and Bird have requested that GWRC’s compliance process is set out more clearly in the RPMP. Officers have explained that in the case of non-compliance a Notice of Direction (‘NOD’) is served on the occupier directing that control/destruction be carried out. The Notice of Direction clearly explains that in the event of non-compliance with the Notice of Direction, a Warranted Officer may act on default with costs being recovered from the person to whom the Notice was given. This information is presented in Sections 122, 128 and 129 of the Biosecurity Act (outlined on the NOD). For species to be eradicated, GWRC will carry out all control work. It is our view that explaining the compliance process in the RPMP would be useful for plan users, and thus recommend the explanation above is inserted into section 5.5 of the RPMP.
138. WBS has queried the role public good plays in the RPMP, stating that acting now may save landowners from higher costs later. We consider that an amendment to clarify this would be beneficial. We therefore recommend that the relevant sentence is amended to read as follows: “However, this Plan only addresses pests where voluntary action is insufficient due to the nature of the

pest, or the related costs and benefits of individual action or inaction”. The Act specifies criteria that must be met to justify such intervention. The amended statement is more accurate and defines the relationship.

139. WBS has requested the definition of harmful organism is amended to explain why regulatory responses are not considered appropriate or necessary. We note that an explanation is already provided by Section 4.2, and thus do not consider this proposed amendment is necessary.
140. WBS has also queried what role the CBAs played in determining which species could be managed and which could not. Officers have explained that the CBA played a role in the decision making process and supported or rejected inclusion of certain species in the programme. Despite the obvious limitations the CBA was an integral part of the decision making process. Only programmes that were beneficial across the region were included in this proposal. This is not limited to only economic benefits. We do not consider an amendment necessary in this respect, as we note this analysis was done during the first step of the RPMP process.
141. WCC seeks clarification as to how the RPMP works alongside other pest management plans in the region, especially the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (WACA) relating to deer. Officers have explained that WACA controls the hunting and release of wild animals and regulates deer farming and the operation of safari parks. It also gives local authorities the power to destroy wild animals under operational plans that have the Minister of Conservation's consent. The WACA thus controls the release of deer and domesticated deer, while the RPMP controls feral deer meeting criteria of pests in a site-led context. We are satisfied with this response and do not consider that amendments are necessary.
142. DOC has requested that sites with eelgrass (*Vallisneria spirallis*) are specifically listed and that the meaning of wetland habitats with native wetland biodiversity is clarified. We agree this would be beneficial and recommend that the objective in section 6.4.4 is amended to read as follows: “Over the duration of the plan, sustainably control eel grass in wetlands or waterbodies identified as specific natural, significant or outstanding wetlands and waterbodies identified in the



Natural Resources Plan (NRP Schedules) for the Wellington Region, to protect the Wellington Region's indigenous environmental values, specifically wetland habitats with native wetland biodiversity.”

143. We also recommend that a map is inserted that outlines the recognised natural, significant or outstanding wetlands and waterbodies identified in the Natural Resources Plan, and that distribution maps for each specific pest plant species listed in the proposed RPMP are inserted.
144. Federated Farmers, WBS, and WCC have requested that the RPMP include reasons for why several species are excluded from the plan. Officers have agreed to provide a summary in the RPMP CBA document outlining what species have been left out of the plan, or reclassified, and why. We support this course of action as it provides explanations and transparency. However we do not consider the RPMP itself needs to be amended to include this information.
145. NZTA has requested that the list of Crown agencies is amended to more accurately reflect the nature of each of the entities listed. Officers have proposed that the section is amended as follows:

"Four central government crown entities (including state-owned enterprises) have been identified as being significant beneficiaries or exacerbators of pest management in the Wellington Region. These include:

- DOC
- The New Zealand Railways Corporation (KiwiRail)
- Land Information New Zealand
- The New Zealand Transport Agency

The New Zealand Transport Agency is a statutory entity and a Crown agent under Section 7 and Schedule 1 of the Crown Entities Act 2004 and therefore, a Crown entity. As a Crown entity, the Transport Agency is subject to provisions applicable to and therefore falls within the definition of land occupier for the purposes of obligations for pest control."

146. We agree this amendment would be beneficial and recommend that section 3.3.2 is amended to include this text. We also recommend the Defence Force is included on this list.
147. NZTA is of the view that the RPMP is not clear on the role the NZTA has in pest management and seeks further clarification. Officers have stated they will meet with NZTA to discuss roles and responsibilities, which are to help implement the objectives of the plan on NZTA land as the Crown agency. We support this action but do not consider amendment is necessary.

### **6.10 Minor errors**

148. Various submitters have identified a number of minor errors or aspects requiring minor corrections in the RPMP:
- Fish and Game Wellington have noted multiple minor inaccuracies in the CBA document and requested these are fixed.
  - DOC has submitted that the Greater Wellington Biodiversity Strategy goals identified in Figure 2 are not representative of the actual goals in the strategy, and this needs to be corrected.
  - DOC's Lower North Island Office has noted multiple incorrect map numbers and has requested these are amended.
  - The Department of Conservation has stated that in their view Section 1.1 does not accurately represent paragraphs 70-72 of the BSA and should be amended.
  - DOC has submitted that the function of KNEs in the RPMP is not explained correctly and this requires amendment.
  - DOC has submitted that the invasion curves shown in section 4.4 do not align with the various programmes for species, and thus suggests that either the invasion phase is identified for each species or that species are listed by invasion phase.
  - DOC has suggested that the RPMP needs to be amended to correct several changes to the BSA that were in fact changes resulting from NPD rather than

changes to the BSA. DOC also notes that the BSA does not require compliance with the legislation identified in the RPMP.

- NZTA has proposed an amendment to the RPMP's current description of the agency.
- DOC considers the objective for purple loosestrife is unclear and does not align with the way wetlands are referred to in the NRP.
- DOC has pointed out that the reference to Part 5 of the BSA in chapter 2.2.1 is incorrect, and should refer to Part 6.
- Christopher Horne has requested that the blank page in place of a foreword should be removed, and that a vision statement and executive summary should be inserted.

149. Officers have agreed that all of these corrections should be made, which we support. We recommend that these errors are corrected. We have provided full recommendations in our conclusions and recommendations chapter below.

150. We have also noted that Table 2 is missing blue passionflower despite the organism being classified as a pest in the RPMP. We recommend this is fixed.

### **6.11 Miscellanea**

151. In addition to these issues mentioned above, there were also several minor miscellaneous issues raised in submissions or noted during deliberations.

152. Zealandia has requested that an alternative cover photo is used. Officers have no objection to this and have agreed. We therefore recommend an alternate cover photo is used.

153. We have noted that all of the photos in the RPMP feature Council staff. Given the enormous contribution made by volunteers we do not consider this to be appropriate. We therefore recommend that the final RPMP replace several photos of staff with photos of volunteers.

154. Fish and Game Wellington have requested more regular monitoring is undertaken than what is currently outlined in the RPMP, and that this monitoring

focuses not on the effectiveness of control but on the ecological outcomes being sought, such as a fledgling survival or population recovery.

155. Officers have explained that to determine the effectiveness of pest control in the KNEs, rats and small mammals are monitored quarterly or six-monthly at a selection of sites. This information is used to provide a feedback loop for pest control requirements. The effectiveness of possum control is also monitored using possum monitoring protocols (BMI or RTC) at selected sites. We have been informed that GW has a monitoring programme in place that assesses the outcomes of pest control in the KNEs. This programme involves intensive monitoring at one site (Wainuiomata Water Collection Area), region-wide KNE monitoring and investigations at particular sites (including collaborative projects).
156. We are in agreement with Fish and Game that it is important to monitor outcomes as well as the effectiveness of pest control. Not only should the number of pests controlled be recorded, but so should fledgling survival, for instance. We thus recommend an adjustment to the RPMP's monitoring framework to focus more on outcomes as well as effectiveness.
157. Forest and Bird has submitted that the rules in the RPMP are inadequate and will likely not achieve the biodiversity outcomes being sought. Forest and Bird has suggested that rules be redrafted that will achieve the biodiversity outcomes sought. Officers have argued that the rules in the proposed plan were designed to achieve desired outcomes, taking into account the method of delivery and pest characteristics of the species in question, and historical effectiveness of certain rules. We are satisfied with this response, and note that the historical effectiveness of various rules was a significant factor in the design of the new rules – to us this strongly suggests that the rules in the RPMP will achieve the outcomes sought. We thus reject this request.
158. WBS suggests inserting a subtitle to the RPMP's title: "One tool in GWRC's wider biodiversity strategy". Officers have explained that the format follows the nationally agreed template. We do not see a benefit to adding this proposed subtitle and thus reject this request.

159. DOC has submitted that section 2.3 should be amended to include implications of legislation on unwanted organisms and noxious fish. We consider it would be beneficial to ensure that the reference to other legislation is accurate. We therefore recommend a new section is inserted that reads as follows:

“The Wild Animal Control Act 1977, the Wildlife Act 1953, and the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 (all administered by the Department of Conservation) have a role in relation to managing animals/fish.

(a) The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (WAC Act) controls the hunting and release of wild animals and regulates deer farming and the operation of safari parks. It also gives local authorities the power to destroy wild animals under operational plans that have the Minister of Conservation’s consent.

(b) The Wildlife Act 1953 controls and protects wildlife not subject to the WAC Act. It identifies which wildlife are not protected (eg, mustelids, possums, wallabies, rooks, feral cats), which are to be game (eg, mallard ducks, black swan), and which are partially protected or are injurious.

(c) The Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 places controls on people who possess, control, rear, raise, hatch or consign noxious fish without authority.”

160. Trelissick Park Group chairman Peter Reimann has stated that Trelissick Park should be classified as a KNE. Officers have stated that GWRC has undertaken an analysis to identify and prioritise the 54 sites included in the KNE Programme. As this is a region-wide programme, some locally valuable sites did not meet the criteria for inclusion. We are satisfied with this response, and reject this request.

161. Jeremy Collyns has requested that a pest exclusion fence is built along Transmission Gully. We note that this is out of the scope of the RPMP, and that the submitter should consider putting this proposal to his local Council.

162. DOC is concerned the current rules for pest possession may prevent legitimate institutional researchers from holding pests, and suggests rules are modified to exclude such institutions from this ban on possession.
163. Officers have proposed that the relevant sentence is amended to include 'research', reading as follows: "Upon application, the Wellington Regional Council will consider issuing an exemption under section 78 of the Act to provide for the keeping of any eradication species for containment or research purposes".
164. We agree this amendment would be beneficial and recommend that the RPMP is amended as outlined above.
165. DOC is also concerned about the practicality of the pest reporting rules, and suggests an amendment requiring pests are reported to GWRC within 5 working days of being sighted. Officers have stated that GWRC has managed to respond to the public in the presence of similar rules over the last 20 years of enforcing similar rules. Based on this response we do not consider that such an amendment is necessary and we thus reject this request.
166. Mr Horne has expressed strong disagreement with the RPMP's statement that deer and pig hunting is an important source of food for people, especially Maori. Officers have suggested that Section 7.1 is amended to better reflect the work we do in KNEs and the work we will continue to do in the future in KNEs.
167. The amended wording would read as follows: "It is acknowledged that feral animals such as deer, pigs and goats are valued as hunting resources. Feral deer and feral pigs will be actively controlled in KNE areas and TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA. Feral goats will primarily be controlled in KNEs and in areas in the region deemed to have high ecological values. Therefore the effect of the plan on the regional availability of these hunting resources (outside of KNEs and TA reserves) will be minimal."
168. We support this amendment and recommend that Section 7.1 is amended to use the phrasing above.

169. Federated Farmers has suggested that the focus on KNEs be extended to include QEII blocks and river or road systems that provide habitat and corridors for pest species. We note that GWRCs biosecurity-related contributions to the QEII National Trust are not reflected in the document. We consider it would make sense if they were. We therefore recommend that the RPMP is amended to explain the biosecurity and pest control work GWRC does on QEII National Trust areas.
170. DOC has submitted that section 5.4 should refer to S78 of the BSA and GWRC should clarify if this section is intended to give effect to S78 of the BSA (which is focused on exemptions). Officers have stated this is the case, and they are open to alternate control methods or exemptions provided the RPMP's intentions are complied with. We accept this response.
171. DOC has requested that chapter 2.1.2 is expanded to identify the effects of the mechanisms on pest management in the region. We agree with the submitter and recommend that section 2.1.2 is amended to read as follows:

“An effective biosecurity system is established within the Wellington region, between regions and at a national level (refer Figure 3). All neighbouring regional councils, and all regional councils nationwide, maintain operative regional pest management strategies or plans.

Central government is responsible for preventing pests entering New Zealand, providing leadership and co-ordinating or implementing incursion management where eradication from New Zealand remains attainable. Rapid response initiatives and national pest management accords, registers and strategies are examples of the instruments they employ. The Ministry for Primary Industries website, at [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz), outlines the details of those instruments.

The plans and strategies of territorial authorities may also have a complementary role in biosecurity.

As a result, regional pest management plans are an integral component of a comprehensive biosecurity system that protects New Zealand's economic, environmental, social and cultural values from the threat of pests.”

## **7. Submissions on pest animals**

172. Most of the submissions we received relate to the management of specific animal pests. These species include pest cats, deer, pigs, goats, possums, hedgehogs, mustelids, mice, ants, Canada geese, and magpies.

### **7.1 Pest cats**

173. Paul Callister, Michael Stace, and Shane Cave, the Morgan Foundation, the Kapiti Project, Churton Park Predator Free, as well as submitters using the common template have proposed that the definition of pest cat be amended to include all unowned cats – “a cat without a registered microchip”. Predator Free New Zealand also supports such an amendment, with an additional requirement that a cat must be registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register to not be considered a pest cat. Ann Bell has expressed opposition to mandatory microchipping of cats, stating it is counterproductive.

174. Officers consider that such an amendment would be impractical as only WCC has made microchipping of cats mandatory and consequently companion cats in any other districts would be considered pests under this proposed definition. This is contrary to the intent of the RPMP. Officers have also expressed scepticism that GWRC has the power to pass a bylaw requiring mandatory microchipping of cats itself. We are in agreement with officers and do not believe such an amendment would be beneficial.

175. Tom Hurdley and Annette Harvey have made a similar suggestion, proposing that cats be registered like dogs are within the Wellington region. Officers have stated this is outside the scope of powers conferred by the BSA and could only be required through territorial authority bylaws. We accept this rationale.

176. Mr Kerridge has also questioned the legality of territorial authorities requiring microchipping of cats through bylaws. We note this query, but also wish to point out that the RPMP does not require or in any way depend on the microchipping of cats, and thus this issue is outside the scope of the RPMP.

177. Amanda Rogers supports a broad definition of pest cat that includes all free-roaming and uncontained cats. Sandy Werner also supports reference to roaming



in the definition of pest cats. Officers consider the word roaming is too broad and thus not appropriate, and we agree.

178. The Kapiti Project, Paul Callister, Michael Stace, and Shane Cave, Churton Park Predator Free, the Morgan Foundation, Predator Free New Zealand, as well as submitters using the common format have also suggested including a rule that prevents people feeding or sheltering cats on either public or private land in the Wellington region without permission of the occupier.
179. Officers have explained that they do not consider such a rule necessary because the RPMP is targeting cats that are not cared for by people – feral cats and some (but not all) stray cats. As this proposed rule would essentially target stray and companion cats, it is outside the scope of what GWRC intends to focus on concerning pest cat control. We accept this explanation and thus reject this request.
180. Sandy Werner has suggested GWRC adopts a specific cat management strategy. Officers have noted that there is a draft National Cat Management Strategy being developed by the representatives of national organisations that have an interest in cats. The members are the New Zealand Veterinary Association; Companion Animal Veterinarians; New Zealand Companion Animal Council; Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; Morgan Foundation; and Local Government New Zealand. The Ministry for Primary Industries and the Department of Conservation are technical advisory members.
181. With this strategy being developed we do not see a benefit in adopting a separate cat management strategy as it would be prudent to see what comes from the above group. We therefore do not consider it necessary or beneficial to adopt a cat management strategy in the meantime.
182. Animal welfarist Bob Kerridge is concerned that the term pest cat does not have a statutory basis – he states that the Code of Welfare for Cats recognises only three categories: feral, stray, and companion. Mr Kerridge suggests amending the term used to feral cats, a proposal echoed by Kent Duston of the New Zealand Cat Coalition. Paul Stanley Ward from Capital Kiwi has suggested that the RPMP's definition of 'pest cat' be amended to align with the Animal Welfare

Act. Feline Rights also opposes the use of the term pest cat, arguing it is not in line with the Code and is thus illegal.

183. Officers have stated that the definitions in the Code of Welfare do not constrain how a Council might define a pest cat in the RPMP as these definitions are for the purposes of the Code. This indicates that the definitions are intended to be limited only for application of the Code, not for other purposes.
184. Only the minimum requirements for Companion Cats (as defined in the Code) have legal effect. Stray cats are not ‘protected’ by the Code as the information in relation to stray cats (i.e. lost or abandoned companion cats) does not provide any minimum standards, and therefore does not have legal effect.
185. Furthermore, an organism does not have to be an unwanted organism or a notifiable organism in order for it to be declared a pest in an RPMP. For example, Section 45, 46 and 52 of the BSA refer separately to notifiable organisms, unwanted organisms and pests, which clearly shows that a pest does not need to be a notifiable organism or an unwanted organism to be included in a RPMP. We consider that this response has merit, and we are in agreement with officers. We do not recommend changes to the definition of or references to “pest” cats.
186. Paulina Sadowska has suggested that cats be de-sexed and rehomed when trapped. Officers have informed us that while GWRC has previously done this, it is no longer part of pest management operations. We accept this response.
187. Mr Kerridge is also concerned that the RPMPs pest cat management framework is not based on sound scientific evidence regarding the effects cats have on native fauna. He requests that GWRC re-examine scientific evidence on the impacts of cats and amend the rules framework accordingly. In particular, Mr Kerridge states that he does not believe cats can transmit toxoplasmosis and is unaware of any evidence on this. He thus requests that GWRC provide evidence for this claim.
188. Mr Duston has also expressed scepticism regarding evidence of negative impacts cats have on native fauna – he states that the CBA is insufficient and flawed in

his view, and that GWRC ought to use a more comprehensive multi-criteria analysis to properly evaluate the impacts of cats on native fauna.

189. The Panel considered the queries regarding evidence of the adverse impacts cats have were reasonable and we therefore asked officers to provide us with scientific evidence of the adverse effects cats have as well as on other issues raised above.
190. In their response to submissions officers provided several academic articles and studies explaining the impacts of cats on New Zealand's native fauna. We have not received any compelling evidence that cats have little to no impact, and we thus consider that there is a more than sufficient scientific basis for the RPMP's approach to pest cats.
191. MDC has requested that the district is included in GWRC's ongoing monitoring of pest cat populations and that GWRC carry out pest cat control where necessary to protect biodiversity in the district. Officers have stated that GWRC works in the KNE sites and are happy to work with MDC and enter in to a cost recovery agreement with MDC if this work aligns with section 6.5.7 Pest Cats, but note that GWRC has no intention of targeting cats in urban areas. We support this course of action but do not consider that the RPMP needs to be amended to reflect it.
192. Churton Park Predator Free has requested that WCC makes it a requirement for cat doors to have time locks, and limit the number of cats per household to one. Similarly, Andrew Thrift has proposed making it illegal to let cats roam at night. Officers have stated that both of the requests lie outside of the powers conferred under the BSA, and thus cannot be addressed in the RPMP. We are in agreement with the officers.
193. Paul Callister, Michael Stace, and Shane Cave, the Kapiti Project, and Annette Harvey have suggested an ongoing education programme to inform the public of the impacts of cats on native fauna. These submitters would like some urban areas near sensitive ecological areas to eventually become cat-free. The Morgan Foundation has suggested that rules around cat abandonment should be more

enforced and public education on the consequences of cat abandonment should be provided.

194. Officers have stated that the Council will enforce rules around people abandoning cats where sufficient evidence is available. GWRC also has information available to the public pertaining to feral cats, and due to the increased awareness about the impact cats can have on native biodiversity; GWRC is proposing to expand on this material. A component of this communication will be about responsible cat ownership. We are satisfied with this response and do not consider it is necessary to incorporate this request into the RPMP.
195. SPCA has suggested creating a cat colony register. Officers do not consider this is necessary, as managed colonies being cared for by the SPCA or members of the public are outside the definition of a pest cat and are thus not captured by the RPMP and are not subject to pest control operations. We accept this response and thus do not see the need for a cat colony register.
196. The Morgan Foundation and Predator Free New Zealand have both suggested that GWRC approach central government to develop legislation for cat management. Officers have noted that the General Manager, Catchment Management was part of the development of the Draft National Cat Management Strategy. We note that this request is outside the scope of the RPMP, however it is supported.

## **7.2 Feral deer, pigs, and goats**

197. A large number of submitters are opposed to the reclassification of feral deer and/or feral pigs as harmful organisms instead of pests. The submitters are:
- Terry Webb, the chairman of MIRO
  - Wellington City Council
  - The Kapiti Project
  - Forest and Bird
  - Lower Hutt Forest and Bird

- Leon Perrie
- Gary James
- NZTA
- East Harbour Environmental Association
- Wellington Botanical Society
- Two submitters who requested anonymity
- An online submitter using the name EdmundSS

198. Officers have stated that feral deer and pigs are still priorities for control in KNEs throughout the region, and that the change of classification will not affect GWRC's current and future deer and pigs control operations. The officers state that GWRC does not need deer and pigs to be classified as pests to effectively control them. We note this is a controversial issue, with a number of submitters wanting deer to be classified as pests and others adamantly opposed to this. We also note that the CBA does not support region-wide classification of deer as pests. We consider it is important to classify deer as pests to some degree, and we thus recommend that the RPMP is amended to classify deer as pests in KNEs and actively managed territorial authority reserves, under a site-led programme.
199. Jordan Munn has requested that GWRC adopt a more flexible approach to permitting recreational hunting on Council land, stating this could help control pest species. Eastbourne Hunters and Gatherers have made a similar request. Mr Webb has also suggested increasing the frequency of professional hunting efforts to control feral deer and pigs, while using alternate methods close to dwellings. Officers have stated that this is outside the scope of the RPMP, but that they will put this proposal to Council's Parks Department to make a decision. We consider this is a reasonable course of action and request that it is part of the parks review.
200. Christopher Horne has requested that the RPMP includes the total amount of vegetation eaten by introduced pest herbivores each year. Officers do not see the necessity of including this information in a pest management plan. We note that the information suggested can be found in scientific papers, biological references

and species specific documents, but that the RPMP was not developed as a complete biological reference. We thus reject this request.

201. Wellington Natural Heritage Trust has requested GWRC adopts a plan to eradicate feral deer, pigs, and goats from the western Wellington Peninsula while Lana Le Quesene has asked that GWRC takes responsibility for the eradication of deer in all urban areas as well as parks and reserves in the region. Naenae Nature Trust has requested that feral deer and pigs are controlled through the region. Officers have stated that such widespread control and eradication is simply not practical, or possible with current resources and funding. We accept this explanation.
202. Forest and Bird has requested that GWRC undertakes or funds goat control in ecologically sensitive areas being restored by community groups who may not have resources to control goats themselves. Officers have stated that to undertake that work would require additional funding or other work to cease under the plan. Currently all of GWRC's goat control is cost recovery or through the KNE plans implementation. The Council currently has no allocation for goat control outside of the KNE programme or cost recovery from landowners. We accept this explanation and reject the request, but suggest that members of the public approach their territorial authorities on this matter.
203. Gary James has proposed classifying feral goats under progressive containment. Officers have stated that achieving containment within the life of the plan is not practicable with the currently available resources, and the likelihood of success is considered low with the current methods and technology available. Officers have also noted that the likelihood of success in containing goats is very low as goats travel across different land types and do not recognise boundary lines. We accept this explanation and reject this request.
204. The Panel is of the view that the RPMP's objective for feral goats is unambitious, and asked officers if it could be bolder (for instance, aiming for a goat-free region).
205. Officers do not believe that eradication of feral goats in the region is possible or realistic with the current technology and budgets. They have stated that GWRC

does not have funding to control goats over the whole of the region, and there is very limited control over 138,000 ha of DOC land in the region. The situation is further complicated by the landowners in some parts of the region seeing goats as a significant resource.

206. Officers have provided us with the example of Egmont National Park, which is approximately 34,000 ha in size. The Egmont Goat control programme has been going since 1925 and is still far from completed. Based on the current best practice and experience (as well as other examples from around New Zealand) officers strongly believe that goat control is best placed at protecting special site values and hence current proposed status in Proposed RPMP.
207. We consider that this explanation has merit and consequently do not consider it would be realistic for the RPMP to achieve eradication of feral goats in the Wellington region in the short term. With that noted, we are of the view that the long-term eradication of goats through some areas of the region, such as the Wellington peninsula, should be considered.

### **7.3 Possums**

208. Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust has suggested that possum eradication should cover all reserves in the region. Similarly, Gary James has suggested reclassifying possums to an eradication status.
209. Officers have stated that with currently available technology and resources eradication is not achievable in the life of the plan. We note that the CBA document and analysis undertaken in accordance with the NPD have concluded that sustained control and a site-led approach are appropriate to meet the requirements of the NPD. We therefore do not recommend reclassifying possums to an eradication programme.
210. Forest and Bird has requested that GWRC expand possum control to cover the entire region by 2030 and that Figure 9 is updated to reflect which organisations are responsible for possum control in areas that GWRC is not responsible for. While we will not recommend that possums control is expanded to cover the whole region for reasons outlined above, we do recommend that Figure 9 is updated to show the details as requested by submitter.

211. DOC has requested that possums are classified as site-led pests in KNEs and TA reserves in addition to their current site-led classification in Predator Free target areas. Officers have stated that upon further review, a site-led programme for possums in KNEs and TA reserves is appropriate. We recommend that objective (i) of section 6.4.7 is moved to the objectives section of 6.5.8 to classify possums as site-led pests in TA reserves and KNEs.
212. Predator Free New Zealand have suggested the residual trap catch ('RTC') for possums be lowered from 5% to 4%, as Hawke's Bay Regional Council have done. Officers have stated that 5% RTC provides suitable protection for regenerating bush and some birds, and means GWRC can obtain biodiversity benefits at a reasonable cost. We are satisfied with this response and recommend that the RTC for possums remains at 5%.
213. Federated Farmers is concerned that there may be a long period between the withdrawal of OSPRI and areas being declared TB-free, meaning there may be areas in which possums are not managed for a significant period of time. Officers have stated that GWRC has submitted on the proposed TBfree expressing similar concerns. We consider this a separate issue from the RPMP and its contents.

#### **7.4 Hedgehogs**

214. Predator Free New Zealand and submitters using the common format have requested that more public education about the adverse impacts of hedgehogs is provided, especially regarding their impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations. Officers have agreed that this recommendation would be beneficial. We support this course of action but note that it is outside the scope of the RPMP.
215. Predator Free New Zealand and the submitters using the common format have also requested that a rule be inserted stating that it is prohibited to release a hedgehog into any KNE. In the view of council officers this is not necessary as releases are covered by the BSA (sections 52 and 53) at the national level. We disagree and consider that making this as clear as possible would be beneficial. We therefore recommend inserting a rule specifying that releasing hedgehogs into a KNE is prohibited.



216. Roger Dowling has stated that while he supports hedgehogs being included as pests in coastal margins, he opposes broader inclusion as he sees benefits in their presence as well. Officers have stated that hedgehogs are controlled in KNE areas as a site-led pest only, and that taking measures to avoid harming hedgehogs elsewhere would have a negative impact on pest control as these traps are also used to control mustelid and rat populations. We accept this rationale.
217. Bob Brockie states that hedgehog numbers in the region are declining and therefore resources would be better spent on eradicating other pests, such as rats and mustelids. Susan Thrasher has expressed her opposition to the inclusion of hedgehogs in the RPMP. Officers have stated that hedgehogs are recognised as having adverse effects on a range of native species, and monitoring data shows that hedgehogs are not declining across the landscape. Based on this, we agree that hedgehogs should remain in the RPMP as identified pests.
218. WCC supports the inclusion of hedgehogs but has requested that further research is conducted into humane control of hedgehog populations. Officers have noted that GWRC is constantly trialling and investing in new technologies and control methods for a range of species. We are satisfied with this response.
219. Christopher Horne has requested that the RPMP include the daily weight of insects and lizards eaten by hedgehogs in the region. We do not see the necessity of including this information in a pest management plan. The information suggested can be found in scientific papers, biological references and species specific documents. We note that the RPMP is not developed as a complete biological reference.

## **7.5 Mustelids**

220. Predator Free New Zealand and the submitters using the common format have also requested that a rule be inserted stating that it is prohibited to release a mustelid into any KNE. In the view of council officers this is not necessary as releases are covered by the BSA (sections 52 and 53) at the national level. We disagree and consider that making this as clear as possible would be beneficial. We therefore recommend inserting a rule specifying that releasing mustelids into a KNE is prohibited.

221. Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust has suggested that mustelid eradication should cover all reserves in the region. Officers have informed us that GWRC has undertaken an analysis to identify and prioritise the 54 sites included in the KNE Programme, meaning some locally valuable sites did not meet the criteria for inclusion. In the Porirua catchment GWRC funds further pest animal control at some additional sites as part of its commitment to Te Awarua-o-Porirua Catchment Strategy and Action Plan. Community groups in that catchment can also apply for funding through GWRC's Collaborative Project Contestable Fund to help them deliver pest animal control at other sites. We consider this response reasonable and do not believe that mustelid eradication should cover all reserves in the region. We note that GWRC lacks the resources to eradicate mustelids from all reserves in the region and should thus focus on those reserves with high biodiversity values.
222. Federated Farmers has recommended that GWRC extends service delivery to assist landowners to control mustelids outside designated sites, especially in the Wairarapa. Officers have stated that this request will be duly considered as the programme expands and tools become readily available for cost-effective control. We accept this response and do not consider an amendment to the RPMP is necessary.

## **7.6 Mice and rats**

223. Those submissions that mentioned rats universally expressed support for their inclusion as pests in the RPMP. We agree with the RPMP's current framework for controlling rats and thus do not recommend any amendments in this area.
224. Forest and Bird considers mice should be included as a pest species in the RPMP, noting that mice present a threat to native lizard species and compete with native birds for food, such as berries and seeds
225. Forest and Bird as well as Kerry Shaw have also noted that mice numbers often increase significantly following rat population control which can exacerbate these negative impacts - Kerry Shaw asks that mice are classified as site-led pests to alleviate this.

226. Officers have stated that in their view not enough is known about impacts of mice and that there is a low likelihood of success in controlling mice populations. Mice are currently targeted for control in two KNEs: Baring Head and Whitireia Park, and officers have informed us that even in these relatively small sites effective control of mice is extremely difficult.
227. Based on the information provided by officers it is our view that effectively controlling mice is near impossible with current technology levels, and there is insufficient evidence regarding their impacts to warrant control or eradication efforts. We therefore recommend that mice are not classified as pests in the RPMP.

## **7.7 Ants and wasps**

228. Raumati South Residents Association has requested that Darwin's ant and Argentine ants are classified as pests under the category of sustained control or suppression. The organisation has also requested that the white-footed ant is listed, though not necessarily as a pest. Forest and Bird supports the classification of Darwin's ant as a pest species, and KCDC has requested that Argentine ants are classified as pests in the RPMP.
229. Officers have explained that all of these species of ant are widespread throughout the region and are extremely difficult to exterminate. They have noted that Tasman District Council's attempt to eradicate Argentine and Darwin's ants was unsuccessful despite a very aggressive approach.
230. Furthermore, these ant species can easily spread and/or be reintroduced via transported plants or potting mixes, and controlling the movement of such items is practically impossible.
231. Given the widespread range of these ants in the region and the difficulties controlling them, we agree with officers that it would not be beneficial to list these ant species in the RPMP. We recommend no amendments regarding ants.
232. Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust advocates for more wasp control, including the provision of free bait and training in wasp control. Officers have stated that the main purpose of including wasps is to continue to protect

human health and environmental values, and that GWRC will continue to provide advice and advocacy.

233. Christopher Horne has requested that the RPMP includes an estimate of the total biomass of wasps in the region, and the impact on native birds. Officers have stated they do not have the data to accurately make this 'estimate', and that they do not see the necessity of including this information in a pest management plan, given that the RPMP is not developed as a full scale biological reference. We consider this response reasonable and agree that there does not seem to be any benefit to adding such information. Furthermore, given our desire for the RPMP to refrain from including technical minutiae, we would rather such information is not included.
234. We agree with the current classification and management of wasps. We do not recommend any amendments to the RPMP regarding the management of wasps.

## **7.8 Canada geese**

235. Guardians of Pauatahanui Inlet and the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust have expressed concern about the impacts of Canada geese on native flora and fauna and consequently have requested that this species is listed as a pest with a focus on sustained control. Masterton District Council also supports the classification of Canada geese as a pest species, and has requested a copy of the CBA for Canada geese. If the CBA cannot justify Canada geese being listed as a pest, then MDC would like GWRC to enter into an alternative arrangement for managing the population. The Panel has also asked officers if GWRC should be taking the lead on managing Canada geese, given their population is currently small and they can have significant adverse agricultural and environmental effects – especially on estuarine biodiversity.
236. Officers have stated that the success of reducing the numbers of birds by interfering with eggs and nests is very low, but that in some areas moult culls are done by aerial shooting organised by the local interest groups. Ground based moult culls are done in areas where aerial access is restricted or not possible and there are competent private contractors who organise these. The risks to success are considered high due the nature of the wetland sites, the close proximity to

urban areas, roads and people, and the organisational risk due to publicity associated with highly visible animal control operations, as well as health and safety risks to officers or contractors.

237. We are thus informed that costs and risks would be very high for the benefit to a small percentage of the population, especially as GWRC has limited expertise in the control of geese. We consider this response reasonable and do not consider that Canada geese need to be listed as pests. With that said, we note that if their population or range increases then GWRC may need to reconsider this approach to managing Canada geese, thereby requiring an active monitoring programme.

## **7.9 Magpies and rooks**

238. Jonathan Wickens has requested that GWRC makes live call birds available to the public to help lure and trap magpies, stating that this is a more effective method. Officers have responded that live call birds are being investigated but their use has presented animal welfare problems in the past. We accept this response.
239. DOC has expressed support for the inclusion of magpies in the RPMP but has requested that they are classified as site-led. Officers believe that classifying magpies as Site-led programme is appropriate, and we therefore recommend that the RPMP is amended to classify magpies as a site-led pest.
240. A submitter who requested anonymity has argued against the inclusion of magpies in the RPMP, stating they do not have significant impacts and are useful in insect and pest control. Officers have noted that magpies are listed in the RPMP under a Sustained Control programme to provide for ongoing control and to reduce their impacts on values and spread to other properties. GWRC has the expertise and capacity to quickly respond and undertake magpie control when threats to human health values occur, and we have been informed that no other agency is willing to take on the work. We therefore support the inclusion of magpies in the RPMP under a site-led programme.
241. The Panel has noted there are no rules pertaining to magpies and has questioned why this is the case, and whether they should be listed as pests at all if they do not need rules controlling them. Officers have explained that listing magpies as

pests gives GWRC powers under the BSA to access land to control aggressive magpies, which have caused injury to people when attacking them. We accept the rationale of this response.

242. Susan Thrasher and a submitter who requested anonymity have argued against the inclusion of rooks in the RPMP, stating they do not have significant impacts and are useful in insect and pest control. Officers have stated that GWRC, Hawkes Bay Regional Council, and Horizons Regional Council all have longstanding rook control programmes that complement each other. If one organisation withdraws the commitment to invest in rook control, investment across the southern and central parts of the North Island is severely jeopardised.
243. Furthermore, we have been informed that rooks in high numbers can have significant impacts agricultural land, and officers have explained that prior to rook control beginning in the 1990s the high population of these birds had significant negative effects on agriculture. Officers have also noted that rooks are classified as Unwanted Organisms under the Biosecurity Act.
244. We consider that classifying rooks as pests is most appropriate, based on their potential significant negative impacts and the need for coordinated control across the lower North Island. We do not recommend any changes to the RPMP's management of rooks.

## **7.10 Freshwater and marine pests**

245. MPI have recommended that a number of marine organisms be added to the RPMP as pests, including Mediterranean fanworm, Australian droplet tunicate, and the Asian paddle crab. Officers believe there are no reliable and cost effective eradication or control tools for invasive marine organisms, which significantly reduces any likelihood of control operation success. The risk of reinvasion in the absence of a National Marine Pathway Plan reinforces officers' position not to include marine species in the proposed plan.
246. Officers have also noted that GWRC is actively promoting measures to minimise risk of spreading marine organisms through the work of GWRC Harbours department. With all of this considered, we concur that it would not be

appropriate to list marine pests in the RPMP given the current statutory framework.

247. DOC has requested that freshwater pest fish are included in the RPMP, including brown bull-headed catfish. Officers consider that freshwater fish are covered under legislation other than the BSA and that responsibility for their management lies with central government agencies. We agree with this and do not recommend that the RPMP classifies any freshwater fish as pests.

### **7.11 Other pest animals**

248. WCC has expressed support for the sustained control of rabbits, and has expressed interest in the findings of studies into the use of biocontrol agents on rabbits. Officers have agreed to provide additional information outside of the RPMP document regarding control and eradication of feral rabbits. Results from biocontrol agents are available in the annual Operational Plan Report, and GWRC can provide WCC with further test results if required. We accept this response.
249. DOC suggests that feral rabbits be included under site-led control. Officers state that control can still be done in other sites other than KNEs with landowner permission to fit in with Biodiversity objectives or amenity values in the area. GWRC does not need rules in many of the cases as operations are in agreement with landowner, and much of the rabbit work is cost recovery. Based on this, we do not consider that rabbits need to be reclassified in the RPMP.
250. Trellissick Park Group has requested practical advice on rabbit control due to their increasing population in the park. Officers have stated that GWRC will work with WCC and Trellissick Park Group to work through rabbit control approaches. We support this approach.
251. Sandy Werner has expressed support for the inclusion of the South African praying mantis in the RPMP. Officers have stated that the South African praying mantis is both widespread and any adverse effects it has on native fauna are not widely recognised. Based on this we concur that there is no reason to list the South African praying mantis as a pest in the RPMP.

252. Forest and Bird has suggested that feral cattle, rainbow skinks, and hares should all be classified as pests in the RPMP.
253. Rainbow skinks are an unwanted organism, making it illegal to release and move them. Officers have informed us that there are no known effective monitoring tools or control methods, and that due to their inconspicuous nature detection and control are difficult. We accept this rationale and agree that rainbow skinks should not be included in the RPMP as a pest species.
254. We have been informed that feral cattle have been dealt with by OSPRI to date as part of the TB Free programme, and that they are not widespread in the region. We do not consider it is necessary to classify feral cattle as pests in the RPMP, given their low population and current control operations.
255. Hares are currently listed as Harmful organisms in the RPMP, and officers have informed us they believe this classification is the most appropriate. We have not received any compelling evidence that argues for hares to be listed as pests, so we do not recommend a change to the classification of hares.
256. Forest and Bird have also suggested an amendment to the RPMP that states that pests that have yet to establish populations or reach the region may be included as identified pest species in the future. Officers concur that that would be beneficial, and we agree. We therefore recommend that a sentence to the effect of this request is added to section 4.2 of the RPMP.

## **8. Submissions on pest plants**

257. We also received a number of submissions regarding the management of pest plant species. These species include old man's beard, wilding conifers, climbing asparagus, and agapanthus.

### **8.1 Old man's beard**

258. Graham Bellamy and Pat Van Berkel have requested that control of old man's beard is extended over all of GWRC's managed areas, with a level of service delivery similar to that of UHCC provided – UHCC is seen as assertively managing old man's beard within its jurisdiction. WCC has requested that the RPMP emphasises control of old man's beard on properties that are adjacent to



KNEs. Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust has proposed that GWRC works to eradicate old man's beard from the Porirua catchment as well as other territorial authorities if possible. Jacqui Lane and Graeme Blanchard have requested that old man's beard is classified as a pest. The Panel also queried whether the classification of old man's beard should be reconsidered, with a region-wide control framework adopted.

259. Officers have informed us that old man's beard is extremely difficult to eradicate and is very widespread throughout the region. On this basis, it is our view that there would be no benefit to adding old man's beard to the RPMP as an identified pest species, given the extremely low likelihood of successful control or eradication. We therefore do not recommend any changes relating to the management of old man's beard in the RPMP.

## **8.2 Wilding conifers**

260. MPI strongly recommends that inclusion of wilding conifers as pests in the RPMP, rather than as harmful organisms, which is their current classification.
261. We note that the Wellington Region is fortunate that wildings have not become established to the extent seen in other regions. However, we have been advised that there are approximately 800 hectares of wilding-affected land in the region. Officers have stated that wilding conifers in the Wellington Region are almost exclusively a problem on publically owned land, and that GWRC is actively controlling wilding pines in the region without the need to utilise rules under the BA, hence officers not including them as a pest category in the proposed plan.
262. With that noted, officers have stated that should the Panel intend to recommend the inclusion of wilding conifers, then progressive containment of both naturally occurring and planted wilding conifers is the most sustainable option in their view.
263. Given the extreme rapidity with which wilding conifers can spread, the Panel is of the view that they ought to be included in the RPMP. While we initially took the view that the focus should be on eradication rather than control, we accept the officers' view that progressive containment is the most sustainable option.

264. We therefore recommend that the RPMP is amended to include wilding conifers as designated pests, classified under a progressive containment regime.

### **8.3 Agapanthus**

265. Guardians of Pauatahanui Inlet and the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust are concerned at the spread of agapanthus, and have requested that existing agapanthus is eradicated, its sale is banned, and people are educated about its impacts. NZTA has requested that agapanthus is classified as a pest and made subject to good neighbour rules, while an online submission under the name Saisr has also requested that agapanthus is listed as a pest.

266. Officers have advised us that agapanthus is very widespread in the region and thus control and/or eradication is not possible. We accept this rationale and do not recommend any changes to the RPMPs approach to agapanthus.

### **8.4 Other pest plants**

267. Gary James, NZTA, and Lower Hutt Forest and Bird have requested that the RPMP includes sweet cherry. Officers have stated that while sweet cherry will be controlled in KNE areas and wetlands under the wetland programme, it is currently not on the National Pest Plant Accord list and can still be sold, distributed and propagated in the Wellington Region. Until the legal status of sweet cherry changes officers do not consider it can be effectively controlled or eradicated. We consider this rationale to be reasonable and agree that sweet cherry should not be included in the RPMP.

268. DOC has requested that pig's ear is included as a pest under either sustained control or site-led control in coastal areas of the region. Officers have informed us that pig's ear is controlled in KNEs but is widespread throughout coastal areas and is very common in areas that are not deemed high value biodiversity sites. Based on this, we consider that there would be no benefit to including pig's ear in the RPMP as a pest species.

269. Gary James and Lower Hutt Forest and Bird have requested that the RPMP includes Japanese honeysuckle. As with sweet cherry, officers consider Japanese honeysuckle too widespread in the Wellington Region to be considered for the Eradication Programme. Officers have stated that GWRC continues to work

closely with and support Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research and the biological control programme which aims to gain control over Japanese honeysuckle by establishing several natural enemies that damage the plant. Additionally, officers have advised us that Japanese honeysuckle is currently controlled and will continue to be controlled in KNE areas and wetlands through the wetland programme. We are satisfied with this response and in our view the current classification of and management approach to Japanese honeysuckle is appropriate.

270. Gary James and Lower Hutt Forest and Bird have requested that the RPMP includes hawthorn. According to officers hawthorn is too widespread in the Wellington Region to be considered for the Eradication Programme, but Hawthorn is currently controlled and will continue to be controlled in KNE areas and wetlands through the wetland programme. We consider this to be a reasonable approach and do not recommend any changes to the classification of hawthorn in the RPMP.
271. East Harbour Environmental Association has requested that blackberry is listed as a pest under a site-led programme. Officers have informed us that while blackberry is controlled in Key Native Ecosystem areas by GWRC, blackberry is nonetheless difficult to control and is widespread in the Wellington Region. Based on this we concur that there would be no benefit to classifying blackberry as a pest.
272. DOC supports the inclusion of blue passionflower but considers that the RPMP should include an occupier rule that allows occupiers to be exempted from GW access if they want to control blue passionflower themselves. We note that the rule does not state that no exemptions will be considered, and if an occupier seeks an exemption, section 9.3 of the Plan provides direction on this. We therefore do not consider any action on this matter is necessary.
273. Susan Keall and Andrew Thrift have requested a control plan for tradescantia around Wellington City. Officers have informed us that tradescantia is widespread and in high densities throughout the Wellington Region but is controlled in KNEs and Wetlands under the Wetland Programme. However,

officers have stated that a site-led programme could be considered if detailed information on the distribution of tradescantia and the area to be controlled, the values to be protected, and funding arrangements is provided. We have been informed GWRC also continues to work closely with and support Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research and the biological control programme which aims to gain control over tradescantia by establishing several natural enemies that damage the plant. With all this in mind we agree that there would be no benefit to listing tradescantia as a pest species in the RPMP at this time.

274. DOC supports the inclusion of boneseed but considers that the RPMP should include an occupier rule that allows occupiers to be exempted from GW access if they want to control boneseed themselves. DOC also added that herbicides should be used cautiously to control boneseed in coastal areas, given their ecological sensitivity. We note that the rule does not state that no exemptions will be considered; if an occupier seeks an exemption, section 9.3 of the Plan provides direction. Officers also agree herbicides must be used cautiously. We do not consider an amendment is necessary to the RPMPs approach to boneseed.
275. Gary James, East Harbour Environmental Association, and Lower Hutt Forest and Bird have requested that climbing asparagus is added to the RPMP as a pest plant classified under site-led control. Officers have informed us that climbing asparagus is widespread in the Wellington Region but is controlled in KNE and wetland areas under the wetland programme and will continue to be controlled in them. However, officers have stated that a site-led programme could be considered if detailed information on the distribution of climbing asparagus and the area to be controlled, the values to be protected, and funding arrangements is provided. Based on this advice, we consider that there would be very little benefit to classifying climbing asparagus as a pest species at this time.
276. NZTA has requested that wattle be added to the list of pest species and made subject to good neighbour rules. Officers have stated that wattle is controlled in KNEs and Wetlands under the Wetland Programme but it too widespread for widespread control to be effective or economic. Based on this we agree that wattle should not be classified as a pest in the RPMP.

277. Federated Farmers has requested that African feather grass is retained as a pest species. According to officers consultation with local farming reference group representatives in Masterton indicated that farmers do not regard this species as an issue, as it was identified as a species that is considered to be appropriately managed as part of everyday pest plant farm management. We therefore do not consider it is necessary to list African feather grass as a pest species.
278. An online submitter using the name Kakas has requested that privet is added as a pest. Officers have stated that privet is too abundant and widespread in the region, but is more an issue in residential areas where GWRC does not conduct much pest management. Officers have also stated that privet is currently controlled in KNE's if present and a priority. We agree that listing privet as a pest is not appropriate or beneficial.
279. The Wellington Natural Heritage Trust has requested that GWRC controls old man's beard, banana passionfruit, and cathedral bells to similar levels as HCC, and confers upon WCC similar pest control powers to those given to HCC. Officers have noted that Hutt City Council fund the old man's beard, cathedral bells and banana passionfruit programme within the Hutt City boundary and therefore make this programme feasible. Wellington City Council would have to do the same if this was to be a feasible option in Wellington City.
280. While officers have stated they would be happy to support WCC in the same way they support the HCC programme in the proposed RPMP, GWRC cannot legally confer powers to manage RPMS pest species to persons working outside of or not under the direct control of GWRC. We consider this requested relief to be outside the scope of the RPMP and thus reject this request.
281. DOC has requested that Manchurian wild rice, Cape tulip, and water hyacinth are listed as eradication pests. According to officers all three species are so potentially environmentally damaging that they are considered pests of national interest and as such are included in MPI's National Interest Pest Response (NIPR) programme. While MPI funds and overviews the control programmes for these species and has final responsibility for the outcome of eradication

programmes nationally, GWRC manages the actual control work at the few NIPR species sites within the Wellington Region under a partnership agreement.

282. Officers have also noted that these three species are also included as Harmful organisms in Appendix 2 of the proposed RPMP. GWRC officers are actively engaged in surveillance programmes to locate any new infestations of these plants, and new sites are reported to MPI. Council officers are then responsible for carrying out the control or eradication. In our view this nationally directed control regime led by MPI is appropriate and therefore we do not recommend the three species identified by DOC are listed as pests in the RPMP. However, we do recommend that these three species (and any other listed under the NIPR) are indicated with an asterisk in the list of harmful organisms. In our view this would clearly indicate to plan users which species are managed at a national level.

283. Christopher Horne has requested that the RPMP includes reference to 25,000 introduced species of plants, and that the list of weed species provided by WBS is included in the RPMP. Officers do not see the necessity of including this information in a pest management plan. The information suggested can be found in scientific papers, biological references and species specific documents, but the RPMP was not developed as a full scale biological reference. We concur with officers and do not see added value in including this information in the RPMP.

## **9. Conclusion and recommendations**

284. Based on the submissions we have received and our deliberations, we recommend the following changes.

285. Our recommendations are arranged by chapter.

### **9.1 Introduction**

286. We recommend that Section 1.1 is amended to more accurately represent paragraphs 70-72 of the Biosecurity Act.

287. We recommend that the following long-term goal is added: “That over the twenty year term of this plan biodiversity loss due to plant and animal pests

particularly in KNE areas will be reversed, and then a pest free status for considerable areas of the Wellington region can become a reality”.

288. We recommend that Figure 1 is amended to include an overlay showing Crown Land, and that the wording is revised to include a statement about what Crown land is and how efforts are coordinated.
289. We recommend the relevant sentence in section 1.2 is amended to read as follows: “However, this Plan only addresses pests where voluntary action is insufficient due to the nature of the pest, or the related costs and benefits of individual action or inaction”.

## **9.2 Planning and statutory background**

290. We recommend that section 2.1.2 is amended to read as follows:

“An effective biosecurity system is established within the Wellington region, between regions and at a national level (refer Figure 3). All neighbouring regional councils, and all regional councils nationwide, maintain operative regional pest management strategies or plans.

Central government is responsible for preventing pests entering New Zealand, providing leadership and co-ordinating or implementing incursion management where eradication from New Zealand remains attainable. Rapid response initiatives and national pest management accords, registers and strategies are examples of the instruments they employ. The Ministry for Primary Industries website, at [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz), outlines the details of those instruments.

The plans and strategies of territorial authorities may also have a complementary role in biosecurity.

As a result, regional pest management plans are an integral component of a comprehensive biosecurity system that protects New Zealand’s economic, environmental, social and cultural values from the threat of pests.”

291. We recommend that section 2.2.1 is amended to correctly refer to section 6 of the Biosecurity Act.

292. We recommend that the last sentence of section 2.1.1.5 is amended to read as follows: “For this reason, as the national marine biosecurity surveillance and response capability increases, throughout the life of this plan, Greater Wellington will work with central and local...”
293. We recommend that discussion of the BSA in the RPMP is reviewed to clarify or correct whether changes were changes to the BSA or the NPD.
294. We recommend that a new subsection is added under section 2.2.4 that reads as follows:
- “The Wild Animal Control Act 1977, the Wildlife Act 1953, and the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 (all administered by the Department of Conservation) have a role in relation to managing animals/fish.
- (a) The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (WAC Act) controls the hunting and release of wild animals and regulates deer farming and the operation of safari parks. It also gives local authorities the power to destroy wild animals under operational plans that have the Minister of Conservation’s consent.
- (b) The Wildlife Act 1953 controls and protects wildlife not subject to the WAC Act. It identifies which wildlife are not protected (eg, mustelids, possums, wallabies, rooks, feral cats), which are to be game (eg, mallard ducks, black swan), and which are partially protected or are injurious.
- (c) The Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 places controls on people who possess, control, rear, raise, hatch or consign noxious fish without authority.”
295. We recommend that section 2.5 is amended to provide a more detailed explanation of Council’s relationship with mana whenua in the pest management context and how Council will engage with mana whenua in the future.
296. We recommend that Figure 2 is amended so that the goals described are representative of the actual goals in the strategy.



### **9.3 Responsibilities and obligations**

297. We recommend section 3.3 is amended to read as follows: “Significant pest management control by OSPRI, to reduce bovine Tb vectors (possums, mustelids etc.) in our region, under the National Pest Management Plan for Bovine Tb is continuing for the duration of this Plan and supports the outcomes this Plan seeks to achieve.”

298. We recommend the first paragraph of section 3.3.2 is amended to read as follows: "Four central government agencies (including state-owned enterprises) have been identified as being significant beneficiaries or exacerbators of pest management in the Wellington Region. These include:

- DOC
- The New Zealand Railways Corporation (KiwiRail)
- Land Information New Zealand
- The New Zealand Transport Agency

The New Zealand Transport Agency is a statutory entity and a Crown agent under Section 7 and Schedule 1 of the Crown Entities Act 2004 and therefore, a Crown entity. As a Crown entity, the Transport Agency is subject to provisions applicable to and therefore falls within the definition of land occupier for the purposes of obligations for pest management."

299. We recommend that that section 3.3.2 is amended to reflect the work DOC and MPI do in pest control.

300. We recommend that the second paragraph of 3.3.5 Road reserves is amended as follows: “Where a road reserve boundary is unknown, a survey will indicate the location of a road or rail reserve boundary (should this be necessary)”.

301. We recommend a new section is added that explains via text or diagram how the various organisations responsible for pest management in the Wellington region relate to one another and what their specific areas of responsibility are.

#### **9.4 Organism status**

302. We recommend section 4.2 is amended to state that pests that have yet to establish populations or reach the region may be included as identified pest species in the future.
303. We recommend that Table 2 is amended to include blue passionflower as a listed pest species.

#### **9.5 Pest management framework**

304. No amendments are recommended.

#### **9.6 Pest descriptions and programmes**

305. We recommend that a new section (6.3.2) is added that designates wilding conifers as a pest species to be managed under progressive containment.
306. We recommend that the objective in section 6.4.4 is amended to read as follows:  
“Over the duration of the plan, sustainably control eel grass in wetlands or waterbodies identified as specific natural, significant or outstanding wetlands and waterbodies identified in the Natural Resources Plan (NRP Schedules) for the Wellington Region, to protect the Wellington Region’s indigenous environmental values, specifically wetland habitats with native wetland biodiversity.”
307. We recommend that 6.4.7 is merged with 6.5.8 to classify possums as site-led pests only.
308. We recommend that magpies are reclassified as site-led pests.
309. We recommend that a new section 6.5.10 is added to classify deer as pests in KNEs and actively managed territorial authority reserves, under a site-led programme
310. We recommend the objective for purple loosestrife is amended to be worded more clearly and to reflect the Natural Resources Plan’s approach to wetlands.

#### **9.7 Actual or potential effects of implementation**

311. We recommend that Section 7.1 is amended to include the following phrasing:  
"It is acknowledged that feral animals such as deer, pigs and goats are valued as

replacements for traditional hunting resources. Feral deer and feral pigs will be actively controlled in KNE reserves and TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA. Feral goats will primarily be controlled in KNEs and in areas in the region deemed to have high ecological values. Therefore the effect of the plan on the regional availability of these hunting resources (outside of KNEs and TA reserves) will be minimal."

## **9.8 Monitoring**

312. No amendments are recommended.

## **9.9 Powers conferred**

313. We recommend that section 9.3 is amended to include the following: "Upon application, the Wellington Regional Council will consider issuing an exemption under section 78 of the Act to provide for the keeping of any eradication species for zoological or research purposes".

## **9.10 Funding**

314. We recommend that budget figures are amended to show spending on species-based, site-based, and landscape programmes.

## **9.11 References**

315. No amendments are recommended.

## **9.12 Image sources**

316. We recommend that the cover photo is replaced with a new image that does not feature Zealandia.

## **9.13 Other amendments**

317. We recommend that information on animal welfare is significantly expanded to include either precise detail on where to find welfare information online or explain to users directly how they can carry out humane pest control.

318. We recommend that a vision statement and executive summary is inserted on the page prior to the beginning of section 1.

319. We recommend that officers review the text of the RPMP and remove unnecessary technical detail and replace such phrasing with more accessible language.
320. We recommend the RPMP's description of the NZTA is amended for greater accuracy.
321. We recommend that officers review Predator Free boundaries and amend the maps in the RPMP if these boundaries have been provided in more detail or modified.
322. We recommend that the RPMP is amended to explain the biosecurity and pest control work GWRC does for the QEII National Trust.
323. We recommend that all map numbers are reviewed and amended to ensure they are correct.
324. We recommend that a map is inserted that outlines the recognised natural, significant or outstanding wetlands and waterbodies identified in the Natural Resources Plan, and that distribution maps for each specific pest plant species listed in the proposed RPMP are inserted.
325. We recommend that the RPMP is amended to more clearly explain the effects roadworks have on the establishment of pests.
326. We recommend that the RPMP is amended to read as follows:

“Regional councils are mandated under Part 2 (functions, powers and duties), Section 12B of the Act to provide regional leadership in activities that prevent, reduce or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms that are present in their regions. Section 12B sets out the ways in which regional councils provide leadership. These include helping to develop and align RPMPs and regional pathway management plans in the region, promoting public support for managing pests, and helping those involved in managing pests to communicate and cooperate to make programmes more effective, efficient and equitable. Section 13(1) sets out powers that support regional councils in this leadership role.

These include powers to:

- Monitor and survey pests, pest agents and unwanted organisms
- Provide for the assessment and eradication or management of pests in accordance with relevant pest management plans
- Prepare proposals for, make and implement RPMPs
- Appoint a management agency for a plan
- Disallow an operational plan or part of it
- Review, amend, revoke and replace, or revoke a plan
- Declare and implement small scale management programmes
- Gather information, keep records and undertake research.”

327. We recommend that the function of KNEs in the RPMP is amended to be explained more accurately.

328. We recommend that a new section relating to Regional Parks and the work that is undertaken in them is included in the RPMP, as well as a map of the regional parks with an overlay of where KNE’s are in these parks.

329. We recommend that the final RPMP replace several photos of staff with photos of volunteers.

330. We recommend that Map 5 in the appendices (the map of KNEs) is amended to cover a full page to enhance readability.

331. We recommend that the following error in the CBA document identified by Fish and Game is corrected:

“Cats are present in many wetlands in New Zealand (as identified in the attribute table on page 173) and their current and potential land use infested should be considered Low.” (Pg. 174)

## 9.14 Conclusion

332. We have considered the proposed RPMP and the supporting documents provided to us, the submissions lodged, the evidence and submissions presented at the hearing, together with the staff reports provided to us and the additional cost benefit analysis.
333. We are satisfied with overall direction of the RPMP and are confident that with some minor amendments it will provide an effective framework for pest management in the Wellington region. Based on the feedback of submitters and advice from officers we have recommended a number of amendments that we consider will add clarity to the RPMP and provide the pest management direction the community seeks.
334. We are satisfied that with the amendments discussed above the RPMP set out in Appendix 2 meets the requirements for a pest management plan under the BSA.
335. Following receipt of further cost benefit analysis from in relation to feral deer and wilding conifers and receipt of the final draft of the RPMP, the Panel requested that officers provide an assessment of the RPMP against sections 73 and 74 of the BSA. The Panel accepts the officers' assessment of the RPMP. In particular, we agree that the RPMP contains all of the matters required by section 73 of the BSA and meets the requirements of section 74 of the BSA, including:
- 335.1 The Plan is not inconsistent with the National Policy Direction, any other pest management or pathway management plan, any regional policy statement or regional plan, or any regulations (section 74(a));
- 335.2 That for each pest, the benefits of the plan outweigh the costs, after taking account of the likely consequences of inaction or other sources of action (section 74(b));
- 335.3 That for each pest, persons that are required, as a group, to meet directly the costs of implementing the plan accrue, as a group, benefits outweighing the costs, or contribute, as a group, to the creation, continuance or exacerbation of the problems proposed to be resolved by the plan (section 74(c));

- 335.4 That for each pest there is likely to be adequate funding for the next 5 years (section 74(d)); and
- 335.5 That each rule will assist in achieving the plan's objectives and will not trespass unduly on the rights of individuals (section 74(e)).
336. We have prepared this report in accordance with section 75 of the BSA and set out our reasons for accepting or rejecting the submissions lodged on the proposed RPMP in Appendix 1. We recommend that the Council adopt our recommendations.

## **10. Appendices**

See separate documents.

Appendix 1: Accept/reject table for submission points

Appendix 2 (see Attachment 3 to Report 19.179): Amended RPMP including recommended amendments

**Appendix 1 (to Attachment 2 to Report 19.179):****GWRC Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan Hearing Panel decisions on submissions**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Submission</b>	<b>Relief</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
1.1	Wickens, Jonathan	<p>I live on the Paekakariki Hill Road and have most of the Tunapo "area of ecological significance" on my property. I have an extensive trapping network using DOC200s and Goodnature A24s. I catch several stoats and hedgehogs and 50-100 rats per year. (I only rarely get possums on my property though.)</p> <p>I also target magpies, which harass and compete with native birds, especially falcons and harriers. I have two trip traps that are reasonably good on the younger birds but the traps with call birds your pest animals team loan out are needed for the older, wiser birds. I requested one about a month ago but they told me that they're not supplying call birds any more. Having a call bird from outside of the immediate area is important for these traps to work because the local birds will come in to attack the invader that they don't recognize. I can catch my own call bird but they're nowhere near as effective if the other birds recognize it, because it isn't a potential rival. I used to be able to keep my entire property magpie-free but now I'm really struggling to do so without a "foreign" call bird.</p> <p>Another advantage of the call bird traps is less/ zero non-target species by-catch. One problem with the trip traps is that they occasionally catch harriers. The traps are non-lethal but obviously not great for the harriers. I have never had any by-catch with your traps though.</p> <p>I would really encourage you to re-start giving out magpie call birds with your traps as this makes them significantly more effective. I am determined to do everything I can to keep this special property pest-free, and spend a lot of time and money doing so. But I really need call birds from outside my area to deal with the magpies that re-invade. I can't do this bit without help.</p> <p>Is this something you would consider please?</p>	Operational request.	Noted.
2.1	Capital Kiwi Stanley Ward, Paul	<p>1. Re Capital Kiwi: probably fine at this stage to include it within the wider scope of PFW. Note that while CK and PFW do have/will have a very close relationship (currently being formalised via an MoU and management agreement), that CK will be setting up as an independent charitable trust. We will sit under the wider PFW 'umbrella' but the CK project will have independent governance.</p>	Support.	Noted.



2.2	Capital Kiwi Stanley Ward, Paul	<p>2. While stoats are the primary target of CK's pest eradication (to enable kiwi to return), we will also be looking at other pests that have (lesser) impacts on kiwi viability as landowners' will and opportunities present themselves. e.g. private landowners (e.g. Terawhiti station, Meridian) have expressed keenness to get rid of feral cats.</p> <p>We endorse GW's proposed commitment to acting on controlling feral cats in KNE and TA areas. My only concern would be that the latter part of the definition of pest animal:</p> <p>"free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans."</p> <p>might allow feral colonies that are being fed by humans to escape being defined as pest animals.</p>	Support in part. Amend definition of pest cat.	Noted.
2.3	Stanley Ward, Paul Capital Kiwi	p.s I note the firm rule around cat colonies in the document (good stuff); I guess my comment is to suggest that the definition of 'pest cat' be consistent with the rule being applied under the Animal Welfare Act.	Support in part. Amend definition of 'pest cat' and rules to align with Animal Welfare Act.	Noted.
3.1	Dowling, Roger	Saw in the DomPost an article stating hedgehogs were to be included in your Regional Pest Management Plan because of dangers to shore birds. Happy with this if this is confined to the coastal or riparian strip as I believe hedgehogs have benefits as well.	Support in part. Insert provisions to confine hedgehog control in coastal or riparian strips.	Reject.
3.2	Dowling, Roger	A more meritorious target is feral cats in urban and rural areas. Why can't we trap and kill them in our own backyard? I have found a number of birds on my lawn killed by cats.	Support. Wants to know why it isn't legal to kill cats on one's property.	Noted.
4.1	Companion of the Royal Society of NZ Brockie, Bob	Hedgehogs are only a minor and declining pest in the Wellington region. I have been counting hedgehog roadkill on Wellington roads since the 1950s when there were 50 times more hedgehogs. They are disappearing from the Wellington landscape. Same in Britain where they have become an endangered species. Better spend the money on eradicating real pests - rats and stoats.	Allocate available money to control rats and stoats and less to hedgehogs.	Reject.
5.1	Project Manager Predator Free Wellington Willcocks, James	I would like to submit on the RPMP with emphatic support for the inclusion of Predator Free Wellington as a project in the site led category. This mechanism sets both important context and a strategic framework for delivering the aspirational goal of creating the world's first predator free capital city.	Supports the inclusion of Predator Free Wellington as a project in the site led category.	Noted.

6.1	(Forest & Bird Upper Hutt Chairperson) Bellamy, Graham	<p>We wish to submit on the Regional Pest Plan as Forest &amp; Bird have been actively involved in maintaining and improving the environment around Upper Hutt for approx. 25 years. We were instrumental in the saving and recovery of Barton’s Bush in Trentham Memorial Park and have been working on Hull’s Creek for over 15 years. In the past 2 years we have been instrumental in starting t control and eradicate Old Man’s Beard along River Road (SH2) from Silverstream to Whakaitki Street in Upper Hutt. This work is ongoing and we have already done work in other areas of Upper Hutt.</p> <p>We are currently working with GWRC, UHCC and DOC in starting a PredatorFree project in Upper Hutt and also continuing to manage the work in Wi Tako Reserve and Trentham Memorial Park KNE sites for predator control.</p> <p>We would like to see a closer liaison between GWRC and volunteer groups on work such as pest and weed control work.</p>	Closer liaison between GWRC and community groups.	Noted.
6.2	(Forest & Bird Upper Hutt Chairperson) Bellamy, Graham	<p>We certainly appreciate the support and effort that is being provided but as this work is so reliant on volunteers we would like to see more staff to support and liaise with the groups working on such projects. It is really great for volunteers to feel appreciated and recognized for the work that they do. This could be in the form of an annual letter to them or an annual visit to the group.</p>	Annual letter or visit to acknowledge and recognise the work the group has done.	Noted.
6.3	(Forest & Bird Upper Hutt Chairperson) Bellamy, Graham	<p>The main area of concern to us with the Plan is in the area of Old Man’s Beard (OMB), which we are actively involved with currently in our area. We note that OMB is listed as a pest weed but the management of it within GWRC area is under a programme of “Site-led HCC”. This seems to be a programme that only provides control of the pest weed within HCC TA boundary. We would like to see this extended to cover all of the GWRC controlled areas. If this is not practical we would like to have a discussion with your staff and UHCC to get the same control delivery service arrangement set up within UHCC TA boundary. To date we have been working within the UHCC area to control OMB with the support of UHCC and their contractors and our own volunteers, but we would like to see a more formal arrangement in conjunction with GWRC</p>	Extend the control of Old man's beard over all of the GWRC managed areas, and if not practicable, requests a meeting between F&B, UH City Council (UHCC) and GWRC to get the same control service delivery as in the UHCC territory.	Accept in part.
	(Forest & Bird Upper Hutt Chairperson) Bellamy, Graham	Same as above 6.3	Same as above 6.3	Same as above 6.3

6.4	(Forest & Bird Upper Hutt Chairperson) Bellamy, Graham	<p>We are in the process of starting a PredatorFree programme in Upper Hutt to control and eradicate rats, and mustelids in the Upper Hutt area. We look forward to working with your team to support this work and get community support and volunteers to make this programme a success.</p> <p>We are also hoping to work closely with Iwi on these programmes.</p> <p>This submission has been restricted to the above issues due to the time restraint. We do support the work that GWRC does within its resources and hope that this can be extended to further work on the protection of the environment from pest weeds and animals.</p>	Support. No specific decision requested.	Noted.
7.1	Van Berkel, Pat	<p>I concur that we try and get the same control of OMB in UH city as in Hutt City. It would be great if the F &amp; B branches each attempted the same arrangement with their local council and with GW. Perhaps Tom can pursue this with the other branches before 27 July submission closing date.</p> <p>At the very least it would be excellent if the Pest Management Plan included a clause leaving it open to set up a similar control regime as in HCC, with assistance from the local F &amp; B branches, during the 10-year life of the Plan.</p>	Include clause in plan to set up a similar control regime as in HCC, with assistance from the local F & B branches, during the 10-year life of the Plan.	See Recommendation 6.3
8.1	Brockelsby, William	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Noted.
8.2	Brockelsby, William	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

8.3	Brockelsby, William	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
8.4	Brockelsby, William	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
8.5	Brockelsby, William	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
8.6	Brockelsby, William	More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept.
8.7	Brockelsby, William	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept
8.8	Brockelsby, William	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
8.9	Brockelsby, William	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept

8.10	Brockelsby, William	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
9.1	Cowdell, Logan	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.	Support.	Note.
9.2	Cowdell, Logan	All owned cats should be microchipped to differentiate between owned and unowned cats.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	All owned cats should be microchipped to differentiate between owned and unowned cats.	Reject.
9.3	Cowdell, Logan	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
9.4	Cowdell, Logan	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
9.5	Cowdell, Logan	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support	Note.

9.6	Cowdell, Logan	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support	Note.
9.7	Cowdell, Logan	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept.
9.8	Cowdell, Logan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
9.9	Cowdell, Logan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
9.10	Cowdell, Logan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
9.11	Cowdell, Logan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
10.1	Leerschool, Peter	No Information on form just that they support	Support.	Note.
11.1	Markham, Angela	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support No decision requested.	Note.
11.2	Markham, Angela	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats.  Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

11.3	Markham, Angela	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
11.4	Markham, Angela	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
11.5	Markham, Angela	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
11.6	Markham, Angela	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
11.7	Markham, Angela	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Amend rules to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
11.8	Markham, Angela	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
11.9	Markham, Angela	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
11.10	Markham, Angela	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

12.1	Bremner, David	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger.</p> <p>Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
12.2	Bremner, David	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
12.3	Bremner, David	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
12.4	Bremner, David	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
12.5	Bremner, David	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
12.6	Bremner, David	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
12.7	Bremner, David	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE	Accept.



			area.	
12.8	Bremner, David	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
12.9	Bremner, David	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
12.10	Bremner, David	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support	Note.
13.1	Lane, Jacqui	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
13.2	Lane, Jacqui	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of ‘pest cat’ to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
13.4	Lane, Jacqui	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

13.5	Lane, Jacqui	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
13.6	Lane, Jacqui	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds.	Support.	Note.
13.7	Lane, Jacqui	More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
13.8	Lane, Jacqui	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
13.9	Lane, Jacqui	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
13.10	Lane, Jacqui	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
13.11	Lane, Jacqui	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
14.1	Basha, Parid	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
14.2	Basha, Parid	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

14.3	Basha, Parid	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
14.4	Basha, Parid	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
14.5	Basha, Parid	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
14.6	Basha, Parid	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
14.7	Basha, Parid	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
14.5	Basha, Parid	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
14.6	Basha, Parid	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
14.7	Basha, Parid	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

15.1	Van Den Hoeven, John	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
15.2	Van Den Hoeven, John	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
15.3	Van Den Hoeven, John	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
15.4	Van Den Hoeven, John	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
15.5	Van Den Hoeven, John	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
15.6	Van Den Hoeven, John	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
15.7	Van Den Hoeven, John	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.

15.8	Van Den Hoeven, John	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
15.9	Van Den Hoeven, John	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
15.10	Van Den Hoeven, John	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
16.1	Robertson, Andrew	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  They are absolutely out of control in Berhampore.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
16.2	Robertson, Andrew	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
16.3	Robertson, Andrew	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

16.4	Robertson, Andrew	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
16.4	Robertson, Andrew	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
16.5	Robertson, Andrew	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
16.6	Robertson, Andrew	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
16.7	Robertson, Andrew	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
16.8	Robertson, Andrew	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
16.9	Robertson, Andrew	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
17.1	Gray, Kerry	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
17.2	Gray, Kerry	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

17.3	Gray, Kerry	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
17.4	Gray, Kerry	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
17.5	Gray, Kerry	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
17.6	Gray, Kerry	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
17.7	Gray, Kerry	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
17.8	Gray, Kerry	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
17.9	Gray, Kerry	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

18.1	Hoffman, Lucy	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
18.2	Hoffman, Lucy	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Reject.
18.3	Hoffman, Lucy	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
18.4	Hoffman, Lucy	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
18.4	Hoffman, Lucy	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6
18.5	Hoffman, Lucy	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	<p>Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.</p>	Accept.



18.6	Hoffman, Lucy	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
18.7	Hoffman, Lucy	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
18.8	Hoffman, Lucy	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
19.1	Beadel, Jack	I support the inclusion of all cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
19.2	Beadel, Jack	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: "any cat in new zealand".	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "any cat in New Zealand".	Reject.
19.3	Beadel, Jack	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering any cats 'pet cats' or 'pest cats' on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter any cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region"	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

19.4	Beadel, Jack	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
19.5	Beadel, Jack	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
19.6	Beadel, Jack	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
19.7	Beadel, Jack	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
19.8	Beadel, Jack	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
19.9	Beadel, Jack	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
20.1	Wilton, Tony	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan. We live on the edge of the built-up area with bush reserve on two sides. We have been here for more than 40 years. Previously we had a possum problem which was magnificently brought under control by GWRC. What followed was an upsurge in bird life - tui, kereru, bellbirds, grey warblers, waxeyes and many others. But now that birdlife is being attacked by an upsurge of feral cats. Domestic cats have been abandoned and have bred in the bush. We are now at least four generations into this infestation.  This infestation is being made worse by some residents who encourage and feed the cute kitties. The role of the SPCA - trap, neuter and return - is infuriating.	Support.	Note.
20.1	Wilton, Tony	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

20.2	Wilton, Tony	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
20.3	Wilton, Tony	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
20.4	Wilton, Tony	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
20.5	Wilton, Tony	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
20.5	Wilton, Tony	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
20.6	Wilton, Tony	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
20.6	Wilton, Tony	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

21.1	Grealish, Paul	I wholeheartedly support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats completely vundermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
21.2	Grealish, Paul	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
21.3	Grealish, Paul	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
21.4	Grealish, Paul	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
21.5	Grealish, Paul	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
21.6	Grealish, Paul	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
21.7	Grealish, Paul	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.

21.8	Grealish, Paul	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
21.9	Grealish, Paul	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
21.10	Grealish, Paul	I wholeheartedly support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
22.1	Johansson, Karin	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
22.2	Johansson, Karin	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
22.3	Johansson, Karin	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

22.4	Johansson, Karin	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
22.5	Johansson, Karin	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
22.6	Johansson, Karin	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
22.7	Johansson, Karin	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
22.8	Johansson, Karin	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
22.9	Johansson, Karin	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
23.1	Hurdley, Tom	I support the application and make further comments.	Support.	Note.
23.2	Hurdley, Tom	There should be increased funding and resources to exterminate feral cats in the Wellington Region. There are significant numbers of the cats in our are, with the Hutt city council, the pound and SPCA all diverting responsibility to other party. Therefore a highly dangerous predator is falling through the cracks.	Increase funding for feral cat control and extermination in the Wellington Region.	Accept in part.
23.3	Hurdley, Tom	There should be the opportunity for the community to purchase pest traps at discount prices. This would make the potential of Wellington become pest free more of a reality.	Provide an opportunity for the public to purchase discounted pest traps.	Noted.
23.4	Hurdley, Tom	There should be a requirement for all cats to be registered (like with dogs)	Insert a requirement that all cats within Wellington region must be registered, as dogs are required to be.	Reject.

24.1	Boyde, Sue	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
24.2	Boyde, Sue	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
24.3	Boyde, Sue	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
24.4	Boyde, Sue	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
24.5	Boyde, Sue	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
24.6	Boyde, Sue	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
24.7	Boyde, Sue	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.

24.8	Boyde, Sue	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
24.9	Boyde, Sue	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
25.1	Fontan, Adriana	I strongly oppose the inclusion of cats of any sort within the Proposed plan. It is barbaric, cruel and unfair.  By far, the largest culprit of the loss of habitat and its subsequent loss of diversity are humans. Control sprawling low density cities, control population growth and you will rid the World of environmental problems. Of course, it is easy to distract people from the real causes of our environmental problems by blaming and killing cats.	Oppose. Control sprawling low density cities, control population growth and you will rid the World of environmental problems	Reject.
25.3	Fontan, Adriana	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
25.4	Fontan, Adriana	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
25.5	Fontan, Adriana	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.



25.6	Fontan, Adriana	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
25.7	Fontan, Adriana	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
25.8	Fontan, Adriana	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note
25.9	Fontan, Adriana	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
25.10	Fontan, Adriana	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
26.1	Mort, Anthony	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
26.2	Mort, Anthony	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

26.3	Mort, Anthony	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.” No household should be permitted to have more than two cats at any residential area.	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
26.4	Mort, Anthony	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
26.5	Mort, Anthony	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
26.6	Mort, Anthony	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
26.7	Mort, Anthony	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
26.8	Mort, Anthony	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
26.9	Mort, Anthony	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

27.1	Campbellwhite, Maureen	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
27.2	Campbellwhite, Maureen	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
27.3	Campbellwhite, Maureen	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
27.4	Campbellwhite, Maureen	I would propose that pet cats be properly controlled and confined to the owners property. No other domestic animal is allowed to roam at will. Leaving a pet to roam the neighbourhood is deliberate neglect and should be punishable by law. Our cats should be properly looked after like dogs. Free roaming cats are run over by cars, get into fights, pick up fleas, eat garbage and get sick. They also spread toxoplasmosis by fouling our yards and parks.	Domestic cats need to be properly controlled and not allowed to wander, as dogs currently are.	Note.
27.5	Campbellwhite, Maureen	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.

27.6	Campbellwhite, Maureen	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
27.7	Campbellwhite, Maureen	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
27.8	Campbellwhite, Maureen	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
27.9	Campbellwhite, Maureen	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
27.10	Campbellwhite, Maureen	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
28.1	Grace, Michael	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
28.2	Grace, Michael	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

28.3	Grace, Michael	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
28.4	Grace, Michael	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
28.5	Grace, Michael	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
28.6	Grace, Michael	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
28.7	Grace, Michael	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
28.8	Grace, Michael	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
28.9	Grace, Michael	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
28.10	Grace, Michael	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

29.1	Clifford, Jack	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
29.2	Clifford, Jack	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Reject.
29.3	Clifford, Jack	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”</p> <p>Long term plan should include phasing out domestic cats. As a cat owner I have experienced first-hand my cat bringing in native birds, lizards and insects.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
29.4	Clifford, Jack	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
29.5	Clifford, Jack	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6
29.6	Clifford, Jack	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	<p>Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.</p>	Accept.

29.7	Clifford, Jack	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
29.8	Clifford, Jack	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
29.9	Clifford, Jack	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
30.1	Boy, Seth	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
30.2	Boy, Seth	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
30.3	Boy, Seth	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

30.4	Boy, Seth	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
30.5	Boy, Seth	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
30.6	Boy, Seth	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
30.7	Boy, Seth	<p>I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.</p>	Support.	Note.
30.8	Boy, Seth	<p>An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.</p>	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
30.9	Boy, Seth	<p>I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.</p>	Support.	Note.
31.1	Sadowska, Paulina	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
31.2	Sadowska, Paulina	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.



31.3	Sadowska, Paulina	They should be desexed and rehomed.	Suggests that cats should be sexed and rehomed. No specific request.	Support in part.
31.4	Sadowska, Paulina	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
31.5	Sadowska, Paulina	Hedgehogs Should be kept out of reserves.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
31.6	Sadowska, Paulina	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
31.7	Sadowska, Paulina	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
31.8	Sadowska, Paulina	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
31.9	Sadowska, Paulina	Stop using poisons such as 1080 and Roundup and all other pesticides which KILL native life like lizards and native snails. The excessive use of poison in NZ is putting animals and humans at risk.	Opposes the use of poisons and pesticides and requests the use of it is stopped.	Note.
32.1	Simpson, Andrew	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
32.2	Simpson, Andrew	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

32.3	Simpson, Andrew	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
32.4	Simpson, Andrew	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape	Support.	Note.
32.5	Simpson, Andrew	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
32.6	Simpson, Andrew	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
32.7	Simpson, Andrew	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
32.8	Simpson, Andrew	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
32.9	Simpson, Andrew	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

33.1	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
33.2	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
33.3	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
33.4	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6
33.5	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	<p>Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.</p>	Accept.
33.6	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	<p>I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.</p>	Support.	Note.

33.5	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
33.6	Wild Aro Hawkins, Anthony	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
34.1	Nash, Chris	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
34.2	Nash, Chris	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
34.3	Nash, Chris	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
34.4	Nash, Chris	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.

34.5	Nash, Chris	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
34.6	Nash, Chris	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
34.7	Nash, Chris	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
34.8	Nash, Chris	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
35.1	Roberston, Caro	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
35.2	Roberston, Caro	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
35.3	Roberston, Caro	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.” I would like to see all NZ native species prioritised over introduced species	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

35.4	Roberston, Caro	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
35.5	Roberston, Caro	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
35.6	Roberston, Caro	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
35.7	Roberston, Caro	<p>I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.</p>	Support.	Note.
35.8	Roberston, Caro	<p>An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.</p>	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
35.9	Roberston, Caro	<p>I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.</p>	Support.	Note.
36.1	Seiler, Oliver	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
36.2	Seiler, Oliver	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

36.3	Seiler, Oliver	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
36.4	Seiler, Oliver	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
36.5	Seiler, Oliver	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
36.6	Seiler, Oliver	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
36.7	Seiler, Oliver	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
36.8	Seiler, Oliver	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
36.9	Seiler, Oliver	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

37.1	Leachman, Siobhan	<p>I very much support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan. Given the plan is to be in place for a maximum of 20 years I believe that the issue of the pest cats should be dealt with in the plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Supports the plan the management and clarity around 'pest' cats.	Note support.
37.2	Leachman, Siobhan	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.
37.3	Leachman, Siobhan	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier."	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
37.4	Leachman, Siobhan	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
37.5	Leachman, Siobhan	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6



37.6	Leachman, Siobhan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
37.7	Leachman, Siobhan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
37.8	Leachman, Siobhan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
37.9	Leachman, Siobhan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
38.1	Fitz John, Trevor	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
38.2	Fitz John, Trevor	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
38.3	Fitz John, Trevor	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.” We need to get serious about pests before more extinctions locally or nationally of birds invertebrates plants and fish. This includes trout as a pest invasive species in some rivers impacting on whitebait species.	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

38.4	Fitz John, Trevor	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
38.5	Fitz John, Trevor	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
38.6	Fitz John, Trevor	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
38.6	Fitz John, Trevor	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
38.7	Fitz John, Trevor	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
38.8	Fitz John, Trevor	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
39.1	Little, Chris	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
39.2	Little, Chris	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.

39.3	Little, Chris	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
39.4	Little, Chris	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
39.5	Little, Chris	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
39.6	Little, Chris	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
39.7	Little, Chris	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
39.8	Little, Chris	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
39.9	Little, Chris	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

40.1	Rooney, Nathan	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
40.2	Rooney, Nathan	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Reject.
40.3	Rooney, Nathan	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
40.4	Rooney, Nathan	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
40.5	Rooney, Nathan	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6
40.6	Rooney, Nathan	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	<p>Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE</p>	Accept.

			area.	
40.7	Rooney, Nathan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
40.8	Rooney, Nathan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
40.9	Rooney, Nathan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
41.1	Valentine, Alison	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
41.2	Valentine, Alison	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of ‘pest cat’ to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
41.3	Valentine, Alison	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

41.4	Valentine, Alison	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
41.5	Valentine, Alison	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds.	Support.	Note.
41.6	Valentine, Alison	More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	Recommends more education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
41.7	Valentine, Alison	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
41.8	Valentine, Alison	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
41.9	Valentine, Alison	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
41.10	Valentine, Alison	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
41.11	Valentine, Alison	I support the close involvement of community groups working on eliminating pest species, plant and animal.	Involve community groups in pest control and elimination projects.	Note.
41.12	Valentine, Alison	We need to continue to eliminate pest plants such as banana passionfruit and old man's beard, which are starting to reappear in areas previously cleared.	Work to eliminate banana passionfruit and old man's beard in the Wellington Region.	Accept.
42.1	Chair, MIRO Webb, Terry	MIRO is very concerned that feral deer and pigs have been downgraded from being in a Site-led pest category to being classified as 'harmful organisms' and that neither of these feral species is a priority for pest control under the proposed plan.	Oppose. Feral deer and feral pigs shifting from a Site-led pest programme species, to being classified as 'harmful organisms'	Accept in part.

42.2	Chair, MIRO Webb, Terry	We believe that feral deer and pigs, in the context of Wellington’s Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) areas, are pests in that they meet the necessary criteria under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and we cannot understand how they are no longer considered a priority for control (see below).	Include feral deer and pigs as pests in the plan.	Accept in part.
42.3	Chair, MIRO Webb, Terry	We also note that goats are still included in the Site-led pest category and were thus part of the associated Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) for the RPMP. In the CBA document, the preferred option for goat control is: <i>“Site-led is the preferred option for feral goats in KNE and TA reserves as this provides powers under the Biosecurity Act when undertaking control. The management approach is essentially the same as under the RPMS 2002 – 2022, which has continued to work well by controlling feral goats to minimise significant impacts to the environment. A site-led control programme represents the most pragmatic and affordable management measure for the Wellington Region. In terms of alternative approaches assessed, under no regional intervention (do-nothing approach) council would not have any mandate to be involved in feral goat management measures. There would be total reliance on voluntary control by occupiers. Under ‘do-nothing’ there is a high chance that environmental values are increasingly put at risk.”</i> We would argue that this line of reasoning is equally applicable to deer and pigs, the only difference being that goats are seen to have lesser value by recreational hunters. Recreational hunting value is not one of the criteria for pest status under the Biosecurity Act. Furthermore, if it has been argued that recreational hunting will make a significant contribution to controlling the deer and pig population, we note that ‘means of control’ is not one of the criteria for pest status either. One benefit in having deer and pigs in the Site-led control category is that allows for rules to be made. For example, the current Pest Management Strategy has two rules relating to the release of feral deer. While the unauthorised release of wild animals is an offence under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, having specific rules in the RPMP gives the issue more visibility and, hopefully, provides a greater deterrent (compared to removing these rules). A rule allowing access to neighbouring land for the control of deer, if the deer being pursued crosses into adjoining land, would be especially relevant on the western flanks of the Northern Forest of EHRP, where deer are repeatedly browsing (and destroying) residents’ gardens	Include feral deer and pigs as pests in the plan in a Site-led category.	Accept in part.
42.4	Chair, MIRO Webb, Terry	Another benefit of deer and pigs being in the Site-led control category is that it provides the opportunity for Greater Wellington to spell out what education, advice and support they will provide to landowners, occupiers, and the public about these pest animals, including the threat they pose to the KNE, and how to control them. Controlling deer on residential properties is challenging for landowners, so Greater Wellington advice and support is essential.  <u>For these reasons deer and pigs need to be reinstated to the Site-led Pest category in the RPMP.</u>	Include feral deer and pigs as pests in the plan in a Site-led category, so as responsibilities pertaining to the management of these species is clearly detailed and communicated.	Accept.
42.5	Chair, MIRO Webb, Terry	Deer and pigs need to be a priority for pest control because of the damage they cause in some KNEs	Prioritise feral deer and pig control in KNE's.	Accept.

42.6	Chair, MIRO Webb, Terry	<p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p> <p>If we take the example of EHRP, GW’s concern is borne out—selective browsing of the understorey by deer has done significant damage to vulnerable species for a number of years, including wiping out Kirk’s Tree Daisy and Raukawa. Some of the browsed plants are key for providing food for iconic species, such as bellbirds, in the winter months. The GW Biodiversity Strategy’s first Goal is that “areas of high biodiversity value [i.e. KNEs] are protected or restored”. This goal is clearly not being met in EHRP.</p> <p>Part of the problem here is that some recreational hunters (and others) still believe that we can achieve a balance point where the level of browsing damage is acceptable and there are sufficient deer for hunting. This clearly is not the case: current damage is not acceptable and kill returns from the balloted hunting area are near-zero (in 6 weeks), while the professional hunters working near built-up areas on the western flank average roughly 7–8 kills per year (in 1-2 weeks).</p> <p>In our view, the only way we will achieve the Biodiversity Strategy’s first Goal is to use professional hunters more frequently while also looking at alternative control methods close to dwellings. So in certain KNEs, deer control needs to be a priority under the RPMP. The arguments are similar for pigs, although the types and distribution of damage are different.</p>	Increase the frequency of professional hunters efforts to control feral deer and pigs, while also looking at alternative control methods close to dwellings.	Accept in part.
43.1	Williams, Anna	<p><i>I support the application</i></p> <p><i>Is there a reason that feral pigs, and didymo are not included as pest species to be managed? Greater Wellington region does seem to be very 'weedy'. I support a greater emphasis on management of the weed-species and revegetation with appropriate native flora to restore habitat. I also support effective and ongoing pest-animal control, to allow our indigenous fauna to recover, be reintroduced (where appropriate), and flourish. I am supportive of the vision of Predator Free Wellington, but believe that we have a real problem also with pest cats, which we need to deal with.</i></p>	Support.	Note.
44.1	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
44.2	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.



44.3	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
44.4	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
44.5	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
44.6	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
44.7	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
44.8	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
44.9	Predator Free Miramar Henry, Dan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

45.1	Martin, Jane	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
45.2	Martin, Jane	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
45.3	Martin, Jane	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
45.4	Martin, Jane	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
45.5	Martin, Jane	Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
45.6	Martin, Jane	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
45.7	Martin, Jane	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.

45.8	Martin, Jane	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
45.9	Martin, Jane	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
45.10	Martin, Jane	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
46.1	Peoples, Ramona	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
46.2	Peoples, Ramona	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
46.3	Peoples, Ramona	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

46.4	Peoples, Ramona	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
46.5	Peoples, Ramona	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
46.6	Peoples, Ramona	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
46.7	Peoples, Ramona	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
46.8	Peoples, Ramona	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
46.9	Peoples, Ramona	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
47.1	Perrie, Leon	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.	Support.	Note.
47.2	Perrie, Leon	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

47.3	Perrie, Leon	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
47.4	Perrie, Leon	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
47.5	Perrie, Leon	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
47.6	Perrie, Leon	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
47.7	Perrie, Leon	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
47.8	Perrie, Leon	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
47.9	Perrie, Leon	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
47.10	Perrie, Leon	Deer and pigs do significant damage to native biodiversity. They are pests and should be listed in Table 4.1. Right now, they should be under site-led control within all Key Native Ecosystems and substantial buffers around these. With time, deer and pigs should become contained within areas specifically designated for hunting them, with eradication and exclusion from elsewhere.	Oppose. Feral deer shifting from a Site-led pest programme species, to being classified as 'harmful organisms'	Accept in part.

47.11	Perrie, Leon	The list of plants on Table 4.1 is small, and shows an embarrassing lack of ambition by GWRC. Many more plant species in the Wellington region should be subject to control/eradication.	Oppose. Mentions that many more plant species should be subject to control/eradication but no specific decision sought.	Note.
48.1	Rafter, Sonia	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
48.2	Rafter, Sonia	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
48.3	Rafter, Sonia	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
48.4	Rafter, Sonia	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.

48.5	Rafter, Sonia	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
48.6	Rafter, Sonia	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
48.7	Rafter, Sonia	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
48.8	Rafter, Sonia	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
48.9	Rafter, Sonia	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support	Note.
49.1	James, Gary	I support the plan in principal but would like to following to be taken into consideration: 2.3.2: Predator Free 2050 I would like to see a greater commitment from the plan towards an overall regional plan towards the 2050 goal as regional wide program of how we will get there. I think a goal of linking up the areas currently with pest control activities to provide a continuous front of control to help stop/slow reinvasion should be explored, planned for and led by GWRC.	Support	Note.

49.2	James, Gary	<p>4.1 Pest plants add the following species to the control list                  Japanese honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera japonica</i>) program : eradication region wide                  Sweet cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>) program: eradication region wide                  Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) program: site led eg Hutt Valley, Wainuiomata.                  Climbing asparagus (<i>Asparagus scandens</i>) program: site led eg Te Whitit Park Lower Hutt, Ngaio gorge Wellington</p>	<p>Add pest plants species to the control list:                  Japanese honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera japonica</i>) program : eradication region wide                  Sweet cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>) program: eradication region wide                  Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) program: site led eg Hutt Valley, Wainuiomata.                  Climbing asparagus (<i>Asparagus scandens</i>) program: site led eg Te Whitit Park Lower Hutt, Ngaio Gorge Wellington +D327</p>	Reject.
49.3	James, Gary	<p>Pest animals                  Red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) program: sustained control                  Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>) program: eradication status                  Build upon the Miramar success in eradication and plan for region wide eradication.                  Feral goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>) program: progressive containment</p>	<p>Change programme that animal species are in:                   Red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) program: sustained control                   Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>) program: eradication status                   Build upon the Miramar success in eradication and plan for region wide eradication.                   Feral goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>) program: progressive containment</p>	Reject in part.



49.4	James, Gary	Funding: a commitment by the GWRC to increase the pest management budget by 5% each year over the plans budgeted figures.	A commitment to increase pest management budget by 5% annually over the plans budgeted figures.	Support.
50.1	McNeill, Florence	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
50.2	McNeill, Florence	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
50.3	McNeill, Florence	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
50.4	McNeill, Florence	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.

50.5	McNeill, Florence	Rule 1 for possums should also state the people should not release possums into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Amend Rule 1 for possums to prohibit releasing possums into Key Native Ecosystems.	Reject.
50.6	McNeill, Florence	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
50.7	McNeill, Florence	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
50.8	McNeill, Florence	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
50.8	McNeill, Florence	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
50.9	McNeill, Florence	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
51.1	Rogers, Amanda	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
51.2	Rogers, Amanda	I propose the definition of pest cats to be changed to clearly include all free roaming, i.e. uncontained cats.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all free-roaming and uncontained cats.	Reject.

51.3	Rogers, Amanda	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
51.4	Rogers, Amanda	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
51.5	Rogers, Amanda	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
51.6	Rogers, Amanda	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
51.7	Rogers, Amanda	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
51.8	Rogers, Amanda	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
51.9	Rogers, Amanda	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

52.1	Munn, Jordan	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
52.2	Munn, Jordan	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Reject.
52.3	Munn, Jordan	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
52.4	Munn, Jordan	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
52.5	Munn, Jordan	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6
52.6	Munn, Jordan	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	<p>Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.</p>	Accept.

52.7	Munn, Jordan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
52.8	Munn, Jordan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
52.9	Munn, Jordan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
52.10	Munn, Jordan	<p>I would like to see flexibility around the use of council owned land for recreational hunting.</p> <p>The current open hunting areas are hard to reach places and cause a funnel effect with hunters.</p> <p>When attempting to go for a recreational hunt after work, there is only one local area that we can access in time to actively hunt before the day ends.</p> <p>Many areas like, parts of Mt Clyme, tunnel gully, Rimutaka s, and the East Harbour Park are close or so restricted that we generally don't access them. If these restrictions are for H&amp;S reasons, I would like to see some examples that have forced the restrictions.</p> <p>The forestry's are also a key areas with a high population of large pest species damaging the forests. Large companies like earns law one, Reioners or Wenita are large commercial forestry companies with a successful permitting system.</p>	Adopt a more flexible approach to permitting recreational hunting on Council land	Note.
53.1	Name Confidentiality	I fully support the GWRC developing and managing a comprehensive pest management plan and generally support the proposed plan.	Support.	Note.

53.2	Name Confidentiality	<p>However, I do very much question the listing of rooks and magpies as a pest. There are a lot of urban myths in NZ about these birds and the damage they are supposed to be doing is often unsubstantiated. Most people who hold these beliefs and tell these stories have never witnessed any incidences themselves or may just have read the occasional news article about a problematic individual bird. These birds have an important role in insect and pest control and there are advantages in having them around.</p> <p>In my experience, magpies may pose the occasional nuisance when there is open grassland with very few trees. It's only during breeding season when they may become territorial in this type of landscape - but it's not a given. However, when there are more trees, they are pretty relaxed and blend in very well with other birds. They will chase away hawks (but other birds will do this too) but leave other exotic and native birds alone. The only birds I've seen attacking and killing other birds are tuis, especially during breeding season and when there is a shortage of food. So is GWRC planning to list tuis as a pest or nuisance as well?</p> <p>The blanket removal of rooks where ever they appear is outrageous and unnecessary. I recommend that both rooks and magpies are removed from GWRC's proposed pest management list. The only reason for controlling individual birds is when there is substantiated and significant evidence that the disadvantages of their presence outweigh their advantages.</p>	Remove rooks and magpies from the RPMP	Reject.
54.1	Wellington Fish & Game Kaverman n, Matt	<p>1. Trapping is not the most effective control method for mustelids. Poisoning operations have far greater impact on mustelid populations (Pg. 167)</p> <p>2. Mustelids are most readily caught in late spring/early summer when naive juveniles are most active (Pg. 167)</p> <p>3. Cats are present in many wetlands in New Zealand (as identified in the attribute table on page 173) and their current and potential land use infested should be considered Low (Pg. 174)</p>	Amend inaccuracies in CBA document.	Accept.
54.2	Wellington Fish & Game Kavermann, Matt	Fish and Game generally supports the site-lead programs (Table 8) to control Mustelids and pest cats where outcome monitoring of these programs is undertaken and shown to be achieving the goals of the control programs	Support in part.	Note.
54.3	Wellington Fish & Game Kavermann, Matt	However, Fish and Game would suggest that more regular monitoring be undertaken than that outlined on page 80 to assess the effectiveness of the site-led mammalian control programs (5.3 Principal measures to manage pests, 2(d)).	Amend 5.3 to include more regular monitoring.	Reject.
54.4	Wellington Fish & Game Kavermann, Matt	Fish and Game also has concerns that outcome monitoring focuses on a measure of relative density of the pest species as opposed to the outcome of suppressing or eradicating the mammalian pest's population. Instead Fish and Game recommends outcome monitoring focused on biodiversity benefits such as fledgling success or the recovery of targeted species population to ensure the pest control operations are spatially sufficient, and of great enough intensity, to meet the objectives of the plan.	Amend the focus of outcome monitoring to focuses on biodiversity benefits.	Accept in part.
54.5	Wellington Fish & Game Kavermann, Matt	Fish and Game requests to be listed as a key interest group for any reviews on the effectiveness of the plan.	Ensure Fish and Game are consulted during any reviews.	Accept.

55.1	Kerridge, Bob	<p>1.0 PEST CAT (Felis catus)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is not a recognised cat descriptor. The Code of Welfare for Cats, (2007), approved by the Minister for Primary Industries, following a full consultation process through the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, (NAWAC), defines cats in three legally recognised categories namely: COMPANION CATS STRAY CATS FERAL CATS</li> </ul> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Amend references to "pest cat" to instead be "feral cat"	Reject.
55.2	Kerridge, Bob	<p>2.0 Pest cats kill young and adult birds and occasionally take eggs ... cats are highly efficient predators, and have been known to cause local extinctions of bird species.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Greater Wellington Regional Council to consider cat control measures with a clear head and strong empirical evidence that the proposed measures are necessary, are ethically and morally sound and based only on real facts and not concocted ones.	Note.
55.3	Kerridge, Bob	<p>3.0 They (pest cats) also carry parasites and toxoplasmosis which causes abortions in sheep and illness in humans.</p> <p>This is yet another example of the type of false information that has been spread about cats to influence the public which has absolutely no strong foundation to it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The primary source of toxoplasmosis in humans occurs by eating infected meat for which simple hygiene practices can prevent it. It is true that exposure to the faeces of infected cats might cause infection in humans when in contact with it, with pregnant women being the most susceptible. However it is more often than not harmless and 'in reality transmission of this disease is extremely uncommon' according to NZ Veterinary Association and Medical practitioners. If this claim is to be continued in the RPMP some very definitive proof will be required, which to date is far from forthcoming, especially in the area of human health.</li> </ul> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Oppose - requests evidence of cats transmitting parasites and toxoplasmosis	Note.

55.4	Kerridge, Bob	<p>4.0 Pest cat means any cat within the Wellington Region that is not micro-chipped in an area where micro-chipping is compulsory, or not micro-chipped or registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register.</p> <p>Translated quite clearly this means that the micro-chipping of all cats will be mandatory if they are to escape the designation of pest cat, and accordingly the threat of euthanasia. Recently Wellington City ruled for mandatory micro-chipping within the boundaries of the Wellington City territorial authority, so in effect this already applies in the area, perhaps illegally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The question of whether a Territorial Authority has the power to impose mandatory micro-chipping and registration on cat guardians (owners) at their expense, and equally on cat carers caring for stray cats who they do not own, also at their expense, needs to be questioned.</li> </ul> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Does GWRC really want to take those risks outlined in submission?	See revised definition 8.2, 8.3 & 66.2
55.5	Kerridge, Bob	<p>5.0 Greater Wellington Council will enforce a prohibition on cat colonies and abandonment. No person shall feed or provide shelter to pest cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region without the permission of the land owner. Rule 1 prevents members of the public encouraging or supporting pest cat colonies on private and public land. The Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) approach advocated by some people is not an effective control method. Cats can be controlled by hunting, trapping and poisoning.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	<p>1. What cats ... companion and stray cats protected under the Animal Welfare Act, or the generalised and fanciful made up category of pest cats, or just any cat that happens to be in the wrong place at the wrong time and targeted for destruction? Hunting, trapping or poisoning cats is not controlling them, it is annihilating them.</p> <p>2. Has council considered that in the annihilation of cats, the killing of one species to (supposedly) save another, you will in all probability be creating more irreparable damage than a permanent solution?</p>	See 8.2 and 8.3 for change in definition.



56.1	Falkner, Richard	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
56.2	Falkner, Richard	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Reject.
56.3	Falkner, Richard	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”</p> <p>I think cats should be registered in the same way as dogs. This would help control them as a pest, and help contribute to finding their control.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
56.4	Falkner, Richard	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
56.5	Falkner, Richard	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6

56.6	Falkner, Richard	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
56.7	Falkner, Richard	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.  An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Support.	Note.
56.8	Falkner, Richard	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
56.9	Falkner, Richard	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
56.10	Falkner, Richard	I think cats should be registered in the same way as dogs. This would help control them as a pest, and help contribute to finding their control.	Insert a requirement that cats in the Wellington region are registered the same way dogs are.	Reject.
57.1	Wilcox, Sarah	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
57.2	Wilcox, Sarah	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

57.3	Wilcox, Sarah	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
57.4	Wilcox, Sarah	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
57.5	Wilcox, Sarah	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
57.6	Wilcox, Sarah	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
57.7	Wilcox, Sarah	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
57.8	Wilcox, Sarah	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
57.9	Wilcox, Sarah	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

57.10	Wilcox, Sarah	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
58.1	Renyard, Ashlyn	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
58.2	Renyard, Ashlyn	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
58.3	Renyard, Ashlyn	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
58.4	Renyard, Ashlyn	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
58.5	Renyard, Ashlyn	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
58.6	Renyard, Ashlyn	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6

58.7	Renyard, Ashlyn	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
58.8	Renyard, Ashlyn	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
58.9	Renyard, Ashlyn	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
58.10	Renyard, Ashlyn	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
59.1	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	We strongly support the Regional Council in their planning for the next twenty years of pest management – and hope that volunteer groups like the Trelissick Park Group can be kept involved with collaborative efforts – with the Wellington Regional Council and the Wellington City Council.	Support.	Accept.
59.2	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	Trelissick Park should again become a Key Native Ecosystem because it contains one of the few original forest remnants within Wellington City.	Designate Trelissick Park as a Key Native Ecocystem	Reject.
59.3	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	There has been an increase in rabbits in Trelissick Park – we need some practical approaches to rabbit control.	Provide practical advice on rabbit control.	Accept.
59.4	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	We have perceived an increase in the rat population in the past year, even with increased residential efforts to control rats in the surrounding areas. This is possibly a result of making the Park more dog friendly without dogs being kept under the required control off-track. To avoid dogs eating bait pellets we switched to block bait in bait stations. However, this has adversely affected rat control because rats can no longer remove pellets to horde in nests and access for Norway rats is more difficult.	No specific decision requested.	Note.
59.5	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	We need more clarity for City (WCC) roles within GWRC in pest animal control and management.	Clarify WCC role in pest control and management.	Accept.

59.6	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	Information is sparse on how we should monitor pest animals. We would like to make it more available to all who are involved in pest management.	Make information on monitoring pest animals publically available (perhaps on GW website)?	Accept.
59.7	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	The prevalence of Old Man's Beard is on the increase in Wellington City. We are disappointed that GWRC are no longer controlling this.	No specific decision requested.	Note.
59.8	Trelissick Park Group Reimann, Peter	We are surprised that control of climbing asparagus is not included - e.g. there are bad infestations in the forest of the lower eastern Hutt hills. (WCC is tackling it in Trelissick Park on the slopes below Oban Street).	No specific decision requested.	Note.
60.1	Legg, Jesse	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
60.2	Legg, Jesse	I propose the definition of pest cats to be changed to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.

60.3	Legg, Jesse	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
60.4	Legg, Jesse	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
60.5	Legg, Jesse	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
60.6	Legg, Jesse	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
60.7	Legg, Jesse	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
60.8	Legg, Jesse	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
60.9	Legg, Jesse	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

60.10	Legg, Jesse	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
61.1	Turnbull, Duncan	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups	Support.	Note.
61.2	Turnbull, Duncan	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of ‘pest cat’ to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
61.3	Turnbull, Duncan	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
61.4	Turnbull, Duncan	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan. Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
61.5	Turnbull, Duncan	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.



61.6	Turnbull, Duncan	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
61.7	Turnbull, Duncan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
61.8	Turnbull, Duncan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
61.9	Turnbull, Duncan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
61.10	Turnbull, Duncan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
62.1	Nobushige, Tomii	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
62.2	Nobushige, Tomii	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

62.3	Nobushige, Tomii	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
62.4	Nobushige, Tomii	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
62.5	Nobushige, Tomii	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
62.6	Nobushige, Tomii	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
62.7	Nobushige, Tomii	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
62.8	Nobushige, Tomii	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
62.9	Nobushige, Tomii	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offense, and set a tough penalty against it.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
62.10	Nobushige, Tomii	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as well as mice for site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.

62.11	Nobushige, Tomii	<p>I applaud the Greater Wellington Regional Council's proposal to identify cats as pests. This step is absolutely essential to protect native wildlife in this country.</p> <p>When it's implemented, it will become a model case for future pest management in other regions as well. So it is very important to set an example of tough / robust pest management policy.</p> <p>Please make a bold move and lead the way to achieving a "Predator Free New Zealand"</p>	Support.	Note.
63.1	Vink, Hetty	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
63.2	Vink, Hetty	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.
63.3	Vink, Hetty	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier."</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

63.4	Vink, Hetty	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
63.5	Vink, Hetty	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
	Vink, Hetty	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
63.6	Vink, Hetty	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
63.7	Vink, Hetty	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
63.8	Vink, Hetty	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
63.9	Vink, Hetty	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
64.1	Brusen, John	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.

64.2	Brusen, John	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
64.3	Brusen, John	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
64.4	Brusen, John	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
64.5	Brusen, John	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
64.6	Brusen, John	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
64.7	Brusen, John	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
64.8	Brusen, John	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.

64.9	Brusen, John	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
64.10	Brusen, John	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
64.11	Brusen, John	I would like the initiatives above to be implemented in all areas of New Zealand eventually. The Wellington area is a good start, but other wild areas, including private property, should also be included.	Implement pest control initiatives throughout all of New Zealand.	Note.
65.1	Tocker, Warren	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
65.2	Tocker, Warren	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
65.3	Tocker, Warren	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

65.4	Tocker, Warren	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
65.5	Tocker, Warren	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
65.6	Tocker, Warren	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
65.7	Tocker, Warren	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
65.8	Tocker, Warren	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
65.9	Tocker, Warren	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
65.10	Tocker, Warren	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
66.1	Bell, Ann	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups	Support.	Note.

66.2	Bell, Ann	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats., which are clearly and unambiguously owned by a person or persons. I do not agree that all such cats should be microchipped.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats.	Accept in part. See 8.2
66.3	Bell, Ann	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
66.4	Bell, Ann	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
66.5	Bell, Ann	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
	Bell, Ann	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
66.6	Bell, Ann	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
66.7	Bell, Ann	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.



66.8	Bell, Ann	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
66.9	Bell, Ann	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
66.10	Bell, Ann	I think that it is counterproductive to insist that cats should be microchipped. I think that by demonising cats (even though they are clearly predators), will be counterproductive to the main aim of increasing bird populations. Well-fed domestic cats sleep for about 70%+ of the day. Feral or abandoned cats are clearly going to hunt for food, They should be neutered and homed, or humanely killed.	1. Opposes mandatory microchipping of cats. 2. Neuter and home, or humanely kill feral or abandoned cats.	Note.
67.1	Auld, Nicky	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
67.2	Auld, Nicky	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
67.3	Auld, Nicky	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

67.4	Auld, Nicky	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
67.5	Auld, Nicky	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
67.6	Auld, Nicky	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
67.7	Auld, Nicky	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
67.8	Auld, Nicky	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
67.9	Auld, Nicky	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
67.10	Auld, Nicky	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
67.11	Auld, Nicky	Wellington has a resident endangered Kaka Population which needs extensive areas of pest free vegetation. Where else NZ can you see & hear Kaka flying around an inner city park. (All land ownership types of vegetation need to be covered for pest control) Ie Urban, rural, doc, council parks and private gardens and farms, etc. They also visit outer island depending on food sources available. They live in old native forests often on ridge lines, and live & nest in large holes in old trees. This is were protection from Cats, Rats, Possums and stoats is critical. They are often very noisy in pine plantations in the winter months, feeding on pine cones, insects etc. They are probably feeding on the ground and are at risks during this time from all pest. Wellington's old pine trees provide habitat for these birds and should not be chopped down and should also be targeted for pest control.	Support.1. Pest control needs to occur across all land types. 2. Do not chop down old man's pines.	Note.

68.1	Keall,Susan	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.
68.2	Keall,Susan	<p>I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.</p>	Reject.
68.3	Keall,Susan	<p>I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”</p>	<p>Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.</p>	Reject.
68.4	Keall,Susan	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possoms significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
68.5	Keall,Susan	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p>	Support.	Note.
68.6	Keall,Susan	<p>Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	<p>More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.</p>	Accept. See 8.6

68.7	Keall,Susan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
68.8	Keall,Susan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
68.9	Keall,Susan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
68.10	Keall,Susan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
68.11	Keall,Susan	I would like to see a plan to control Tradescantia around Wellington City. It is pervasive in many areas of the green belt and suppresses native seedling germination, and also causes allergic reactions to dogs that come into contact with it.	Develop control plan for Tradescatia around Wellington City.	Reject.
69.1	Thrift, Andrew	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.I have seen cats live perfectly happily indoors as "flat cats" when I lived in London and other cities, allowing them to roam at night should be made illegal in NZ.	Support.Allowing them to roam at night should be made illegal.	Note.
69.2	Thrift, Andrew	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.

69.3	Thrift, Andrew	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
69.4	Thrift, Andrew	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.  I have no problem with the use of 1080 as a method of control.	Support.	Note.
69.5	Thrift, Andrew	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
69.6	Thrift, Andrew	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
69.7	Thrift, Andrew	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
69.8	Thrift, Andrew	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.

69.9	Thrift, Andrew	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
69.10	Thrift, Andrew	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
69.11	Thrift, Andrew	I would strongly suggest that Tradescantia be added to the list of pest plants to be controlled, this plant is widespread and suppresses native growth and can lead to land slips. It is also noxious and ugly.	Add Tradescatia to list of pest plants to be controlled.	Reject.
70.1	Martinson, Paul	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
70.2	Martinson, Paul	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
70.3	Martinson, Paul	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

70.4	Martinson, Paul	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support.	Note.
70.5	Martinson, Paul	<p>I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p>	Support.	Note.
	Martinson, Paul	<p>Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.</p>	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
70.6	Martinson, Paul	<p>Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.</p>	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
70.7	Martinson, Paul	<p>I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.</p>	Support.	Note.
70.8	Martinson, Paul	<p>An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.</p>	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
70.9	Martinson, Paul	<p>I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.</p>	Support.	Note.
70.10	Martinson, Paul	<p>Cats are the third most significant causal factor of avian extinction in NZ, but still no law controlling them. Cats need to be micro-chipped and identifiable with an owner. Until that time there is no sure way of distinguishing feral, stray and owned animals from each other. Many 'owned cats are killed as a result. Cat control is essential. Please introduce it.</p>	Supports the introduction of cat control and micro-chipped and identifiable with an owner.	Note support.

71.1	Dawes, Mallory	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
71.2	Dawes, Mallory	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
71.3	Dawes, Mallory	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
71.4	Dawes, Mallory	<p>I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.</p>	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
71.5	Dawes, Mallory	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.



71.6	Dawes, Mallory	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
71.7	Dawes, Mallory	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
71.8	Dawes, Mallory	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
71.9	Dawes, Mallory	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
71.10	Dawes, Mallory	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
72.1	Petzen, Daniel	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
72.2	Petzen, Daniel	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

72.3	Petzen, Daniel	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
72.4	Petzen, Daniel	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
72.5	Petzen, Daniel	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
	Petzen, Daniel	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
72.6	Petzen, Daniel	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
72.7	Petzen, Daniel	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
72.8	Petzen, Daniel	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

72.9	Petzen, Daniel	<p>I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">More</p> <p>effort should be put into controlling all types of rats and mice. I've trapped around 15 mice and 3 rats in the last 8-10 months in my small garden.</p> <p>The best option is most likely to get more people involved in setting traps in their own gardens.</p>	Support, with more effort put into control of rats and mice.	Note.
73.1	Thrasher, Susan	<p>I believe the pest management plan begins with an assumption that is not necessarily sound: that so-called “pests” negatively impact and inhibit our native diversity. Yes, they can have an “economic impact” of course, and of course there may be situations where the particular abundance of a species can influence what we, as humans, want nature to look like. But that is all human-centric and subjective.</p>	No decision requested.	Note.
73.2	Thrasher, Susan	<p>That aside, probably my biggest concern with the pest management plan as proposed is that it talks about the “control” or “eradication” of a large number of species, both plant and animal, without sharing the detail of how this is to be done. I am increasingly alarmed at the rampant—and often indiscriminate—use of poisons in our environment. No poisons are species-specific, and all have an environmental impact and fallout beyond their target. 1080 and Roundup (glyphosate) get some media attention, probably because they are so often applied aerially, and there is clear evidence that they are hazardous for human health and can affect the health of our pets and livestock. Fewer people grapple with, or protest about, difficult-to-pronounce-and-remember names like brodifacoum and Pindone, both anti-coagulant Vitamin-K inhibitors that are often used as ground bait. And then there are the plant poisons with trade names like Conquest, Kamba 500, and Terminate, many of these glyphosate-based like Roundup. These are most commonly sprayed with guns from the ground, a less-visible application and covering smaller areas than aerial sprays, but still affecting many plants and animals beyond the target species.</p> <p>None of these poisons are good for the environment, or for us. Our politicians talk about the desire for clean water, then I see roadside and curbside weed-spraying and know that the residue and run-off goes right into our streams, rivers, lakes, estuaries, and ocean when it rains. Parks are sprayed, and then our children and our dogs play there. A few places in the world have gone to using steam to fight unwanted vegetation, which of course is non-toxic and not residual, or they rely on good, old Weedeaters. Why is that so hard?</p> <p>If we must pick species to control—and I wish we didn’t do that quite so readily, but I recognize that’s a minority viewpoint—can we at least control our unwanted wildlife (plants and animals) without zealously using a bevy of toxic chemicals that contaminate the environment?</p>	Oppose - use less poisons in pest control.	Reject.

73.3	Thrasher, Susan	Lastly, I'd like to say I object to eradication plans (no doubt by poison) of the Wellington region's rooks. While I do not reside in the Wairarapa region where they are living, I have great respect for corvids; they are highly intelligent birds. As insect-eaters, they are as likely to be raiding farmers' fields for grass grubs as they are damaging grain crops in summer. And if the primary reason for wanting to kill them is simply that they are not native... Sad in the extreme.	Amend RPMP to no longer include rooks	Reject.
73.4	Thrasher, Susan	I also object to the inclusion of hedge hogs on the pest list. Personally, I have always felt honoured to be visited by these delightful little animals in my garden, and am happy to share my [unpoisoned] snails with them. I haven't seen one in quite a while, though. In the UK, hedgehogs are in long-term decline with an estimated population now of maybe just a million, down from an estimated 30 million in the 1950's, according to a recent Guardian article. Agricultural intensification and the use of pesticides affecting their food supply are blamed.	Amend RPMP to no longer include hedgehogs.	Reject.
73.5	Thrasher, Susan	And I'll also stick in a plea here for the poor, over-vilified possums, who are far less a threat than the tonnes of toxins spread across the country in the name of killing them.	No specific decision requested.	Note.
74.1	NZ Cat Coalition Duston, Ken	1. The classification of "pest cat" is not supported in legislation and has no legal authority. The RPMP contains a classification of "pest cat". This does not exist in law, nor does GWRC have the legal authority to introduce such a classification. See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents	The category of "pest cat" is removed from the RPMP and the technically correct term of "feral cat" is reinstated, in keeping with the previous version of the RPMP, to ensure GWRC remains within its delegated legislative authority	Reject.

74.2	NZ Cat Coalition Duston, Ken	<p>2. No evidence is provided to back the assertion that cats are a growing problem in the GWRC area</p> <p>While the simple cost-benefit used by GWRC in the RPMP looks sufficient on first glance, it is my professional assessment that it has the following limitations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The allocation of economic costs to cats is not evidentially justified, as the allocation model is effectively invisible</li> <li>2. The model makes no attempt to calculate the dis-benefits of “pest” cat control where cats apply pressure to rodent populations, despite noting this ecosystem service in the text</li> <li>3. The model makes no allowance for the social benefits of cats, despite widespread support in the academic literature for the inclusion of this factor.</li> </ol> <p>The sum total of these limitations is that the cost/benefit assessment is unsound, and there is little-to-no likelihood that the wider economic benefits claimed would materialise. Decision makers should not depend on the cost/benefit analysis when assessing whether cat control is justified.</p> <p>While it is understandable that officers have taken a rough stab at assessing costs and benefits in the context of the wider debate around cat management, the analysis put forward is not fit for this purpose, and should be ignored.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	The RPMP is altered to reflect the evidence-based approach in relation to the assessment and management of feral cats, using a multi-criteria analysis approach.	Accept in part.
75.1	Gazley, Dennis	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
75.2	Gazley, Dennis	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

75.3	Gazley, Dennis	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
75.4	Gazley, Dennis	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
75.5	Gazley, Dennis	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
75.6	Gazley, Dennis	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
75.7	Gazley, Dennis	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
75.8	Gazley, Dennis	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
75.9	Gazley, Dennis	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

75.10	Gazley, Dennis	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
75.11	Gazley, Dennis	Over the last couple of years the SPCA has held `cat adoption days' in Karori. This is just ridiculous. Surely an organisation such as this must appreciate the great work the Sanctuary and local trapping groups are doing. The SPCA has to be told that their `adoption days' are not welcome in Karori, or even the rest of New Zealand	Supplementary comments.No decision requested.	Note.
76.1	Callister, Paul, StaceMichael, Cave,Shane	<p>As you note in your report there are more than 230km of state highways in the Wellington Region. You note that the Transport Agency is the occupier of the Crown land on which the roads lie, together with the road reserves extending to the adjoining land owners/ occupiers' property boundaries. As you state, land under the Transport Agency's jurisdiction is subject to the rules for land owners/occupiers as defined in the RPMP, so it has the same obligations as any other land occupier. There are also adjoining Road Reserves.</p> <p>4. The new Kapiti Expressway creates a new set of pest problems. This is a long corridor through the middle of Kapiti. Despite it being a requirement of the resource consent to control animal pests, NZTA has expressed in correspondence with us that it has no intention to carry out a trapping program. We have recently written to GWRC asking your organisation to enforce these requirements under the resource consent. While we are concerned about the range of animal pests already in the southern part of Kapiti, an additional concern is that ferrets will use the expressway to reach our area.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Enforce resource consent requirements pertaining to pests	Note.
76.2	Callister, Paul, StaceMichael, Cave,Shane	Since placing motion triggered cameras on all three sites we have a greater awareness of cat presence. We are also aware of the growing scientific evidence suggesting cats are important predators. We therefore support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.	Support.	Note.
76.3	Callister, Paul, StaceMichael, Cave,Shane	We agree with the proposal the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. We also agree with the suggested definition of a pest cat as: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.

76.4	Callister, Paul, StaceMichael, Cave,Shane	We would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. We suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
76.5	Callister, Paul, StaceMichael, Cave,Shane	Finally, we suggest that there should be on-going education to minimise the risk to native species by those cats people choose to own in urban areas.	More education on the impacts cats pose to native species.	Accept in part.
76.6	Callister, Paul, StaceMichael, Cave,Shane	Ideally, we would like some urban areas near sensitive ecological areas to become ‘cat free’.	Some sensitive urban areas to become 'cat free'.	Note.
77.1	Name Confidentiality	It is important that feral deer be classified as a pest in the same category as hedgehogs and feral goats. The paragraph 7.1 stating that feral deer will not be a priority for pest control under the proposed plan is worrying.		Accept in part..
77.2	Name Confidentiality	Funding and the ability to control feral deer in KNEs and other areas of high ecological value is required as they are selective browsers and cause damage.		Accept.
77.3	Name Confidentiality	Each deer eats a large amount of food each year (one unverified source said 1.5 tons). In the forested KNEs the food sources are important plants in the ecosystem which should be providing food for birds and other native organisms as well as having their own intrinsic values. The KNEs are rightly protected, with people not allowed to collect plant material without permission, yet some think it is valid to allow deer in the forests so that a very small minority can kill them for their own dinner. Retaining deer in the native forests for individuals to eat is not a valid reason to allow deer. There needs to be a clear goal of eliminating deer from these forests as part of their preservation and restoration.	There needs to be a clear goal of eliminating deer from these forests as part of their preservation and restoration.	Note.
77.4	Name Confidentiality	Feral pigs also need to be classified as a pest, for similar reasons.	Classify feral pigs as pests.	Reject.



78.1	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	Introduction - I strongly support the Council's intention to lead effectient and effective pest management in the Region that will lead to the minimisation of actual or potential adverse effects in some areas.	Support.	Note.
78.2	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	Section 1.1 Purpose - The Plan states that "it is only where and individual's actions or inactions in managing pests imposes undue effects on others that regional pest management is needed". I submit that this statement mis-represents the intent of the Regional Pest Plan provisions of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (paragraphs 70, 71, and 72)	Revise the wording, eg: "However, it is only where a subject is capable of causing an adverse effect in the region, a planned approach would be more effective than voluntary management and the benefits of a regional plan, that regional pest management is warranted.	Accept.
78.3	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	Section 1.3 Coverage - The formal requirements of the plan for individual subjects covered by the plan (as proposed) have little effect on Crown Land. I submit that the plan would be improved by highlighting the major areas of Crown Land and including commentarywith respect to how that land might be integrated into the planned outcomes of individual pests.	Major areas of Crown Land shown as an overlay in Figure 1. Text to include a statement to the effect of "While Crown Land is generally outside the coverage of this Plan, Council will seek to work with Crown agencies to achieve coordinated control of targeted pests"	Accept.
78.4	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	Sections 2.1.1-2.1.1.6 Strategic background - I support the analysis and documentation of legislative and policy instruments summarised in the document.	Support.	Note.
78.5	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.1.1.1 GW's Biodivseristy Strategy - I submit that the GWBS goals identified in Figure 2 are not the goals as stated in the Strategy.	Review and correct representation of the goals of the Biodiversity Strategy.	Note.

78.6	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.1.1.2 Key Native Ecosystems - I submit that the KNE programme is an implementation output from other Policies or Strategies rather than a stand-alone "driver" for the pest management plan and should be identified as such. I further note that; · it is unclear what, if any, authority under the Biosecurity Act GW requires to operate in the identified KNE given that it either owns the sites or has a management agreement with the owners. · KNEs are not referred to in the proposed NRP.	Review representation of KNEs in this section.	Accept.
78.7	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.1.1.5 Marine biosecurity - I support the Council's identification of marine biosecurity as a significant and developing area of concern for the Region. I note that the Department manages two Marine Reserves within the Region that are at risk from new organisms, For GW's consideration, I commend the approach taken by Hawkes Bay Regional Council and note that the Department will work with GW to help ensure protection of marine biodiversity in the Region.	1. Note 2. Consider amending final paragraph of this section e.g. "For this reason, as the national marine biosecurity surveillance and response capability increases, throughout the life of this plan, Greater Wellington will work with central and local ..."	Accept.
78.8	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.1.2 Biosecurity Framework - I submit that the headings in Figure 3 should be enlarged on in the subsequent text to clarify what effect those mechanisms have upon pest management responsibilities and outcomes in the Wellington Region. (I note that some of this detail may be present in sections 2.2 —2.3 and hence editing may be all that is required.)	Review and expand section 2.1.2 to identify the effect of identified mechanisms on pest management responsibilities and outcomes in the Wellington Region.	Accept.

78.9	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.2.1 Council leadership - I submit that Council should acknowledge that the leadership role for pest management and coordination of pest management activities in the Region is assigned under S.12b of the Biosecurity Act	Review and revise paragraph 1 of 5.2.2.1 to describe assigned role under legislation.	Accept.
78.10	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.2.1 Part 6: Administering an RPMP - I submit that the examples described in this paragraph are required under Part 5 of the Biosecurity Act, not Part 6.	Review paragraph and either correctly ascribe the examples or use other examples drawn from Part 6.	Accept.
78.11	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.2.1 Changes to the Act since 1993 - I submit that several "changes" identified in this section are derived from the fact that a National Policy Direction has been promulgated not from legislative changes.	Review section and clarify those requirements introduced by the National Policy Direction for Pest Management.	Note.
78.12	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.2.4 Compliance with other legislation - I submit that the Biosecurity Act does not require compliance with the identified legislation. The Act (5.7.2) requires that actions taken under the Act do not "derogate" from various listed legislative provisions and under S7.5 the Wild Animal Control Act and the Wildlife Act cannot prevent or inhibit council's powers with respect to pest management.	Revise and update reference to other legislation.	Accept.

78.13	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.3 Other legislative provisions not described - I submit that this section should make reference to legislative provisions with respect to Noxious Fish particularly as freshwater quality and aquatic species/ecosystems are key elements of the proposed Natural Resources Plan. Similarly, the plan should note that many species have been classified as unwanted organisms potentially giving agencies or council access to powers to survey for and/or control these species.	Review section to include description of implications with respect to unwanted organisms and noxious fish. (I note that description of unwanted organism provisions in this section provide the foundation for subsequent coverage in S.4.3)	Accept in part.
78.14	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	2.6 Consultation overview - I submit that Council have chosen to follow S.72.c. provisions with respect to consultation in the plan and therefore the outcome of consultation that needs to be incorporated into the plan is that occurring now.	No decision requested.	Note.
78.15	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	3.3 Affected parties - I submit that the incorporated society, OSPRI/TbFreeNZ, that is a major contributor to pest management in the GW Region should be included in this list and its contribution described.	Include incorporated Societies, particularly OSPRI/TbFreeNZ in 3.3 and subsequent description.	Accept in part.
78.16	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	3.3.1.2 - I submit that the obligations of landowners extend to meeting the requirements of any Good Neighbour Rule that may be included in the plan. (This responsibility is not confined to Crown agencies).	Note GNR obligations for Individuals.	Accept..
78.17	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	3.3.2 Crown agencies - I submit that several Crown Agencies, particularly MPI and DOC are significant contributors to pest management outputs and outcomes within the Region and that this contribution should be acknowledged.	Acknowledge contribution that MPI and DOC make to pest management in the region.	Accept.
78.18	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	4.1 Organisms declared as pests - I submit that I strongly support the inclusion of the listed species as pests.	Support.	Note.

78.19	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	4.1 Organisms declared as pests - I submit that pests (Manchurian wild rice, Cape tulip and Water Hyacinth) currently managed by GW in collaboration with MPI should be included as pests in the RPMP. This would give the Chief Executive of GW authority to appoint inspectors and authorised persons for the purpose of finding and removing these plants.	Include Manchurian wild rice, Cape tulip and Water Hyacinth as eradication pests.	Reject.
78.20	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	4.1 Organisms declared as pests - I submit that the pest plant "Pig's ear" should be included as a pest in the same context as Boneseed as it has similar impacts in the same habitats as Boneseed although perhaps over a greater extent of the coastal strip. The plant will potentially be a major problem on the south Wairarapa Coast impacting on Chionochloa beddiei and the type locality for Sophoiyi molloyi, among many other high value native plants. Pig's ear was declared to be an "unwanted organism" by the Chief Technical Officer of MAF in 2008. I understand that GW staff are proactively managing this plant in some high value habitats.	Include Pig's ear as a sustained control or site led pest within coastal habitats throughout the Region.	Reject.
78.21	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	4.1 Organisms declared as pests - I submit that freshwater pest fish pose a significant risk to natural resources of the Wellington Region. While DOC is generally the lead agency for managing these threats GW is engaged in collaborative actions with DOC in several locations including Wairarapa Moana. Recognition of these species as pests in the RPMP would give the Chief Executive of GW authority to appoint inspectors and authorised persons for the purpose of finding and removing these pests.	Include freshwater pest fish including Noxious fish, freshwater fish that are unwanted organisms and Brown bull-headed catfish.	Reject.
78.22	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	4.4 Invasion curve - I submit that the invasion phases described in Figure 6 are not clearly able to be aligned with the programmes identified for individual pests in table 2.	Either identify invasion phase for each species in table 2 or list species by phase as a supplementary table with Figure 6.	Accept
78.23	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	5.4 Alternative pest management arrangements - I submit that I strongly support the mechanism described in 5.4 but seek clarity as to whether or not Council intends that this mechanism will be used to fulfil the requirements of S.78 of the Biosecurity Act (exemption from rules).	Reference S.78 of the Biosecurity Act in S. 5.4 of the plan and clarify relationship of 5.4 with 5.9.3 of the plan.	Exemptions may be granted under Section 78 of the Biosecurity Act.  There is no 5.9.3 in the RPMP.
78.24	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	Page 31. Rules with respect to possession of pests. Research. Also page 36, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50 - I submit rule 1 imposes a barrier to the bona fide possession of pests by researchers for example the holding of herbarium specimens or research subjects, including seeds, at Te Papa or Victoria University	Modify rule to exclude legitimate institutional researchers.	Reject in part.
78.25	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	Page 31. Rules with respect to reporting pests. Also page 36, 39, 42, 45, 49,50. - I submit that the rule requiring persons who see or suspect the presence of any specified pest anywhere in the Region at any time is impractical and could create significant costs and risks for Council.	Modify rule reduce span e.g. "Any person who sees a pest, included in table 3, on land they occupy shall report the initial sighting to GW within 5 working days".	Reject.

78.26	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.3.1. Purple loosestrife - I submit that I support the intent of the plan to reduce the impact of Purple Loosestrife, particularly in the Wairarapa Moana and Lake Onoke systems and other significant wetlands but wish to draw Council's attention to the lack of clarity in the objective. I submit that the objective is unclear as to whether it applies to all wetlands with "native wetland biodiversity" or to a set of wetlands that are in the process of being defined in the proposed NRP or to the KNEs. I note that Figure 7 differs from the on-line version of mapping for the pNRP and the referenced Appendix 3, Map 5 does not exist in the pNRP and shows KNEs in the RPM P.	Support in part. Amend section to provide clarity of intent and, if linking to the pNRP reference the relevant schedules of that plan.	Accept.
78.27	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.3.1 Purple loosestrife. Written direction to occupiers - I submit that written direction to occupiers to destroy all purple loosestrife must contain cautionary advice about the risks associated with using herbicide over water and in wetland habitat that may also contain threatened plants.	Note.	Accept and note.
78.28	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.1 Blue passion flower - I submit that I support the intent of the plan to reduce the impact of Blue Passionflower but suggest that rule requiring occupiers to act (even if just to allow GW access) is required in order to give those occupiers who wish it, an option to seek an exemption (as per 9.3) should they wish to undertake control themselves.	Include occupier rule that could allow occupiers to access exemption procedures.	Reject.
78.29	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.2 Boneseed - I submit that I support the intent of the plan to reduce the impact of Boneseed but suggest that rule requiring occupiers to act (even if just to allow GW access) is required in order to give those occupiers who wish it, an option to seek an exemption (as per 9.3) should they wish to undertake control themselves.	Include occupier rule that could allow occupiers to access exemption procedures.	Reject.
78.30	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.2 Boneseed - I submit that service delivery in "non-productive habitats" must be undertaken by skilled and knowledgeable staff because these coastal habitats are the largest refugia for many threatened and endangered plants, invertebrates and lizards within the Region. Herbicides must be used cautiously.	Herbicides must be used cautiously.	Accept.
78.31	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.4 Eelgrass - I submit that I support the objective to prevent the spread of this species but further submit that the objective would have greater clarity if the known sites were identified in the plan and potential risk sites were to be more clearly identified (refer Purple Loosestrife submission).	Support, with qualification. Identify known sites and clarify meaning of "wetland habitats with native wetland biodiversity".	Accept.
78.32	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.5 Feral rabbits - I submit that I support this objective as the effect of the objective is to limit the spread of rabbits from one property to another. (Minimisation of adverse effects on environmental, culture and production values would likely require a greater intensity of control.)	Support. No relief sought.	Accept.
78.33	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.5 Feral rabbits - I submit that Feral rabbits should also be incorporated into the site-led programme as necessary to either protect values directly impacted by rabbits or to influence population dynamics of feral cats and/or ferrets.	Provide for service delivery in site-led programmes. Include Feral rabbits in site-led programme.	Reject.

78.34	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.6 Magpie - I submit that I support the intent of this objective but further submit that the proposed objective and actions would be more appropriately classified as "Site-led" because there is no intent to either reduce the distribution or spread of magpies but rather to control them at localised sites.	Support, with qualification. Change objective to site-led.	Accept.
78.35	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.7 Possum - I submit that I support the intent of this objective and note the Department's common goals for many of the lands it manages in the Region but further submit that the plan for possums needs further development. I note the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· GW does not require a Regional Pest Management Plan for possums for the objective they have relating to KNEs. Council is either doing this work on land it manages or on land where the owner/occupier is in agreement.</li> <li>· GW does not require a Regional Pest Management Plan for possums for the objective it has relating to actively managed TA reserves or other sites where the landowner/occupier is willing to pay for service delivery.</li> <li>· GW does not require a Regional Pest Management Plan for possums for the objective it has relating to the RPPCP if it is undertaking this work with the agreement of landowners/occupiers and the work is funded as a Regional "good" from general and targeted rates. I note that justification for this expenditure will need to meet relevant tests in the Local Government Act, not the Biosecurity Act.</li> <li>· The plan as proposed contains no rules or provisions relating to landowners/occupiers who may impose barriers to effective control.</li> <li>· The Cost benefit analysis for possums is poorly developed in that it incorrectly identifies the objective for the KNE work as sustained control rather than "Site-based" and assigns a site-based objective to the RPPCP work which is clearly "Sustained control". It also assigns the benefit of Bovine Tb control to the RPPCP work when that benefit is already captured by the National Bovine Tb Control plan for eradication of the disease.</li> </ul>	Support, with qualifications. Review proposed objectives, programme structure and cost benefit analysis for possums.	Accept
78.36	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.7 Possum - I submit that the plan for possums would be enhanced by over-laying Figures 9, 10 & 11 to represent the plan's life-time entirety of planned possum management. I further submit (as per my point 3 above) that that representation would be enhanced by including existing and probable DOC possum/predator control programmes on public conservation land within the Region.	1. Representation of "Life time" plan. 2. Include existing and probable DOC possum/predator control programmes on public conservation land.	Accept in part.
78.37	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.4.8 Wasps - I submit that I support the role and powers the Council is proposing to assume under this plan.	Support.	Note.

78.38	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5 Site-led plant pests - I submit that I support the plan for control of banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard within the Hutt City Council "site" although I note; · No cost benefit analysis with respect to the pests has been presented therefore the plan may be inconsistent with the National Policy Direction for Pest Management. · These "pestiferous" plants are not restricted to the Hutt City Council area and it may be appropriate to include, at least, KNEs and significant wetlands and rivers (particularly for old man's beard) across the entire Region.	Support in part.	Note.
78.39	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5.4. Hedgehog & 6.5.5 Feral Goats - I submit that I support pest status for these species while noting that, as with respect to possums, GW does not require a Regional Pest Management Plan for these animals for the objective they have relating to KNEs where council is either doing this work on land it manages or on land where the owner/occupier is in agreement.	Support in part.	Note.
78.40	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5.6 Mustelids - I submit that I support pest status for these species because to achieve the work required within the Predator Free Wellington "site" boundary GW staff and/or contractors may need the status of authorised persons to be able access land where the owner/occupier does not support the work. Neither stoats or weasels are classified as unwanted organisms therefore pest status is required to give access to these powers.	Support.	Note.
78.41	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5.7 Pest cats - I submit that I support pest status for this species while noting that, as with respect to possums, GW does not require a Regional Pest Management Plan for these animals for the objective they have relating to KNEs where council is either doing this work on land it manages or on land where the owner/occupier is in agreement.	Support in part.	Note.
78.42	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5.7 Pest cats - I submit that the pest status for Pest cats could be construed as being limited to KNEs because this is a "site-led" plan but the proposed rule extends to the Region as a whole.		Note.
78.43	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5.8 Possum (Wellington Predator Free site) - I submit that I support pest status for this species for this objective because to achieve the work required within the Predator Free Wellington "site" boundary, GW staff and/or contractors may need the status of authorised persons to be able access land where the owner/occupier does not support the work. I note that the Predator Free Wellington "site" boundary could be incorporated into a site-led programme that included KNEs etc. refer pt. xx above.	Support.	Note.
78.44	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	6.5.9 Rats (Wellington Predator Free site) - I submit that I support pest status for these species because to achieve the work required within the Predator Free Wellington "site" boundary GW staff and/or contractors may need the status of authorised persons to be able access land where the owner/occupier does not support the work. Neither ship rats nor Norway rats are classified as unwanted organisms therefore pest status is required to give access to these powers.	Support.	Note.



78.45	Department of Conservation Visser, Chris	8.1 Monitoring - I submit that I support the planned monitoring programme.	Support.	Note.
79.1	Shaw, Kerry	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
79.2	Shaw, Kerry	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
79.3	Shaw, Kerry	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
79.4	Shaw, Kerry	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
79.5	Shaw, Kerry	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.

79.6	Shaw, Kerry	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
79.7	Shaw, Kerry	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
79.8	Shaw, Kerry	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
79.9	Shaw, Kerry	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
79.10	Shaw, Kerry	I would like to have mice included in site-led pests programme to be controlled at specific sites. I feel that mice need to be included. I have noticed that once the rat numbers reduce, the mice increase considerably in the areas I monitor traps. They could become a major pest problem in a few years, ie similar to the Antipodes Island after rats were eradicated. Mice can have an impact as they eat some NZ native species as well as the foods they eat. They take foods that birds would normally eat like berries and seeds. Also they keep eating the bait in traps!!	Include mice in a Site-led programme.	Reject.
79.11	Shaw, Kerry	Also I agree with GW supporting, inspecting & monitoring within the boundaries of PF Wellington initiatives but I would like to see more on how they are going to do this & how often as a lot can happen in 20 years. Also I don't think GW have defined the areas for weed pest management very clearly. I think that to avoid the spread of pest weeds in the KNE areas, GW need to show that they will be supporting, inspecting & monitoring within the boundaries of site-led restoration groups' sites in TA reserves especially WCC.	Support. No specific relief sought.	Note.
80.1	Morgan Foundation Morgan, Jesse	I think the weed pest management is an enormous activity so GW needs to have a lot of help to do this work from volunteers so it would be good if they highlight how they will support this volunteer work more clearly.	Support in part. Outline (more clearly) how GWRC will support pest plant work undertaken by volunteers.	Note.

80.2	Morgan Foundation Morgan, Jesse	The inclusion of a pest cat is progressive and innovative. Cats are an apex-predator in New Zealand and if humans don't control their numbers nothing else will. Cats are highly skilled hunters that have the ability to devastate populations of native birds, bats, reptiles and insects. Studies have shown that in populated areas cats kill native birds faster than they can breed. The damage inflicted on native lizards and invertebrates is unquantified but probably even greater. This is a huge issue for our native wildlife, and one we need to deal with.	Support.	Note.
80.3	Morgan Foundation Morgan, Jesse	<p>The current definition of a pest cat is unclear and some work is needed to clarify it to make it a useful definition. We suggest using a similar definition that was in the Auckland Council Proposed RPMP: "A pest cat is a cat without a registered microchip". This will clarify the definition and more clearly deal with strays and colony cats. Cats are also have an affect on primary production and human health. So controlling pest cats is beneficial to all. Cats are the primary transmission vector for toxoplasmosis, a serious illness in both humans and sheep. Most farmers immunise their sheep but the immunisation is not 100% effective and storms of toxoplasmosis can still devastate flocks.</p> <p>Wellington City Council were the first TLA to introduce compulsory microchipping in their Animal Bylaw and the definition of a pest cat within the RPMP supports their Bylaw. In fact the inclusion of a pest cat being defined as a cat without a registered microchip is essential to legally strengthen the WCC Animal Bylaw.</p> <p>Microchipping and managing cats also brings many side benefits. It is good for cat welfare, which is why is it promoted by the SPCA and NZVA. Following the Christchurch Earthquake microchipped cats were far more likely to be returned to their owners.</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: "a cat without a registered microchip".	Reject.
80.4	Morgan Foundation Morgan, Jesse	The rule around people feeding or sheltering pest cats on land without the permission of the occupier could be further clarified to include any cat. We suggest Rule 1 is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier."	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word "pest" ie. "No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

80.5	Morgan Foundation Morgan, Jesse	Rules around people abandoning cats should be more regularly enforced and more public education around the impact of cat abandonment is needed.	1. Regularly enforce rules pertaining to abandoning cats, and, 2. Provide greater education about impacts of cat abandonment.	Accept in part.
80.6	Morgan Foundation Morgan, Jesse	We would also like to see GWRC, together with LGNZ, approach central government to develop national legislation for cat management.	Approach central government to develop legislation for cat management.	Note.
81.1	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	<p>Firstly we'd like to commend Greater Wellington Regional Council on a well thought out and comprehensive plan. The list of predators named in the plan is extensive and the plan to control them shows GWRC highly values native species that live within the Wellington region.</p> <p>We recognise that Wellington has an important role to play in the Predator Free New Zealand vision and we commend you on your support for Predator Free Wellington. The increase in the number of predator free communities throughout the Wellington region is indicative of the high level of public support for this vision. Not only is it improving biodiversity the impact on connecting communities around a common goal should not be overlooked. It also important for council to realise the need for them to lead by example on their own land. Community engagement is a vital part of achieving a predator free New Zealand and encouraging and supporting community involvement is vital.</p> <p>The Predator Free New Zealand Trust is very supportive of the proposed plan.</p>	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
81.2	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	We commend you on the inclusion of pest cats within the Proposed plan. Including a broader term of pest cat is progressive and innovative. Cats are an apex-predator in New Zealand and if humans don't control them nothing else will. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger and they have the ability to decimate populations of native species including bird, bat, lizard and insects. Without control measures cats are the biggest threat to predator control undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
81.3	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	<p>Whilst the term pest cat is greatly improved from feral the definition in the proposed plan does not clearly include colonies, stray and abandoned cats. We suggest it could be more succinct by following the definition in the Auckland Council proposed RPMP which is: "any cat which is not micro-chipped; and registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register". This is a much clearer definition and eliminates confusion around stray and unowned cats.</p> <p>Wellington City Council were the first TLA to introduce compulsory microchipping in their Animal Bylaw and the definition of a pest cat within the RPMP supports their Bylaw. In fact the inclusion of a pest cat being defined as a cat without a registered microchip is essential to legally strengthen the WCC Animal Bylaw.</p>	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to "any cat which is not micro-chipped; and registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register"	Reject.

81.4	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	The rule around people feeding or sheltering pest cats on land without the permission of the occupier could be further clarified to include any cat. We suggest Rule 1 is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. Suggested Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
81.5	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	Following the LGNZ remit on national cat legislation being passed, we’d like GWRC to further encourage LGNZ to lobby central government to create a national cat legislation to ensure all regions are adopting best practice cat management.	Approach central government to develop legislation for cat management	Note.
81.6	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	We agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests. We note that GWRC is aiming for 5% RTC and suggest you look at lowering this to 4%. Hawke’s Bay Regional Council have 4% RTC in their Proposed RPMP	Lower RTC from 5% to 4% in the RPMP	Reject.
81.7	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	We agree with the inclusion of European hedgehogs.	Support.	Note.
81.8	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations as well as eating the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education about the impacts hedgehogs have will help raise public awareness of the damage that hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity. We would like GWRC to undertake more public education around the impacts of hedgehogs.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
81.9	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any KNE.	Amend Rule 1 for hedgehogs to state that they should not be released into KNEs.	Accept.
81.10	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	We agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
81.11	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	An addition rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

81.12	Predator Free NZ Morgan, Jesse	We support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
82.1	GUARDIANS OF PAUATAHAN UI INLET Inc. Shaw, Tony	We endorse and support the list of proposed pests and the related methods set out in the proposed Strategy.	Support.	Note.
82.2	GUARDIANS OF PAUATAHAN UI INLET Inc. Shaw, Tony	<p>Canada Geese have been a pest in the Pāuatahanui Inlet for some time. Their presence recurs every year and the numbers vary. But it's not unusual to see 50 to 80 birds in the Inlet. Their diet includes short pasture grasses and herbaceous saltmarsh, together with sea grass. Their feeding habits strip plants. They are crowding out other, native birds. They roost in large numbers on the shoreline of the Inlet. They also produce large volumes of waste – up to half a kilo per bird per day which gets deposited on shoreline and near shore areas, as well as farmland.</p> <p>In terms of management options, it seems that interfering with eggs and nests is only partially successful. Culling the birds seems to be a necessary option.</p> <p>Proposal We therefore consider that Canada Geese should be listed in the Pest Management Strategy and that the method of management should be sustained control including egg and nest interference and culling.</p>	Add Canada geese to the RPMP, with a management strategy (sustained control programme) that focuses on disrupting nests and nesting and culling.	Reject.
82.3	GUARDIANS OF PAUATAHAN UI INLET Inc. Shaw, Tony	<p>Agapanthus is a weed plant that forms dense and expansive mats that are hard to eradicate. It has been bred because of its looks and flowers, but it tends to overpower and led to the exclusion of other, including native vegetation, It occupies increasing areas of land around the Porirua Harbour and adjacent to roads, reserves and walkways. It is also now invading and thriving on seashore areas around the Pāuatahanui Inlet.</p> <p>Proposal Agapanthus should be eradicated on all public areas (such as road berms, reserves and walkways), and the harbour foreshore. Its propagation and sale should be banned from garden centres. Information should be provided to property owners on the pest status of agapanthus and how to control it.</p>	Eradicate existing agapanthus, ban its sale, and educate people about its impacts.	Reject.
83.1	Hemingson, Jacqueline,Ann	<p>I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.</p> <p>Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.</p>	Support.	Note.

83.2	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
83.3	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
83.4	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
83.5	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
83.6	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
83.7	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
83.8	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.

83.9	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
83.10	Hemingson, Jacqueline, Ann	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
84.1	Legg, Mary	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups. ”	Support.	Note.
84.2	Legg, Mary	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
84.3	Legg, Mary	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
84.4	Legg, Mary	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.



84.5	Legg, Mary	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
84.6	Legg, Mary	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
84.7	Legg, Mary	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
84.8	Legg, Mary	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
84.9	Legg, Mary	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
84.10	Legg, Mary	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
85.1	Legg, Dan	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
85.2	Legg, Dan	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

85.3	Legg, Dan	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
85.4	Legg, Dan	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
85.5	Legg, Dan	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
85.6	Legg, Dan	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
85.7	Legg, Dan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
85.8	Legg, Dan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
85.9	Legg, Dan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

85.10	Legg, Dan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
86.1	Oliver, Jared	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
86.2	Oliver, Jared	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
86.3	Oliver, Jared	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
86.4	Oliver, Jared	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
86.5	Oliver, Jared	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.

86.6	Oliver, Jared	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
86.7	Oliver, Jared	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
86.8	Oliver, Jared	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
86.9	Oliver, Jared	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
86.10	Oliver, Jared	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
87.1	HVNZDA George, Gordon	Whilst we oppose the indiscriminate use of any toxin we pragmatically acknowledge that aerial 1080 may at times be used where adequate mitigation has been applied to significantly reduce the bykill of non-target species (eg deer) we have a history of working with agencies not opposing them. An example of this is several rounds of control operations in the Aorangi FP and also in the Rimutaka (Remutaka) FP. The cooperation with an consideration given by OSPRI should serve as a model of what is possible working together, we all win with the least stress. That noted we do require that control operations have the need evidenced and adequate consultation and notification needs to occur. The branch strongly endorses the use of deer repellents and has recently contributed to Landcare research seeking to firm up the growing body of evidence around EDR increasing the attractiveness of pellets to rats	Make use of deer repellent during aerial 1080 operations.	Note.
87.2	HVNZDA George, Gordon	The branch and our members seek collaborative ventures with land manager like GW and DOC. Despite the branch having strongly supported and financed a successful judicial review against DOC, we have a very good relationship with the local conservancy, have donated rat traps to projects, have maintenance agreements for multiple huts and run a goat control project/contract in the Mukamuka catchment of the Remutakas. DOC have recently indicated that they wish to try and expand that project and are contributing equipment to assist. There is a strong interest from the branch in these sorts of practical initiatives which we see as a win for all. Where GW have evidence of a deer or goat problem we would appreciate the opportunity to be part of the solution.	Involve HVNZDA when GWRC has evidence of a deer or goat problem.	Accept in part.

88.1	Bloomfield, Colin	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan. Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups. .”	Support.	Note.
88.2	Bloomfield, Colin	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
88.3	Bloomfield, Colin	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
88.4	Bloomfield, Colin	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support.	Note.
88.5	Bloomfield, Colin	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
88.6	Bloomfield, Colin	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6

88.7	Bloomfield, Colin	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
88.8	Bloomfield, Colin	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
88.9	Bloomfield, Colin	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
88.10	Bloomfield, Colin	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
89.1	Sousa, Louis	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
89.2	Sousa, Louis	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

89.3	Sousa, Louis	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the D776Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
89.4	Sousa, Louis	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
89.5	Sousa, Louis	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
89.6	Sousa, Louis	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
89.7	Sousa, Louis	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
89.8	Sousa, Louis	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
89.9	Sousa, Louis	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

89.10	Sousa, Louis	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
90.1	Dorifaeff, Josie	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
90.2	Dorifaeff, Josie	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
90.3	Dorifaeff, Josie	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
90.4	Dorifaeff, Josie	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No specific decision requested.	Note.
90.5	Dorifaeff, Josie	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.



90.6	Dorifaeff, Josie	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
90.7	Dorifaeff, Josie	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
90.8	Dorifaeff, Josie	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
90.9	Dorifaeff, Josie	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
90.10	Dorifaeff, Josie	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
90.11	Dorifaeff, Josie	I have a cat that use to kill birds on a weekly basis but now wears a bird protection collar which I made, getting the idea off the internet! He he also wears a collar with a bell! He hasn't caught a bird since! These collars should be made, advertised and sold locally and cat owners should be encouraged to buy them them to help protect our birds! The money made from the collars could go to Forest and Bird!	Make, advertise and sell cat collars locally.	Note.
91.1	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	The key matters of concern to Forest & Bird relate to the protection of ecological values, particularly those associated with native biodiversity, wetlands and the coastal environment. Forest & Bird's strategic plan is for a predator-free New Zealand in which habitat and species loss has been halted and indigenous biodiversity is flourishing by 2040. Our Strategic Plan guides our direction and our feedback on what we see to be regional priorities for pest management in the Wellington area over the next ten years. This submission will begin with general comments and conclude with specific submission points we would like to see addressed in the Proposed Regional , comments 1. We congratulate Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) for developing a plan for pest management in the wider Wellington region. Forest & Bird has noticed a distinct withdrawal of GWRC resource in some areas of pest management in the Wellington region, particularly possum control. We hope this proposed Plan allows for more funds to be directed towards important pest management outcomes in the region.	Support the plan.	Note.

91.2	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	2. While we are happy to see such a comprehensive list of animal pests included in the list of organisms classified as pests (Table 2), we feel the mammals excluded namely feral deer, pigs and mice, are a serious oversight and must be reinstated to ensure adequate management is undertaken.	Support in part. Reinstate feral deer and pigs to a pest management programme.	Note and reject in part.
91.3	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	3. Forest & Bird believes a strong stance is required on invasive herbivores, particularly feral goats and deer and omnivorous feral pigs. These species, in conjunction with possums, are a serious barrier to indigenous forest regeneration in the Wellington region. Lower Hutt Branch of Forest & Bird for example, has received a number of complaints from residents (mainly Wainuiomata) who have had deer in their gardens. We are very concerned about the damage being done by deer, pigs and goats in local reserves, particularly when they are undermining the hard work of restoration projects in the region.	Believes a strong stance is required on invasive herbivores, particularly feral goats and deer and omnivorous feral pigs.	Note.
91.4	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	4. Forest & Bird supports the inclusion of the mammalian pests listed as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites, especially the rats (Norway and ship) and hedgehogs. However, we believe mice must be included. We have noticed that once the rat numbers are reduced, the mice increase considerably. Mice are an underestimated threat to not only our lizard fauna but also a direct competitor with native species for food such as berries and seed. Also they keep eating the lure in our traps!!		Note.
91.5	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	5. Forest & Bird consider GWRC should add the following species to the animal pest list in Table 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Darwin's ant</li> <li>· Feral cattle</li> <li>· Hare</li> <li>· Plague (rainbow) skink</li> <li>· Pig</li> <li>· Deer</li> <li>· Mouse Also a garaph with more information is in the pest plan folder please refer to this folder</li> </ul>		Accept in part.
91.6	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Section 3.3.1, Pg 17	Support. Retain.	Note.

91.7	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Section 3.3.2, Pg 18 We agree with the statement that some "...central government agencies (including state - owned enterprises) have been identified as being significant beneficiaries or exacerbators of pest management in the Wellington Region." We support the notion that Crown agencies are liable to meet the obligations or costs associated with a Good Neighbour Rule, or action under a plan to enforce a Good Neighbour Rule in the plan. We further support Greater Wellington to continue to pursue and maintain formal and informal relationships with Crown agencies to achieve the objectives of this plan.	Support. Retain.	Note.
91.8	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Section 4.1 Organisms declared as pests, Pg 21 Given the 20 year timeframe for the pRPMP, we suggest limiting the organisms declared as pests to such a short list is problematic. Should unwanted pests outside the Wellington Region expand their range, or arrive in New Zealand, GWRC should be able to undertake a small -scale eradication programme without the need to review the RPMP. Section 100V of the Biosecurity Act does not make it compulsory to list all species to target. The key requirement is that control is not inconsistent with national policy direction.	Support with amendment. Add words to the effect that GWRC's management programme is guided by, but not limited to, the pests that have not yet established viable or persistent populations in the region, at the time of writing.	Accept in part.
91.9	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Pg 21 RPMP. Section 100V of the Biosecurity Act does not make it compulsory to list all species to target. The key requirement is that control is not inconsistent with national policy direction.	No request sought.	Note.

91.10	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	<p>Table 2 Organisms classified as pests Pg 21 We are disappointed to see this table much reduced from the priority species for control list in the current Regional Pest Management Strategy. However, we are pleased to see the inclusion of hedgehogs amongst the range of pest mammals. Feral deer and pigs need to be reinstated on this table. Feral deer and pigs are causing enormous damage in the Hutt Valley in particular, especially in East Harbour Regional Park, Wainuiomata Recreation Area and other KNE sites across the region. Recreational hunting is not an effective management tool for pigs or deer, site-led management is absolutely necessary to prevent these species from conducting further damage across the region. Further to the point made above, plague skink (referred to as Rainbow skink <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> in Appendix 2) should be on this table for exclusion. While not present yet in the Wellington Region, outlier populations of plague skink occur close by at Whanganui, Palmerston North and Foxton Beach. Plague skinks would pose a significant threat to the native skinks of the region and GWRC needs to be ready to front foot any possible incursion in the future. The list of weeds is particularly unambitious on this Table. We acknowledge that at a time of scarce resources then priorities must be made. However, listing as many weeds as possible here will enable advocacy for more resources to ensure the listed species get resources necessary for management. For example, at a minimum we would expect the inclusion of environmental weeds such as climbing asparagus <i>Asparagus scandens</i> and Cape ivy <i>Senecio angulatus</i> on this table. Old man's beard <i>Clematis vitalba</i> is widespread outside the limits of Hutt City Council. Greater Wellington needs to work with other councils, particularly Upper Hutt City Council, to ensure site-led control elsewhere in the region. This will not only reduce infestations elsewhere but will also support the work already done by HCC.</p>	<p>Support with amendment. Reinstatement of feral deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>, <i>C. nippon</i>, <i>Dama dama</i>) and feral pigs (<i>Sus scrofa</i>). Include plague skink (<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>). Conduct a review of the listed weeds to ensure the maximum number is included rather than the minimum which appears to be the case here. Delete HCC from the programme of control for old man's beard (<i>Clematis vitalba</i>). This should be site-led across the whole region, not just within Hutt City Council's jurisdiction</p>	Accept in part.
91.11	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	<p>Section 4.2 Pg 22 We support the inclusion of these organisms on a watch-list for ongoing surveillance or future control opportunities.</p> <p>We support the notion that the harmful organisms include, but are not limited to, those species identified in Appendix 2.</p>	Support. Retain.	Note.
91.12	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	<p>Section 5 Pg 25 This section is appropriate.</p>	Support Retain.	Note.

91.13	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	<p>Section 6 Pest descriptions and programmes Page 28</p> <p>As stated in Section 5.5, rules play an integral role in securing many of the pest management outcomes sought by the proposed plan. Throughout this section, particularly with regard to animals regarded as pests, the rules are either not presented or not adequate to address the key issues. For example, rail corridors are a significant conveyor of pests such as feral cats, mustelids and environmental weeds such as old man's beard. Similarly, poorly maintained road reserves act as a vector of pests. However, more often than not the sole rule applied simply states: No landowner shall knowingly act as a source of any [relevant pest] and, when notified, shall undertake appropriate pest control.</p> <p>No person shall possess any living [pest or weed] within the Wellington Region or a KNE etc.</p> <p>This rule and others provided are wholly inadequate in securing the pest management outcomes sought by this plan.</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>Craft adequate rules that will actually address the pest management issues at hand for each specific pest addressed.</p> <p>Suggested text, for example: No landowner shall knowingly act as a source of any [relevant pest] and, when notified, shall undertake appropriate pest control.</p>	Reject.
91.14	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	<p>Section 6.2 Pests to be managed under eradication programmes Pg 36</p> <p>Regarding the rules for those pests to be eradicated, there needs to be some explanation of GWRC's anticipated compliance regime after a landowner has been issued a written direction to undertake the eradication work at their expense. Forest &amp; Bird has seen many instances where landowners, in particular Crown agencies, should be undertaking pest management or letting others undertake management on their behalf but the landowner has not been forthcoming. Therefore, some explanation as to the regulatory process on behalf of GWRC is required i.e. what will GWRC do if landowners do not comply with these rules even after being presented with written direction.</p>	<p>Support with amendment</p> <p>Include a section to clarify the outcomes of non-compliance to the rules outlined in Section 6.2.</p>	Accept
91.15	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	<p>Section 6.4.7 Possum Pg 56</p> <p>We support the expansion of the Regional Possum Predator Control Programme to cover the majority of the Wellington region but would like this programme to cover the region in its entirety by 2030. If other agencies are controlling possums in the areas currently presented as having no control (Figure 9, Page 58), we would like Figure 9 to reflect this so it is clear who is doing what, where.</p>	<p>Update Figure 9 to demonstrate which agencies, if any, in addition to GWRC, are undertaking possum control in areas not proposed to be covered by the Regional Possum Predator Control Programme by 2030. Justification for areas without any form of management by any agency would also be useful.</p>	Accept in part.

91.16	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Section 6.5.5 Goats Pg 69 We appreciate the service delivery outcomes outlined for goats and would like to see a further outcome to ensure feral goats are able to be controlled by GWRC on land under active ecological restoration by community groups who are not necessarily resourced to undertake the work themselves or able to fund a cost recovery service when goat control is required.	Support with amendment Include a service delivery that enables GWRC to undertake direct control of feral goats as and when required on land under active ecological restoration by community groups without any cost to those community groups.	Reject.
91.17	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Section 6.5.6 Mustelids We completely support the control of mustelids in the Wellington region. We would support a wider vision to control mustelids beyond the boundaries of Predator Free Wellington as well. For example, traps could be put out in conjunction with possum control as part of the Regional Possum Predator Control Programme across the Wairarapa.	Support. Suggest looking into the feasibility of incorporating traps into the Regional Possum Predator Control Programme to control mustelids, among other pests, across the wider region rather than just within the confines of Predator Free Wellington.	Note.
91.18	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Section 6.5.7 Pest cats Pg 73 We completely support a strong approach to cat management within the Wellington region. We would like to see an additional service delivery to enable GWRC to assist community groups who would also like to undertake pest cat management on their restoration projects. This would ensure pest cat management across a wider reach than just KNEs and TA reserves.	Support with amendment Include a service delivery to allow GWRC to assist community groups who would also like to undertake pest cat management on their restoration projects.	Reject in part.
91.19	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc Kay, Tom	Sections 7&8 These sections are appropriate.	Support Retain	Note.

92.1	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	2. FFNZ generally support the proposed plan, including that a purpose is to maximise the effectiveness of pest management through a regionally coordinated approach.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
92.2	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	3. Our principal recommendation is that the time is ripe to move beyond species-specific and site-based programmes towards a strategic focus on partnerships for multi-species programmes at larger landscape scale.	Support in part. Move beyond species-specific and site-based programmes towards a strategic focus on partnerships for multi-species programmes at larger landscape scale.	Note.
92.3	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	4. We commend the prioritised (risk/cost/efficacy) approach which has informed the proposals for exclusion/eradication vis-a-vis sustained control or site based programmes.	Support. No relief requested.	Note.
92.4	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	5. The proposed plan would be improved by specifically listing those species proposed to be added or removed from the list, with succinct reasons.	Specifically list those species proposed to be added or removed from the list, with succinct reasons.	Reject in part.
92.5	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	6. FFNZ recommend further consideration be given to retaining African Feather Grass on the list: we are aware of farmer experience de-flowering and spraying and achieving good results and would welcome an opportunity to talk more with Council regarding practicalities and costs.	Retain African feather grass on the list of species specific programmes.	Reject.
92.6	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	7. We note the proposals to prioritise KNEs, TA reserves and Wellington City for site based programmes, including for control of feral cats and mustelids. We further note (figures 10 and 11) that these are principally on the other side of the hill, in and around the major metropolitan centres.	No specific relief requested.	Note.

92.7	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGrudy, Liz	8. We acknowledge that some provision is made for providing advice and training (eg, for mustelid control or to a lesser extent, feral cats) in areas around KNEs or in “defendable or strategic locations such as peninsulas, islands or corridors”; but this is limited to advocacy and education and does not extend to service delivery.	No specific relief requested.	Note.
92.8	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	9. FFNZ is aware that many farmers are keenly interested and/or involved with mustelid/cat control but currently lack support and resources to design and implement effective programmes. FFNZ recommend consideration be given to extending service delivery to include active partnerships with landowners to control mustelids/cats outside the designated priority sites, including in the Wairarapa, and potentially linked to the possum programme which we understand was intended to expand into multi-species control over time.	FFNZ recommend consideration be given to extending service delivery to include active partnerships with landowners to control mustelids/cats outside the designated priority sites, including in the Wairarapa,	Accept in part.
92.9	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	10. FFNZ commend GWRC for maintaining possum control across the region.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
92.10	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	11. We agree (6.4.7) that GWRC should continue to maintain possums at low levels; and that new programmes be established in collaboration with landowners in areas which meet Ospri’s criteria to be declared Tb-free, not least to protect the considerable investment the farming community have made in possum control to date.	Support. No specific relief requested.	Note.
92.11	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	12. The practical effect (Figure 9) is a projected very significant expansion of the control programme through to 2030. In this context, FFNZ is keen to ensure operations are well planned and prioritised to deliver “value-for-money”.	Support. "FFNZ is keen to ensure operations are well planned and prioritised to deliver “value-for-money”". No specific decision requested, please clarify.	Note.
92.12	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	13. We record specific concern that there may currently be a period of some years between the withdrawal of Ospri operations before areas are declared Tb-free (eg, Hinakura, Tararua foothills), ie, possums may not be managed for a prolonged period, notwithstanding that landowners are paying targeted rates.	There is specific concern that there may currently be a period of some years between the withdrawal of Ospri operations before areas are declared Tb-free.	Accept.



92.13	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	14. FFNZ recommend that a higher level of communication between GWRC, Ospri, DOC and landowners is required to effectively prioritise possum control programmes, including in areas effectively but not yet formally declared Tb-free.	Ensure greater communication between pest control agencies and landowners regarding possum control.	Reject
92.14	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	15. The proposed plan describes site based programmes (KNEs, TA reserves) and the “Predator Free Wellington” project; but is silent on the strategic intent or “fit” with the discussions currently ongoing for catchment or community scale predator control programmes (eg, Pukaha to Palliser), ie, linking the current “patchwork” into a “network”.	No specific relief sought.	Note.
92.15	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	16. We suggest the current focus on KNEs be extended to include consideration of QEII blocks and mapping of the larger river systems and roads which are prime habitat/corridors for possums/cats/rats etc; aligned to more explicit mapping of “defendable, strategic areas”.	Extend KNE programmes and mapping.	Reject.
92.16	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	17. FFNZ recommend the Pest Management Plan add a new section explicitly discussing the opportunity, strategy and resourcing required for making progress on multi-species landscape scale control, including the Wairarapa Pukaha to Palliser Project.	Add a new section explicitly discussing the opportunity, strategy and resourcing required for making progress on multi-species landscape scale control.	Reject.
92.17	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	18. The growing scope of regional possum programmes and the developing scale of multi-species programmes compels a more sophisticated approach to council/landowner partnerships.	No specific relief requested.	Note.

92.18	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGrudy, Liz	19. In this context, FFNZ recommend that landowners be described more explicitly as partners, rather than just as “beneficiaries or exacerbators”.	Describe landowners more explicitly as partners, rather than just as “beneficiaries or exacerbators”.	Reject.
92.19	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	20. Across the region, large areas of biodiversity are located on private land: many landowners want to control pests and should be seen as an asset in pest control. FFNZ seek a pest management strategy that includes a focus on empowering landowners to work in partnership with Council for the benefit of the entire region.	FFNZ seek a pest management strategy that includes a focus on empowering landowners to work in partnership with Council for the benefit of the entire region.	Note.
92.20	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	21. Currently the plan is structured between direct “service delivery” and indirect “advocacy and education”: FFNZ recommend a third category for active partnerships with, and resourcing of, landowners (noting that resourcing may not be direct dollars but could include advice, infrastructure etc).	FFNZ recommend a third category for active partnerships with, and resourcing of, landowners (noting that resourcing may not be direct dollars but could include advice, infrastructure etc).	Reject.
92.21	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	22. Another aspect of supporting public/private partnerships is information, but we note there is no mention of IT in the proposed plan. FFNZ recommend more specific attention to mapping and monitoring progress, eg, applications such as “TrapNZ” could be used to provide information from the community back to Council on pests trapped.	FFNZ recommend more specific attention to mapping and monitoring progress to support the public/private partnerships.	Accept.

92.22	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	<p>23. The budget figures in the proposed plan are currently grouped by species, ie, \$60+ million over the 10 years, currently around a third each to terrestrial/aquatic plant pests, terrestrial animal pests, and possums). In the context of our recommendations above, we suggest consideration be given to re-structuring information to also show:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species-based programmes, eg, wallaby, velvetleaf</li> <li>• Site based programmes, eg, KNEs, TA reserves, QEII blocks</li> <li>• Landscape programmes, eg, Predator-free Wellington, Pukaha to Palliser</li> </ul>	<p>Re-structuring budget information to also show:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species-based programmes, eg, wallaby, velvetleaf</li> <li>• Site based programmes, eg, KNEs, TA reserves, QEII blocks</li> <li>• Landscape programmes, eg, Predator-free Wellington, Pukaha to Palliser</li> </ul>	Accept.
92.23	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	<p>24. FFNZ recommend budget provision be made for the staff/strategy/coordination resources required to effectively prioritise, mobilise and empower landowners and the wider community to contribute to effective pest control across the region.</p>	<p>Budget provision be made for the staff/strategy/coordination resources required to effectively prioritise, mobilise and empower landowners and the wider community to contribute to effective pest control across the region.</p>	Note.
92.24	Federated Farmers of New Zealand McGruddy, Liz	<p>25. FFNZ appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed plan. We recommend the time is right for a bolder and more strategic approach, working in partnership with landowners, and would welcome an opportunity to contribute to the further development of the plan.</p>	<p>A bolder and more strategic approach, working in partnership with landowners, and FFNZ would welcome an opportunity to contribute to the further development of the plan.</p>	Note.

93.1	Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust Gow, Lindsay	<p>Canada Geese have been a pest in the Pāuatahanui Inlet for some time. Their presence recurs every year and the numbers vary. But it's not unusual to see 50 to 80 birds in the Inlet. Their diet includes short pasture grasses and herbaceous saltmarsh, together with sea grass. Their feeding habits strip plants. They are crowding out other, native birds. They roost in large numbers on the shoreline of the Inlet. They also produce large volumes of waste – up to half a kilo per bird per day which gets deposited on shoreline and near shore areas, as well as farmland.</p> <p>In terms of management options, it seems that interfering with eggs and nests is only partially successful. Culling the birds seems to be a necessary option.</p> <p>Proposal We therefore consider that Canada Geese should be listed in the Pest Management Strategy and that the method of management should be sustained control including egg and nest interference and culling.</p>	Add Canada geese to the RPMP, with a sustained control management approach, including egg and nest interference and culling.	Reject.
93.2	Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust Gow, Lindsay	<p>Agapanthus is a weed plant that forms dense and expansive mats that are hard to eradicate. It has been bred because of its looks and flowers, but it tends to overpower and led to the exclusion of other, including native vegetation, It occupies increasing areas of land around the Porirua Harbour and adjacent to roads, reserves and walkways. It is also now invading and thriving on seashore areas around the Pāuatahanui Inlet.</p> <p>Proposal Agapanthus should be eradicated on all public areas (such as road berms, reserves and walkways), and the harbour foreshore. Its propagation and sale should be banned from garden centres. Information should be provided to property owners on the pest status of agapanthus and how to control it.</p>	Eradicate existing agapanthus, ban its sale, and educate people about its impacts	Reject.
93.3	Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust Gow, Lindsay	<p>We wonder why only the Hutt City Council is keen on eradicating the three weeds (Banana Passionfruit, Cathedral Bells and Old Man's Beard), but the other councils are not active. Old Man's Beard has a strong hold along the rail corridor, in the Porirua harbour catchment and there is an example of it spreading upstream along a water course. It invades and eventually decimates trees which then fall into water courses. Wellington City Council does not, to our knowledge, actively do anything, despite the fact Old man's Beard grows up WCC fences in very prominent places. We consider Old Man's Beard could and should be eradicated in the area of the Porirua Harbour catchment and perhaps all other territorial authority areas.</p>	Work to eradicate Old Man's Beard in the Porirua Harbour catchment and perhaps all other territorial authority areas.	Note.
93.4	Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust Gow, Lindsay	<p>We consider that wasps should be getting more attention/action. We wonder how GW will encourage others to manage wasps, as indicated in the Proposed Strategy. The training and certification for vespex bait use is straight forward, and costs about \$100, but then you have to buy the new bait (around \$50). So the out of pocket expenses for individuals can be quite high for what is essentially an action for the public good. We would like to see more leadership and encouragement, free training and reduced cost bait sales. The impact by wasps on the food chain is understated and adversely affects the wider ecosystem</p>	Implement training, free bait, and other support for controlling wasps	Note.

93.5	Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust Gow, Lindsay	We would like to see GW have mobile community drop in hubs (eg a weekend morning / weeknight evening) where people can be educated, get traps serviced, buy bait without retail margins and support community back yard efforts.	For GWRC to have mobile community drop in hubs (eg a weekend morning / weeknight evening) where people can be educated, get traps serviced, buy bait without retail margins and support community back yard efforts	Note.
93.6	Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust Gow, Lindsay	In relation to possums, rats and mustelids, the Proposed Strategy refers to work in TA reserves, but our local knowledge from the Porirua Stream catchment suggests that this applies only to some reserves – for example the Amesbury reserve in Churton Park and Friends of Tawa bush reserves. The Glenside reserve isn't getting any GW support and possums, rats and mustelids are rampant. We suggest that eradication and control measures for these pests should be applied to all reserve areas. Otherwise the problem remains uncontained.	Extend eradication and control to all reserves	Reject.
94.1	Sandom, Alan	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
94.2	Sandom, Alan	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.

94.3	Sandom, Alan	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
94.4	Sandom, Alan	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
94.5	Sandom, Alan	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
94.6	Sandom, Alan	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
94.7	Sandom, Alan	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem.	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
94.8	Sandom, Alan	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
94.9	Sandom, Alan	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.

94.10	Sandom, Alan	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
95.1	Raumati South Residents Association Daniell, Trevor	1) That the Argentine Ant and Darwin's Ant be categorised as “sustained control” or “suppression”,	1) That the Argentine Ant and Darwin's Ant be categorised as “sustained control” or “suppression”,	Reject.
95.2	Raumati South Residents Association Daniell, Trevor	2) That a category be allocated for the White-footed Ant recognising that though it is not a danger to the environment it is a major stress factor in the lives of many urban coastal householders, extremely difficult to eliminate, time-consuming and expensive. If this ant is not included on Regional's list it has no statutory significance.	2) That a category be allocated for the White-footed Ant recognising that though it is not a danger to the environment it is a major stress factor in the lives of many urban coastal householders, extremely difficult to eliminate, time-consuming and expensive. If this ant is not included on Regional's list it has no statutory significance.	Accept in part.
95.3	Raumati South Residents Association Daniell, Trevor	3) That GWRC and its partner Councils and DOC clarify responsibilities and cost sharing, and coordinate pest management campaigns (along with the public) on specific pest problems.	3) That GWRC and its partner Councils and DOC clarify responsibilities and cost sharing, and coordinate pest management campaigns (along with the public) on specific pest problems.	Note.
95.4	Raumati South Residents Association Daniell, Trevor	4) That the Pest Management Control Plan 2019-2039 will require regular publicity about pests including extermination or control measures,	4) That the Pest Management Control Plan 2019-2039 will require regular publicity about pests including extermination or control measures,	Note.

96.1	Lower Hutt Forest and Bird, Secretary Vinton, Jennifer	<p>Lower Hutt Branch of Forest and Bird is very concerned that feral deer and pigs are proposed to be downgraded from being a Site-led pest category to being classified as 'harmful organisms' and that neither of these feral ungulates is a priority for pest control under the proposed plan.</p> <p>Our branch has recently complained to GWRC about deer problems in Lower Hutt area and received a 'not our problem' response.</p> <p>We have noticed that there are areas of the eastern hills where nearly all the palatable shrubs and trees in regenerating bush are dying. These have been killed by ungulate bark stripping and subsequent fungal infections. Some of this regenerating bush is over 90 years old and calculations show there is negative or minimal carbon sequestration.</p> <p>We note that this is a 20 year plan, so it is of huge concern that these pests if left to their own devices for two decades with population growth unchecked.</p>	Classify feral deer and pigs as site-led programme species.	Accept
96.2	Lower Hutt Forest and Bird, Secretary Vinton, Jennifer	<p>GWRC publications show a STAG AT BAY standing (and no doubt later fouling) in a MOUNTAIN STREAM. Walking track photos show NO UNDER STORY and a large proportion of bare branches and trunks lying dead on the ground.</p> <p>GWRC has to decide whether it is looking after native biodiversity or providing a safari park for the Huntin Fishin brigade. In our opinion it can't do both. It is a legal obligation to do the former but not the latter.</p> <p>One only has to look at TV hunting programs to see how ineffective hunting is in preserving native flora and fauna - it's more like farming - kill the odd trophy for its head and leave the rest to breed. At least with farming nutrients are replaced with fertilizer, this is not the case with GWRC management.</p> <p>We understand that GWRC add deer repellent in the way of pig blood to 1080 drops. This should stop and lines of bait with sufficient 1080 to kill deer and goats should be used.</p>	Don't use deer repellent when applying 1080 aerially, and lines of bait with sufficient 1080 to kill deer and goats should be used.	Note.
96.3	Lower Hutt Forest and Bird, Secretary Vinton, Jennifer	<p>We feel the following species must be added to the control list: Japanese honey suckle (<i>Lonicera japonica</i>) – program: eradication region wide                  Sweet cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>) – program: eradication region wide                  Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) – program: site led eg Hutt Valley, Wainuiomata                  Climbing asparagus (<i>Asparagus scandens</i>) – program: site led eg Te Whiti Park, Lower Hutt, Ngaio Gorge, Wellington</p>	Add Japanese honeysuckle, sweet cherry, hawthorn, and climbing asparagus to control list.	Reject.



97.1	Naenae Nature Trust Mitchell, Andy	<p>We have reviewed both the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan 2019 – 2039 and the Current Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002 – 2022, and note the change in status of some pest animal species. It is pleasing to see the elevation of rats and mustelids to the status of ‘Pests to be managed under Site-led programmes’ in line with the national Predator Free 2050 goal, but disappointing to see the reciprocal demotion of recreational hunting species feral deer and pigs to ‘Other harmful organisms’ status, “because, although they may have significant adverse effects, regulatory responses are not considered appropriate or necessary.” Your own website and 2002 – 2022 strategy note that “Deer are highly adaptable feeders that both browse and graze. Intensive browsing can remove much of the forest under-storey and strip bark from trees, impacting plant biodiversity”. There is certainly much evidence of this around the region. Deer numbers seem to be on the increase in bush surrounding suburban areas including ours. We see constant evidence of the presence of deer close to hillside homes, the Rātā Street Loop walking track and the Taita Cemetery, and it was recently reported that a stag was chased down a Naenae street by dogs. Unlike rats and possums, larger pest animals like deer and pigs simply cannot be controlled in any way by local residents or, in our immediate surrounds, even by licensed hunters. Our organisation plans to put great community effort and resources into restoring local forest ecosystems over coming years, yet it seems this may be futile if deer (and pigs, should they also move into our neighbourhood) are allowed to breed unchecked for the next 20 years and browse on or otherwise harm any native flora we plant into local hills. We assume there is some rationale that recreational hunting will keep numbers sufficiently in check, but this has not been the case of late. Recreational hunters have a vested interest in leaving populations to regenerate, and as already noted hunting cannot be undertaken in our local environment anyway. We believe that active control of feral deer and pigs throughout the region is both appropriate and necessary.</p>	Oppose in part. Ensure active control of feral deer and pigs throughout the region, as control is both appropriate and necessary.	Accept.
97.2	Naenae Nature Trust Mitchell, Andy	<p>Furthermore, we note with great envy a significant contribution to the Predator Free Wellington initiative, but no mention of even a contingency for leading or supporting consolidated community efforts elsewhere in the region now, or should similar efforts arise any time in the next 20 years. We also note that the Hutt Valley is excluded from the Regional Possum Predator Control Programme both currently and in planned expansions in 2025 and 2030. Again, this is a 20 year plan so the implications are significant – if a similar Predator Free Hutt Valley project came together as early as next year, we cannot see any indication that it would be supported in the same way as Predator Free Wellington until at least 2040, ten years short of the national goal.</p>	No relief requested.	Note.
98.1	Eastbourne Hunters and Gatherers Bearman, Wilf	<p>With increase of new members we have been asked to state our case for more access to hunt in East Harbour Park. This could be achieved by extending the ballot system. Professional as well as recreational hunters have to follow the same legal requirements stipulated by the law. Helping Bill Manson with the wild food festival each year we cant supply locally harvested meat because of the restrictions you have placed on us. We would like to see less culling and more involvement by recreational hunters to control pig, deer, and goat populations. GWRC must remember the Park is not only for groups like MIRO that often hold extreme views but for other users as well. GWRC must remember deer and pigs are considered game animals not pest animals.</p>	Provide greater access to recreational hunters in East Harbour Park	Note.

99.1	Ministry for Primary Industries Hare, Mike	In general we find the plan is not inconsistent with the NPD. We would recommend that the rules and supporting information be reviewed to ensure that land occupiers are properly able to determine whether a rule applies to them. For example, the map of the Key Native Ecosystems used for the site-led programme in the Plan is too small.	We would recommend a clearer map, or to incorporate a list of the KNEs by reference to make it easier to use.	Accept.
99.2	Ministry for Primary Industries Hare, Mike	MPI would like to thank the Council for supporting the National Interest Pest Response and National Pest Plant Accord programmes, and other national programmes such as the Check Clean Dry freshwater advocacy programme. We would also like to express our appreciation for your engagement with the Biosecurity 2025 initiative.	Support.	Note.
99.3	Ministry for Primary Industries Hare, Mike	MPI support the inclusion of velvetleaf in the Plan. As velvetleaf is a species that MPI consider to be of particular risk we are glad to see its inclusion within the Plan as an eradication species.	Support.	Note.
99.4	Ministry for Primary Industries Hare, Mike	MPI submits that Wilding Conifers are New Zealand's No. 1 weed and, therefore, should be included in the schedule of Organisms declared as pests. MPI is concerned that by not including Wilding Conifers as a pest in the Plan, the Council will not be able to respond efficiently or effectively to any emerging areas of wilding conifer spread. We note that the Plan has no specific provisions for any programmes concerning Wilding Conifers. The Plan refers to 'Wilding pines' as a harmful organism <sup>1</sup> . The Wellington Region is fortunate that Wildings have not become established to the extent seen in other regions. However, there is approximately 800 hectares of Wilding-affected land in the region. Managing this infestation and keeping the region clear of Wildings will be assisted by including appropriate provisions in the Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan. The core components of the material that MPI recommends be incorporated into proposed RPMP wilding conifer programmes include: · Consistent adoption of the wilding conifer 'definition', where Wilding Conifers are specified as a pest in the RPMP, and · Regulatory 'protection' of public investment in wilding conifer control. This means: o A requirement for occupiers to remove any Wilding Conifers subsequent to publicly funded wilding conifer control on their land. This requirement would be triggered by publicly funded control work being undertaken, and, thereafter, hands ongoing 'maintenance' responsibility to occupiers. o An externality obligation (essentially a boundary rule) applying to land adjoining land where publicly funded control has been undertaken. The relevant provisions in the material are Rules 4, 5 or 6, depending upon the nature and geographic delineation of the RPMP programme. o Regulatory support for any objective that includes keeping clear areas clear. Given the relatively low infestation in the Wellington Region, this would prevent new areas of wilding conifer infestation and halt the cycle of new 'legacy' areas of Wilding Conifers being created. Additional components of the material that MPI strongly encourages regional councils to use include: · Consistent use of the standardised description of the adverse effects of Wilding Conifers, · Consistent use of the standardised objective statements and statements of intent for template rules where these are used, · Specification of the five recommended conifer species as pests where these are present and spread prone in a particular region.	MPI submits that Wilding Conifers are New Zealand's No. 1 weed and, therefore, should be included in the schedule of Organisms declared as pests.	Accept

99.5	Ministry for Primary Industries Hare, Mike	Consistent adoption of the wilding conifer 'definition', where Wilding Conifers are specified as a pest in the RPMP		Accept.
99.6	Ministry for Primary Industries Hare, Mike	<p>Both MPI and regional councils have an important part to play in marine biosecurity. MPI has a leadership role for biosecurity and manages biosecurity risks offshore, at New Zealand's border and within New Zealand. This includes setting border standards for arriving vessels and goods (e.g. the Craft Risk Management Standard), undertaking national high risk surveillance for high risk organisms at key New Zealand ports, including in Wellington, leading responses to new to New Zealand pest incursions, and providing leadership for pest management activities.</p> <p>Councils have responsibilities for both species-led management and pathway/vector management. This is set out in Table 4 on page 16/17 of The Pest Management National Plan of Action (2011). In our pest management leadership capacity, MPI is working with a number of regional councils to build marine pest management capability.</p> <p>Wellington Harbour currently has few marine pest species compared to a number of other regions with busy shipping and high recreational vessel usage. For example, Sabella spallanzanii (Mediterranean fanworm) and Styela clava (clubbed tunicate) are serious and significant marine pests in the Auckland region. Further, both species have been found in small populations in Picton, Nelson, Tarakohe and Lyttelton, although there are elimination programmes for Sabella in those South Island locations.</p> <p>The harbour does already have one notable and well established marine pest species - Undaria pinnatifida (Undaria, the Asian Kelp or Wakame) is well established. Yet, other significant marine pests have not become established, in particular, the Mediterranean fanworm, while the clubbed tunicate has only been detected on two occasions associated with decorator crabs. Wellington harbour remains vulnerable to incursions of marine pests via infested commercial and recreational vessels arriving from other locations. There is therefore an opportunity for the Council to take proactive measures to prevent further pest establishment in the harbour. Unfortunately, the clubbed tunicate has become established in Porirua Harbour and can be expected to spread further, including to subtidal areas of the Pauatahanui Inlet, if left unmanaged. This in turn poses risks of infestation of Wellington Harbour through infected vessels visiting from Porirua Harbour and Mana Marina.</p> <p>It is also important that the Council take steps to ensure the marine pests currently in its region are not spread to new areas.</p> <p>MPI is of the view that a number of significant marine pest species should be included in the Greater Wellington Regional Council's regional pest management plan (RPMP) so that appropriate actions can be taken, where required. The Council may also wish to consider implementing pathways management focussed rules, or working with MPI to promote voluntary actions (e.g. regular cleaning and antifouling of vessels) to prevent marine pest spread.</p>	<p>MPI requests that the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. add the following marine pests to an Exclusion Pests Programme in Wellington Harbour: Sabella spallanzanii (Mediterranean fanworm), Styela clava (clubbed tunicate), Eudistoma elongatum (Australian Droplet Tunicate), Pyura doppelgangera (Pyura sea squirt) and Charybdis japonica (Asian Paddle Crab).</li> <li>2. Add the following marine pests to the Exclusion Pests Programme in Porirua Harbour/Pauatahanui Inlet: Sabella spallanzanii (Mediterranean fanworm); Eudistoma elongatum (Australian Droplet Tunicate), Pyura doppelgangera (Pyura sea squirt) and Charybdis japonica (Asian Paddle Crab).</li> <li>3. Add the following marine pest already established in Porirua Harbour/Pauatahanui Inlet to a sustained control programme or other long term management approach:</li> </ol>	Reject.

			Styela clava (clubbed tunicate).	
100.1	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	In general, MDC supports the pRPMP; however, we ask that Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) consider the following:	Support in part.	Note.
100.2	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	Canada Geese Recommendations 1. That GWRC provide a copy of the Cost Benefit Analysis carried out for Canadian Geese Control.	Provide the CBA carried out on Canada Geese to MDC.	Accept.
100.3	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	2. That Canadian Geese be included as a “Pest” species in the Plan.	Include Canada Goose as a “Pest” species in the Plan.	Reject.
100.4	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	3. If “Pest” status cannot be justified by the Cost Benefit Analysis, then GWRC and MDC enter into an alternative arrangement for pest management.	GWRC and MDC enter into an alternative arrangement for pest management.	Accept.
100.5	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	Cat Recommendations• MDC recommends that GWRC expand the area for the sustainable control of pest cats to include the Masterton district. The pRPMP proposes control of pest cats in Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) areas and TA reserves. Currently, none of those identified areas are located in the Masterton District. (Note that the pRPMP refers to Appendix 3, Maps 1 and 3. It appears that this should refer to Appendix 3, Maps 1, 5 and 6.)	1. That GWRC includes the Masterton district as an area for ongoing inspection, surveillance and monitoring of the pest cat population.	Accept in part.
100.6	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	• The Masterton district is largely rural and includes many recreational areas, including important native ecosystems, that boarder rural and urban land. Including the Masterton district in the controlled area will help to reduce the impacts that pest cat populations are having.	2. Carry out pest cat control where appropriate to protect the biodiversity values of the areas. This would include entering into funding agreements with MDC for management of TA reserves.	Accept in part.
100.8	Masterton District Council Hopman, David	• We support the Rook control programme in the pRPMS across the whole Wairarapa. Again, as with Canadian Geese, we believe that this is best dealt with as part of a regional programme.	Support rook programme.	Note.

101.1	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	Wellington City Council supports the purpose of the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan (the Plan) to minimise the actual or potential adverse or unintended effects associated with these organisms. We would be happy to discuss this further at a hearing or otherwise. Our Natural Capital – Wellington’s biodiversity strategy and action plan (2015) sets out a range of goals, objectives and actions that link closely with the Plan. This includes controlling pest species to sufficient levels to protect our indigenous biodiversity, and eradicating them where possible. We appreciate the reference to Our Natural Capital in the Plan. Partnerships provide the capability and capacity to win the war against pest species. We welcome working closely in the development of pest management plans in the future. And we want to work together in the development of the operational plan to achieve the best outcomes.	Support. WCC want to work with GWRC in the development of the operational plan.	Accept.
101.2	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We support the hierarchy of exclusion, eradication, progressive control, sustained control and site led control. We commend that commitment to see eradications through. We would like to work further with GWRC on where individual species sit within that hierarchy. We assume that any exotic pest organism not found in the area should be considered for exclusion (for example didymo). We are interested in the plan further exploring the potential for eradication from parts or the whole of the region. Sustained control can deliver the ecological benefits but often at an increased long term cost. Furthermore, for many species, particularly with some weeds, evaluating the wellbeing of the habitat can be as costly as the control itself, making evaluating the success of the operation is tricky. We consider that some species might be more cost effectively eradicated from the region or parts of the region. We think this plan should not be constricted by operational budget but identify species where eradication would be a cost effective and viable solution.	Support, and consult more with WCC over the longer term.	Accept in part.
101.3	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We welcome more investment in protecting the indigenous biodiversity values of the KNEs and we are keen to know what increased investment in KNE control will result from this plan.	Support. Want to know what increased investment in KNE control will result from Plan.	Note.
101.4	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We recommend the Plan include a summary for accessibility of the document.	Add a summary page of the RPMP.	Accept.
101.5	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We would like Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) to have a clear role in accessing private property for the purpose of carrying out key biosecurity work.	Articulate a clear role in accessing private property to carry out pest control operations.	Note.

101.6	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We would welcome more clarity around how this plan works alongside other plans in the region to deliver effective pest management. In particular how GWRC may work with the Department of Conservation and the Wild Animal Control Act to help tackle some of the challenges we face in Wellington when it comes to pest species such as deer. The Biosecurity 2025 MPI direction statement makes recommendations on how we will achieve success in the pest challenge. This includes free flowing information and sharing of data, and improved analysis to help us make better pest management decisions. We hope the Plan will incorporate this principle and that in particular pest plant information will be more actively shared between our two agencies.	Amend RPMP to clarify how it works alongside other pest management plans in the region	Accept.
101.7	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	The cost benefit analysis was often hard to follow or lacking information making it hard to evaluate sustained control against eradication. For example, Purple loosestrife is only in a few areas around lakes (Wairarapa and Kohangapiripiri and Kohangatera). It isn't clear why it can't be eradicated given these limited areas of occurrence. Page 87 of the impact assessment and cost benefit analysis seems to indicate it would cost 80K a year to eradicate compared to over 45K for control, but does not specify timeframe for eradication which makes it hard to evaluate that as a whole. Clarity on this issue would be useful.	Clarify the CBA, particularly regarding purple loosestrife	Note.
101.8	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	Council welcomes the Draft Strategy's support for Predator Free Wellington. We consider it desirable to liaise with Porirua City in the delivery of Predator Free Wellington. The most likely boundary for eradication in the medium term is State Highway One so eradication in the western part of Porirua will be very helpful. The maps, particularly in relation to possums need to show this more clearly. (pages 64, 81 and 104)	Amend maps to show SH1 boundary. Liaise with Porirua City in the delivery of PF Wellington.	Accept in part.
101.9	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We oppose the taking feral deer and feral pigs out of the Plan. Feral pigs are a growing pest problem in Wellington. In Te Kopahou Reserve and along the South Coast they are one of the primary threats to the threatened speargrass weevil due to their destruction of Aciphylla. Feral deer are also posing an increasing risk to our indigenous biodiversity values. We propose the Plan should include an aim to manage feral deer and pigs to reduce adverse effects on the environment. There should also be reinforcement of the rule that no person shall move or allow to be moved any feral animal to or within the region. Numbers of feral pigs and deer and goats are growing in Wellington City. Before the problem becomes larger we would like to consider eradication within the South West Peninsula. The Pest Plan should support that objective, including the power to enter properties where landowners are not conducting necessary control.	Include feral pigs and deer in the RPMP, and support their eradication in the southwest peninsula.	Accept in part.

101.10	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	Over the past seven years there has been the South West Peninsula goat project which manages goats over 4000ha of Wellington City Council reserves and private land to the South West of Owhiro Bay. More than \$500K has been spent on this project to date. This project was initially funded with help of the Biodiversity Condition Fund (\$185K and GWRC \$50K), and has been continued by Wellington City Council since 2014. More than 6,700 goats have been controlled, which has enhanced the natural regeneration and restoration planting in both private and reserve areas. Since this investment ceased, goat numbers are again starting to rise. This causes significant damage to ecological recovery including on in coastal areas an across Council's Outer Green Belt. We propose that this be included as a site led programme in this plan for the control or possible eradication of goats in the site.	That the South-West Peninsula goat project is included as a site-led programme in this plan for the control or possible eradication of goats in the site.	Reject.
101.11	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	Sustained control is the preferred option for rabbits. We support a sustained control programme to reduce the impacts and spread to other properties. And the continuation cost recovery service to occupiers we welcome the necessary equipment, skills and experience that GRWC provide to this service. We are interested in understanding the feasibility of eradication and the findings from biocontrol agents.	Support. Interested in understanding the feasibility of eradication and the findings from biocontrol agents.	Accept in part.
101.12	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We support the inclusion of hedgehogs in the Plan and welcome further investment and guidance into their surveillance and humane control. They are currently a significant bycatch of pest control work, and are likely to be significantly impacted by the eradication of rats, possums and mustelids as part of Predator Free Wellington. Their control and eradication would significantly benefit insect, lizard, and some bird populations. We encourage GWRC to support further research and trials into the humane control of this species.	Support. Conduct further research and trials into the humane control of hedgehogs.	Accept.
101.13	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We support the inclusion of pest cats within the Plan, and welcome the opportunity to work with GWRC on effective pest cat management. We would like some clarity around what is meant in the plan with regards to allow for pest cats to be maintained 'with the permission of the occupier'. Cats roam so will generally go beyond the 'occupiers' land. Wellington City Council supports the gradual reduction of stray cats through humane management practices.	Support, but clarify what "with the permission of the occupier" means.	Note.
101.14	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	Council understands there is experimental work being done on wasp control and eradication. We would support reference to this in the Plan.	Refer to experimental wasp control and eradication work in the RPMP	Note.

101.15	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	<p>Clarification is required on the extent of work that may take place for other harmful organisms.</p> <p>The document is unclear as to how species listed as Other Harmful Organisms will be managed. In some parts of the region eradication may be possible, in others it will be about suppression. We believe the document should cover some level of detail around this issue. We are particularly concerned about mice as these will need increased monitoring and possibly control and we need to have the potential to adapt operations as a result of the changes in species dynamics that might result from Predator Free Wellington.</p> <p>Given recent events where rainbow skinks were found, education and surveillance work is required to protect the region from this threat, and a proactive approach should be a part of the Plan. This is supported by discussions had with the Wellington Regional Lizard Network.</p> <p>No mention is made of other TA's amongst the organisations that GWRC would partner with to control Other Harmful Organisms. There is mention of ongoing surveillance but no explanation of how that would work and what indicators from surveillance operations might lead to a response.</p>	Clarify how species listed as Other Harmful Organisms will be managed	See submission point 113.13 and 113.17
101.16	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	<p>We are significantly concerned at the reduction in number of pest plants listed under the plan. Now only 15 pest plants out of more than 200 species are included in the Plan. The Regional Pest Management Plan is a guiding document for many other agencies, NGOs and volunteer groups with regards to what threats need to be managed. We believe the reduction in the list of pest plants at this regional level could lead to the reduction in control of those species by other agencies or parties. The Plan fails to mention why several pest species are no longer listed, eg their cost benefit analysis.</p>	Explain why the number of pest plants has been reduced	See submission point 113.13 and 113.17
101.17	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	<p>The changes in the planned boundary control for Old Man's Beard would result in changes on Council land. Whilst we support some investment on boundary control, when the wider issue of the pest plant is not tackled is likely an ineffective strategy. We would welcome the redirection of that effort to help control Old Man's Beard in properties bordering KNE land and significant natural areas when the Old Man's Beard is absent in those reserves.</p>	Emphasise control of old man's beard in properties bordering KNE land and significant natural areas when old man's beard is absent in those reserves	Submitter to provide further clarity.
101.18	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	<p>We welcome increase oversight for Greater Wellington on the role of key land owners such as KiwiRail and NZTA in terms of their obligations under this plan. We need concerted efforts in control of pest plants such as Old Man's Beard in order to achieve the environmental outcomes and contribution from those operations which increase pest plant dispersal is crucial.</p>	Concerted efforts with NZTA and Kiwirail to control of pest plants	Accept.
101.19	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	<p>Wellington City as an urban environment is threatened by an abundance of pest plants and more are jumping the fence from gardens on a regular basis. We have heavily invested in pest plant control, and have extensive records of the work and progress which focuses on priority sites. We would like the opportunity to review with GWRC the development of site led programmes, and to allow private property access.</p>	Take part in a review of site-led programmes with WCC.	Accept in part.



101.20	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	We are supportive of the continued site led work on Boneseed control.	Support.	Note.
101.21	Wellington City Council Biaggio, Daniela	Finally, the Plan should contain a clear statement of what 'success looks like'. Wellington City has over the past 25 years been working consistently to restore and enhance the environment including indigenous biodiversity. We want this Plan to support us in that objective and the vision set by Our Natural Capital. Better understanding the outcomes and vision of success the plan is working towards will support for continuous improvement and delivery of operations to achieve it.	Amend RPMP to include clear statement of what success would look like	Note.
102.1	Feline Rights	<p>Let us begin with the term 'pest Cats' which has been used in the RPMP proposal. This is an arbitrary term fabricated by antifelinist 'conservation' extremists such as Gareth Morgan of the Morgan Foundation and his daughter Jessi Morgan, the spokesperson for Predator Free NZ. It has no basis under New Zealand law. New Zealand officially acknowledges three classifications of Cats: Companion Cats, Stray Cats and Feral Cats. The definitions of the three types of Cats from a legal perspective is covered in the Ministry of Primary Industries Companion Cats - Animal Welfare (Companion Cats) Code of Welfare 2007, henceforth referred to as The Code.</p> <p>Our view is Greater Wellington Regional Council has chosen to willfully ignore the classification of Cats as defined under the Code and now attempts to collapse the legal definition of New Zealand's stray Cats so that stray Cats are informally classified as 'pest Cats', thus providing a fabricated loophole which GWRC erroneously believes will grant them license to conduct mass executions of Cats in the name of politicised 'conservation'.</p> <p>The legal opinion we have obtained is quite clear that local government has no power to define a particular species as a 'pest'. This is the role of the Governor General acting on the recommendation of the Minister of Conservation under the Wildlife Act 1953. By attempting to collapse the legally defined categories of 'stray' and 'feral' into a single informal category of 'pest Cat' the council acts outside of it's mandate. This approach is totally unacceptable to us and leaves the council wide open to legal challenge should the RPMP proposal as it stands be approved by council when the matter goes to vote.</p>	Remove all entries of the term 'pest Cats' from the RPMP proposal and abide by the classifications of Cats as defined under the Code. Failure to do so will inevitably result in legal challenge.	Reject.
102.2	Feline Rights	<p>Marketed by NZ company Connovation as Predastop, PAPP kills via hypoxia, coma, and death due to the inhibition of cellular respiration. Connovation's brochure states "The onset of symptoms is rapid and stoats and Cats are usually unconscious within 45 minutes", however the information we have received suggests it is a terrible inhumane poison.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Totally reject the usage of the inhumane Cat poison PAPP in the Greater Wellington region.	Note.

102.3	Feline Rights	<p>Before we cover the matter of failure of microchips it is important to note that the current Wellington City Council animal bylaw was created via an illegal process. The bylaw was essentially back engineered and we have a considerable amount of evidence obtained via LGOIMA request in the form of emails shared between WCC councillors and staff which demonstrates this is so.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	<p>Do not waste ratepayer funds hiring private pest control operatives, to deal with the alleged problem with Cats. These people are professional killers who delight in dispensing death and are highly unlikely to engage themselves in ethical live capture activity.</p>	Note.
102.4	Feline Rights	<p>In truth, Cats as the apex predator are valuable assets who contribute to the control of rodents, rabbits and mustelids.</p> <p>Remove the apex predator from an ecosystem and this results in what is known as the mesopredator release effect. We append a paper from the Journal of Animal Ecology entitled 'Cats Protecting Birds: Monitoring the Mesopredator Release Effect' which covers the scientific perspective in detail. In New Zealand there are documented instances where the removal of Cats from a locality has resulted in a explosion of the rat population which in turn has had a marked adverse impact on birdlife. In 2013 in Raglan, persons known to be native bird enthusiasts took it upon themselves to kill all Cats they could find in Raglan West. One resident had six of her Cats murdered for the cause of 'conservation'. The local vet clinic documented a total of 16 missing Cats over a period of 12 months in Raglan West.</p> <p>Within three months, local ecological consultant Adrienne Livingston is on record in the media stating: "I am now observing the effect the marked absence of Cats is having on this suburban ecosystem". She expressed concern about the number of half-eaten eggs and dead chicks appearing, all killed by rodents the Cats would have dealt with were they still around to do their job.</p>	<p>Biodiversity staff need to purge themselves of the 'kill them all' approach, because by going down that path they may do more harm to an ecosystem than good. Remove the Cats and a plague of rats who will do more damage to bird life than any number of Cats is a certain consequence.</p>	Note.
104.5	Feline Rights	<p>Responsibility for the attempt to flout the law by including the arbitrary term 'pest Cats' must ultimately be laid at the feet of GWRC general manager of biodiversity, Wayne O'Donnell. He got that inconceivably wrong and we believe this was a deliberate act on his part in support of environmental extremism and antifelinism.</p>	<p>Wayne O'Donnell should immediately resign from his position or alternatively the council must recognise he has miserably failed in his duties and thus should be immediately dismissed.</p>	Note.

103.1	Harvey, Annette	I strongly support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan, not just in KNEs.	Support pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan, not just in KNEs.	Note.
103.2	Harvey, Annette	I am particularly concerned that pest cat control should be carried out in the WCC Reserves adjoining Zealandia.	Ensure pest cat control activities are carried out in reserves around Zealandia	Note.
103.3	Harvey, Annette	Last season I monitored the breeding success of toutouwai (N.I. Robins) in the these reserves and found that each season there is ample dispersal of toutouwai (and other endangered endemic passerines) to support the establishment of new populations, and the birds are able to breed successfully. However individual survival is too short to enable populations to establish. Monitoring of tieke showed similar results. Extensive trapping for mustelids and rats has been undertaken by community groups in Polhill and parts of Te Kopahou, (which were the only areas where pairs were able to establish), and tracking tunnel results show that these predators are being kept at very low levels. This strongly suggests that cats are the major cause of mortality. Now micro-chipping of companion cats is compulsory it should be possible for live trapping to take place, and pest cats eliminated. One of your Service Delivery objectives is "direct control of pest cats within KNEs as part of the integrated management of those areas, to levels that protect the biodiversity values of the areas." I suggest that the reserves around Zealandia have the potential to be of more significance to the Wellington community, and possibly also greater value to our endangered taonga, than the KNEs, if pest cat control is undertaken. Of course companion animal control would also be needed eventually, and I suggest GWRC should consider legislation that would mean cat owners would have a 'duty of care' similar to dog owners eg registration, control and containment.	Require cats to be registered, controlled, contained etc, like dogs.	Note.
103.4	Harvey, Annette	<p>More public education is needed around what approaches exist to limit the impacts cats have on our native biodiversity, and how companion animals are contained in most other countries, with the emphasis on the companion animal's welfare.</p> <p>There is much publicity about aspirations to make Wellington the Nature Capital, and, in this GWRC Plan, too effect "Highly significant ecological outcomes – more birds, lizards and invertebrates contributing to healthy functioning ecosystems." However, this is encouraging unrealistic expectations unless elimination of pest cats (and the containment of companion animals) is included. In fact, the encouragement and proliferation of back-yard rat trapping may have the reverse of the desired effect since with low rodent numbers cats will obviously prey on more birds and lizards. This will mean not only a reduction in biodiversity but may also lose community enthusiasm and support as their justifiable expectations of more obvious bird life are not fulfilled.</p> <p>Therefore I feel that extensive control of pest cats, and gradual education and legislation on the containment of companion animals, is an essential part of any pest management plan which will satisfy community expectations. (Obviously, the same limitations apply to the widely publicised effects of the misleadingly named 'Pest Free 2050' campaigns.)</p>	More education on the impacts cats have on native wildlife	Accept.

103.5	Harvey, Annette	I also think that the 'neuter and release' policy is not in the cat's best interests and therefore possibly illegal.	End use of neuter and release methods.	Note.
103.6	Harvey, Annette	And I strongly endorse the use of aerial 1080 as an essential tool to save endangered birds until better methods are found. There is more than sufficient scientific evidence for its efficacy and importance, eg Jan Wright's reports.	Continue use of aerial 1080 drops.	Note.
104.1	Le Quesene, Lana	1. I live out the back of Wainuiomata with a view of the hills of the water catchment area. The view sustains me, and the rainfall over those trees, down those hills, into the lake, provides more than enough water to keep Wellington baristas busy. You recognise the significance of that area being free of deer and the deer proof fencing attests to that. Having the vegetation of that area collapse after heavy grazing by pest animals and particularly deer would play havoc with the regions water supply.  See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents	GWRC takes responsibility for eradication of deer in all urban areas and parks/reserves in the region	Reject.
105.1	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Greater Wellington Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2039. Ngā Uruora is grateful for the support we receive from GWRC to help with our conservation efforts in Kāpiti. In particular, we are grateful for the support given via the KNE programme. We are also grateful for the effort GWRC put into culling goats on Perkins farm thus preventing them spreading into our site.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
105.2	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	You state "Engaging with the community will form a large part of the project, and lessons learned by the Crofton Downs Predator Free Community group and others will inform how we both design and implement the project design."  It would be useful to get some more detail into the RPMP around what this actually means in practice. There are varying levels of support for community conservation groups across the region. We are grateful for GWRC providing brodifacoum and dried rabbit meat for our pest control operations, but we are aware that this level of resource is not available to other groups, and for no discernible reason. GWRC should be an enabling organisation in this space rather than putting up road blocks for some groups.	Insert discussion of community engagement and criteria into RPMP.	Note.
105.3	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	We are also concerned that GWRC has over recent years pulled out of some possum control operations carried out in the South Kāpiti/Pukerua Bay area. We and other landowners we are in contact with have seen an increase in possum activity since this reduction in effort.	No specific decision requested.	Note.
105.4	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	You state that "Regional councils are mandated under Part 2 (functions, powers and duties) of the Act to provide regional leadership in activities that prevent, reduce or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms that are present in their regions."It is difficult to follow the reasoning as to why some organisms are classed as pests and others are not. This appears to be an entirely arbitrary process. It would be helpful to have some clarification about this process and a set list of criteria that a harmful organism has to meet before it is considered a pest species.	Clarify process used to determine what constitutes a pest species.	Note.

105.5	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	<p>The projected yearly spending on pest control hardly changes from 2018/19 through 2027/28. It does not give an indication of this spending as a percentage of total GWRC spending, which may or may not be projected to be growing over time. If this is not inflation adjusted spending this is likely to represent a real decline in spending over time. It would seem difficult to support an expanding Predator Free 2050 effort across the region without some increase in spending. The spending section seems very limited in such an important document.</p>	Provide more detail in spending section.	Accept in part.
105.6	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	<p>As you note in your report there are more than 230km of state highways in the Wellington Region. You note that the Transport Agency is the occupier of the Crown land on which the roads lie, together with the road reserves extending to the adjoining land owners/ occupiers' property boundaries. As you state, land under the Transport Agency's jurisdiction is subject to the rules for land owners/occupiers as defined in the RPMP, so it has the same obligations as any other land occupier. There are also adjoining Road Reserves.</p> <p>The Main Trunk line borders our project and Ngā Uruora also occupies KiwiRail land. You note that land KiwiRail occupies is subject to the rules for land owners/occupiers as defined in the RPMP, and KiwiRail has the same obligations as any other land occupier.</p> <p>Finally, you note that amendments to the Biosecurity Act arising from the Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012 now make the Crown bound by those rules identified as Good Neighbour Rules in plans.</p> <p>While in theory these agencies are good neighbours, in reality they harbour weeds and pests that then migrate onto our conservation projects. Examples are: Along the boundary of the Ngā Uruora project there are many weeds on both NZTA and KiwiRail land. These include boxthorn, pampas, English ivy and climbing asparagus. Ngā Uruora spends a considerable amount of time trying to control these weeds (sometimes using grants from GWRC). But there are sites we cannot enter for safety reasons so seed sources continue to be present. We note that there is a considerable amount of pampas along the base of the Transmission Gully project which the project seems to be protecting. This is despite Ngā Uruora lobbying the project to get rid of it. Pampas is also rapidly spreading along the highway and the rail line on the boundaries of Queen Elizabeth Park and Whareroa farm. Pampas is at a point in southern Kāpiti where it could be eradicated. In a few years' time it could be impossible to get rid of. We also we catch more animal pests along the boundaries of our projects. These are untrapped areas, often with good food sources such as dumped food waste.</p>	No specific relief sought.	Note.
105.7	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	<p>Since placing motion triggered cameras in our trapping areas we have a greater awareness of cat presence. We are also aware of the growing scientific evidence suggesting cats are important predators. We therefore support the inclusion of pest cats within the RPMP.</p>	Support pest cats within the Regional Pest Management Plan.	Note.

105.8	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	We agree with the proposal the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. We also agree with the suggested definition of a pest cat as: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
105.9	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	We would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. We suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.
105.10	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	We also suggest that the GWRC, along with city and district councils should promote a mandatory “snip and chip” policy where all domestic cats must be neutered and microchipped by law.	Introduce a mandatory neuter and microchipping program for cats in the region	Note.
105.11	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	Finally, we suggest that there should be on-going education to minimise the risk to native species by those cats people choose to own in urban areas. Ideally, we would like some urban areas near sensitive ecological areas to become ‘cat free’.	More education about impacts cats have on native wildlife.	Accept in part.

105.12	Kāpiti Project Mckay, Andy	<p>You state that “none of these feral species [pigs and deer] is a priority for pest control under the plan” and “Therefore the effect of the plan on the regional availability of these hunting resources will be minimal.” Feral deer must be defined as a pest species under the RPMP. While outside of our own area, Ngā Uruora is aware of the devastation that feral deer have caused at the upper end of Stokes Valley and at the back of Eastbourne. It is unacceptable that deer are allowed to breed in such numbers that they cause this level of impact. Ngā Uruora is not against the existence of deer in forests managed by GWRC, but populations, especially around urban areas, must be maintained at levels that allow for forest regeneration. If recreational hunters are not able to or unwilling to maintain populations at manageable levels then GWRC must be responsible for culling. We also note that the area in question in Eastbourne is part of the East Harbour Northern Forest Key Natural Ecosystem (KNE). We would be interested to hear how allowing large numbers of feral deer to exist in this area supports Objective 16 of the Regional Policy Statement: “Indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values are maintained and restored to a healthy functioning state.”</p>	Include feral deer as a pest in the RPMP	Accept
106.1	Name confidentiality	<p>I have been using the East Harbour Regional Park for over 50 years and have never seen so much damage caused by deer! The culling has been seriously ineffective and the balloted hunts have taken no deer. The herd/s move on to the seaward faces while the hunters are in the valleys.</p> <p>While crossing over the ridge and living on this side they have destroyed most of the undergrowth and are causing serious erosion on the steep slopes while at the same time harming the roots of the beech forest and removing the topsoil and humus essential for beech survival.</p> <p>This is just not on - it is destroying our public asset and protecting a few deer for hunters runs completely against the mostly volunteer work done to restore and maintain the Park over decades. Please consider either removing deer completely or properly controlling them. I have sent in photos and videos to GWRC several times but absolutely nothing has happened, and the damage just gets worse.</p> <p>A comprehensive pest management strategy is needed for these destructive animals, otherwise the GWRC is being deliberately negligent, ignoring the Park’s KNE status and favouring one type of park user at the great cost of the parks intrinsic values in favour of another.</p>	Create a pest management strategy for deer - maybe in the RPMP?	Note.
107.1	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	<p>General : Biosecurity Act - The RPMP is unclear of the Transport Agency's role in relation to the provision of pathway management plans and specified pest management plans.</p>	Further clarification is sought from Council on the Transport Agency's role on pathway management plans and specified pest management plans.	Accept.

107.2	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	Various: Biocontrol agents - The Transport Agency supports the use of biocontrol agents for the control of pest plants.	Retain RPMP as drafted.	Note.
107.3	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	General: Biosecurity Act - Sharing information on pest plant species distribution, control that is being undertaken and methods to apply to different species and/or situations is important for success. The Transport Agency seeks to understand how GWC is going to work with the Transport Agency to ensure transparency, and therefore, a collaborative approach to pest plants.	The Transport Agency requests further discussion with Council on data and information storage.	Accept.
107.4	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	2.6: Consultation overview - The Transport Agency has not been listed as a key stakeholder that was contacted /invited to meet and discuss the review. This is despite the RPMP deeming the Transport Agency to be a key Crown organisation for pest management responsibilities within the Wellington region.	Any subsequent reviews of regional pest management plans or other situations where key stakeholders are to be consulted, the Transport Agency requests to be considered a key stakeholder and proactively consulted with.	Accept.
107.5	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.2: Crown agencies - The grouping of the four agencies in this section may lead to confusion. The New Zealand Transport Agency is a statutory entity and a Crown agent under Section 7 and Schedule 1 of the Crown Entities Act 2004, and therefore, a Crown entity. As a Crown entity, the Transport Agency is subject to provisions applicable to, and therefore, falls within the definition of land occupier for the purposes of obligations for pest control. This is very different to the Department of Conservation, for example. Our recommended relief is as provided in the column to the right.	The Transport Agency seeks for Council to make the following amends to the RPMP: The first paragraph of 3.3.2 Crown agencies, be amended as follows: See 'Reasons'	Accept.
107.6	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.2: Crown agencies - As per comment above, "The New Zealand Transport Agency is a statutory entity and a Crown agent under Section 7 and Schedule 1 of the Crown Entities Act 2004, and is therefore, a Crown entity," given the Transport Agency has been identified as being both significant beneficiaries and exacerbators of pest management in the Wellington region that the Transport Agency be considered/contacted as a key stakeholder in future,	The Transport Agency requests to be included as a specified key stakeholder for early consultation/ engagement for biosecurity matters.	Accept.



107.7	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.3: Territorial Authorities - We note that Crown agencies are liable to meet the obligations, and costs associated with a Good Neighbour Rule or action under a plan to enforce a Good Neighbour Rule within the RPMP. However the RPMP is unclear on the responsibilities and the accountabilities of Territorial Authorities under this plan.	The Transport Agency seeks for this section to be amended to outline and clarify how Territorial Authorities will be held accountable to meet their obligations under the RPMP.	Note.
107.8	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.4: NZ Transport Agency - For consistency with our submission points 7 and 8 above, please replace the current description of the Transport Agency with the relief provided in the column to the right,	The Transport Agency seeks the following amendment to section 3.3.4 of the RPMP. We provide the following text as relief sought: The New Zealand Transport Agency is a statutory entity and a Crown agent under Section 7 and Schedule 1 of the Crown Entities Act. As a Crown entity, the Transport Agency is subject to provisions applicable to and therefore falls within the definition of land occupier for the purposes of obligations for pest control.	Accept.

107.9	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.5: Road reserves - The RPMP states that, "where a road reserve boundary is unknown, this will be taken as 10m from the road centreline." The Transport Agency considers this to be an impractical provision and recommends that a survey be undertaken as a long term solution where required to defining a pest maintenance boundary.	It is suggested that in the second paragraph of 3.3.5 Road reserves, be amended as follows: Where a road reserve boundary is unknown, a survey will indicate the location of a road or rail reserve boundary (should this be necessary).	Accept.
107.10	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.5: Road reserves - It is unclear if there is an obligation on land owners/occupiers adjoining road reserves (where reasonable pest control is being undertaken) to undertake pest control. To support its pest control methods, the Transport Agency wishes to be able to rely on provisions of the RPMP in the same manner as other land owners/occupiers,	Further clarification is sought on the obligations of land owners/occupiers adjacent to road reserves. The Transport Agency recommends that land owners/occupiers adjoining land reserves be subject to good neighbour rule.	Note.

107.11	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.5: Road reserves - It is unclear if there is a pest control obligation for land owners/occupiers adjoining legal road with ready access to legal road,	The Transport Agency seeks for the following to be added as a separate bullet point to the provision, found in the paragraph stating, "Except where a rule prevents occupier control, adjacent landowners are responsible for controlling pests on road reserves in the following situations': the boundary is unfenced and the adjacent owner has ready access to the legal road, in which case responsibility for pest control shall lie with the adjacent owner.	Reject.
107.12	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.5: Road reserves - It is noted that the Transport Agency is expected to undertake pest management in areas where it is unreasonable to expect adjoining landowners to do so. For example on steep slopes or cuttings. The state highway network often has steep banks/ cut faces that can harbour pest plants and be costly and unsafe to manage by third parties due to the nature of the topography and traffic management requirements. The Transport Agency would expect that they would be able to work collaboratively with landowners to access and control as necessary any pest plants of concern and ask that GWC assist in communications between landowners and the Transport Agency, where necessary.	The Transport Agency recommends further engagement between Council, landowners, and the Transport Agency on p+D924est management strategies.	Accept.
107.13	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.5: Road reserves - The current drafting of "Road reserves where road works have contributed to the establishment of named pests," Is ambiguous.	The Transport Agency seeks for this statement to be amended so that it is clear as to what pests road works may have contributed to the establishment of.	Accept.

107.14	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	3.3.5: Road reserves - The RPMP is unclear how Crown Agencies like the Transport Agency will be informed where programmed pest management is undertaken.	The Transport Agency seeks for this section to be amended so that it is clear how information on landowners undertaking pest management will be provided to the Transport Agency.	Note.
107.15	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	4.1: Organisms declared as pests - There are pest plants that can cause problems with the day to day operation and maintenance of the state highway. For example, agapanthus can block stormwater conveyance systems and is readily spread along roads. Agapanthus is also popular to plant along driveways and gateways and from here can spread onto the state highway verge. The Transport Agency ask that agapanthus be included with a good neighbour rule applying.	The Transport Agency seeks for Council to include agapanthus as a declared pest to be included in the list of organisms declared as pests and also made subject to good neighbour rule.	Reject in part.
107.16	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	4.1: Organisms declared as pests - From a national perspective there may be pest plants that are found on the state highway reserve that would be beneficial for the Transport Agency to focus on. These pest plants may not necessarily be included in section 4.1 of the RPMP. We ask how GWC may support the Transport Agency in its endeavours to manage these pest plants in relation to neighbours who are harbouring the species of concern.	Further discussion with GWC regarding how to support the Transport Agency should there be a focussed effort to control pest plants that are not included in the RPMP.	Accept.
107.17	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	4.1: Organisms declared as pests - The Transport Agency requests that wattles and prunus be added to the list of pest species that can be managed through the good neighbour rule.	The Transport Agency seeks for Council to include wattles and prunus as declared pests to be included in the list of organisms declared as pests and also made subject to good neighbour rule.D928	Reject.

107.18	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	4.1: Organisms declared as pests - The management of feral deer is often a concern for the Transport Agency as part of its operation and maintenance of the state highway network. The Transport Agency seeks for Council to include feral deer as a pest that can be managed under the Good Neighbour rule, The Transport Agency is also interested in aligning with GWC pest control programmes to work with territorial authorities and other agencies for the best outcome in relation to feral deer. +C932	The Transport Agency seeks for Council to include feral deer as a declared pest to be included in the list of organisms declared as pests and also made subject to good neighbour rule.	Accept.
107.19	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	4.2: Other harmful organisms - The RPMP states that GWC will collaborate and provide support for other agencies where coordinated action provides the best outcomes. The Transport Agency asks to be considered as one of these agencies and to help ensure that this approach is kept 'live' through the life of the RPMP.	The Transport Agency seeks for GWC to advise us of co-ordinated pest management actions plans.D930	Accept.
107.20	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	5.4: Alternative pest management arrangements - The Transport Agency supports the ability for GWC to develop alternative management arrangements with agencies to establish agreed levels of service with those agencies,	The Transport Agency requests that alternative management arrangements be retained as a mechanism within the RPMP.	Accept.
107.21	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	6: Pest descriptions and programmes - There is a biosecurity risk of pest species being transported by stock trucks, it is not clear how this risk is being addressed.	The Transport Agency seeks the provision be amended to include reference to how the biosecurity risk of pest species being transported by stock trucks will be addressed.	Note.
107.22	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	6.1: Pests to be managed under exclusion programmes - The Transport Agency wish to be a proactive participant and requests to be informed of any known incursions of the exclusion pest plants, should there be a risk of them establishing within legal road,	The Transport Agency seeks for GWRC to grant the relief sought under point 1 of the submission	Accept.

107.23	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	6.2: Pests to be managed under eradication programmes - A GIS layer showing known sites of pest plants listed as 'organisms declared as pests' would be very useful. As an example, Marlborough District Council Include this data on their public facing GIS system.	Consider the existing GIS maps be updated to include information on pest plants and for the public to be able to access information regarding pest plant distribution.	Accept in part.
107.24	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	6.2.1: Moth plant - Some pest plants can grow across boundaries which can create confusion over the accountability for managing the respective pest. It is therefore recommended that moth plant, banana passionfruit, blue passionflower, and old man's beard have a good neighbour rule attached. Often the main stem of the vine is on one side of the boundary fence and the bulk of the plant is on the other, causing issues for those wishing to kill the plant entirely.	The Transport Agency recommends that the good neighbour rule applies to the moth plant, and banana passionfruit, blue passionflower, and old man's beard.	Reject.
107.25	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	6.2, 6.3: Principal measures to achieve objective - The Transport Agency supports GWC's 'advocacy and education' action of providing advice and training to relevant stakeholders for the identification of pests to assist early detection,	The Transport Agency seeks that advocacy and education be retained as methods within the RPMP and that appropriate funding be provided for these in annual budgets.	Note.
107.26	NZTA Hudson, Aaron	6.5: Key Natural Environment (KNE) - The state highway network adjoins a number of KNE areas. The Transport Agency wishes to discuss these areas with GWC to understand the particular biosecurity concerns for these areas and likely actions required under the new RPMP. The current lack of clarity results in uncertainty,	The Transport Agency seeks for the provision to be amended to provide clarity on the matters of concern in the KNE areas as the relate to the state highway network.	Accept.
108.1	Horne, Christopher	Foreword The blank page is a surprise. I assume that this will be remedied in the final RPMP.	Remove blank page	Accept.
108.2	Horne, Christopher	Vision Statement and Executive Summary The absence of sections with these titles should be remedied in the final document.	Insert vision statement and executive summary	Accept in part.
108.3	Horne, Christopher	Not surprisingly, my over-riding impression of your proposed RPMP is one of shock that the three species of feral deer – red, sika, fallow, plus feral pigs, plus feral stock (cattle, sheep) – are not even mentioned in the Table of Contents.	No specific relief sought.	Note.

108.4	Horne, Christopher	The final RPMP should: 1. state that while New Zealand has c. 2500 species of native vascular plants, c. 80% of them endemic, it is host to c. 25, 000 introduced vascular plants, many of them already invasive in the wild, and many others going through a 'lag time' before they too become invasive;	Insert reference to 25,000 introduced plant species into the RPMP.	Reject.
108.5	Horne, Christopher	2. The list of weed species in the Wellington Botanical Society's submission, be included in the final RPMP.	Insert the list of plants from Wellington botanic society submission	Reject.
108.6	Horne, Christopher	I welcome the inclusion of statement that rats eat '... 10% of their body weight per day'.	Include statement that rats eat '... 10% of their body weight per day'.	Accept.
108.7	Horne, Christopher	1. the final RPMP includes estimates of the daily consumption in kilograms wet-weight, of native vegetation (leaves, fronds, mosses, liverworts, lichens) eaten by cattle/feral, deer/ feral (red, sika, fallow), goats/feral, pigs/feral, hares, possums, rabbits, hares, sheep/feral;	Include estimates of native vegetation and biomass consumed by pest species as requested.	Reject.
108.8	Horne, Christopher	2. the final RPMP includes estimates of the daily consumption in grams of the weight of invertebrates and lizards eaten by hedgehogs;	The final RPMP includes estimates of the daily consumption in grams of the weight of invertebrates and lizards eaten by hedgehogs;	Reject.
108.9	Horne, Christopher	3. the final RPMP includes estimates of the biomass of wasps – all species in the region, at the peak of the breeding season, and the estimated impact on nestling and adult native birds.C947	The final RPMP includes estimates of the biomass of wasps – all species in the region, at the peak of the breeding season, and the estimated impact on nestling and adult native birds.	Reject.

108.10	Horne, Christopher	<p>7.1 Effects on Māori</p> <p>I agree in principle with the first two paragraphs, with the proviso that GWRC acknowledges that the pest-animal plan as drafted fails to treat feral deer (red, sika, fallow), pigs and goats as pest animals which it should seek to eliminate.</p> <p>I disagree strongly with the third paragraph. Anyone who can afford to buy a rifle, ammunition, clothing and bush equipment, plus the vehicle and fuel necessary to go hunting, has more than enough money to buy food in the shops, and therefore not resort to going hunting. Some people in the hunting lobby appear to consider that our indigenous terrestrial ecosystems are available for farming feral and other pest animals, so that they can go hunting. In the 21st century, that attitude is not acceptable as the world battles climate change and the loss of indigenous biological diversity.</p> <p>The entire regional community must realise that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. restoring our indigenous ecosystems by freeing them from browsing by feral and other pest animals is vital to enabling our forests to sequester carbon dioxide to the maximum extent possible, as the world strives to battle the effects of climate change and the loss of species of flora and fauna. NZ's ratification of the COP21 Paris Accord commits us to do all in our power to slash our greenhouse-gas emissions, and to sequester as much of them as possible in our most effective 'carbon sink' – our native plant communities;</li> <li>2. feral pest animals exert substantial ground pressure on the soils supporting our indigenous plant communities. This compaction can disrupt the germination of seeds and fern spores on the forest floor, and in the worst case, destabilise steep hill-sides, with the potential to cause slips, and flooding of farming areas and communities downstream;</li> <li>3. feral pest animals eat the leaves of flowering plants and the fronds of ferns, and mosses, lichens and liverworts. Thus feral pest animals are primary agents of forest collapse.</li> <li>4. an adult feral red deer can eat an estimated 30 kg– 40 kg wet-weight of native vegetation per day;</li> <li>5. feral pigs, by rooting on the forest floor, can destabilise trees, shrubs and tree ferns;</li> <li>6. feral goats are known to eat every leaf within reach in a particular area of native plant.</li> </ol>	Disagrees strongly with the third paragraph.	Note.
108.11	Horne, Christopher	<p>7.2 Effects on the environment – p 78</p> <p>I disagree strongly with the first sentence in the first paragraph. It would allow the continuation of the degradation of the environment, because it fails to plan to control feral deer, pigs and goats, with the aim of their eventual elimination from the wild.</p>	Disagrees strongly with the first sentence in the first paragraph. No relief sought.	Note. Or see above 108.10



108.12	Horne, Christopher	<p>I welcome GWRC's involvement in research and training to minimise the non-target impacts of pest control. I urge GWRC, with researchers, to investigate the preparation and use of lured 1080-licks, for placement in those areas of indigenous plant communities which it, the TLAs and DOC manage, especially those communities visited by the public. Lured 1080-licks could enable firm control on several pest-animal species, while protecting the public and their dogs, from the risks posed by 1080 pellets, or 1080/carrot baits.</p> <p>The expressed wish in the first sentence in the second paragraph will eventuate only if GWRC, DOC and the TLAs cooperate to drastically reduce the numbers of all pest-animal species, with the aim of eventually eradicating them. Half measures are not acceptable in the natural world, degraded as it is for decades by introduced pest animals and pest plants. In the second sentence in that paragraph, the economic environment will only be able to benefit fully if GWRC, DOC and the TLAs reduce the numbers of all pest-animal species, and eventually eradicate them.</p>	GWRC, with researchers, to investigate the preparation and use of lured 1080-licks, for placement in those areas of indigenous plant communities which it, the TLAs and DOC manage, especially those communities visited by the public.	Reject.
108.13	Horne, Christopher	I urge GWRC to use biennial aerial drops of 1080 on the Wainuiomata/Orongorongo catchment, Pakuratahi Forest, Kaitoke Regional Park (away from areas visited by the public), Hutt River catchment and Akatarawa Forest. If lured 1080-licks become available, they should be deployed in QE Park, Whareroa Farm, Belmont Regional Park, East Harbour Regional Park, and in natural areas managed by DOC and the TLAs	GWRC to use biennial aerial drops of 1080 on the Wainuiomata/Orongorongo catchment, Pakuratahi Forest, Kaitoke Regional Park (away from areas visited by the public), Hutt River catchment and Akatarawa Forest.	Reject.
108.14	Horne, Christopher	8. Monitoring – p 79-80 Only ten pest animals are to be monitored. How can that be justified, while ignoring all the other pest animals in our region?	Explain why only 10 pest animals are to be monitored.	Note.

108.14	Horne, Christopher	<p>Why are the following pest animals are not listed?</p> <p>carp spp.  cat – feral (pictured on p 71)  cattle – feral  eastern rosella  goat – feral (pictured on p 68)  hare  hedgehog (pictured on p 67)  magpie (pictured on p 54)  mouse  mustelids – stoat, ferret, weasel (pictured on p 70)  possum (pictured on p 51 &amp; 75)  rabbit (pictured on p 51)  rat – ship, Norway (pictured on p 76)  rook (pictured on p 37)  sulphur-crested cockatoo  trout – brown, rainbow  wallaby (pictured on p 30)</p>	<p>Explain why these species are not listed, or add them to the list in Appedix 2</p>	<p>Note.</p>
108.15	Horne, Christopher	<p>There are no maps to indicate the distribution of species of pest animals. Obviously most species are widespread, but some, e.g., the three species of feral deer, and feral pigs and goats, are not so widespread, so as a minimum, they each warrant a distribution map in the final RPMP.C951</p>	<p>Insert maps showing distribution of feral deer, pigs, and goats in Wellington Region.</p>	<p>Reject.</p>
109.1	East Harbour Environmental Association Rashbrooke, Felicity	<p>EHEA submits that both asparagus scandens and blackberry should come under the site-led programme strategy, rather than just be considered harmful pests. We believe this is necessary as both plants are causing very significant damage to the biodiversity of the EHRP – and are spread large distances by birds, making them very difficult to control. If action is not taken now then asparagus scandens could become established throughout the EHRP – it is already being found in more remote parts of the Park – and could lead to the smothering and ring-barking of all the forest understory.  Some basis for requiring owners of adjoining private property to take appropriate action to remove such pest plants would also be extremely desirable.</p>	<p>Classify asparagus scandens and blackberry under site-led programme strategy.</p>	<p>Reject.</p>

109.2	East Harbour Environmental Association Rashbrooke, Felicity	EHEA strongly opposes the downgrade of feral deer and pigs from site-led pests to harmful organisms as these animals are uncontrovertibly causing significant damage to our native plants. In the case of deer they are not only browsing on and killing native plants, especially coprosma species, but are also invading properties adjoining the Park and destroying people's gardens. In the past pigs were also found invading private property, and could well do so again unless a site-led approach is taken to their eradication. We note that although not seen as damaging as possums, deer and pigs both have been found to carry bovine tuberculosis. We are aware recreational hunters oppose eradication of deer and pigs. With respect, we fail to see how a sport for a very small group of people – a sport furthermore with real dangers for other users of the park, since if hunting is tolerated we can reasonably expect illegal hunting to increase – can be any ground for consideration in terms of the absolute requirement to protect the high biodiversity values of the Park.	Classify feral pigs and deer as site-led pests.	Accept.
110.1	Churton Park Predator Free Martelletti, Wade	I support the inclusion of pest cats within the Regional Pest Management plan.  Cats are highly skilled predators that kill regardless of hunger. Cats have the ability to decimate populations of native species including birds, bats, lizards and insects. Cats have no natural predators in New Zealand so humans need to control their numbers. Without management cats undermine any predator control work undertaken by council and community groups.	Support.	Note.
110.2	Churton Park Predator Free Martelletti, Wade	I propose the definition of pest cats to be change to clearly include all unowned cats. My suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Amend section 6.5.7 - definition of 'pest cat' to include all unowned cats. Suggested definition of a pest cat is: “a cat without a registered microchip”.	Reject.
110.3	Churton Park Predator Free Martelletti, Wade	I would like the rule around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land to be amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.”	Amend section 6.5.7 - rules around feeding or sheltering pest cats on land amended to include any cat. I suggest Rule 1 (p 74) is re-written to exclude the word “pest” ie. “No person shall feed or provide shelter to cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.	Reject.

110.4	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	I agree with possums being both sustained and site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.  Possums significantly impact both primary production and biodiversity and controlling their population is an important regional goal. Urban control is also important to prevent reinvasion into both significant ecological areas and the rural landscape.	Support. No decision requested.	Note.
110.5	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	I agree with European hedgehogs being defined as site-led pests and support their inclusion in the plan.	Support.	Note.
110.6	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	Hedgehogs have serious impacts on lizard and invertebrate populations and eat the eggs of ground nesting birds. More public education is needed around the impacts hedgehogs have on our native biodiversity.	More education on the impacts hedgehogs have on native biodiversity.	Accept. See 8.6
110.7	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	Rule 1 for hedgehogs should also state the people should not release hedgehogs into any Key Native Ecosystem	Add rule to state that no person shall release any hedgehog into a KNE area.	Accept.
110.8	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	I agree with mustelids (stoats, ferrets and weasels) being defined as site-led and for the ambitious goal to eradicate them from areas within the Predator Free Wellington initiative.	Support.	Note.
110.9	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	An additional rule should be added to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Amend rules to include additional rule to make it clear that releasing a mustelid within the Wellington Region is an offence.	Accept.
110.10	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	I support the inclusion of rats (Norway and ship) as site-led pests to be controlled at specific sites.	Support.	Note.
110.11	Churton Park Preditor Free Martelletti, Wade	I would like the WCC to make it a policy for domestic cats to have time locked car doors, and a max of one cat per household. I'm looking at these doors as a way of fundraising for CPPF. Other ideas but this one will do for now.	WCC to make it a policy for domestic cats to have time locked car doors, and a max of one cat per household.	Reject.

111.1	Clifford, Marsh, Wayne	<p>We are aware of the need for pest eradication processes, but firmly believe that 100% eradication will never be possible using 1080 aerial drops. We believe it will be an ongoing process way beyond the Governments 100% pest free target. Therefore, we further believe that to concentrate on a sustainable program is a high priority going forward.</p> <p>We would like alternatives to be considered for several reasons, with the highest priority being economic, whilst keeping toxins off the ground and out of the waterways.</p> <p>Likely alternatives would look to a positive solution, one that creates jobs, opportunities for local businesses to specialise in game foods, develop an export market for game meat, furs and hides, create a taxidermy market for the growing tourism trade, create a healthy pet food market.</p> <p>Incentives could be developed from the savings, by both Local Council and Regional Council, to form a positive solution, rather than indiscriminately poisoning the environment. We take on board that this would require extra work and planning, but we feel the future of New Zealand and it's image, is worth seeking an innovative approach.</p> <p>We trust that the Greater Wellington Regional Council would look favourably at being innovative, and supporting the wishes of the local community.</p> <p>In brief..C966</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Support in part - eliminate use of 1080 in pest control	Note.
112.1	Ballance, Alison	<p>It is great to see Greater Wellington targeting pests and weeds, and I fully support what you're doing. Between GW's work, WCC and Predator Free neighbourhoods, pests are being increasingly controlled across Wellington City.</p>	Support.	Note.
112.2	Ballance, Alison	<p>Where I see a gap is with some weed species, such as old man's beard and acacias which are starting to spread in Wellington, particularly in my local town belt area on Mount Victoria and on road reserves. I have lived in Wellington for 10 years, and when I first arrived old man's beard was very well controlled. Since then however WCC has stopped doing any work with old man's beard, and it has started to spread rapidly in the past couple of years. I am also seeing an alarming spread of acacias on Mt Victoria.</p> <p>In the GW pest plan you are only proposing doing old man's beard control work in the Hutt Valley where it is a Hutt council priority – I'm very pleased you're working in the Hutt. Would it be possible for GW to take more of a lead in Wellington city, and work with WCC to get more happening in this area, please.</p> <p>+C974</p>	Work with WCC on old man's beard control.	Note.

112.3	Ballance, Alison	I am aware that land owners need to be responsible for weeds such as old man's beard on their own land, but I think a public education campaign about what the weeds are, why people need to control them and the best ways of achieving this would be very helpful. It would also be helpful if WCC took the lead in controlling it in areas where they are responsible such as the town belt and road reserves (which are common and very weedy).	Education on weed control.	Accept in part.
113.1	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	5. The purpose of the RPMP is not clear. Section 1.2 says "the purpose is to outline a framework for managing or eradicating specified organisms efficiently and effectively". The framework, however, is not outlined until Chapter 5, and it then takes less than 3 pages, out of the 100 pages in the proposed RPMP. 6. Which other chapters and pages need to be in the RPMP? Could some be transferred to a higher level document, e.g., a wider biosecurity strategy? 7. The purpose statement contains one puzzling comment "... it is only where an individual's action or inaction in managing pests imposes undue effects on others that regional management is needed". What about public good? Acting now may save landowners and the public from much higher costs later on.	6. Which other chapters and pages need to be in the RPMP? 7. What about public good?	Accept in part.
113.2	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	8. The title, Regional Pest Management Plan suggests a much wider range of pest management functions and activities than it contains. To use your words, the RPMP is just "one tool in the wider biosecurity programme". Section 2.1.2 describes it as a "vital cog in a secure biosecurity framework to protect New Zealand's environmental, economic, social, and cultural values from pest threats". The word "regional" has always been problematic.	8. No relief sought.	Note.
113.3	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	9. Perhaps a sub-title would help, e.g. "Regional Pest Management Plan: one tool in GWRC's wider biosecurity programme".	Suggested title of "Regional Pest Management Plan: one tool in GWRC's wider biosecurity programme"	Reject.

113.4	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	10. The early references to GW's Biodiversity Strategy 2011-2021 (section 2.1.1.1) and the KNE programme (section 2.1.1.2) suggest a biodiversity focus. We welcome more investment in protecting the indigenous biodiversity values of the KNEs, but are also concerned about the long-term consequences of reducing pest control on other lands and waters.	We welcome more investment in protecting the indigenous biodiversity values of the KNEs, but are also concerned about the long-term consequences of reducing pest control on other lands and waters	Note.
113.5	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	11. There was no Foreword, but the index shows one is planned. There was no Executive Summary, nor any plan for one, a surprising omission from a 100-page document.	No specific relief sought.	Note.
113.6	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	12. The title of the document has changed from 'strategy' to 'plan'. GW explains the difference as: "The proposal differs from the current strategy, in that it only provides the rules for managing identified pests, and does not contain the full Biosecurity approach. This shifts the plan to become one tool in the wider biosecurity programme."	No specific relief sought.	Note.
113.7	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	Same as above 113.6	Same as above 113.6	Same as above 113.6
113.7	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	13. GW's Biodiversity Strategy 2011-21 may be the 'wider biosecurity programme' referred to, but we think there needs to be something wider again, something that draws together the strategic and operational pest management issues and themes from the many national, regional and local initiatives already underway throughout the region. The fragmentation of the biosecurity sector is a concern	No specific relief sought.	Note.
113.8	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	14. If the RPMP only provides the rules for managing identified pests, what do the rules allow or prevent? Section 5.5 on p.27 explains that rules create a safety-net to protect land owners and/ or occupiers from the effects of the actions or inactions of others where non-regulatory means are inappropriate or do not succeed. This section doesn't say what the rules are, or where they can be found, or how they perform their safety-net function. The term is not defined in the Glossary.	No specific relief sought.	Note.

113.9	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>15. We found rules for some pests in the 50 pages of Pest Descriptions and Programmes in Chapter 6, but there weren't many rules, and the inconsistencies were surprising:</p> <p>Wasps (public health): An occupier within the Wellington Region shall, within ten (10) working days of receipt of a written direction from an authorised person, destroy all wasp nests on the property they occupy.</p> <p>Feral rabbits: An occupier within the Wellington Region shall maintain feral rabbits on land they occupy below level 5 of the Modified McLean Scale 2012.</p> <p>Mustelids: No person shall possess any living mustelid within the Wellington Region.</p> <p>Blue passionflower: No person shall possess any blue passionflower (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region. A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act. 2. Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, blue passionflower within the Wellington Region shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within ten (10) working days.</p> <p>Eradication Plants: An occupier shall, upon receipt of a writ+C979ten direction from an authorised person, destroy any moth plant, senegal tea, spartina, velvetleaf or woolly nightshade present on the land they occupy.</p>	No relief sought.	Note.
113.10	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>16. Most of section 5.5 is about the Good Neighbour Rule. Apparently the National Policy Direction for Pest Management 2015 (NPDPM) requires Good Neighbour Rules to be described. But a note in section 2.4 on p.15 says that GW's proposed RPMP does not identify any Good Neighbour Rules. No reason is given. 17. Our guess is that GW, DOC, TAs, and the NZ Transport Agency fear that their own neighbours may start applying more pressure on them to be Good Neighbours. 18. The term "neighbours" may be the issue, with its links to boundary controls. It's not just immediate neighbours who need to collaborate, but neighbourhoods. We see merit in having a Good Neighbour rule that requires both public and private neighbours of KNEs to contribute to the management of pests around each KNE.</p>	No specific relief sought.	Note.
113.11	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>19. The RPMP 2002-2022 established boundary control rules for several species, e.g:</p> <p>Gorse: Where productive land is affected by the spread of gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>), adjoining landowners/occupiers shall destroy all gorse within 10m of their boundary following a complaint to Greater Wellington by adjoining landowners/occupiers whose land is clear, or being cleared of gorse within the Wellington Region.</p> <p>20. GW's Pest Management Review Discussion Document signalled that the boundary controls would be reviewed, and there are no boundary control rules in the RPMP.</p> <p>21. We have no immediate concerns about dropping boundary controls. They may never have been very effective in reducing the spread of weeds. Seeds and plant fragments will continue to cross property boundaries, carried by the wind, water, birds, lizards, and mammals etc.</p>	No relief sought.	Note.
113.12	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>22. The early sections of the RPMP do not identify the target audience(s). Who should keep reading; who can stop? The technical language and assumptions about prior knowledge suggest the RPMP is for staff with responsibilities for pest management in the nine TAs, DOC, other Crown agencies, GW and MPI. But are land owners/occupiers, iwi, and NGOs seeking help with pest control for restoration also part of the intended audience? They contributed to the earlier consultation.</p>	Who is the document for?	Note.



113.13	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>Language Barriers (specified organisms, harmful organisms, and unwanted organisms)</p> <p>23. The target audience has implications for the content and language of the RPMP, e.g., what do the intended audiences already know about the topic?</p> <p>24. We initially overlooked the significance of the word “specified” in the RPMP purpose statement, i.e. “a framework for managing or eradicating specified organisms efficiently and effectively in the Wellington Region”. It wasn’t until we found the table of “specified” weeds on page 21 that we learned that GW is proposing to specify only 15 plant species as pests for the purposes of the Biosecurity Act and the RPMP. That’s 15 out of more than 200.</p> <p>25. We were also surprised to find that the terms “harmful organisms” and “unwanted organisms” are not synonymous under the Biosecurity Act. Readers need an early alert to this technical difference because it is critical to understanding GW’s approach to weed management.</p> <p>26. Care is also needed when using words that have different meanings to different audiences. For example, your statement “Relying on voluntary action (the do nothing approach) is unlikely to be efficient or effective in achieving the objective.” Many volunteers are likely to resent their contributions to pest control being dismissed as part of a “do nothing approach”. This phraseology needs to be replaced.</p>	What do the intended audiences already know about the topic?	Note.
		Same as above 113.13	Same as above 113.13	Same as above 113.13
113.14	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>27. Section 5.1 defines the five pest management programmes which are key components of the ‘framework’. We prefer the less technical descriptions on page 7 of the Impact Assessment and Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA). These descriptions also explain GW’s roles more clearly. 28. As an example, the two definitions/explanations of ‘sustained control’ are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GW: To provide for ongoing control of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.</li> <li>• CBA: This involves regular ongoing control by Greater Wellington and/or the occupier in an attempt to prevent further spread and mitigate impacts of the pest. The public good benefits of this programme lie in preventing a species becoming established and imposing much more significant costs on the region in the future.</li> </ul> <p>29. It’s unfortunate that MPI’s drives for national consistency means the CBA definitions can’t be used, but it may be possible to incorporate their wording in other ways.</p>	No specific relief sought.	Note.
113.15	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>30. The Glossary is important given the number of technical and statutory terms in the proposed RPMP. In some cases, it was only by consulting the glossary that we worked out what was intended. Please do a thorough cross-check of terms in the text with terms in the Glossary.</p>	Undertake a thorough cross-check of terms in the text with terms in the Glossary.	Accept.
113.16	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>31. As noted above, we initially missed the significance of the word “specified”.</p> <p>32. A table in section 4.1 (p.21) lists the 13 specified weeds by common English names in alphabetical order, and gives their management programme in column 3. We have re-formatted the table to give a clearer overview. A similar table for animals is in paragraph 37.</p>	No relief sought.	Note.

113.17	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>33. We were shocked to find that, outside of Hutt City, GW intends to use the RPMP to do three things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• keep 3 weeds out of the region</li> <li>• eradicate 5 weeds, and</li> <li>• control 4 others.</li> </ul> <p>34. Some of the explanation for what's in the table comes later. The Invasion Curve on page 24 models pest population dynamics. The individual management programmes are defined in section 5.1 (p.25). This sequencing makes it hard to get an overview of the weed programmes or the relationship between them. We think the Invasions Curve, and possible the programme definitions should come before the tables.</p>		Note.																												
113.18	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>36. The authors of the RPMP did not seem to understand that some members of the public would want to know which weeds had, and had not, survived the review process and why. The difficulty we had finding that information has undermined our confidence in the RPMP.</p> <p>37. We prepared the following analysis which shows that 32 of the weed species in the RPMS 2002-2022 are not in the proposed RPMP 2019-2038. It gives the impression that GW is giving up on more weeds. We would be delighted to hear of any flaws in this analysis.</p> <p>2007 Review PRPMP June 2018</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Programme</td> <td>Number of species</td> <td>Programme</td> <td>Number of species</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Regional surveillance plants</td> <td>24</td> <td>Exclusion</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total control plants</td> <td>11</td> <td>Eradication</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Containment plants</td> <td>4</td> <td>Progressive containment</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Suppression plants</td> <td>0</td> <td>Sustained control</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Site-led pest plants (Boundary control)</td> <td>8</td> <td>Site-led (HCC)</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total species-led</td> <td>47</td> <td>Total species-led</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table>	Programme	Number of species	Programme	Number of species	Regional surveillance plants	24	Exclusion	3	Total control plants	11	Eradication	5	Containment plants	4	Progressive containment	1	Suppression plants	0	Sustained control	3	Site-led pest plants (Boundary control)	8	Site-led (HCC)	3	Total species-led	47	Total species-led	15	No specific relief sought.	See submission point 113.17
Programme	Number of species	Programme	Number of species																													
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Total species-led	47	Total species-led	15																													
113.19	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>We are expecting to gain a better understanding of the purpose of Appendix 2 at the forthcoming Regional Biodiversity Workshops. Appendix 2 already contains 200 pest plants, but we have started identifying other species we think should be on this list, for example, karaka, which is not native to the southern North Island, and is spreading as the number of kereru increases. We also want to identify other species where eradication or progressive containment may still be possible because they are still present in low numbers or at a limited number of sites.</p>	No specific relief sought.	Note.																												

113.20	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	40. Some of the reasons for removing pests from the RPMP were listed in the Pest Management Review Discussion Document, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they have shown no threat of becoming established</li> <li>• they have proven to be more widespread than previously thought</li> <li>• they have not responded to control techniques</li> <li>• they were included to raise public awareness of their impacts - changes in information technology and communication methods make this educational awareness component redundant</li> <li>• they are the responsibility of other agencies, e.g., DOC for freshwater fish pests.</li> </ul> 41. Action: We believe including these reasons in the RPMP with named examples will increase confidence in the RPMP.	Include the reasons for removing species from the RPMP with named examples.	Accept.
113.21	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	42. We found a list of 200 weeds and 10 animals in Appendix 2 on page 94 under the heading “Other harmful organisms”. The Glossary defines “harmful organisms” as “organisms that have not been declared pests for the purposes of this Plan because, “although they may have significant adverse effects, regulatory responses are not considered appropriate or necessary”. 43. This definition needs further explanation on p.22. Why aren’t regulatory responses considered ‘appropriate or necessary’ for species such as feral deer, feral pigs, and weeds such as Darwin’s Barberry, Pampas Grass, Asiatic Knotweed, and Didymo?	Amend definition of 'harmful organism'	Reject.
113.22	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	44. Notes on p.22 explain that the “harmful organisms” pose a sufficient future risk to warrant being watch-listed for on-going surveillance or future control opportunities, but we found no related commitments. Is the intention to rely on “passive surveillance”? Have any priorities for official surveillance been identified? Wellington Botanical Society has been playing a role in passive surveillance for decades. On our monthly field trips, we regularly prepare lists of weed species seen, and share that information with GW or DOC, (subject to the land occupier/owner agreement).	Is the intention to rely on “passive surveillance”? Have any priorities for official surveillance been identified?	Note.
113.23	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	45. It was, however, reassuring to learn that some of the “harmful organisms” will be managed under GW’s Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) programme. The KNE map on p. 97, however, shows there are very few KNEs in the Wairarapa. 46. The term “unwanted organisms” is used in several sections of the proposed RPMP but is not defined in the Glossary. DOC’s website says an Unwanted Organism is defined in the Biosecurity Act 1993 as “any organism a chief technical officer believes capable of causing unwanted harm to any natural and physical resources or human health.	Add Unwanted organism to Glossary.	Reject.

113.24	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>48. We also wonder what influence the Long Term Plan budget had on the RPMP.</p> <p>49. GW's indicative annual budget for weed pest control over the next 10-years is about \$2.2 million per annum (Section 10.5 p.86) but there is no explanation of what it has to cover. The amount seemed very low as we thought about KNEs, salaries, wages, contracts, hire of helicopters for spraying weeds in inaccessible places, purchases of capital equipment such as drones for more efficient compliance, advocacy and education initiatives, and legal costs where GW decides to pursue apparent breaches of the Biosecurity Act.</p> <p>Budgets (\$,000) 2018/19 2027/28  Animals 2,300 2,264  Plants 2,147 2,200  RPPCP (possums) 1,649. 1,769</p> <p>50. We are very concerned about how little impact the RPMP is likely to have on the region's weed populations and densities. Wellington's weediness is going to get worse. (One year's seeding, seven year's weeding.)</p> <p>51. More than 2,500 introduced plant species have "naturalised" in NZ, i.e., they are now established and reproducing in the wild. New plants jump the fence each year. (We don't have figures for the region). More than 300 naturalised plants are called 'environmental weeds' because they impact detrimentally on the structure, functions or composition of New Zealand's indigenous plant communities, waterways and fauna. Other introduced plants may do little harm (for now), but the Invasion Curve, (p.24) shows a lag effect can be anticipated.</p> <p>52. Our expectation is that Council will review the LTP pest management budgets every three years.</p>		Note.
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113.25	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>54. We appreciated the additional information about the competitive and reproductive abilities of some of the weeds in the 200-page Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA). The time series results for some weeds were also encouraging, e.g. boneseed. We would like to see more ‘stories’ in Chapter 6 about progress towards the control of specific weeds, for example: Wellington now has 390 active boneseed sites, down from 480 in 2010/11. In 2017/18, 5,635 plants were controlled at a cost of \$110,000. As each plant can produce 50,000 seeds per annum, that investment will have prevented hundreds of thousands of boneseed seeds from entering the seedbank.</p> <p>55. There were, however, some disappointing, but not unexpected limitations in the CBA methodology. For example:          “The net monetarised benefit of regional intervention over 20 years is estimated to be minus \$1,931,229. However this does not take into account the non-monetarised ‘values’ of protecting biodiversity values in coastal environments throughout the region which would be impacted if there was no regional intervention.” (Boneseed analysis p.104)</p> <p>56. We hope Councillors had access to cost benefit analyses for some of the species that are not “declared pests” so that they know, for example, how much it may cost to pursue progressive containment for more species. Future generations are not going to appreciate a larger weed debt.</p> <p>57. We also wondered what role the CBA played in determining which species would be managed, and which could be left to expand and spread? The CBA pointed out the “undoubtedly large amounts of uncertainty around any CBA estimates applied to pest management”.          “Cost-benefit analysis results can give the illusion of being precise, and providing robust estimates of future costs and benefits. However, there are significant data limitations in terms of how much we know about the impacts and spread of pests, and the costs of their control over future decades.”          +C995</p>	<p>54. We would like to see more ‘stories’ in Chapter 6 about progress towards the control of specific weeds</p> <p>57. We also wondered what role the CBA played in determining which species would be managed, and which could be left to expand and spread?</p>	Note.
113.26	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	<p>58. One of our major concerns is that three species of feral deer (red, fallow and sika), and feral pigs are not specified as pests under the RPMP 2019-2039 (see section 4.2). In the RPMS 2002-2022, they were site-led species with rules. Appendix 2 shows GW’s intention to treat them as Harmful Organisms in the future. 59. This intention was not flagged in GW’s Pest Management Review Discussion Document. Perhaps it was suggested by professional and/or recreational hunting organisations in the preliminary consultation process. Section 2.6, p.16 only describes the process and invitees. It doesn’t report back on key themes. 60. We are strongly opposed to removing feral deer and feral pigs from the RPMP. Please return them to the site-led programme, and enhance the role of rules in controlling them near KNEs. See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	Strongly opposed to removing feral deer and feral pigs from the RPMP. Return them to the site-led programme, and enhance the role of rules in controlling them near KNEs.	Accept.

113.27	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	67. We liked section 8.1 “Measuring what the objectives are achieving”, and suggest combining 8.1 and 8.3. The text in 8.3 about plan reviews is not relevant to monitoring. Reviewing the plan is just one potential response to disappointing monitoring results. It belongs in chapter 2. 68. The RPMP only requires GW to report annually against a separate Operational Plan. We think five-yearly reports of performance against the RPMP should also be prepared, even if they only summarise changes in distribution, numbers of sites and densities for each species in the species-led programmes. +C1004	Suggest combining 8.1 and 8.3	Reject in part.
114.28	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	69. The 11 pages of Chapter 2 are presented under 6 headings and 24 subheadings in Chapter 2. If it all belongs in the RPMP, (and not in a wider biosecurity programme), please review the purpose, structure and placement of the information.	Please review the purpose, structure and placement of the information.	Note.
113.29	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	70. Advocacy and Education (A&E) is mentioned in Section 5.3 under the puzzling title “Principal measures to manage pests”. Seven A&E functions are listed, but no objectives or targets. 71. People can’t eradicate weeds if they can’t identify them, and some weeds are easily confused with natives. Natural Capital, Wellington City Council’s Biodiversity Strategy 2015 includes a proposed teaching garden where contractors, volunteers and others can learn to distinguish weeds from similar natives, e.g. pampas from toetoe, old man’s beard from indigenous clematis and from other climbers when no flowers or seeds are on the plant.	No relief requested.	Note.
114.3	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	72. Do the specifications for RPMPs exclude diseases like Myrtle Rust?	Do the specifications for RPMPs exclude diseases like Myrtle Rust?	Note.
113.31	Wellington Botanical Society Abbott, Bev	73. GW’s quick dismissal of climate change is regrettable given the growing literature on the implications of climate change for pest management. (Page 8 says “climate changes in the Wellington region are unlikely to result in measurable changes in species compositions or the pest profiles of listed species in the life of the plan). We read “listed species” as including Appendix 2. We read “the life of the plan” as from now until the first review. We can argue about the nature of “measurable” changes at a later date. As one example, numerous species of terrestrial and freshwater pests may infest new locations downstream very quickly after a major flood event. Those changes may be measurable within a few months. The implications of climate change for current biocontrol programmes may also need to be considered.	No specific relief requested.	Note.

114.1	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will support appropriate research initiatives, including biological control should it become available Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests SPCA would like to see research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised. The Society would like to see a focus placed on animal welfare and humane methods of animal population control such as fertility control. There are such alternatives being developed internationally and we would like to see New Zealand commit to progressive and humane treatment of all animals, including those labelled as 'pests'. The Society also asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, attending events and undertaking publicity campaigns; these should not just be undertaken to 'increase public awareness of pests'.</p>	<p>Research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised.  Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, attending events and undertaking publicity campaigns</p>	Note.
114.2	SPCADale, Arnja	<p>Feral rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>) The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will: Release biological control agents for the control of feral rabbits when appropriate Support research initiatives including biological control Provide education and advice to land owners/occupiers and the public about feral rabbits, the threat they pose to the Wellington Region, and how to control them Help land owners/occupiers and the public to gain the knowledge and skills to help reduce the impacts and spread of feral rabbits SPCA would like to see research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised. SPCA opposes the use of biological control methods such as the RHDV virus due to the significant suffering and distress this virus can cause affected animals. The Society would like to see a focus placed on animal welfare and humane methods of animal population control such as fertility control. There are such alternatives being developed internationally and we would like to see New Zealand commit to progressive and humane treatment of all animals, including those labelled as 'pests'. The Society also asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and undertaking publicity campaigns, these should not just be undertaken to give information about 'feral rabbits, the threat they pose to the Wellington Region, and how to control them' and 'helping land owners/occupiers and the public to gain the knowledge and skills to help reduce the impacts and spread of feral rabbits'.</p>	<p>SPCA would like to see research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised. The Society would like to see a focus placed on animal welfare and humane methods of animal population control such as fertility control</p>	Accept in part.

114.3	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>Magpie (<i>Gymnorhina</i> species)</p> <p>The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will: Provide advice, education and assistance to occupiers wanting to undertake magpie control SPCA asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance, and that this should be a focus of advocacy and education activities. SPCA would like to draw attention to the fact that there are no best practice guidelines for controlling and monitoring magpies on the National Pest Control Agencies website. In addition, the Greater Wellington Regional Council magpie brochure suggests using a live call bird to bait traps which is inhumane and unacceptable. If people are being encouraged to destroy 'pests', then those encouraging this have a responsibility to at least provide information that does not involve the inhumane treatment of animals.</p>	<p>Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance.</p>	Accept.
114.4	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>Possum (<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>)</p> <p>The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will: Support research initiatives including biological control Provide education and advice to land owners/occupiers and the public about possums, the threat they pose to the region, and how to control them SPCA would like to see research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised. SPCA opposes the use of inhumane biological control methods that can cause significant suffering and distress to affected animals. The Society would like to see a focus placed on animal welfare and humane methods of animal population control such as fertility control. There are such alternatives being developed internationally and we would like to see New Zealand commit to progressive and humane treatment of all animals, including those labelled as 'pests'. The Society also asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing education and advice; these should not just be undertaken to give information about 'possums, the threat they pose to the Wellington Region, and how to control them'.</p>	<p>Research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised.</p> <p>Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance</p>	Note.



114.5	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>European hedgehog (<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>)</p> <p>The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will: Provide information and advice on pest animal identification, impacts and control Provide advice to community groups undertaking pest animal control, with priority given to activity in or around KNEs and in defendable or strategic geographic locations such as peninsulas, islands and corridors.</p> <p>The Society asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of ‘pest’ animals is a vital component of providing education and advice; these should not just be undertaken to give information about ‘pest animal identification, impacts and control’. In particular, any advice given to community groups undertaking pest animal control should focus on animal welfare and humane methods of control. SPCA would like to draw attention to the fact that there are no best practice guidelines for controlling and monitoring hedgehogs on the National Pest Control Agencies website. In addition, although the links from the Wellington City Council, Predator Free Wellington, DOC, and Predator Free NZ do suggest using kill traps that have passed NAWAC testing, there is no information about how to humanely deal with an animal that has been injured but not killed, or trapped live. These are serious and concerning oversights and should be addressed as a priority. If people are being encouraged to destroy ‘pests’, then those encouraging this have a responsibility to at least provide information that will reduce the risk of animals being killed inhumanely.</p> <p>The proposed plan also states the following rule: No person shall possess any hedgehog within a KNE identified on Map 1 in Appendix 3. The prohibition on possession of any hedgehog within a KNE could mean that an already owned animal would need to be destroyed. SPCA advocates that consideration must be given to those hedgehogs who may already kept as companion animals by people in a KNE. The Society suggests that those people who currently keep hedgehogs as companions should be allowed to keep those animals as long as they remain adequately contained, at least for a period of time to safeguard those animals currently owned.</p>	<p>Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of ‘pest’ animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance.</p> <p>Hedgehogs can be kept as companion animal.</p>	Accept.
114.6	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>Feral goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>)</p> <p>The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will: Provide education and advice to land owners, occupiers and the public about feral goats, the threat they pose to the region, and how to control them+C1007</p> <p>The Society asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of ‘pest’ animals is a vital component of providing education and advice; these should not just be undertaken to give information about ‘feral goats, the threat they pose to the region, and how to control them’. In particular, any advice given to community groups undertaking pest animal control should focus on animal welfare and humane methods of control. SPCA would also like to draw attention to the fact that there are no best practice guidelines for controlling and monitoring feral goats on the National Pest Control Agencies website.</p>	<p>Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of ‘pest’ animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance.</p> <p>GWRC has developed an SOPs for feral goat control.</p>	Accept.

114.7	SPCADale, Arnja	<p>Mustelids (ferrets, stoats, weasels) (<i>Mustela furo</i>, <i>M. erminea</i>, <i>M. nivalis</i>)The proposed plan states that:Greater Wellington:Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for mustelids where appropriateProvide advice and training to anyone undertaking mustelid control, with priority given to activity in or around KNEs and in defendable or strategic geographic locations such as peninsulas, islands and corridorsSPCA would like to see research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised. SPCA opposes the use of inhumane biological control methods that can cause significant suffering and distress to affected animals. The Society would like to see a focus placed on animal welfare and humane methods of animal population control such as fertility control. There are such alternatives being developed internationally and we would like to see New Zealand commit to progressive and humane treatment of all animals, including those labelled as ‘pests’. The Society also asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of ‘pest’ animals is a vital component of providing education and advice.+C1009</p>	<p>Research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised.Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of ‘pest’ animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance</p>	Note.
114.8	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>Pest cat (<i>Felis catus</i>) The proposed plan states that: *Pest cat means any cat within the Wellington Region that is: (ii) Not microchipped in an area where microchipping is compulsory, and free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans, or (iii) Not microchipped, or registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, and is free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans SPCA has a number of serious concerns about this definition in the proposal. The Society has concerns about the labelling of cats as pests and a consequent negative impact on their treatment and potential perceived sanctioning of cruelty towards cats. There are also a number of important considerations regarding using microchips as an identifier:  See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	<p>Additional clarification and thought about pest cat matters is needed.  SPCA asks the council to consider implementing a cat colony register and best practice guidelines to allow exemptions for colonies and carers, in appropriate areas, if the carers register and adhere to best practice.</p>	See 8.2.
	SPCA Dale, Arnja	Same as above 114.	Same as above 114.	Same as above 114.8

114.9	SPCA Dale, Arnja	<p>The proposed plan states that: Greater Wellington will: Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for rats where appropriate Provide information and advice on pest animal identification, impacts and control Provide advice and support to community groups undertaking pest animal control, with priority given to activity in or around KNEs and in defendable or strategic geographic locations such as peninsulas, islands and corridors SPCA would like to see research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised. The Society opposes the use of inhumane biological control methods that can cause significant suffering and distress to affected animals. SPCA would like to see a focus placed on animal welfare and humane methods of animal population control such as fertility control. There are such alternatives being developed internationally and we would like to see New Zealand commit to progressive and humane treatment of all animals, including those labelled as 'pests'. The Society also asserts that educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing education and advice; these should not just be undertaken to give information about 'pest animal identification impacts and control'. In particular, any advice given to community groups undertaking pest animal control should focus on animal welfare and humane methods of control. SPCA would like to draw attention to the fact that there are no best practice guidelines for controlling and monitoring rats on the National Pest Control Agencies website. In addition, although the links from the Wellington City Council, Predator Free Wellington, DOC, and Predator Free NZ do suggest using kill traps that have passed NAWAC testing, there is no information about how to humanely deal with an animal that has been injured but not killed, or trapped live. These are serious and concerning oversights and should be addressed as a priority. If people are being encouraged to destroy 'pests', then those encouraging this have a responsibility to at least provide information that will reduce the risk of animals being killed inhumanely.</p> <p>See document: GWRC Proposed RPMP 2019 - 2039 Submissions with supporting documents</p>	<p>Research initiatives on humane alternatives supported and prioritised.</p> <p>Educating people about and advocating for the humane treatment and control of 'pest' animals is a vital component of providing advice, education and assistance</p>	Reject in part.
115.1	Kapiti Coast District Council Cross, Rob	<p>Please append the following to the submission form: Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board submission on Greater Wellington Regional Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Strategy 2019-2039 At a meeting on 27 March 2018 the Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board passed a resolution to make a submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council requesting that the control of Argentine ants be added to the Regional Pest Management Strategy. This resolution was in response to a request from the chair of the Raumati South Residents' Association, Trevor Daniell, who spoke to the Board regarding problems caused by Argentine ants for residents of Raumati South. Argentine ants are categorised in the Proposed Regional Pest Management Strategy 2019-2039 as 'harmful organisms' and not 'pests'. The Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board requests that Argentine ants are categorised as a 'pest' in the strategy and that effective control measures are included.</p>	Classify Argentine ants as pests in the RPMP	Reject.

116.1	Lower North Island Region, Department of Conservation Fleury, Bill	In the proposed RPMP the site-led programme for hedgehogs, goats, mustelids, cats & rats describes the sites as “in KNE area and TA reserves”. These areas are mapped in appendix 3 maps 5 & 6 but in the text it is stated “Appendix 3, Map 1 & 3” which are the Predator Free Wellington control areas and the Boneseed sustained control programme areas. Rats and mustelids are targeted for the PF Wellington sites	Correct errors in map numbering	Accept.
116.2	Lower North Island Region, Department of Conservation Fleury, Bill	I also note that the Site-led” plan for possum refers to Predator Free Wellington initiative (Appendix 3, Map 2). Map 2 is the purple loosestrife progressive containment area.	Correct errors in map numbering.	Accept.
116.3	Lower North Island Region, Department of Conservation Fleury, Bill	Similarly, I note that the text refers to the “Predator Free Wellington initiative”, in several cases, but that description does not appear on any of the maps. I assume that you meant the PF Wellington Control Area shown in Appendix 3 Map 1 but it’s not clear.	Amend description on maps and text to align with "Predator Free Wellington initiative".	Accept.
117.1	WELLINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST Anstey, Clive	WNHT supports GWRC’s proposed Regional Pest Management Plan. It is a concise document that should bring coherence and consistency to the management of pest plants and animals across the region.	Support.	Note.
117.2	WELLINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST Anstey, Clive	1. The Trust would like to see the pest plant species that are being controlled by HCC as site-led species (i.e. old man’s beard, cathedral bells and banana passionfruit) controlled to similar levels in Wellington City, and would like to see similar powers conferred on WCC as those conferred on HCC. To date, WNHT has had to deal with only one of these pest species on land that it manages, however it recognises that the potential exists for the others to invade at any time. Because neighbouring landowners (both close by and far away) are under very little obligation to control these pest plants, the Trust’s Long Gully Bush Reserve, and other areas of regenerating forest that are not covered by GW’s KNE site-led programme, are at ever-increasing risk from these plants as populations build up in the wider area	1. Control old man’s beard, cathedral bells and banana passionfruit to similar levels as in HCC boundary. 2. Give WCC similar pest control powers to those delegated to HCC.	Reject.

117.3	WELLINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST Anstey, Clive	2. The Trust asks that Long Gully Bush Reserve (LGBR) and adjoining land be included in the regional possum/predator control programme (RPPCP) by 2025. Figure 4, on page 9 of the document, highlights what a glaring omission from the programme LGBR has been (LGBR occupies most of the “uncontrolled” land immediately west of Zealandia, according to this map). The Trust, a charitable organisation entirely reliant on grants for operational funding, is currently undertaking the only possum and predator control within LGBR. LGBR provides a buffer between GW-controlled land to the north and west (Wrights Hill Reserve, the Bargh property, Makara Peak MTB Park, etc) and private land to the south which is currently subject to no pest control whatsoever. Inclusion of LGBR in the RPPCP would improve the effectiveness of pest control efforts in the areas to the north and west by slowing the spread of pests from the south. It would also improve the survival of numerous native bird species spilling over from Zealandia. The rest of the Wellington City Rural Area should be included in the RPPCP by 2030.	Include Long Gully Bush Reserve (LGBR) and adjoining land be included in the regional possum/predator control programme (RPPCP) by 2025	Note.
117.4	WELLINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST Anstey, Clive	3. The Trust asks that the Predator-Free Wellington project area be extended to include Belmont Regional Park, so that this can act as a buffer zone for mustelid control for the Wellington Peninsula.	Extend the Predator-Free Wellington project area to include Belmont Regional Park.	Note.
117.5	WELLINGTON NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST Anstey, Clive	The Trust would like to see the adoption of a strategy to eradicate goats, pigs and deer from the western Wellington peninsula. This should be explored with the rural and wider community. The Trust has worked hard, at its own expense, to rid Long Gully Bush Reserve of these three pests, however all three continue to threaten the work of the Trust because neighbours do not control them on their own land. Deer were illegally released on land close to LGBR and are now well-established in the area. Feral goats pose a huge threat to conservation values in the Wellington City Rural Area. Native regeneration is surging ahead in LGBR now that goats have been eliminated, however on neighbouring properties where their numbers remain high, they continue to suppress the reversion of gorse-dominated scrub to native forest. The Trust would be keen to work with neighbours to move the Wellington rural community in a more sustainable long-term direction. While the Trust opposes goat farming in the District, we acknowledge that the District Plan provide for this. The Trust wishes to see very tight controls imposed on goat farmers, backed up by effective monitoring by the regulator, to ensure that farmed goats do not pose a risk to protected natural areas.C1035	Adopt a plan to eradicate goats, pigs, and deer from the western wellington penninsula.	Note.
118.1	Corie	Hi there, ive been hunting around wellington for the last 18 years and have feed my self and family wild venison and no beef for the last 5 years. There are some parts of wellington that have good numbers of deer but are not open to recreational hunting.( would like to see these spots opened to recreational hunting. No ballot.) As a hunter i am willing to do my part in keeping the pest numbers down eg rabbits rats stoats goats and possum by allowing my trained dog to grab and kill most small pest animals which we do all ready.	Open up more of the region to recreational deer hunting.	Note.

118.2	Corie	Please do not use aerial 1080 drops and poison my food resource and drinking water. I havnt hunted any wrc land since the kaitoke water catchment was bombed a few years ago. I have seen first-hand the jump in rat numbers after a drop. Totara flats 18 years ago i never had an issue with rats. Since the massive poison drops doc did for the kaka project i dont hunt there either because the rat numbers since the drop have trippled and because of the amount of dead animals i saw after the drop. Eg fantail robin a couple of morepork black birds deer pig and a single possom. i dont want me or my family to be poisoned from the misuse of an extremely toxic substance that dosnt belong anywhere in nz. Thank you for allowing a little voice to be heard. Please dont use 1080 its killing everything not just the pests.	End use of 1080 for pest control.	Note.
119.1	Zealandia Hayes, Cameron	<p>Although we are supportive of GWRC and the Pest Management plan in principle, we would prefer that you source a front-cover image that is not so strongly associated with ZEALANDIA.</p> <p>While we don't have exclusive rights to that image, Rob Suisted, the photographer, gifted it to us some time back. We use it in a lot of our promotional activity, including our website, visitor centre, brochures, etc.</p> <p>By using the current image it gives the impression that this plan is related explicitly to ZEALANDIA, which is not the case.</p> <p>I'd suggest a GWRC regional park or image of flora/fauna that can equally represent the positive outcomes of pest management.</p>	Support in part. Use a different front cover on the RPMP.	Accept.
120.1	piers	The use of brodifacoum is a concern given it persists in the environment for much longer than 1080 and has more likely longer term effects on invertebrates and birds of prey.	No specific relief requested.	Note.
121.1	Sandy Werner	Although cats are included in the list above, I wonder if it is fair to say "roaming cats". Also, wondering if the South African praying mantis should be included? And are mice normally in this list?	Add roaming to pest cat description.	Reject.
121.2	Sandy Werner	I would like to stress the urgency of adopting a cat management strategy. There's clearly a need to control free roaming cats. On the one hand GWRC and city councils are encouraging individuals to look after our native flora and fauna and on the other hand failing to provide the support we need to protect the newly arriving birds and lizards to our gardens from being hunted day and night by cats. The lack of leadership on this front is pitting neighbour against neighbour as the cat vs bird debate worsens.	Adopt a cat management strategy.	Reject.

121.3	Sandy Werner	There is an urgent need to prevent cats from hunting at night. Lizards and Rurus are both active at night and therefore at risk from predation by cats at night. Pest Free NZ/Plimmerton has been very successful so far in significantly reducing rat and mice populations. A ripple effect of these efforts is and will continue to be the change to the Ruru diet and subsequently the additional stress on lizard populations. As the Ruru diet changes from eating rats, mice and lizards to rely more on lizards and larger insects, so too the cats will be hunting lizards more. This not only increases stress on lizard populations but puts Ruru and cats in closer proximity to each other, both in competition for a diminished prey.	Prevent cats from hunting at night	Note.
121.4	Sandy Werner	Please we need better cat management to protect wildlife, including microchipping, registration, sterilization, curfews and/or containment. Encourage cat owners to keep pet cats indoors or in an outside catio.	Better cat management needed and education.	Note.
121.5	Sandy Werner	Please include the south African praying mantis, since their presence will lead to the loss of our native praying mantis.	Include South African praying mantis	Reject.
122.1	jacko	Isn't the forest ringlet butterfly an endemic? <a href="http://nzbutterfly.info/resident/forest-ringlet/">http://nzbutterfly.info/resident/forest-ringlet/</a>	No relief sought.	Note.
123.1	EdmundSS	Old Man's Beard. Karo. Darwin's Barberry. Wilding pines (if present). Wilding pohutukawa (because of the hybridising with Northern Rata).	No relief sought.	Note.
123.2	EdmundSS	Use 1080 where appropriate. Where it's practical and effective to trap densely, let's do it. Where it's not practical (e.g. Tararuas) use 1080 until something better comes along.	Use 1080 where appropriate.	Note.
123.3	EdmundSS	Eradication, and the creation of pest-free areas (first Miramar/Kairangi peninsula; the entire Wellington peninsula; the Orongorongo/Rimutaka area & beyond) should be a medium-term aim.	Create pest free areas.	Note.
123.4	EdmundSS	Deer and pigs prey on native birds/eggs. They can be considered a resource, but they're also a pest, and should be managed accordingly.	Manage deer and pigs as pests.	Accept.
124.1	saisr	Agapanthus should be added to the pest plant list and eradicated. It is now appearing on the water's edge of the Pauatahanui Inlet and is displacing the natives which were the only plants there. It has spread from gardens on the edge of the inlet and along its waterways. Some garden owners remove the flower heads before they can seed but most leave them and agapanthus is a robust seeder.	Agapanthus should be added to the pest plant list and eradicated.	Reject.
125.1	Kakas	Privet should be added to pest list. It causes bad asthma and illness and is a noxious weed in a number of regions. Why are hedgehogs listed as pests? This doesn't seem justified.	1. Privet should be added to pest list. 2. Why are hedgehogs listed as a pest.	Reject.

126.1	miro	ivy, eleagnus, asparagus vine, banana passionfruit vine all rampant in Mt Victoria greenbelt city side of Constable St	None specified.	Note
127.1	Jeremy Collyns	Using the new roads (transmission Gully) build a pest exclusion fence along the middle medium strip one to two meters high to stop the smaller pests moving East to West. The fence would start at Raumati South Beach and finish at Ngauranga. This would allow clearance of these pests from the bottom western part of the region and allow the native birds from Karori Sanctuary to populate this cleared area safely. This would help the council and community to meet the expectations of Predator Free 2050 and start the process of clearing the region of pest animals.	Build a pest exclusion fence on the Transmission Gully road.	Note.
128.1	Jacqui Lane	Convululus and morning glory. And get back onto old man's beard. There wasn't much around for ages, but it is starting to appear everywhere in the last 2 years, even at parliament.	Put OMB on the list for control.	Reject.
129.1	John McLachlan	Towards the aim of a Pest Free 2050, much improvements in pest control has already been obtained within the area covered by the Kapiti Biodiversity Programme  Protection of those improvements needs to be attempted by intensification of boundary controls  The area should desirably be extended by the utilization of contractors and community groups working under the control of a project manager.	No specific relief sought.	Note.
130.1	Graeme Blanchard	Recreational hunters welcome the opportunity to work with you rather despite your plans. Thank you.	No relief sought.	Note.
130.2	Graeme Blanchard	Really appreciate your direction towards working with recreational hunters, who can play such an important role in conservation and caring for our environment if allowed.Thank you.	No relief sought.	Note.
130.3	Graeme Blanchard	GRC used to make a point of eradicating Old Man's Beard. It is a really invasive and ugly pest I think this should be back on your list for eradication.	Put OMB on the list for eradication.	Reject.



131.1	Longtime EHRP Park User	<p>Please do something about the deer destroying the most accessible parts of East Harbour Park, where the understory is damaged beyond recognition and numerous appeals to GWRC have failed to have any action taken, without explanation.</p> <p>The ecosystem should be protected for everyone's enjoyment but the current strategy is causing erosion, widespread damage to trees, roots and regenerating forest.</p> <p>For a long-time park user it is frustrating that this has not only been allowed to continue, but actively encouraged through what appears to be neglect. For a KNE it is becoming a laughable management of public assets. Even my kids now complain about the damage that is clear, obvious and widespread along all the Western flanks.</p> <p>But it's not funny, it's an appalling situation that has gone on for years and is getting worse every year.</p> <p>Thank you for considering those who do not use the park for hunting yet appreciate the precious native ecosystem and biodiversity and the value it holds for the wider community and our descendants.</p>	Take action on deer.	Note.
132.1	Pando	Pine trees should be removed wherever possible and replaced with natives. Especially on Miramar Peninsular and town belt of Wadestown		Note.
133.1	John Flux	Forest Ringlet is an endangered NZ endemic. It should be removed from this list of pests.	Remove Forest Ringlet from RPMP.	Note.
133.2	John Flux	Cats should not be on the list until rats, mice, mustelids, and rabbits are removed. Until then they are helping to catch animals that are trap and poison-shy.		Note.
134.1	Paul Martinson	Cats are the third most significant causal factor of avian extinction in NZ, but still no law controlling them. Cats need to be micro-chipped and identifiable with an owner. Until that time there is no sure way of distinguishing feral, stray and owned animals from each other. Many 'owned cats are killed as a result. Cat control is essential. Please introduce it.	Introduce cat control.	Accept.

**Attachment 3: Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2039**



GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL  
**PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
2019–2039



greater WELLINGTON  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Pane Matua Taiao

*Cover shot:*

*Titipounamu (Rifleman) translocation from a Greater Wellington owned and protected location, Wainuiomata Mainland Island, to Zealandia - March 2019. This was made possible thanks to 15 years of pest control efforts in the area.  
© Photograph by Chris Gee.*

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL  
**PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
2019–2039

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*Members of the public were invited to join us on a rare guided walk through Wainuiomata Mainland Island as part of our 2018/19 summer events programme. The area is normally closed to public access.*



# FOREWORD

# PART ONE – PLAN ESTABLISHMENT



*One of the new UBCO 2x2 electric farm bikes the team use to get around the region and carry out pest control.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

Greater Wellington has a long history of leadership in pest management in the Wellington Region. The first regional pest management strategy was developed in 1996, and following its review Greater Wellington in 2001 implemented the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022.

Pest management in the region over the last 20 years has achieved some significant improvements to the native biodiversity, and social and economic wellbeing of our region. Having almost 200,000ha under long-term pest animal control keeps the impact of possums and other pests in the region under check. This extensive pest management has resulted in the recovery of large areas of native bush. Flowering rata is a welcome sight over the Wellington Region hills again, native mistletoe is common, numbers of native birds are rising and residents in Greater Wellington's bush-clad areas can enjoy the morning chorus.

This Plan builds on this long legacy.

---

## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan (the Plan) is to outline a framework for managing or eradicating specified organisms efficiently and effectively in the Wellington Region. Doing so will:

- Minimise the actual or potential adverse or unintended effects associated with these organisms
- Maximise the effectiveness of individual actions in managing pests through a regionally coordinated approach
- Reverse loss of biodiversity in the managed high-value biodiversity areas in the region over the next 20 years
- Make a pest-free status of a considerable area of the Wellington region a reality

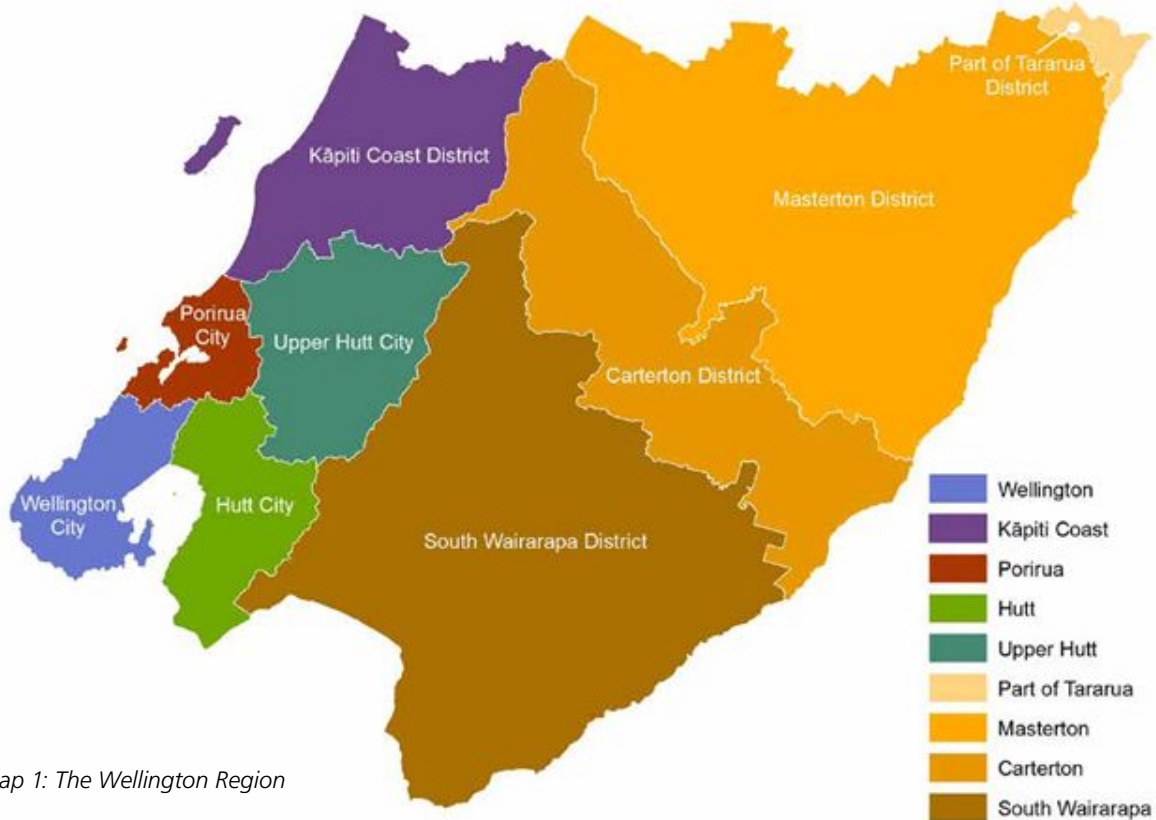
There are many organisms in the Wellington Region that are considered undesirable or a nuisance. The Plan only addresses pests where voluntary action is insufficient due to the nature of the pest, or the related costs and benefits of individual action or inaction. The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) has prerequisite criteria that must be met to justify such intervention. This Plan identifies those organisms classified as pests.

Once operative, the Plan will empower Greater Wellington to exercise the relevant advisory, service delivery, regulatory and funding provisions available under the Act to deliver the specific objectives identified in Part Two (Pest management).

## 1.2 Coverage

The Plan will operate within the administrative boundaries of the Wellington Region (land, waterways and sea) covering a total land area of 813,000ha on the southern end of the North Island. The northern boundary is defined by the catchments of the Waitohu Stream and Ōtaki River on the western side of the Tararua Range,

by the Whareama and Mātaikona River catchments, and by the headwaters of the Ruamāhanga River on the eastern side (Map 1). The Horizons Regional Council borders the northern boundary of the Wellington Region for its entire length.



Map 1: The Wellington Region

## 1.3 Duration

The Plan will take effect on the date it becomes operative as a Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) under section 77 of the Act. It is proposed to remain in force for a period of 20 years from that date.

The Plan may cease at an earlier date if Greater Wellington declares by public notice that the Plan has achieved its purpose. It may also cease at an earlier date if, following a review, it is revoked.

## 1.4 Plan review

Greater Wellington may review the Plan or any part of it if it believes that circumstances or management objectives have changed significantly (under the provisions of section 100D of the Act, minor reviews affecting part of the Plan can take place at any time).

A review may also be necessary if Greater Wellington or the Environment Court considers the Plan is inconsistent with any requirement of an operative National Policy Direction for Pest Management 2015 (NPD).

Where the Plan has been in force for 10 years or more and has not been reviewed in the past 10 years, Greater Wellington must review the Plan in accordance with section 100D of the Act. A review may result in no change to the Plan, or may extend its duration.

Greater Wellington can make minor amendments to the Plan without needing a review. Any minor amendment must not:

- (i) Significantly affect any person's rights and obligations
- (ii) Be inconsistent with the NPD

## 2 PLANNING AND STATUTORY BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Strategic background

This section describes the factors that influence why and how Greater Wellington manages pests in the Wellington Region. It includes plans, policies and activities that are

the responsibility of both Greater Wellington and external agencies.

#### 2.1.1 Relationships with mana whenua and Māori

There are a number of legislative provisions and national and regional policy statements that describe the obligations of councils to mana whenua and Māori which impact directly or indirectly on the biosecurity framework.

Mana whenua and Māori make an important contribution to biosecurity. For mana whenua this includes involvement in biosecurity as an important part of exercising kaitiakitanga over their whenua. One specific purpose of an RPMP under the Biosecurity Act is to provide for the protection of the relationship between Māori and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu and taonga, and to protect those aspects from the adverse effects of pests. Māori also carry out significant pest management through their primary sector economic interests and as land owners and/or occupiers.

Greater Wellington Regional Council's enduring collective partnership with mana whenua was first formalised

in 1993 through the Charter of Understanding. The existing relationship is recorded in the Memorandum of Partnership 2013, which is due for review in 2019. The partnership with mana whenua is built on the principles of participation in decision-making, articulation of values and aspirations, and the opportunity to build these across the many portfolios of Council. This partnership has been developing and influencing the way in which Council plans and implements across all facets of Council's work (Figure 1).

The partnership is led through the Ara Tahī leadership forum, which comprises Councillors and Greater Wellington's six mana whenua partners. The forum sets the strategic direction and priorities of mana whenua for the way we work. The partnership can be seen in action through mana whenua representation in Council committees, advisory groups, project teams and land management arrangements.



Figure 1: Greater Wellington's relationship with mana whenua and Māori

## 2.1.2 Greater Wellington’s biosecurity framework

Regional pest management sits within a biosecurity framework for the Wellington Region and is supported by a number of complementary policies and plans: Greater Wellington’s Biodiversity Strategy (the Strategy) and Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) programme, and the Wellington City Council’s “Our Natural Capital –

Wellington’s biodiversity strategy and action plan 2015”. Mana whenua as kaitiaki (guardians), the Department of Conservation (DOC), land owners and/or occupiers and the wider community, as either beneficiaries or exacerbators or both, complete the partnership.

## 2.1.3 Greater Wellington’s Biodiversity Strategy

The Strategy sets a framework that guides how Greater Wellington protects and manages biodiversity in the Wellington Region. It includes a vision, principles and goals that guide how Greater Wellington departments can contribute to generating better outcomes for biodiversity (Figure 2). The majority of organisms managed under this Plan are included because of the harm they cause to indigenous biodiversity. The Plan will contribute to achieving the vision and all three goals of the Biodiversity Strategy.

The Strategy’s overarching vision for biodiversity in the Wellington Region is that “healthy ecosystems thrive in the Wellington Region and provide habitat for native biodiversity”. This vision applies to the full range of ecosystem types in the Wellington Region, from remnants of original (pre-human) ecosystems to modified environments such as farmland. While acknowledging the different outcomes sought for these ecosystems, the Strategy recognises the many opportunities that exist to improve their ecological health and increase their capacity

to support native plants and animals. The Strategy’s vision is underpinned by four operating principles that guide how all Greater Wellington’s biodiversity-related activities are conducted. These are using best practice, working with others, leading by example, and partnering with mana whenua.

Three goals encompass the range of work undertaken by Greater Wellington to fulfil our responsibilities for biodiversity in the Wellington Region (Figure 2). The first goal focuses on protecting a range of sites that are highly valued for their biodiversity. The second is to maintain and restore ecosystem functioning and habitats across the Wellington Region more generally. Healthy functioning includes providing habitat for native species and benefiting people by providing ecosystem services. The third goal underpins the other two and focuses on ensuring that people inside and outside Greater Wellington understand and value biodiversity. This goal recognises that Greater Wellington cannot achieve its vision for biodiversity without the support of others.

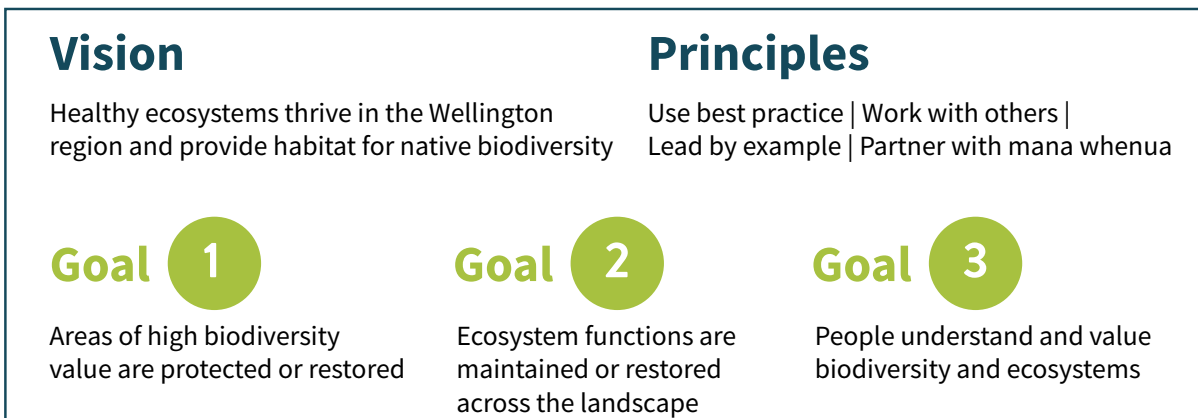
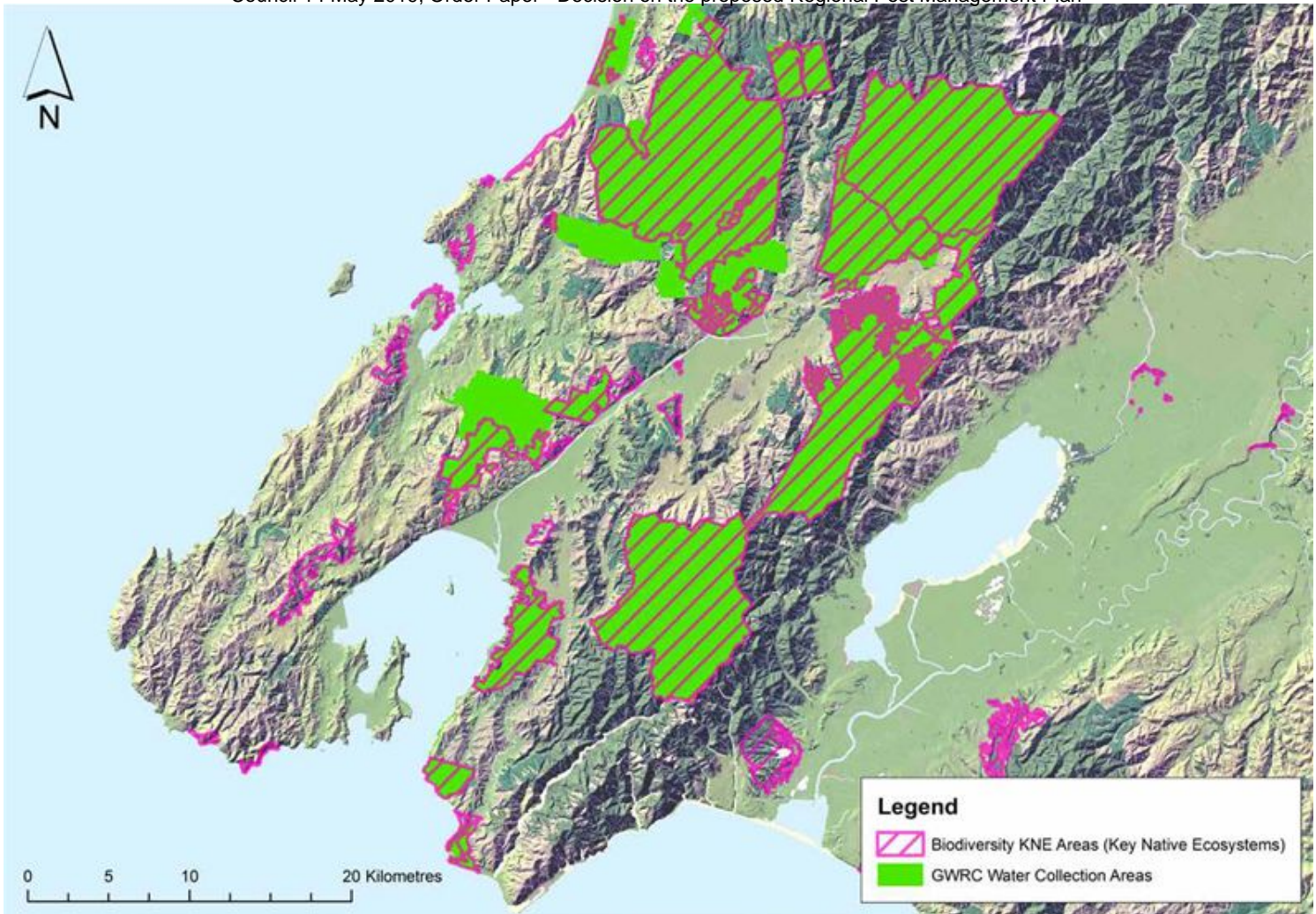


Figure 2: Greater Wellington’s strategic approach to biodiversity



Map 2: Key Native Ecosystems in Greater Wellington Parks and forest

## 2.1.4 Key Native Ecosystem programme

The Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) programme is designed to protect areas that are important examples of original ecosystems in the Wellington Region that support a wide variety of native plants and animals. The areas that are part of the KNE programme have been identified and prioritised for management and financial support. These areas are recognised as some of the best remaining examples of original ecosystem types in the Wellington Region (Map 2).

Different types of ecosystems (forest, wetland, freshwater, estuarine, and coastal and marine) were identified on both public and private land using widely accepted criteria, including representativeness, rarity and diversity. The KNE programme is an important driver for managing many of the pests that are prioritised in this Plan. Without active management of KNE sites, many native plants and animals in these ecosystems would struggle to thrive. The KNE programme aims to provide protection to maintain or

restore the ecological function of these ecosystems as well as the native plants and animals they support. This is done mainly by managing threats such as harmful pests or introduced plants and animals.

The protection of these areas is an invaluable investment in the future of the Wellington Region's original ecosystems. Often it takes many years for an ecosystem to recover and support a wide range of native animals and plants. This is why the management of KNE sites is a long-term commitment. The operational management plans we prepare for KNE sites specify actions for their ongoing protection to achieve desired objectives at KNE sites.

To actively manage KNE sites, Greater Wellington works proactively with a range of partners including mana whenua, territorial authorities, community groups and private landowners. Involvement in the entire KNE programme is voluntary whether on private or public land.

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## 2.1.5 Greater Wellington regional parks and administered land

The Wellington Region is unique in having large areas of public land designated as regional parks and/or administered by the Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) Parks department (more than 50,000 ha). Some of the best regional high-value native biodiversity areas are found in our parks and land administered by Greater Wellington. A number of these areas are included in the Key Native Ecosystem programme. (Map 2)

Intensive pest management in the KNE sites within our parks is complemented by the much larger restoration and pest management efforts by the staff and volunteer groups outside of the KNE boundaries. Sites like the Wainuiomata Mainland Island (within the Wainuiomata Orongorongo KNE site) and the East Harbour Mainland Island (within the East Harbour Northern Forest KNE site) are some of the best examples of their respective ecosystems in the region.

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## 2.1.6 Greater Wellington and the QEII National Trust

Greater Wellington has a close relationship with the QEII National Trust and the Memorandum of Understanding sets out the general terms under which the parties will cooperate in areas of mutual interest. As part of this agreement Greater Wellington contributes budget to QEII

on an annual basis to assist with the establishment of new covenants (mainly fencing and some initial pest plant and/or pest animal control) and to provide maintenance assistance for existing covenants (mainly pest plant control with some pest animal control and planting).

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## 2.1.7 Regional Policy Statement

The Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region provides the policy direction to address regionally significant issues and for integrated management of the region's natural and physical resources. Our pest management activity aims to mitigate the adverse impacts of pest animals and plants on the environment, economy and community, and maximise the effectiveness of pest management through a regionally coordinated response. Our pest management activity principally

supports Objective 16 of the Regional Policy Statement: "Indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values are maintained and restored to a healthy functioning state" and Objective 13: "The region's rivers, lakes and wetlands support healthy functioning ecosystems". The adverse impacts of pest plants and animals include: loss of native plants and animals, reduced productivity for farming and horticulture, and public nuisance.

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## 2.1.8 Proposed Natural Resources Plan

The Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) for the Wellington Region sets objectives, policies and rules for managing environmental resources in the region. The use of air, water, waterbodies, discharges to land and the coastal marine area is managed to allow the benefits of that use while protecting or restoring values and reducing any adverse effects of that use. Sites of significance for a number of values, including significant indigenous biodiversity, are identified. The pests prioritised in this Plan will guide how we focus our pest management work in relation to the PNRP.

Pest management generally aims to minimise and mitigate the impacts of pests and other harmful plant and animal organisms on economic, environmental, social and cultural community values and Māori relationships with air, land and water. Mana whenua articulate the need to care for the mauri, or life-giving properties, of the region, particularly the mauri of fresh and coastal waters on which wellbeing is dependent. Mana whenua were actively involved in developing the PNRP.

Information on their collective and separate values and sites of significance provides valuable insights for regional pest management planning and decisions. As such, this Plan supports many of the objectives of the PNRP for the Wellington Region. Of particular note are objectives to safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in freshwater bodies and the coastal marine area (part of Objectives O5 and O24) and Objective O35 "Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are protected and restored". Objective O28 specifically addresses wetlands: "The extent of natural wetlands is maintained or increased and their condition is restored".

Pest management operations will be undertaken in accordance with any rules that are relevant in the PNRP and will support the non-regulatory methods to restore the ecological values of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour (Method M8), the ecological values of Wairarapa Moana (Method M9) and the values and restoration of wetlands (Method 20).



## 2.1.9 Marine biosecurity

The region is surrounded by coastline on all but the northern boundary. This coastline is made up of rocky shoreline, beaches, harbours and estuaries, providing a vast range of habitats for marine organisms. Commercial and recreational activity is common on all coasts, in particular national and international shipping activity to and from Wellington and Porirua Harbours. There is a constant risk of a biosecurity incursion in the region from this type of activity.

Marine biosecurity is a developing area of the biosecurity system for New Zealand, at both national and regional levels. The level of marine biosecurity capability for the region has been low and slow to increase. For this reason, as the national marine biosecurity surveillance and response capability increases, throughout the life of this Plan, Greater Wellington will work with central government, local government and mana whenua partners to ensure the protection of the marine biodiversity of the region.

## 2.1.10 Climate change

Climate change and the potential impacts were taken into consideration in the Plan review. Pest species in the Wellington Region have wide and varying ecological niches, and climatic changes in the Wellington Region are unlikely to result in measurable changes in species' composition or the pest profiles of listed species in the life of the Plan. Climate change can influence the seasonal dynamics of pest species and, due to extreme or changeable weather conditions, affect our ability to control them. Climate change can also result in species moving outside their usual range – marine pests in particular.

New weather dynamics can influence masting events, for example beech masting, and make fluctuations in

pest populations more unpredictable. The Wellington Region will potentially become more habitable for some species as the effects of climate change become more prevalent. For example, the Indian myna bird population may increase, but as we are on the edge of distribution of the species it is not expected that numbers will reach those seen north of the Wellington Region during the life of the Plan.

The Plan is scheduled for review every 10 years. The Biosecurity Act allows for minor reviews to the Plan during the 10 years (between major reviews), which allows for new species or threats to be included in the Plan and allows for the review of existing programmes if pest status changes due to climate change.



North Island Robin translocation from Kapiti Island into Greater Wellington owned and pest protected land.

## 2.1.11 Biosecurity framework outside Greater Wellington

An effective biosecurity system is established within the Wellington Region, between regions and at a national level (refer Figure 3 and Appendix 4). All neighbouring regional councils, and all regional councils nationwide, maintain operative regional pest management strategies or plans.

Central government is responsible for preventing pests from entering New Zealand, providing leadership and coordinating or implementing incursion management where eradication from New Zealand remains attainable. Rapid response initiatives and national pest management

accords, registers and strategies are examples of the instruments they employ. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) website, at [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz), outlines the details of those instruments.

Iwi management plans and the plans and strategies of TAs are likely to influence collaborative planning and management decisions.

As a result, RPMPs are an integral component of a comprehensive biosecurity system that protects New Zealand’s economic, environmental, social and cultural values from the threat of pests.

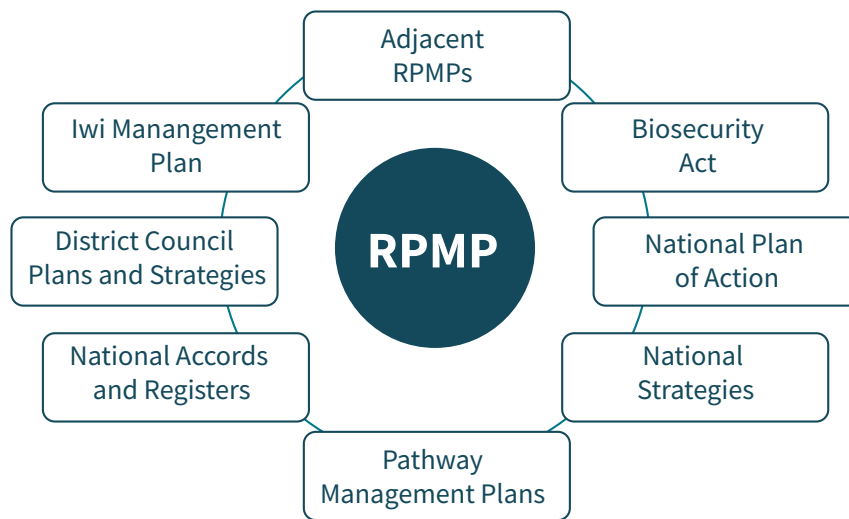


Figure 3: External biosecurity instruments

## 2.1.12 Predator Free Wellington

Predator Free Wellington is a joint programme between the Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington and the NEXT Foundation. The vision is for Wellington to become the world’s first predator-free capital city – a network comprising thousands of households, community groups and organisations working together to eradicate rats, mustelids and possums so that our native wildlife can thrive.

For the purposes of this project, “Wellington” is seen as the area that includes Miramar Peninsula through to the south-west corner of the greater Wellington landmass and north to a boundary aligning with the State Highway 1 motorway, through to the Porirua City boundary (Map 3). It does not include the Hutt Valley or Porirua. It is an area encompassing 30,000ha of urban and rural land, with an estimated 70,000 households.

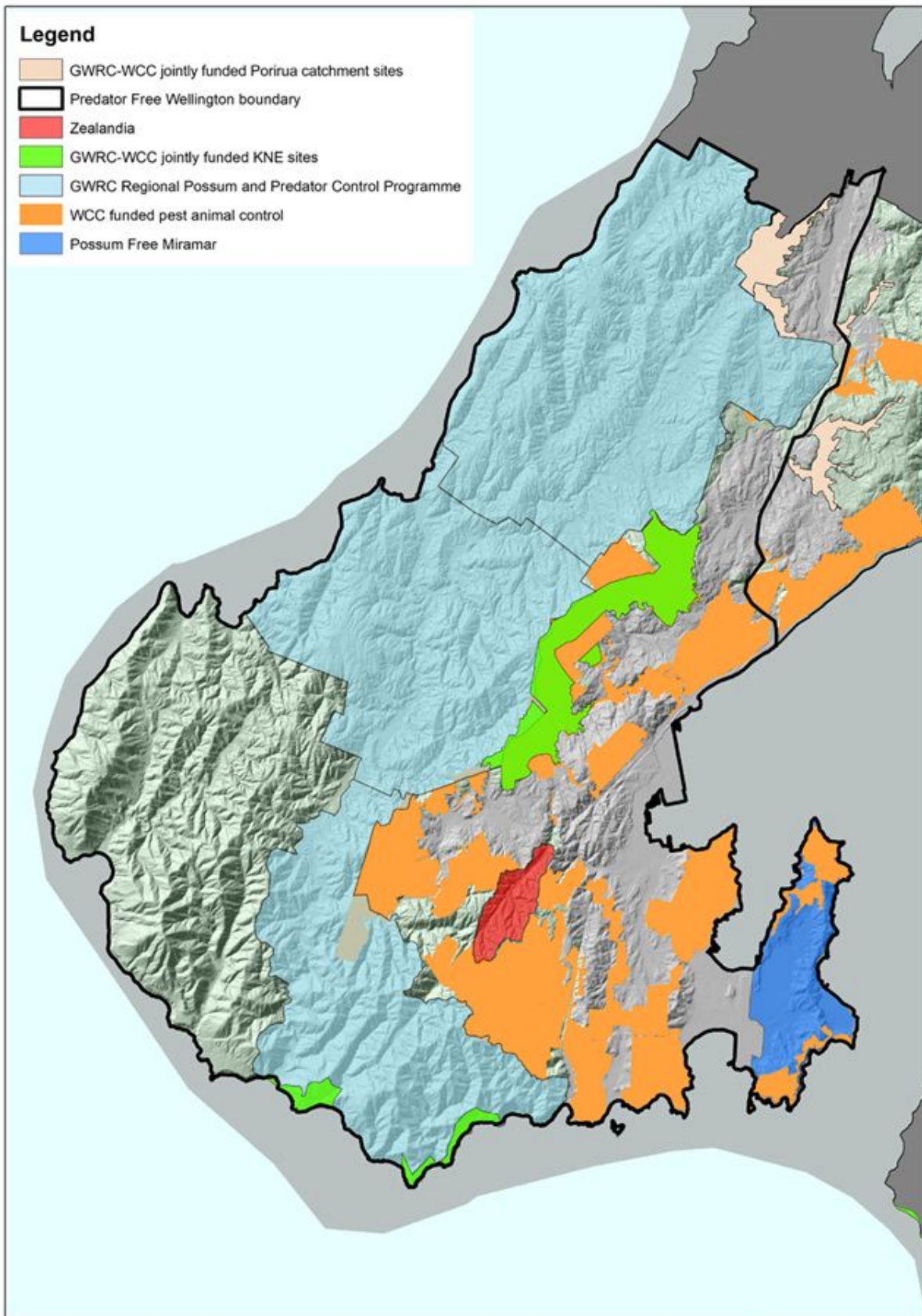
The Predator Free Wellington initial focus is on eradicating predators from the Miramar Peninsula before moving to other Wellington suburbs. After tackling Miramar Peninsula, a strategy will be developed to extend the project across the entire Wellington city area. Management of cats is not included in the scope of the proposed project.

Key results that the programme aims to achieve are:

- 1 Highly significant ecological outcomes – more birds, lizards and invertebrates contributing to healthy, functioning ecosystems
- 2 Significant economic benefits – for example, no more rats chewing wires or pipes
- 3 Social benefits – more connected communities working together for a common cause

Engaging with the community will form a large part of the project, and lessons learned by the Crofton Downs Predator Free Community group (New Zealand's first

predator-free community) and others will inform how the project is designed and implemented.



Map 3: Map of Predator Free Wellington control area

## 2.2 Legislative background

Regional councils undertake local government activities and actions under several legislative mandates. While managing pests is not dependent on one particular statute, its effectiveness is connected to the purpose

of the particular statute. All regional councils in New Zealand prepare and operate RPMPs under the Biosecurity Act.

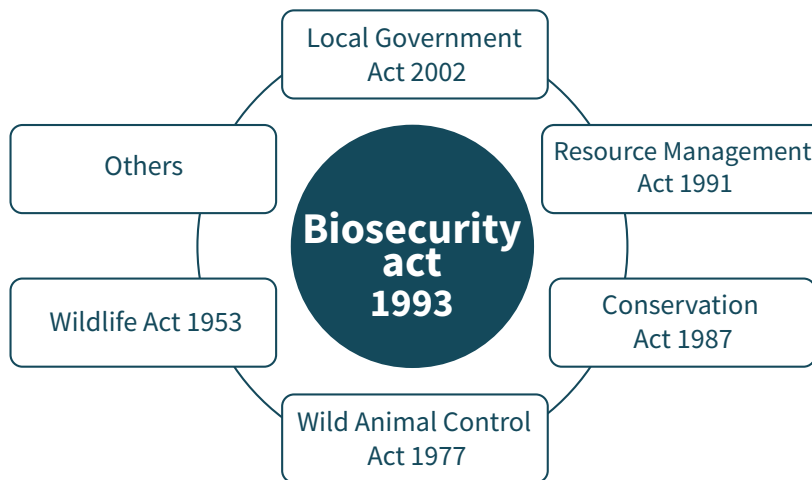


Figure 4: Biosecurity legislation

### 2.2.1 Biosecurity Act 1993

A regional council can use the Biosecurity Act to exclude, eradicate or effectively manage pests in its region, including unwanted organisms. While regional councils have no statutory obligation to undertake pest management, most have significant leadership roles in this field and therefore choose to. As such, the Act's approach is enabling rather than prescriptive. It provides a framework to gather intervention methods into a coherent system of efficient and effective actions.

Three parts of the Act are particularly pertinent to regional councils:

#### Part 2: Functions, powers and duties in a leadership role

Regional councils are mandated under Part 2 (functions, powers and duties), Section 12B of the Act to provide regional leadership in activities that prevent, reduce or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms that are present in their regions. Section 12B sets out the ways in which regional councils provide leadership. These include helping to develop and align RPMPs and regional pathway management plans in the region, promoting public support for managing pests, and helping those involved in managing pests to communicate and cooperate to make programmes more effective, efficient and equitable. Section 13(1) sets out powers that support regional councils in this leadership role. These include powers to:

- Monitor and survey pests, pest agents and unwanted organisms
- Provide for the assessment and eradication or management of pests in accordance with relevant pest management plans
- Prepare proposals for, make and implement RPMPs
- Appoint a management agency for a plan
- Disallow an operational plan or part of it
- Review, amend, revoke and replace, or revoke a plan
- Declare and implement small-scale management programmes
- Gather information, keep records and undertake research

#### Part 5: Managing pests and harmful organisms

Part 5 of the Act specifically covers pest management, including regional pest management. Its primary purpose is to provide for the eradication or effective management of harmful organisms. A harmful organism is assigned pest status if it is included in a pest management plan (also see the prerequisites in sections 69-78 of the Act).

Part 5 includes a requirement for ongoing monitoring to determine whether pests and unwanted organisms are present, and keeping them under surveillance. Part of this process is to develop effective and efficient

measures (such as policies and plans) that prevent, reduce or eliminate the adverse effects of pests and unwanted organisms on land and people (including Māori, their kaitiakitanga and taonga). This part requires that a regional council must assess any other proposal for an RPMP, must prepare an operational plan for any RPMP (if it is the management agency for it) and must prepare an annual report on the operational plan. Part 5 also addresses the issue of who should pay for the cost of pest management.

## Part 6: Administering an RPMP

Once operative, an RPMP is supported by parts of Part 6 (as nominated in the plan) that focus on the administrative provisions and powers to enable voluntary and mandatory actions of a regional council.

The administrative provisions and powers are listed in Section 9 of this Plan.

## 2.2.2 Resource Management Act 1991

Regional councils also have responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA) to sustainably manage the natural and physical resources of the region, including the coastal marine area. These responsibilities include sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources, safeguarding life-supporting capacity, and protecting environmentally significant areas and habitats (sections 5(2) and 6(c)).

The RMA sets out the functions of regional councils in relation to: the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems in the coastal marine area of the region (section 30(1)(c)(iii)); the control of actual or potential effects of use, development or protection of land (section 30(1)(d)(v)); and the establishment, implementation and review of objectives, policies and methods for maintaining indigenous biological diversity (section 30(1)(ga)).

The focus of the RMA is on managing adverse effects on the environment through regional policy statements, regional and district plans, and resource consents. The RMA, along with regional policies and plans, can be used to manage activities so that they do not create biosecurity risks, or those risks are minimised. While the Biosecurity Act is the main regulatory tool for managing pests, there are complementary powers within the RMA that can be used to ensure that problems are not exacerbated by activities regulated under the RMA.

The RMA enhances opportunities for iwi input to the RMA processes. Council's partnership with mana whenua enables them to influence decision-making and planning of key documents including the Pest Management Plan.

The Biosecurity Act cannot override any controls imposed under the RMA, for example bypassing resource consent requirements.

## 2.2.3 Local Government Act 2002

The purpose of the Local Government Act 2002 (the LGA) is to provide "a framework and powers for local authorities to decide which activities they undertake and the manner in which they will undertake them".

The LGA currently underpins biosecurity activities through the collection of both general and targeted rates. While planning and delivering pest management objectives could fall within powers and duties under the LGA, accessing legislation focused on managing pests at the regional level is the most transparent and efficient approach. Greater Wellington is mandated under section

11(b) of the LGA to perform the funding function, and section 11(b) provides for Greater Wellington to perform duties under Acts other than the LGA.

The LGA requires Greater Wellington to recognise and respect the Crown's responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Under the Act, local government is required to promote opportunities for Māori and others to contribute to its decision-making processes. In relation to the Pest Management Plan, the engagement of mana whenua and Māori will be important to inform the future planning and implementation of the framework.

## 2.2.4 Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (and Wild Animal Control Amendment Act 1997) and the Wildlife Act 1953

Activities undertaken in implementing this Plan must comply with other legislation. The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (and Wild Animal Control Amendment Act 1997), the Wildlife Act 1953 and the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 (all administered by the Department

of Conservation) have a role in relation to managing animals/fish.

- (a) The Wild Animal Control Act controls the hunting and release of wild animals such as deer, chamois, tahr and feral goats and pigs, and regulates deer farming and the operation of safari parks. It also gives local authorities the power to destroy wild animals under operational plans that have the Minister of Conservation's consent.
- (b) The Wildlife Act controls and protects wildlife not subject to the Wild Animal Control Act. It identifies wildlife that are not protected (e.g., mustelids, possums, wallabies, rooks and feral cats), that are to be game (e.g., mallard and paradise ducks and black swans) and that are partially protected or are injurious. It also authorises that certain unprotected wildlife may be kept and bred in captivity even if they are declared pests under a pest management plan.
- (c) The Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 place controls on people who possess, control, rear, raise, hatch or consign noxious fish without authority.

## 2.2.5 Other legislation

Other legislation (such as the Reserves Act 1977 and the Conservation Act 1987) contains provisions that support pest management within specific contexts. The role of regional councils under such legislation is limited to advocacy. As regional councils have a specific role under the Biosecurity Act, taking on only an advocacy role would be of little use.

The National Animal Identification and Tracing Act 2012 establishes an animal identification and tracing system that provides for the rapid and accurate tracing of deer and cattle for the purpose, among other things, of improving biosecurity management. To meet National Animal Identification and Tracing Act requirements, all persons in charge of deer or cattle must ensure that all deer and cattle are tagged with approved ear tags and are registered, and records are kept of the animals' movements.

As each of Greater Wellington's six mana whenua partners settle their Treaty of Waitangi historical claims

with the Crown, their settlement Acts identify new opportunities for Greater Wellington. The provisions identify new partnering obligations and arrangements that deliver mutual benefits and help iwi achieve their post-settlement aspirations. The Acts include the:

- Port Nicholson Block (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika) Claims Settlement Act 2009, which includes the Parangarau Lakes arrangement
- Ngāti Toa Rangatira Claims Settlement Act 2014, which includes the Whitireia Park Board arrangement
- Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā (Wairarapa Tamaki nui-ā-Rua) Claims Settlement Act 2017
- Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki nui-ā-Rua Settlement Act (once the latter settles), which includes the joint Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board redress.

Parties involved in implementing the Pest Management Strategy must consider the obligations associated with each of these settlement Acts.

## 2.3 Relationship with other pest management plans

An RPMP must not be inconsistent with any:

- National or regional pest management plan that is focused on the same organism
- Pathway management plan
- Regulation or regulations

Coordination with other pest management plans, and pest control operations undertaken by DOC, OSPRI and the Horizons Regional Council, will be achieved through consultation, collaboration and communication between Greater Wellington and the relevant agency. Alternative pest management arrangements or memoranda of understanding will be developed as required. Liaison on national pest control matters will take place with MPI.

In developing this Plan, Greater Wellington has considered the aims and objectives of the pest management strategies of the neighbouring council.

The Wellington Region shares a boundary with the Horizons Region. Greater Wellington consulted the Horizons Regional Council on the species that have very different pest profiles and/or distribution in our regions. Where possible, Greater Wellington will align its work programmes with neighbouring regional councils to maximise efficiencies in pest control. An example of this is Greater Wellington working collaboratively with the Horizons Regional Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council in managing rooks.

Greater Wellington is also aware of, and has considered the control of harmful and unwanted organisms that are under the auspices of central government agencies. Greater Wellington will work with DOC and MPI to ensure that the Plan is not inconsistent with their objectives for unwanted organisms. Significant pest management control by OSPRI, to reduce bovine Tb vectors (possums, mustelids etc.) in our region, under

the National Pest Management Plan for Bovine Tb is continuing for the duration of this Plan and supports the outcomes this Plan seeks to achieve.

There is a long history of successful partnership between Greater Wellington and other agencies through collaborative projects, such as the Wairarapa Moana Wetland Project (with DOC, mana whenua

partners and South Wairarapa District Council) and the National Interest Pest Response programme (with MPI). Also, Greater Wellington is a member of the National Biosecurity Capability Network and contributes staff, expertise and resources to the incursion responses against new to New Zealand organisms led by MPI (e.g., fruit fly response in Auckland, Myrtle rust, *Mycoplasma bovis* response).

## 2.3.1 Biosecurity 2025 Direction Statement

In November 2016 the Government outlined its vision for biosecurity management in New Zealand through the release of the Biosecurity 2025 Direction Statement. This outlines five strategic directions necessary to strengthen the parts of the national biosecurity system that are working well, to drive change where it is needed, and to harness opportunities to work more effectively:

- 1 “A biosecurity team of 4.7 million.” A collective effort across the country: every New Zealander becomes a biosecurity risk manager and every business manages its own biosecurity risks.
- 2 “A toolbox for tomorrow.” Harnessing science and technology to transform the way we do biosecurity.

- 3 “Smart, free-flowing information.” Tapping into the wealth of data available, building intelligence and using powerful data analysis to underpin risk management.
- 4 “Effective leadership and governance.” System-wide leadership and inclusive governance arrangements supporting all system participants in their roles.
- 5 “Tomorrow’s skills and assets.” A capable and sustainable workforce and world-class infrastructure providing the foundation for an effective system.

The programmes in this Plan align well with these strategic directions, emphasising the shared responsibilities for pest management and the evidence basis for their inclusion. The preparation and implementation of the Plan are core to taking regional leadership, combined with the broader operational and other programmes undertaken by Greater Wellington.

## 2.3.2 Predator Free 2050

This is an ambitious programme to rid New Zealand of possums, rats and stoats by 2050. Its aim is to connect and amplify successful efforts already underway across communities, iwi, private businesses, philanthropists, scientists and government. The intention is also to focus on developing breakthrough predator-control tools and techniques (as it is recognised that currently the technology to achieve this ambition is not available).

Four interim goals for 2025 have been set for the project:

- 1 An additional one million hectares of land where pests have been suppressed or removed through Predator Free New Zealand partnerships
- 2 Development of a scientific breakthrough capable of removing at least one small mammalian predator from New Zealand entirely

- 3 Demonstration that areas of more than 20,000ha can be predator free without the use of fences
- 4 Complete removal of all introduced predators from offshore island nature reserves

Greater Wellington recognises and supports the opportunity for a step-change in pest management in New Zealand. Greater Wellington is looking to partner with Predator Free 2050 in working towards this goal through key pest animal programmes within the Wellington Region.

Engaging with the community and supporting suburban pest management programmes will form a large part of the project, and lessons learned by the Crofton Downs Predator Free Community group and others will inform how we both design the project and implement the project design.

### 2.3.3 National Pest Plant Accord

The Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 included a number of pests that are also listed in the National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA). This accord is a cooperative agreement between central government (MPI and DOC), New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated, unitary authorities and regional councils.

The goal of the NPPA is to stop the spread of specific pest plants through casual and nursery trade, where distribution through either of those trades is the plants' primary distribution pathway. The NPPA is used alongside other pest management strategies.

MPI is responsible for coordinating, developing and managing the non-statutory accord. The NPPA

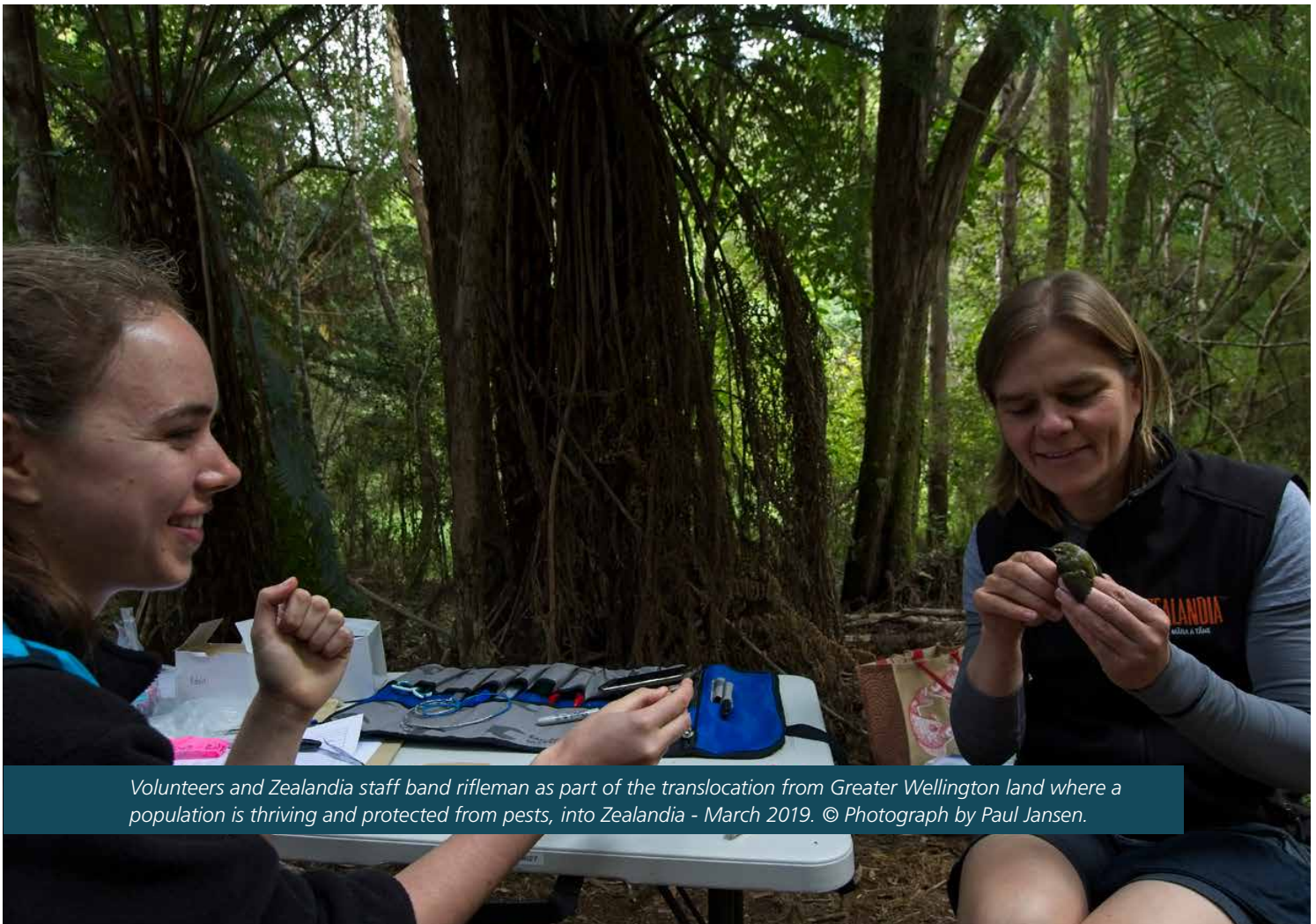
includes approximately 135 plants. All of these plants are unwanted organisms and are banned from sale, propagation and distribution throughout New Zealand. Regional councils undertake regular surveillance to prevent their sale, propagation and distribution. The full list of species on the NPPA is available on MPI's website (<https://mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/long-term-pest-management/national-pest-plant-accord>).

Several plants on the NPPA list are also addressed by management programmes in this Plan, additional to the restrictions on their spread derived from their status as unwanted organisms.

### 2.3.4 National Pest Pet Biosecurity Accord

The National Pest Pet Biosecurity Accord (NPPBA) is an initiative similar to the NPPA, and is a partnership between MPI, DOC, unitary authorities, regional councils, the Pet Industry Association and the New Zealand Companion Animal Council. Its purpose is to regulate the domestic trade of high-risk pets (excluding cats and dogs) and to encourage responsible pet ownership.

The intention is to identify a list of species to be declared unwanted organisms, although to date no species have been regulated under the NPPBA. As with pest plants in the NPPA, the inclusion of high-risk pets on the NPPBA list does not preclude their inclusion in RPMP programmes.



Volunteers and Zealandia staff band rifleman as part of the translocation from Greater Wellington land where a population is thriving and protected from pests, into Zealandia - March 2019. © Photograph by Paul Jansen.



## 3 RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

### 3.1 The management agency

Greater Wellington is the management agency responsible for implementing this Plan. Greater Wellington is satisfied that it meets the requirements of section 100 of the Biosecurity Act in that it:

- (a) Is accountable to the Plan funders, including Crown agencies, through the requirements of the LGA
- (b) Is acceptable to the funders and those persons subject to the Plan's management provision because it has implemented previous regional pest management strategies
- (c) Has the capacity, competency and expertise to implement the Plan

How Greater Wellington will undertake its management responsibilities is set out in Part Three (Procedures) of the Plan and in its annual Biosecurity Operational Plan.

### 3.2 Responsibilities of owners and/or occupiers

Pest management is an individual's responsibility in the first instance, because generally occupiers contribute to the pest problem and in turn benefit from the control of pests. The term "occupier" has a wide definition under the Biosecurity Act and includes:

- The person who physically occupies the place
- The owner of the place
- Any agent, employee or other person acting or apparently acting in the general management or control of the place

Under the Act, "place" includes any building, conveyance, craft, land or structure and the bed and waters of the sea and any canal, lake, pond, river or stream.

Owners and/or occupiers must manage pest populations at or below levels specified in the rules. If they fail to meet the rules' requirements, they may face legal action. In some instances, owners and/or occupiers must report pests to Greater Wellington. They must never sell, propagate, distribute or keep pests.

An owner and/or occupier cannot stop an authorised person entering a place, at any reasonable time, to:

- Find out whether pests are on the property
- Manage pests
- Ensure that the owner and/or occupier is complying with biosecurity law

This Plan treats all private land equitably and emphasises the responsibilities and obligations of all land owners and/or occupiers, including Māori. Greater Wellington acknowledges the complex and variable relationship of Māori land ownership and occupation. This includes multiple owners (including lessees) and a range of corporate management systems under the Companies Act 1993 and Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993. Where owners and/or occupiers are unknown, the Māori Land Court or the Registrar of Companies may help to identify and communicate with them.

The RPMP does not provide for compensation to be paid to any persons meeting their obligations under its implementation. However, should the disposal of a pest or associated organism provide any net proceeds, a person will be paid disbursement in the manner noted under section 100I of the Act.

### 3.3 Crown agencies

Four central government agencies (including state-owned enterprises) have been identified as being significant beneficiaries or exacerbators of pest management in the Wellington Region. These include:

- Department of Conservation
- NZ Transport Agency (NZTA)
- New Zealand Railways Corporation (KiwiRail)
- Land Information New Zealand
- New Zealand Defence Force

DOC undertakes significant pest management of Crown estate that supports the objectives of this Plan. Greater Wellington will continue to pursue and maintain formal and informal relationships with Crown agencies to achieve the objectives of this Plan.

## 3.4 Territorial authorities

Nine territorial authorities (TAs) are wholly or partly contained within the Wellington Region. They are the Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, Hutt City Council, Upper Hutt City Council, Carterton District Council, Kāpiti Coast District Council, Masterton District Council, South Wairarapa District Council and Tararua District Council.

Each TA will be bound by the rules in the Plan (with the exception of situations where adjoining occupiers of road reserves are deemed responsible in accordance with section 3.6 (Road reserves)). Each TA must meet the costs of complying with this Plan. Greater Wellington believes that, where relevant there are benefits in developing memoranda of understanding with TAs to limit the spread of pests and facilitate effective pest management.

## 3.5 NZ Transport Agency

There are more than 230km of state highways in the Wellington Region. NZTA is the occupier of the Crown land on which the roads lie, together with the road reserves extending to the adjoining land owners'/ occupiers' property boundaries.

the Crown Entities Act 2004 and therefore a Crown entity. As a Crown entity, NZTA is subject to provisions applicable to, and therefore falls within the definition of, land occupier for the purposes of obligations for pest control.

The New Zealand Transport Agency is a statutory entity and a Crown agent under section 7 and Schedule 1 of

## 3.6 Road reserves

Road reserves include the land on which formed roads lie and the verge areas that extend to adjacent property boundaries. The Biosecurity Act allows the option of making either roading authorities (NZTA and district/city councils) or adjoining land occupiers responsible for pest management in road reserves (see section 6(1) of the Act).

As such, Greater Wellington has decided that, for the purpose of this Plan, roading authorities are responsible for controlling pests on road reserves that they occupy. Where a road reserve boundary is unknown, a survey will indicate the location of a road or rail reserve boundary (should this be necessary). Areas where roading authorities are responsible for controlling pests include:

- Rest areas
- Weigh pits and stockpile areas
- Road reserves where road works have contributed to the establishment of named pests

- Road reserves adjacent to land where a landowner is undertaking programmed pest management
- Any other area where it is unreasonable to expect adjoining landowners to control pests (eg, steep topography)

Except where a rule prevents occupier control, adjacent landowners are responsible for controlling pests on road reserves in the following situations:

- Unformed paper roads that they occupy or are contiguous to the land that they occupy
- On land beyond 10m of the road centreline where the road reserve boundary is unknown
- Where fences encroach onto a surveyed road reserve; the occupier adjoining the road reserve shall be responsible for pests within that fenced area
- Where adjacent occupiers do not support the use of toxins/chemicals to control pests (eg, organic farming practices); the occupier adjoining the road reserve shall be responsible for pest control in the road reserve as well

## 3.7 KiwiRail

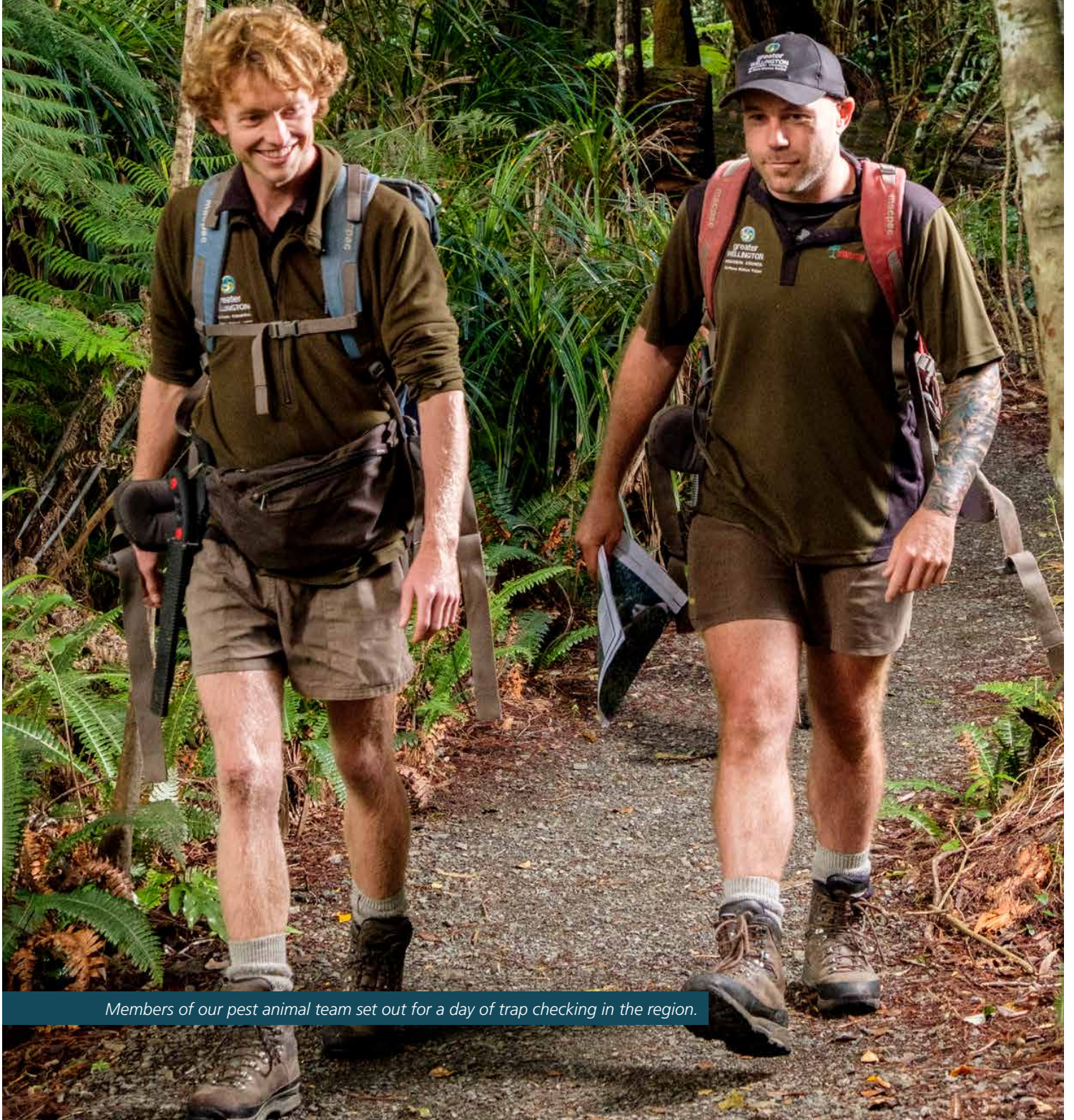
KiwiRail is, on behalf of the Crown, the owner and manager of New Zealand's railway infrastructure. For the purposes of the Biosecurity Act, KiwiRail comes within the definition of an occupier of land under the Act.

Therefore the land that KiwiRail occupies is subject to the rules for land owners/occupiers as defined in the Plan, and KiwiRail has the same obligations as any other land occupier.



*Horned poppy being controlled on the South coast by our team.*

# PART TWO – PEST MANAGEMENT



*Members of our pest animal team set out for a day of trap checking in the region.*

## 4 ORGANISM STATUS

### 4.1 Organisms declared as pests

Table 1 lists organisms that are classified as pests, and the management programme(s) that will apply to the pests.

Attention is also drawn to the statutory obligations of any person under sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act. Those sections ban anyone from selling, propagating, releasing or distributing any pest, or part of a pest, covered by the Plan. Not complying with sections 52 and 53 is an offence under the Act, and may result in the penalties noted in section 157(1).

Table 1: Organisms classified as pests

Common name	Scientific name	Programme	Page
<b>Plants</b>			
Alligator weed*	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Exclusion	29
Banana passionfruit*	<i>Passiflora mixta</i> , <i>P. mollissima</i> , <i>P. tripartita</i>	Site-led Hutt City Council (HCC)	57
Blue passionflower	<i>Passiflora caerulea</i>	Sustained control	45
Boneseed*	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Sustained control	47
Cathedral bells*	<i>Cobaea scandens</i>	Site-led HCC	58
Chilean needle grass*	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	Exclusion	29
Climbing spindleberry*	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Sustained control	49
Eelgrass*	<i>Vallisneria spiralis</i> , <i>V. gigantea</i>	Sustained control	50
Moth plant*	<i>Araujia hortorum</i>	Eradication	32
Nassella tussock*	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Exclusion	30
Old man's beard*	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Site-led HCC	58
Purple loosestrife*	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Progressive containment	38
Senegal tea*	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	Eradication	33
Spartina	<i>Spartina anglica</i> , <i>S. alterniflora</i>	Eradication	33
Velvetleaf**	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	Eradication	34
Woolly nightshade*	<i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	Eradication	34
Wilding conifers	<i>Pinus spp.</i> , <i>Macrocarpa spp.</i>	Progressive containment	40

\*Plants on the NPPA are unwanted organisms under the Biosecurity Act.

\*\*Unwanted organism (as declared by a chief technical officer) (section 164C of the Biosecurity Act).

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Programme</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Animals</b>			
European hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus occidentalis</i>	Site-led	61
Feral deer (fallow, red and sika)	<i>(Dama, Cervus elaphus, C. nippon)</i>	Site-led	62
Feral goat	<i>Capra hircus</i>	Site-led	63
Feral rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Sustained control	63
Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen, G. tibicen hypoleuca</i>	Site-led	65
Mustelids (ferret**, stoat and weasel)	<i>Mustela furo, M. erminea, M. nivalis</i>	Site-led	66
Pest cat	<i>Felis catus</i>	Site-led	68
Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Site-led	70
Rats (Norway and ship)	<i>Rattus norvegicus, R. rattus</i>	Site-led	73
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Eradication	36
Wallabies (Bennett's and dama)	<i>Macropus rufogriseus, M. eugenii</i>	Exclusion	30
Wasps (common, German, Australian and Asian paper wasp)	<i>Vespula vulgaris, V. germanica, Polistes humilis, P. chinensis</i>	Sustained control	54

\*Plants on the NPPA are unwanted organisms under the Biosecurity Act.

\*\*Unwanted organism (as declared by a chief technical officer) (section 164C of the Biosecurity Act).

## 4.2 Other harmful organisms

Beside the organisms declared as pests under this Plan there are many other organisms capable of causing significant adverse effects. A number of these organisms pose a sufficient future risk to warrant being watch-listed for ongoing surveillance or future control opportunities, especially with the pending impacts of climate change. Greater Wellington may undertake a minor review of this Plan to include control programmes for any new to the region harmful organisms or where the risk of an existing organism has changed before the statutory review of the Plan.

There are also a number of well-established and widespread species that threaten our high-value biodiversity areas. Many of these harmful organisms were listed in the Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 and either had no rules or were included in the KNE

programme (e.g. Japanese honeysuckle and tradescantia). The current Greater Wellington KNE programme includes many of these species in its operational management plans for long-term control. These harmful organisms include, but are not limited to, those species identified in Appendix 2.

Greater Wellington will continue to provide information and advice to the public about harmful organisms where required.

Greater Wellington will collaborate with and provide support for other agencies (e.g., DOC, MPI and mana whenua partners) on managing pests, unwanted organisms and harmful species in the Wellington Region where coordinated action provides the best outcome for the region's environmental, economic, social and cultural values.

## 4.3 Unwanted organisms

A number of plant and animal species have been declared nationally as Unwanted Organisms. Some of those organisms are subject to national action under the National Interest Pest Response (NIPR) programme managed by MPI.

Manchurian wild rice, Cape tulip and water hyacinth, which are all subject to NIPR, are known to be present in the Wellington Region. Greater Wellington will continue to work collaboratively with MPI as part of the collective assistance being provided by the councils to the NIPR programme.

The NPPA currently targets 135 plant species, all of which are declared Unwanted Organisms. The NPPA is a cooperative agreement between:

- MPI
- New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated
- Unitary authorities and regional councils
- DOC

It seeks to prevent the sale and/or distribution of the specified plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plants in New Zealand. The most up-to-date list of NPPA species is available on the MPI website.

Unwanted organisms are banned from sale, propagation and distribution in accordance with sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act. Any other control measures are the responsibility of the respective government departments, unless a regional council has been specifically asked and has agreed to undertake such work.

For the most up-to-date list of Unwanted Organisms, visit the MPI website (<http://mpi.govt.nz>).

## 4.4 Invasion curve

The invasion curve is a simple descriptive model (derived from Williams, 1997) that demonstrates basic pest population dynamics and can be used to help guide strategy objectives and management programmes for individual pests. There is a strong relationship between where a pest sits on the invasion curve and the likelihood of controlling it. The invasion curve has four stages, which can be explained as follows:

- 1 **Absent:** These pests have not yet established in the Wellington Region, or all known sites have been eradicated. The most effective form of management is to continue to exclude them.
- 2 **Lag stage:** This is the initial slow establishment stage. Pest numbers are low, the rate of population increase is slow and the distribution of the species in the Wellington Region is limited. The most effective option during this stage may be eradication to prevent further establishment.
- 3 **Explosion stage:** This occurs once a pest has adapted to its environment and has reached a population base that allows rapid growth in population size and range. At this stage it is not realistic or cost-effective to eradicate the pest, but it may be possible to prevent further spread through containment.
- 4 **Established stage:** This stage occurs when the rapid growth in population size and range slows as the pest fills most of its available habitat. At this stage pests can only be suppressed to mitigate their impacts.

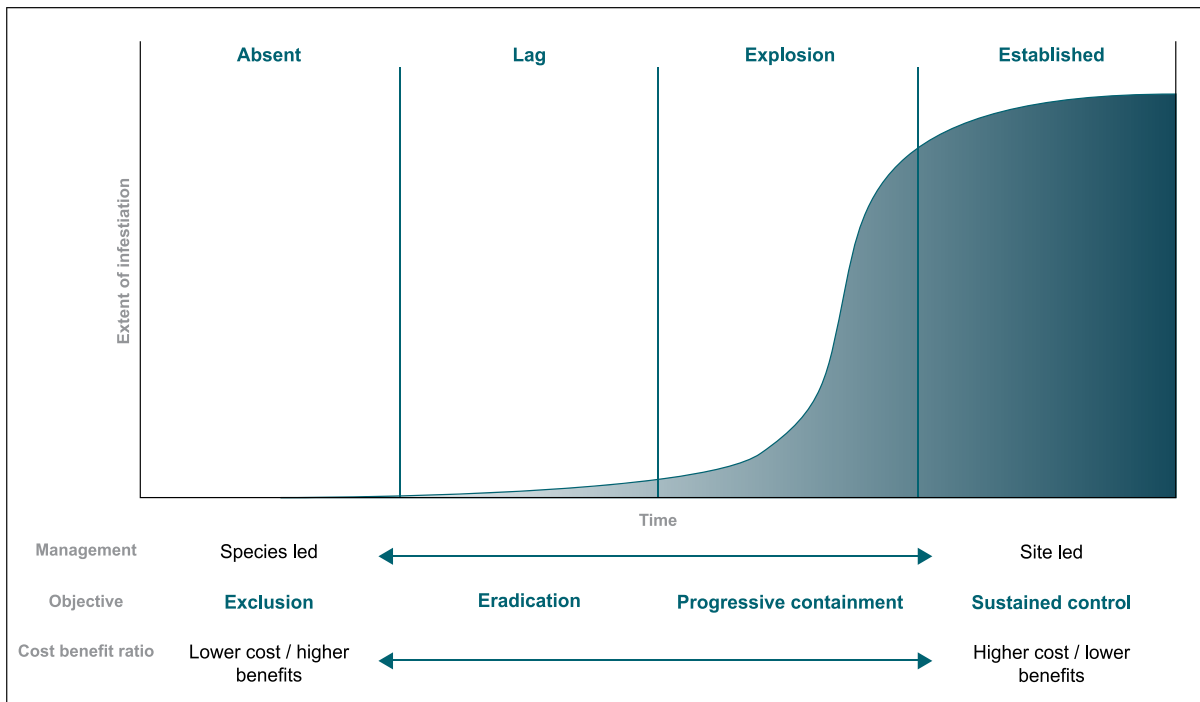


Figure 5: Invasion curve

## 4.5 Control methods and animal welfare issues

While managing pests and other harmful organisms during implementation of this Plan, Greater Wellington will comply with regulations and methodology prescribed in national best practice and relevant legislation relating to animal welfare for the use of agrichemicals and vertebrate toxic agents.

When planning pest control operations due consideration will be given to the methods that will achieve best control outcomes while taking into account animal welfare issues for the target and non-target organisms.



## 5 PEST MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

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### 5.1 Pest management programmes

One or more pest management programmes will be used to control pests and any other organisms covered by this Plan. The types of programmes are defined by the NPD and reflect outcomes in keeping with:

- The extent of the invasion
- Whether it is possible to achieve the desired control levels for the pests

The intermediate outcomes for the five programme types relevant to this Plan are described below.

- 1 **Exclusion programme:** To prevent the establishment of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, that is present in New Zealand but not yet established in an area.
- 2 **Eradication programme:** To reduce the infestation level of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to zero levels in an area in the short to medium term.
- 3 **Progressive containment programme:** To contain or reduce the geographic distribution of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to an area over time.
- 4 **Sustained control programme:** To provide for ongoing control of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.
- 5 **Site-led pest programme:** To ensure that the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, that is capable of causing damage to a place is excluded or eradicated from that place, or is contained, reduced or controlled within the place to an extent that protects the values of that place.

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### 5.2 Objectives

Objectives have been set for each pest or class of pests. As required by the NPD, the objectives include:

- The particular adverse effect(s) (section 54(a) of the Biosecurity Act) to be addressed
- The intermediate outcomes of managing the pest
- The geographic area to which the objective applies
- The level of outcome, if applicable
- The period for achieving the outcome
- The intended outcome in the first 10 years of the Plan (if the period is greater than 10 years)

## 5.3 Principal measures to manage pests

The principal measures used in the Plan to achieve the objectives are in four main categories. Each category contains a suite of tools to be applied in appropriate circumstances.

### 1 Requirement to act

Land owners and/or occupiers or other persons may be required to act where Plan rules dictate that:

- (a) Pests are to be controlled
- (b) The presence of pests is to be reported
- (c) Actions are to be reported (type, quantity, frequency, location, programme completion)
- (d) Pests are not to be spread (propagated, sold, distributed) and pathways are to be managed (e.g., machinery, gravel, animals)

### 2 Inspection and monitoring

Inspection and monitoring by Greater Wellington may include staff:

- (a) Visiting properties or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present or whether rules and management programmes are complied with, or to identify areas to which control programmes will apply (places of value, exclusion zones, movement control areas)
- (b) Managing compliance with regulations (rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, processing of exemptions)
- (c) Taking limited control actions where doing so is effective and cost-efficient
- (d) Monitoring the effectiveness of control

### 3 Service delivery

Greater Wellington may deliver the service:

- (a) Where it is funded to do so within a rating district
- (b) On a user-pays basis
- (c) By providing control tools, including sourcing and distributing biological agents, provisions (e.g., traps, chemicals) or subsidies

### 4 Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington may:

- (a) Provide general-purpose education, advice, awareness-raising and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them)
- (b) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests
- (c) Facilitate or fund community and land owner and/or occupier self-help groups and committees
- (d) Help other agencies with control, advocacy and the sharing or sourcing of funding
- (e) Promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers
- (f) Encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find or to control them
- (g) Facilitate or commission research into pest management



The weir at Kaitoke Regional Park.

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## 5.4 Alternative pest management arrangements

Greater Wellington may develop alternative management arrangements (e.g., management plans or memoranda of understanding) with agencies to establish agreed levels of service with those agencies, to act to control pests on

their land, or to defer enforcement actions on rules in this Plan in preference for pragmatic levels of service that achieve the objectives of the Plan.

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## 5.5 Rules

Rules play an integral role in securing many of the pest management outcomes sought by the Plan. They create a safety net to protect land owners and/or occupiers from the effects of the actions or inactions of others where non-regulatory means are inappropriate or do not succeed.

Section 73(5) of the Act prescribes the matters that may be addressed by rules, and the need to:

- (i) Specify if a rule is to be designated a Good Neighbour Rule
- (ii) Specify if breaching the rule is an offence under the Act
- (iii) Specify if an exemption to the rule, or any part of it, is allowable or not
- (iv) Explain the purpose of the rule

Rules can apply to land owners and/or occupiers or to a person's actions in general.



## 6 PEST DESCRIPTIONS AND PROGRAMMES

This section lists the pests to be managed under the Plan according to the programme(s) to which they are assigned. The Plan is required to describe, for each pest listed:

- Its adverse effects
- The reasons for a programme
- The objectives to be included in the programme (see section 5.2)
- The principal measures (including rules) to be used to achieve the objectives (see section 5.3)
- Any other measures that would be reasonable to take to achieve the objectives

### 6.1 Pests to be managed under exclusion programmes

The pests listed in Table 2 are not known to be present in the Wellington Region (outside of zoological facilities) and preventing their establishment is considered to be of benefit to the region. These pests have the potential to establish in the Wellington Region and may have adverse effects on its social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing and values. These pests can displace other

species, affecting pasture and native species, and their potential impacts on production and native ecosystems warrant the prevention of their establishment. Success in preventing their establishment is considered more likely under a planned and coordinated approach than through individual land owner/occupier responsibility.

Table 2: Pests to be managed under exclusion programmes

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Plants</b>	
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
Chilean needle grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>
Nassella tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>
<b>Animals</b>	
Wallaby (Bennett's and dama)	<i>Macropus rufogriseus rufogriseus, Macropus eugenii</i>

### 6.1.1 Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)



#### Description

Alligator weed is a perennial aquatic or terrestrial herb with long, fibrous roots. Stems root at nodes, are up to 10m long, usually pink, soft, hollow, creep along the ground or float on water with tips standing upright and form dense stands or rafts. Dark green, waxy leaves (3-13 x 1-4cm) are opposite. White, clover-like flowers in 1-2cm diameter clusters appear from December to February, but no seed is produced.

#### Adverse effects

Alligator weed rapidly forms dense mats over water and margins with roots to 2m deep. Stem sections break and root readily. It is tolerant of 30 percent sea water, high temperatures, high pollutant levels, grazing and other damage but intolerant of frost. It reproduces from stem sections only. Water flow, contaminated machinery, soil movement, dumped vegetation, eel nets, livestock, boats and trailers all spread fragments into new catchments, pastures, cropping land, waste places and drains.

### 6.1.2 Chilean needle grass (*Nassella neesiana*)



#### Description

Chilean needle grass is an erect, tufted, perennial grass that grows up to 1.2m tall. The leaves are up to 5mm wide, bright green and harsh. The flowers have a purple tinge and ripen into hard, sharp seeds with long, twisting tails. Seeds are up to 10mm long, with hard, sharply pointed heads and long (c.70mm), hair-like awns (tails). This species can be difficult to identify, especially when not flowering.

#### Adverse effects

Chilean needle grass can outcompete and displace desired pasture species and is expensive to control once it has infested an area. It should not be grazed during flowering and seeding, as it reduces the stock-carrying capacity of a property. Seeds contaminate wool and damage sheep pelts, leading to considerable economic losses. Lambs are particularly vulnerable to blindness from its seeds.

### 6.1.3 **Nassella tussock** (*Nassella trichotoma*)



#### **Description**

Nassella tussock is a tufted, perennial tussock grass with fine, tightly rolled, light green or yellowish-green leaves. The plants are erect when young but slightly drooping with age, and grow up to 70cm tall and 80cm wide. The stem is swollen just above ground level. Leaves do not break when pulled. The ligule is short (1-2mm), white, hairless and obvious when the blade is pulled from a younger leaf. Flower heads are open with a branched seed head 25-95cm long, and produced between November and January. Ripe seeds are purplish with 3cm-long bristles. Roots are deep, matted and fibrous.

#### **Adverse effects**

Nassella tussock can be extremely invasive, totally dominating low-producing grassland. Pasture-carrying capacity can be significantly reduced because the leaves are unpalatable and indigestible. Sheep avoid grazing mature tussocks, but can graze younger plants. Because of its poor nutritional quality, sheep can lose condition on infested pastures. If forced to eat tussock, they will lose weight and can die as they cannot properly digest the leaves. Nassella tussock seeds can contaminate and damage fleeces and hides of sheep, adding to production losses.

### 6.1.4 **Wallaby** (*Macropus rufogriseus*, *M. eugenii*)



#### **Description**

Wallaby are kangaroo-like marsupial animals standing 0.5m (dama) to 1.5m (Bennett's) tall with tails as long as half their height. They range in weight from approximately 5kg to in excess of 20kg. Their fur colour varies from grey to reddish brown.

#### **Adverse effects**

Wallabies are capable of causing significant adverse environmental effects. These include preventing the regeneration of native bush and depleting forest understorey, and possible impacts on water quality. They can damage tall tussock grasslands, including the inter-tussock vegetation, which can become depleted with a consequent increase in bare ground and a higher risk of soil erosion. Pasture and feed crops are grazed, particularly in situations where suitable wallaby cover is adjacent. Exotic forests can be damaged, especially in their establishment stage.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, prevent the establishment of:

- (i) Alligator weed, Chilean needle grass, Nassella tussock and wallabies

in the Wellington Region in order to protect the environmental and cultural values and economic wellbeing of the Wellington Region.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

### Inspection and monitoring

- Greater Wellington staff and/or its contractors will conduct searches in areas that are vulnerable to infestation by exclusion species. Council staff will undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions.

### Service delivery

- Eradication of exclusion species will be attempted by Greater Wellington in conjunction with relevant Crown agencies and stakeholders where practicable.

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders to help them identify exclusion plants and assist in early detection
- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of exclusion plants

Considerable emphasis will be placed on developing partnerships with other organisations and community groups that have expertise or an interest in protecting the environment.

### Rules

- 1 No person shall possess any pest included in Table 2 (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act.

- 2 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, any pest included in Table 2 in the Wellington Region shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 5 working days.

### Explanation of rules

Rules 1 and 2 are to assist in preventing exclusion species from becoming established in the Wellington Region.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

Upon application, the Wellington Regional Council will consider issuing an exemption under section 78 of the Act to provide for the keeping of any wallaby for zoological purposes.

## 6.2 Pests to be managed under eradication programmes

The eradication programme covers organisms that are present in the Wellington Region but infestations are limited in size or density, or eradication is deemed feasible and is a cost-effective solution to prevent the species from becoming entrenched to protect future production or environmental values.

The programme involves regular ongoing control to reduce infestation levels of the pests, in the short to medium term, to zero density levels across the Wellington Region and across all habitats and properties. Greater Wellington has determined it is appropriate to be the lead agency or partner for eradicating these pests from the Wellington Region.

Table 3: Pests to be managed under eradication programmes

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Plants</b>	
Moth plant	<i>Araujia hortorum</i>
Senegal tea	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>
Spartina	<i>Spartina anglica</i> , <i>S. alterniflora</i>
Velvetleaf	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>
Woolly nightshade	<i>Solanum mauritianum</i>
<b>Animal</b>	
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>

### Eradication programme for plants

#### 6.2.1 Moth plant (*Araujia hortorum*)



##### Description

Moth plant is a perennial, broad-leaved, herbaceous climber and can grow to over 5m tall. Dark green leaves (3-12cm x 2-6cm) are hairless and dull on the top, greyish-downy underneath, and opposite on the stems. Clusters of two to four bell-shaped, white flowers (20-25mm diameter), occasionally with pink streaks, appear from December to May, followed by distinctive thick, leathery, pear-shaped pods which split open to disperse many black, thistledown-like seeds. Stems and pods produce a milky sap that is toxic to humans and animals. Each pod contains hundreds of seeds.



##### Adverse effects

Moth plant smothers and replaces native species, preventing regeneration in a range of habitats. The milky-white sap can cause skin irritations in susceptible people and the seeds are poisonous.



## 6.2.2 Senegal tea (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*)



### Description

Senegal tea is a hardy, semi-aquatic, perennial herb that can grow up to 1.5m tall, with fine, fibrous roots. It has the ability to grow aerially from stem nodes. The stems are hollow and float and can take root at nodes, resulting in new plants easily forming from broken fragments. Leaves are dark green, slightly waxy, lance shaped and serrated and are paired with opposite stalks joined at the stem. Flowers are produced from November to April and are clover-like with many thin, white florets, followed by yellow-brown seeds. Senegal tea is dormant over winter and dies back to rootstock if chilled, but re-sprouts over spring.

### Adverse effects

Senegal tea is an aggressive aquatic plant that inhibits wetlands, ponds and streams by forming dense, floating mats that quickly cover waterways. It can exclude desirable native aquatic plants in these ecosystems, therefore affecting native biodiversity.

It can block drainage channels, causing flooding, and can affect recreational activities and irrigation. It spreads through both vegetative fragmentation and seed dispersal. Heavy infestations and the rotting of dead plants have been found to diminish the oxygen available to fish and other aquatic organisms.

## 6.2.3 Spartina (*Spartina anglica*, *S. alterniflora*)



### Description

Spartina is an aquatic plant inhabiting waterway margins, growing up to 1m tall in brackish or fresh water. Its leaves vary in colour from yellow to green to brown and are erect, cord-like grasses of varying sizes. It has an extensive rhizome root system with underwater/ground creeping stems. It is usually found in inter-tidal zones of estuaries and salt marshes, but may be found in wetland and on stream edges.

### Adverse effects

Spartina restricts water movement and causes sediment build-up in waterways, increasing the risk of flooding. It also displaces native plants in waterways by outcompeting them for light, nutrients and space. It is spread in many ways, including through water, wind, machinery, animals and people. Broken fragments re-sprout easily. It tolerates all weathers and temperatures, fire, grazing and other damage. It may also affect recreational fisheries and kai moana gathering sites for Māori.

## 6.2.4 Velvetleaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*)



### Description

Velvetleaf is an aggressive, annual, broad-leaved herb that grows 1-2.5m tall. Its buttery-yellow flowers occur in spring to autumn, producing a capsule that consists of a cup-like ring formed by 12-15 woody segments, and is about 2.5cm in diameter. Leaves are large and heart-shaped and velvety to touch. At the only active site in the Wairarapa (sheep and beef farm) all mature plants (bearing flowers) found were at a height of 20-30cm.



### Adverse effects

A recent incursion to New Zealand, it aggressively competes with crops for nutrients and water. Seedlings are vigorous and the plants grow rapidly in the first few months after germination. It is regarded as the worst cropping weed in the United States, so could be detrimental to farming practices if it established in the region.

## 6.2.5 Woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*)



### Description

Woolly nightshade is a fast-growing, capsicum-smelling shrub or small tree growing up to 10m tall with all parts covered in dusty hairs, and whitish, branching, soft-woody stems. Velvety, oval, grey-green leaves (10-35cm x 3-15cm) are whitish underneath with prominent 'ears' (25mm) at base, which clasp the stem. Dense clusters of mauve to purple flowers (15-20mm diameter) with yellow anthers appear from January to December, followed by clusters of round berries (1cm diameter) that ripen from hard green to soft, dull yellow.



### Adverse effects

Woolly nightshade invades productive land and prevents the regeneration of native plant species. This plant is allelopathic (produces toxins that poison the soil), forming dense, often pure stands that outcompete most other species. Woolly nightshade is poisonous and handling the plants can cause irritation and nausea.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, destroy all infestations of moth plant, Senegal tea, spartina, velvetleaf and woolly nightshade within the Wellington Region, prior to seed set, to prevent adverse effects on economic wellbeing and the environment of the region.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct inspections, monitoring or surveillance in areas that are vulnerable to infestations of eradication species to determine the presence of any new infestation and the status of existing or historical sites
- Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions
- Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of eradication species

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors will undertake direct control of eradication species by service delivery at all known sites
- Will assist in the release of biocontrol agents for eradication species where appropriate

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection
- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests

### Rules

- 1 No person shall possess any moth plant, Senegal tea, spartina, velvetleaf or woolly nightshade (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 2 An occupier shall, upon receipt of a written direction from an authorised person, destroy\* any moth plant, Senegal tea, spartina, velvetleaf or woolly nightshade present on the land they occupy.

*\*For the purpose of this rule, destroy means the permanent preclusion of the plant's ability to set viable seed.*

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 3 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, any pest plant included in Table 3 in the Wellington Region shall report the sighting to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.

### Explanation of rules

Rules 1, 2 and 3 are to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control these plants in the Wellington Region.

Rule 2 allows Greater Wellington to choose the most appropriate method of control for eradication of the species based on best industry practices. Where landowners/occupiers do not consider this applicable to their situation and they fail to undertake control, they will be issued a written direction to undertake the work at their expense. Such work must achieve a standard of control acceptable to Greater Wellington.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## Eradication programme for animals

### 6.2.6 Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)



#### Description

Rooks are large, black birds (30-50cm tall) with a violet-blue, glossy tint. They can be identified by their distinctive harsh “KAAH” call. They live conspicuously in breeding colonies or rookeries generally built in pine or eucalyptus trees. A typical rookery in the Wellington Region contains about 20 nests. Rooks are easily disturbed and can become very wary and bait shy. This makes control difficult and can lead to rookeries fragmenting, with birds colonising new areas.

In 2017/18 eight active rookeries were treated by aerial application. All rookeries were situated rurally in northern Wairarapa to the north of Masterton and below the regional boundary. Geographically the spread was from the east coast (Castlepoint) to the eastern side of Pūkaha

Mount Bruce National Wildlife Centre. A small number of rooks are still known to exist in South Wairarapa, where they have been established for many years, but no active breeding colonies were detected when a comprehensive survey was undertaken in 2017. They have been present along parts of the east coast between north and South Wairarapa but none was detected south of Castlepoint during the 2017 survey.

#### Adverse effects

In summer, when the ground becomes too hard to extract insects, rooks assemble into large groups and target large food supplies such as maize, peas, squash, green feed and cereal crops, nuts, freshly ploughed earth and newly germinating crops, often causing extensive damage to these crops.

#### Objective

Over the duration of the Plan:

- eradicate all rooks from the region
- have no active rookeries within 10 years of the commencement of the Plan

to prevent adverse effects on economic wellbeing and the environment in the Wellington Region.

Exclusion	<b>Eradication</b>	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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#### Principal measures to achieve objective

##### Requirement to act

- Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

##### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington will:

- Survey rook populations annually in areas where they are known to exist, and where new infestations are reported
- Annually inspect pet shops and rook keepers for the sale and/or breeding of rooks

##### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control by service delivery where rooks are known to exist

**Advocacy and education**

Greater Wellington will:

- Encourage the Horizons Regional Council to actively pursue management of rooks within their region that complements Greater Wellington’s eradication programme
- Support appropriate research initiatives, including biological control should it become available
- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests

**Rules**

- 1 Other than under the direction or supervision of an authorised person, no person shall:
  - (i) possess any living rook
  - (ii) poison, capture or trap any rook
  - (iii) discharge any firearm at any rook; or
  - (iv) damage, disturb or interfere in any way with a rookery

A breach of these rules will create an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 2 Occupiers in the Wellington Region shall notify Greater Wellington of the presence of rooks and/or rookeries on land that they occupy within 10 working days.

**Explanation of rules**

Rule 1 is to prevent mismanaged control attempts by occupiers that may result in the dispersal of the birds and a further spread of the problem, and allows Greater Wellington to undertake the necessary action for control.

Rule 2 will assist Greater Wellington in monitoring new infestations of rooks and implementing controls before they become well established at the new locations.

**Advice note**

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

Upon application, Greater Wellington will consider issuing an exemption under section 78 of the Act to provide for the keeping of a rook, or rooks, for zoological purposes.

## 6.3 Pests to be managed under progressive containment programmes

Progressive containment species are species that are well established in the Wellington Region but with present infestation levels that are low enough for those levels to be reduced region-wide through a progressive containment programme.

In some cases, progressively containing a species will result in fewer sites infested with the species, or, in others, the overall density of the species will be reduced over a 20-year period. The long-term outcome (greater than 20 years) for pests under this programme could also result in eradication.

Table 4: Pests under progressive containment programmes

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Plant</b>	
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Wilding conifers – European larch, Douglas fir and pine species	<i>Larix decidua</i> , <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> , <i>Pinus spp.</i>

### 6.3.1 Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)



#### Description

Purple loosestrife is a herbaceous, erect, hairy perennial that grows up to 2m tall with purple flower spikes, a taproot and fibrous roots. It can form dense surface mats and produce up to 50 stems per rootstock. Stems are four- to eight-sided and pink at the base and die off in winter. The narrow leaves are normally paired. Between December and February a densely hairy flower head spike (20-25cm long) is produced, made up of purple-magenta flowers with five or six petals. These are followed by blackish seed capsules 3-5mm in length.

#### Adverse effects

Purple loosestrife is capable of invading a variety of wetland habitats, including river and stream banks, pond edges, lakes, roadside ditches and reservoirs. It primarily threatens wetland and riparian habitats characterised by slack water. It prefers moist soil – however, once established a population can tolerate a change in soil conditions. Disturbed areas are more prone to invasion because exposed soil is ideal for germination.

It has a strong ability to rapidly outcompete native wetland species, therefore reducing biodiversity at wetland sites. Tall, dense stands can reduce recreation opportunities.



Man-made wetland at Queen Elizabeth Park.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, progressively contain and reduce the geographic distribution or extent of purple loosestrife in wetlands or waterbodies identified as specific outstanding waterbodies and wetlands in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) for the Wellington Region (Schedules A1-3, B, C1-2), to protect the Wellington Region's indigenous environmental and cultural values, specifically wetland habitats with native wetland biodiversity (Appendix 5, as in PNRP <http://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Plans--Publications/Regional-Plan-Review/Proposed-Plan/Chapter-13-maps.pdf>).

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
<h3>Principal measures to achieve objective</h3>				
<h4>Requirement to act</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.</li> </ul>		<h4>Rules</h4> <p>1 No person shall possess any purple loosestrife (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.</p> <p>A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.</p> <p>2 Occupiers within the Wellington Region shall, upon receipt of a written direction from an authorised person, destroy* all purple loosestrife plants on land they occupy within an area that is classified as a natural, significant or outstanding wetland or waterbody under an operative Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.</p> <p><i>*For the purposes of this rule, destroy means the permanent preclusion of the plant's ability to set viable seed.</i></p> <p>A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.</p> <p>3 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, purple loosestrife shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.</p>		
<h4>Inspection and monitoring</h4> <p>Greater Wellington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff and/or its contractors may conduct inspections, monitoring or surveillance in areas that are vulnerable to infestation of purple loosestrife to determine the presence of any new infestations and the status of existing or historical sites</li> <li>Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions</li> <li>Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of purple loosestrife</li> </ul>		<h4>Explanation of rules</h4> <p>Rules 1 and 3 are to assist in preventing purple loosestrife from becoming further established in the Wellington Region.</p> <p>Rule 2 outlines the requirement for occupiers within the Wellington Region to take specified actions to prevent the pest from establishing on that land.</p>		
<h4>Service delivery</h4> <p>Greater Wellington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff and/or its contractors will undertake the initial direct control of purple loosestrife by service delivery at wetland and waterbody sites classified as natural, significant or outstanding</li> <li>Will assist in the release of biocontrol agents for purple loosestrife species where appropriate</li> </ul>		<h4>Advice note</h4> <p>Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.</p>		
<h4>Advocacy and education</h4> <p>Greater Wellington will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection</li> <li>Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests</li> </ul>				

## 6.3.2 Wilding conifers – European larch (*Larix decidua*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and pine species (*Pinus spp.*)



### Description

Wilding conifers are defined as any introduced conifer tree, including (but not limited to) any of the species listed in Table 5, established by natural means, unless it is located within a forest plantation, and does not create any greater risk of wilding conifer spread to adjacent or nearby land than the forest plantation that it is a part of.

One of the key challenges associated with the management of wilding conifers is that while wilding conifers are a pest, planted conifers are a valuable resource. This highlights the importance of recognising the considerable value of planted and responsibly managed conifers, and clearly distinguishing these from naturally regenerated wilding conifers, which can pose a threat to a range of environmental, economic, aesthetic, recreational and other values. The wilding conifer definition incorporates all 10 of the most spread-prone conifer species, but specifically applies only to those trees that are naturally regenerated, rather than intentionally planted. For the purposes of this programme, a forest plantation is an area of 1 hectare or more of predominantly planted trees.

Wilding conifers are usually found in alpine and sub-alpine areas, hence their presence in parts of the northern margins of the Remutaka ranges. Owing to their hardiness, wilding conifers have been used as a shelter belt species throughout the region.

### Adverse effects

Wilding conifers can have significant impacts on native ecosystems, particularly those with low-stature vegetation. Wilding conifers grow faster and taller than low-stature native plants and so can shade out many of these species. Where there is dense wilding conifer growth, this can lead to local extinction of native plant communities, the drying of wetlands and riparian areas, and resulting impacts on native fauna through the loss of habitat. Soil and soil fauna are also altered when wilding conifers replace native ecosystems.

Most wilding conifer species do not pose a significant threat to established native forests; however, Douglas fir has a higher shade tolerance than other introduced conifer species and consequently wilding Douglas fir is able to spread into shrub lands, regenerating native forest and mature forest where there are canopy gaps and a relatively sparse understorey.

Wilding conifers can adversely affect amenity and landscape values, particularly where the valued landscapes are characterised by extensive low-stature vegetation such as high country tussock grasslands. These landscapes are important for tourism and large-scale landscape changes could impact on this. Dense wilding conifer spread can lead to the blocking and/or changing of valued views and vistas, and can impede access to, and enjoyment of, recreational areas.

In areas where there is long-term, seasonal soil moisture deficits, dense wilding conifers can contribute to reductions in surface water flows, potentially impacting on water availability and aquatic ecosystems. Wilding conifers can also increase the risk posed by wild fires.

In areas of extensive pastoral farming, wilding conifer infestations adversely impact economic wellbeing by reducing available grazing land and limiting future land use options due to the high costs of control.



Table 5: Listed wilding conifer species

Common name	Scientific name
European larch	<i>Larix decidua</i>
Douglas fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
<b>Pine species</b>	
Bishops pine	<i>Pinus muricata</i>
Contorta or lodgepole pine	<i>Pinus contorta</i>
Corsican pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>
Dwarf mountain pine	<i>Pinus mugo</i>
Maritime pine	<i>Pinus pinaster</i>
Mountain pine	<i>Pinus uncinata</i>
Ponderosa pine	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>
Radiata pine	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
Scots pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>

**Special interest species: Contorta (lodgepole) pine, Scots pine, dwarf mountain pine and mountain pine**

Wilding conifers often occur as a result of seed spread from planted conifer trees. It can be difficult to successfully control or manage the spread of wilding conifers over the long term if the seed source is not removed or appropriately managed and contained. This set of conifers has very limited commercial value and they are also highly invasive. It is therefore important to specify these organisms as pests in their own right, in addition to being pests under the wilding conifer definition in their naturally regenerated state. This is to prevent new plantings of these species, as well as enabling regulatory

controls requiring removal of these species in situations where they are planted but pose a wilding conifer spread risk as a result of the spread of their seed.

Contorta, in particular, is the most invasive introduced conifer species and represents a significant proportion of all wilding conifers and original sources of wilding conifer spread, and therefore it will be managed region-wide.

Wilding conifers are not currently known to be established and causing wilding conifer issues in the Wellington Region because of the limited number of lowland forests and intensive grazing. A progressive containment area has been created (Map 4) to prevent these conifers from establishing in high-risk areas.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, progressively contain and reduce the geographic distribution or extent of wilding conifers in the high-risk areas of the alpine and sub-alpine zone of Remutaka ranges.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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### Principal measures to achieve objective

#### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

#### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct inspections, monitoring or surveillance in areas that are vulnerable to infestation of wilding conifers to determine the presence of any new infestations and the status of existing or historical sites
- Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions
- Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of:
  - (a) Contorta (lodgepole) pine
  - (b) dwarf mountain pine
  - (c) mountain pine
  - (d) Scots pine

#### Service delivery

Greater Wellington:

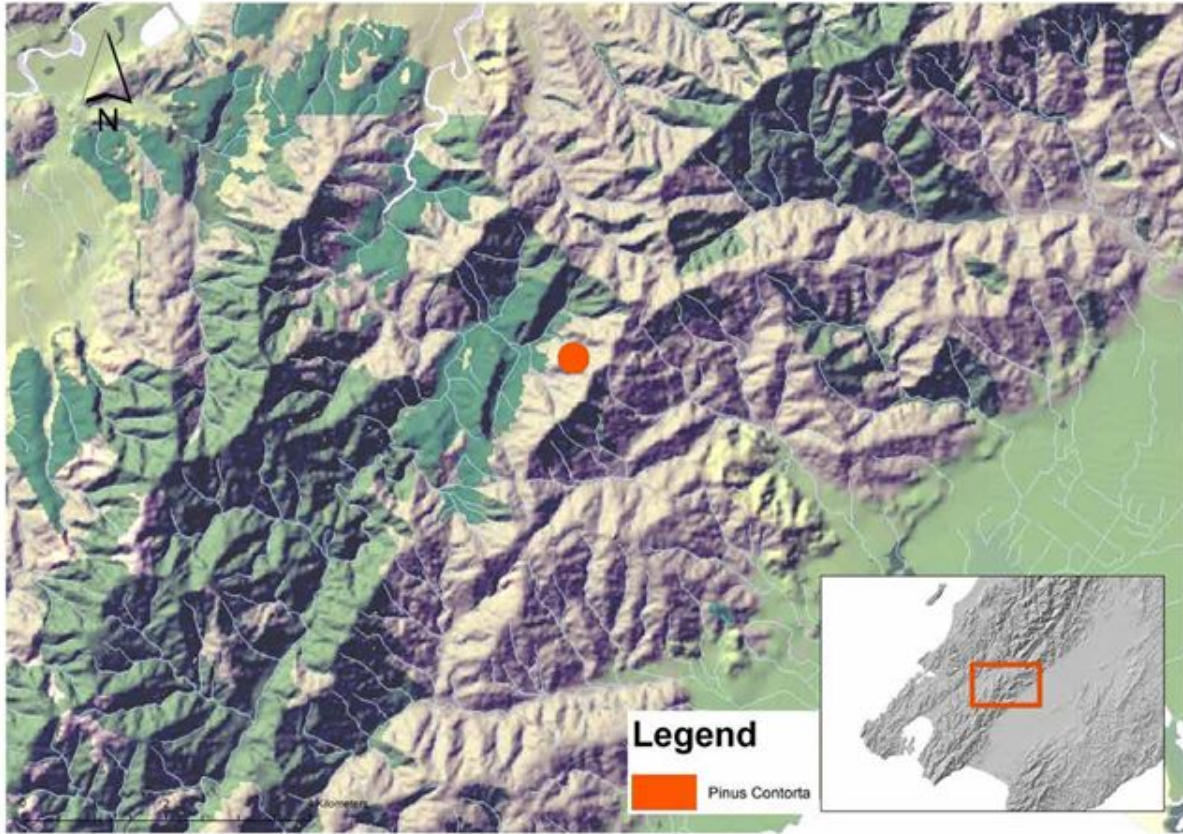
- Staff and/or its contractors will undertake the initial direct control of wilding conifers by service delivery at sites classified as natural, significant, outstanding or high value

#### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection

Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests



Map 4: Progressive containment area for wilding conifers

**Rules**

- 1 An occupier of land shall:
  - (a) Destroy\* all contorta plants on their land prior to cone bearing
  - (b) Destroy\* all wilding conifers present on land they occupy prior to cone bearing, if:
    - (i) The wilding conifers are located within an area which has had control operations carried out to destroy wilding conifers or any other planted conifer species that were causing the spread of wilding conifers

The control operations were publicly funded (either in full or in part)

*\*For the purposes of this rule, destroy means the permanent preclusion of the plant’s ability to set viable seed.*

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 2 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, wilding conifers shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.

**Explanation of rules**

Rule 1 assists in preventing wilding conifers from becoming further established in the Wellington Region.

Rule 2 outlines that occupiers within the Wellington Region are required to take specified actions to prevent the pest from establishing on that land following initial control.

**Advice note**

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## 6.4 Pests to be managed under sustained control programmes

A number of pests are well established in the Wellington Region, of which many have been subject for some time to various control activities. If left uncontrolled they all cause adverse effects on the environmental, economic, social and cultural values of the Wellington Region. While the spread between neighbouring properties of these pests remains the predominant risk, in some cases control within properties is still warranted. The sustained control programme will at least hold populations to current levels

(or maximum acceptable limits) over the period of the Plan. The identified pests are listed in Table 6.

Sustained control will apply under two separate circumstances:

- Within a property to protect values within that property
- Within a boundary zone to prevent spread between properties

Table 6: Pests to be managed under sustained control programmes

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Plants</b>	
Blue passionflower	<i>Passiflora caerulea</i>
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>
Climbing spindleberry	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
Eelgrass	<i>Vallisneria spiralis</i> , <i>V. gigantea</i>
Giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
<b>Animals</b>	
Feral rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
Wasps (common, German, Australian and Asian paper wasp)	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i> , <i>V. germanica</i> , <i>Polistes humilis</i> , <i>P. chinensis</i>

## Sustained control programme for plants

### 6.4.1 Blue passionflower (*Passiflora caerulea*)



#### Description

Blue passionflower is a vigorous evergreen, high-climbing vine growing up to 10m with long stems that are hairless and angular when young and have spiralling tendrils. Leaves are very thin and five-lobed almost to the base, with each lobe 3-8cm long and narrow. Hanging whitish-purple flowers (6-9cm diameter) with purple filaments are produced from December to April, followed by hanging, round fruit (3-5cm diameter) that ripens from green to yellow, has small amounts of inedible pulp and contains silver-brown seeds (4mm long). It tolerates damage, drought, hot to cold temperatures and moderate shade. Habitat consists of disturbed and open forest, light wells and margins of intact bush, stream sides, coastline and cliffs.

#### Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control blue passionflower within the Wellington Region in order to minimise adverse effects on native biodiversity, the economy, the environment and the enjoyment of the natural environment.

#### Adverse effects

Blue passionflower disperses effectively, grows quickly to medium to high canopy forming large masses. It is a smothering and suffocating vine spread via birds and possums eating its fruit. It easily smothers native populations, prevents seedling establishment and covers the canopy, reducing light penetration. It can grow from layering (when stems touch the ground and throw new roots) and can establish far from parent plant.

**Exclusion**

**Eradication**

**Progressive containment**

**Sustained control**

**Site-led**

#### Principal measures to achieve objective

##### Requirement to act

- Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

##### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct searches in areas that are vulnerable to infestation of blue passionflower
- Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions
- Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of blue passionflower

##### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of blue passionflower by service delivery at all known sites within the Wellington Region
- Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for blue passionflower where appropriate

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection
- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests

### Rules

- 1 No person shall possess any blue passionflower (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 2 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, blue passionflower within the Wellington Region shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.

### Explanation of rules

Rules 1 and 2 are to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control, blue passionflower in the Wellington Region.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.



*Some of the area along the South coast in our region receives extra pest plant and pest animal protection, to preserve this special environment.*

## 6.4.2 Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)



### Description

Boneseed is a bushy, semi-woody shrub that grows up to 3m tall. Leaves are light green, leathery and covered in fine hairs, giving them a whitish appearance. Flowers from September to February are bright yellow and daisy-like. These are followed by clusters of hard, green, oval fruit that ripen to black. Plants can produce 50,000 seeds annually.

### Objective

Over the duration of the plan, sustainably control boneseed in sites of non-productive coastal habitats to reduce the adverse effects on indigenous species and environmental values in special coastal communities.

### Adverse effects

Boneseed can rapidly invade coastal areas and displace low-growing native vegetation, and seriously affect highly valued native coastal ecosystems. Its dense colonies prevent regeneration of native species.

**Exclusion**

**Eradication**

**Progressive  
containment**

**Sustained  
control**

**Site-led**

### Principal measures to achieve objective

#### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

#### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct inspections, monitoring and surveillance in areas that are vulnerable to infestation of boneseed to determine the presence of any new infestation and the status of existing or historical sites
- Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions
- Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of boneseed

#### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of boneseed by service delivery within non-productive coastal habitats. Primary production land is excluded
- Control boneseed on selected urban or residential sites to provide a buffer for the coastal habitats under control
- Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for boneseed where appropriate

Greater Wellington may conduct control of boneseed outside the respective coastal zone and/or on public land under non-regulatory, site-led management programmes or community initiatives, at Greater Wellington's discretion.

#### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection

- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests

**Rules**

- 1 No person shall possess any boneseed (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

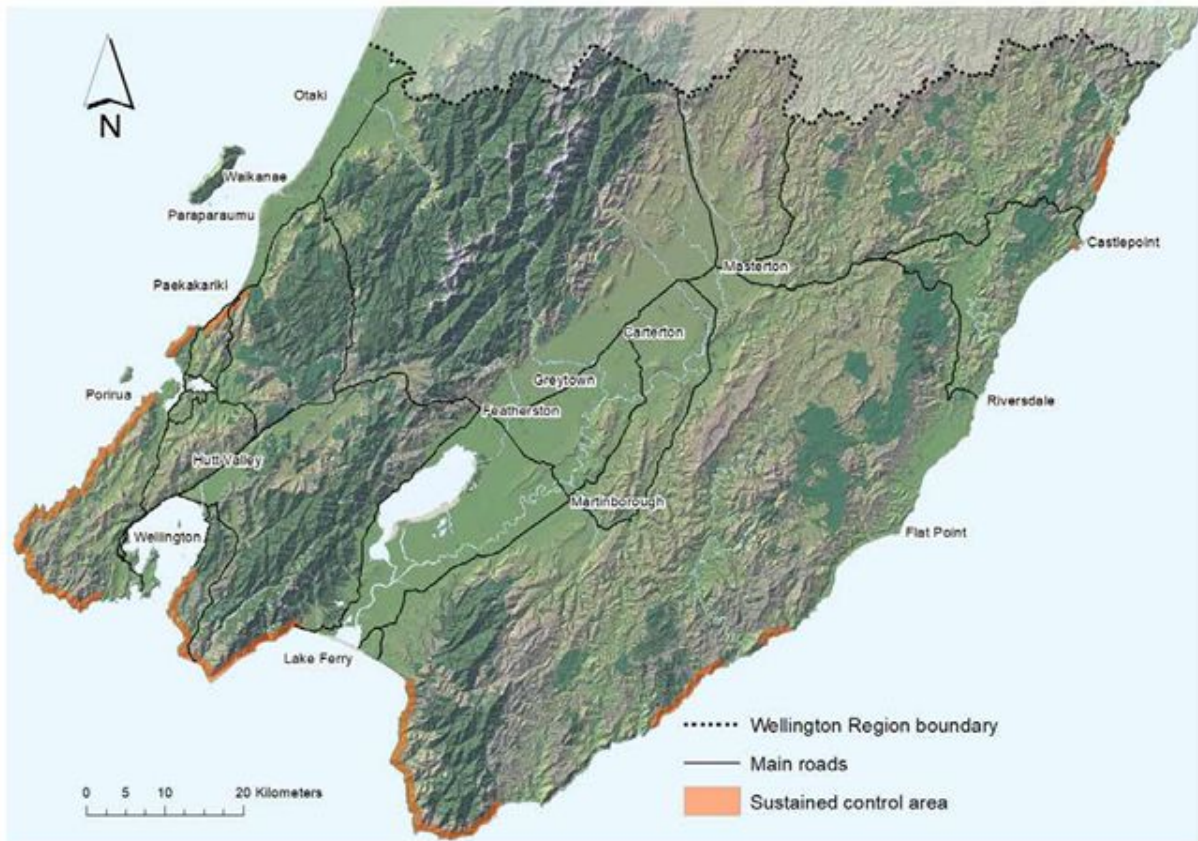
- 2 Occupiers who see, or suspect the presence of, boneseed on land they occupy in the Wellington Region shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.

**Explanation of rules**

Rules 1 and 2 are to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control, boneseed in the Wellington Region.

**Advice note**

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.



Map 5: Map of the boneseed sustained control programme area



### 6.4.3 Climbing spindleberry (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)



**Description**

Climbing spindleberry is a deciduous, perennial, twining climber with woody stems that can grow up to 12m high. The leaves are alternate, up to 10cm long and finely serrated. Young twigs are green and can produce long, sharp spines. Small, pale green flowers are followed by yellow and red berries. Stems can take root when they contact the ground.

**Adverse effects**

Climbing spindleberry is very invasive, spreading by stem fragments and by seed. It seeds prolifically and is shade tolerant, allowing it to establish and spread quickly, forming dense colonies that compete with other plant species for soil, moisture, nutrients and light.

Once established, climbing spindleberry is difficult to control.

Climbing spindleberry represents a particular threat to indigenous biodiversity and, to a lesser extent, plantation forests. It can compete with and replace indigenous plants in disturbed or low forest, and on forest and riparian margins. Its density can affect the regeneration of indigenous flora, topple and kill small trees, and suppress desirable groundcovers.

**Objective**

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control climbing spindleberry within the Wellington Region to less than or equal to 2014 levels, in order to minimise adverse effects on native biodiversity, the economy, the environment and the enjoyment of the natural environment.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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**Principal measures to achieve objective**

**Requirement to act**

- Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

**Inspection and monitoring**

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct searches in areas that are vulnerable to infestation of climbing spindleberry
- Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions

- Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of climbing spindleberry

**Service delivery**

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of climbing spindleberry by service delivery at all known sites within the Wellington Region
- Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for climbing spindleberry where appropriate

**Advocacy and education**

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection
- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests

**Rules**

- 1 No person shall possess any climbing spindleberry (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 2 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, climbing spindleberry within the Wellington Region shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.

**Explanation of rules**

Rules 1 and 2 are to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control, climbing spindleberry in the Wellington Region.

**Advice note**

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

**6.4.4 Eelgrass (*Vallisneria spiralis*, *V. gigantea*)**



**Description**

Eelgrass is an aquatic plant that can grow to a depth of 9m in fresh water. Leaves vary from light green to brown, but are usually green in long, strap-like form and are slimy to touch. The rhizome roots easily form new plants, which form dense masses and can block waterways and cause sediment build-up.

**Adverse effects**

Eelgrass is an invasive aquatic species that spreads by rhizomes and forms dense beds that displace native vegetation. It can block still and flowing waterways, causing flooding.

**Objective**

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control eelgrass in wetlands or waterbodies identified as specific outstanding waterbodies and wetlands in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region (Schedules A 1-3, B, C1, C2), to protect the Wellington Region’s indigenous environmental and cultural values, specifically wetland habitats with native wetland biodiversity (Appendix 5, as in PNRP <http://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Plans--Publications/Regional-Plan-Review/Proposed-Plan/Chapter-13-maps.pdf>).

<b>Exclusion</b>	<b>Eradication</b>	<b>Progressive containment</b>	<b>Sustained control</b>	<b>Site-led</b>
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct searches in areas that are vulnerable to infestation of eelgrass
- Staff may undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions
- Staff shall inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of eelgrass

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of eelgrass by service delivery in wetlands and waterbodies identified as natural, significant or outstanding in the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
- Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for eelgrass where appropriate

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide training to relevant staff and stakeholders in the identification of pests to assist in early detection
- Provide advice, attend events and undertake publicity campaigns to increase public awareness of pests

### Rules

- 1 No person shall possess any eelgrass (including any seeds or live vegetation) within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

- 2 Any person who sees, or suspects the presence of, eelgrass within the Wellington Region shall report the sighting or suspected presence to Greater Wellington within 10 working days.

### Explanation of rules

Rules 1 and 2 are to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control, eelgrass in the Wellington Region.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## Sustained control programme for animals

### 6.4.5 Feral rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)



#### Description

The feral European rabbit is a small mammalian herbivore, grey-brown (sometimes black) in colour, ranging in length from 34cm to 50cm and weighing approximately 1.1-2.5kg. It has long ears, large, powerful hind legs to facilitate hopping movement, and a short, fluffy tail.

While some may live for up to seven years, the lifespan is generally much shorter, with high rates of natural mortality among young animals. They have a high capacity for reproduction and female rabbits (does) may be pregnant for 70 percent of a year. They breed continually throughout the year, with adult females able to produce 45-50 young yearly. Most feral rabbits are easily distinguished from domesticated breeds.

#### Adverse effects

Rabbits can cause a number of adverse effects on environmental values and cultural and economic wellbeing, particularly in the more rabbit-prone areas. At high numbers the control costs can be prohibitively expensive. Their impact reduces available grazing for domestic stock and subsequently decreases the financial returns to landowners and their ability to fund control.

Rabbits compete directly with stock for grazing and reduce the amount of palatable pasture. They can also damage young plantation trees, horticultural crops and residential gardens. They are especially damaging in regenerating coastal environments. Rabbits eat a wide range of food, including native grasses and seedlings. In combination with grazing stock, rabbits can increase the risk of soil erosion, and contribute to increases in unpalatable weed species. Rabbit grazing also impacts on amenity plantings, commercial gardens and forestry seedlings. Grazing and burrowing can lead to the loss of vegetation cover and soil erosion in native flora and fauna habitats.

#### Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control rabbits to ensure that population levels are maintained below level 5 on the Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012, in order to minimise adverse effects on environmental, cultural and production values in the Wellington Region.

<b>Exclusion</b>	<b>Eradication</b>	<b>Progressive containment</b>	<b>Sustained control</b>	<b>Site-led</b>
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<b>Scale</b>	<b>Rabbit infestation</b>
1	No sign found. No rabbits seen.
2	Very infrequent sign present. Unlikely to see rabbits.
3	Pellet heaps spaced 10m or more apart on average. Odd rabbits seen; sign and some pellet heaps showing up.
4	Pellet heaps spaced 5-10m apart on average. Pockets of rabbits; sign and fresh burrows very noticeable.
5	Pellet heaps spaced 5m or less apart on average. Infestation spreading out from heavy pockets.
6	Sign very frequent, with pellet heaps often less than 5m apart over the whole area. Rabbits may be seen over the whole area.
7	Sign very frequent, with two or three pellet heaps often less than 5m apart over the whole area. Rabbits may be seen in large numbers over the whole area.
8	Sign very frequent, with three or more pellet heaps often less than 5m apart over the whole area. Rabbits likely to be seen in large numbers over the whole area.

Table 7: Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012 to assess rabbit population levels

## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Requirement to act

- Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Will annually determine and report rabbit densities using the Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012 for properties in high to extreme rabbit-prone areas
- Will annually survey land in high to extreme rabbit-prone areas to determine rabbit population trends
- Will monitor the effectiveness and rate of spread of biological control agents
- Staff will undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide a referral or cost recovery service to land owners/occupiers who request rabbit control
- Release biological control agents for the control of feral rabbits when appropriate
- Support research initiatives including biological control

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Make occupiers aware of their responsibilities for rabbit control
- Provide education and advice to land owners/occupiers and the public about feral rabbits, the threat they pose to the Wellington Region, and how to control them
- Help land owners/occupiers and the public to gain the knowledge and skills to help reduce the impacts and spread of feral rabbits

### Rule

- An occupier within the Wellington Region shall ensure feral rabbits on land they occupy are always below level 5 of the Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

### Explanation of rule

Rule 1 requires occupiers to control feral rabbits on their land to prevent numbers from reaching high to extreme infestations.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## 6.4.6 Wasps – common wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*), German wasp (*V. germanica*), Australian paper wasp (*Polistes humilis*) and Asian paper wasp (*P. chinensis*)



### Description

Both common and German wasps live in large colonies, about the size of soccer balls. The nests can become larger if the colonies survive winter. They have distinctive yellow- and black-striped bodies. The common wasp nest is yellowish to reddish brown, while the German wasp nest is grey. Both species can sting repeatedly. Common and German wasps can be found in all areas from urban backyards to parks and along rivers and streams, and are commonly found in native bush.

Paper wasps are distinguished by their body shape, which is slender and 13-25mm long. They have reddish-brown to black bodies, with yellow rings and reddish areas on the abdomen. Their wings are reddish or amber brown and they have long legs that hang down during flight. Asian paper wasps frequently construct their nests on houses and other buildings and also nest in trees and bushes.

Australian paper wasps are slender with long, thin wings. They are 10-15mm long and reddish brown. This species nests above ground in buildings and trees. The Australian paper wasp has been in New Zealand for more than a century. The Asian paper wasp is larger than the Australian paper wasp. It arrived in New Zealand in the late 1970s and by 1995 was widespread in the upper North Island. It had also spread as far south as Nelson. Large populations of Asian paper wasps occur in lowland open habitats such as shrub lands, swamps and salt marshes.

### Adverse effects

Wasps are a serious threat to homes, schools and public recreational areas such as parks, forests and beaches. Wasps can pose life-threatening risks to those who are allergic to their stings, with those in viticulture, agriculture and forestry particularly at risk.

Wasps pose a significant risk to the apiculture industry in New Zealand as they raid beehives and reduce food supply. They also predate on native insects and honeydew, which are important food sources for many native species. They have even been sighted killing newly hatched birds.

Paper wasps can occur at high densities of more than 200 nests per hectare. The potential impact of high densities of wasps on native ecosystems is a concern, although the full extent of this impact requires further research. Asian paper wasps prey mainly on invertebrates, especially caterpillars. They also compete with other insects for nectar and honeydew resources.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control wasps (common, German and paper) to protect environmental and public health values in the Wellington Region.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
<b>Principal measures to achieve objective</b>				
<b>Requirement to act</b>		<b>Rule</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.</li> </ul>		<p>1 An occupier within the Wellington Region shall, within 10 working days of receipt of a written direction from an authorised person, destroy all wasp nests on the property they occupy.</p>		
<b>Inspection and monitoring</b>		<b>Explanation of rule</b>		
<p>Greater Wellington will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report the times and general locations of common, German and paper wasp complaints in the Wellington Region</li> </ul>		<p>A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.</p>		
<b>Service delivery</b>		<b>Advice note</b>		
<p>Greater Wellington will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a referral service to land owners/occupiers who require wasp control</li> <li>Release biological control agents for the control of wasps where appropriate</li> <li>Support research initiatives into the human health impacts of wasps in the Wellington Region</li> </ul>		<p>Rule 1 requires land occupiers to destroy all wasp nests on their property following receipt of a written direction. This will ensure the removal of the health and safety hazard associated with wasp nests.</p>		
<b>Advocacy and education</b>				
<p>Greater Wellington will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide advice and education to occupiers wanting to undertake wasp control</li> <li>Provide information and publicity to enhance public awareness of the threat that wasps pose to the Wellington Region</li> </ul>		<p>Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.</p>		

## 6.5 Pests to be managed under site-led programmes

A site-led programme is the coordinated and integrated control of pests, unwanted organisms and/or other harmful organisms in a defined area, which aims to protect and restore specific ecological or biodiversity values that are threatened or compromised by pests, unwanted organisms and/or other harmful organisms. Site-led programmes focus on the ecological or biodiversity values of sites rather than simply the control of pests. The values of sites can be put at risk by factors other than the presence of pests, unwanted organisms and/or other harmful organisms, and these need to be taken into consideration before embarking on a site-led pest programme.

A range of outcomes can be achieved through site-led management, such as:

- Protected and enhanced ecosystem integrity
- Optimised ecological health where the benefits outweigh the costs
- Positive responses to/or support of community concerns
- Improvements in breeding success and native fauna density
- Reduced soil erosion, and subsequent soil conservation
- Improvements in water quality

Greater Wellington will monitor for the achievement of the outcomes being sought, rather than focus on the outputs associated with traditional pest management. Pests to be included in site-led programmes are listed in Table 8.

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Plants in the Hutt City Council TA programme</b>	
Banana passionfruit	<i>Passiflora mixta</i> , <i>P. mollissima</i> , <i>P. tripartita</i>
Cathedral bells	<i>Cobaea scandens</i>
Old man's beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
<b>Animals</b>	
European hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>
Feral deer (fallow, red and sika)	<i>Dama</i> , <i>Cervus elaphus</i> , <i>C. nippon</i>
Feral goat	<i>Capra hircus</i>
Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina spp.</i>
Mustelids (ferret, stoat, weasel)	<i>Mustela furo</i> , <i>M. erminea</i> , <i>M. nivalis</i>
Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>
Pest cat	<i>Felis catus</i>
Rats (Norway and ship)	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i> , <i>R. rattus</i>

Table 8: Pests to be managed in site-led programmes

### Statutory obligation

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.



## Hutt City Council territorial authority programme

Hutt City Council has been controlling old man's beard under a formal programme since 1989, with the control of banana passionfruit and cathedral bells commencing shortly afterwards. Hutt City Council has put considerable resources into controlling these three species within the Hutt City Council TA boundary in the past decade, with great success.

By continuing to undertake a site-led programme, adverse impacts caused by old man's beard, banana passionfruit and cathedral bells will be reduced within the Hutt City Council TA boundary.

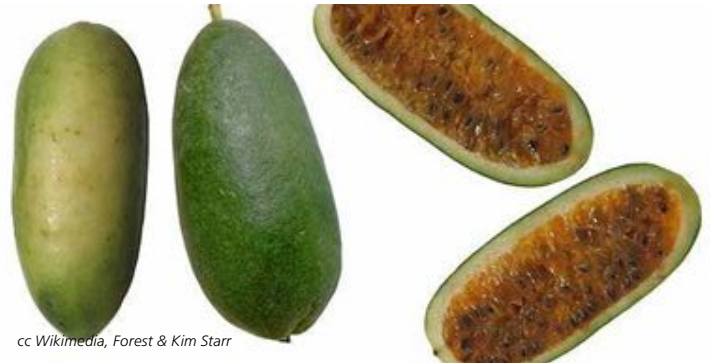
### 6.5.1 Banana passionfruit (*Passiflora mixta*, *P. mollissima*, *P. tripartita*)



#### Description

Banana passionfruit is a vigorous, evergreen vine that can climb up to 20m high and cover more than 100m<sup>2</sup>. It has three-fingered leaves, with the middle being the longest, and tendrils that enable it to cling to trees and supporting structures. Its leaves are serrated and the undersides are covered in down.

Its pink, star-shaped flowers are followed by hanging, thick-skinned, oval fruit, with sweet, edible, orange pulp and dark red seeds.



#### Adverse effects

Banana passionfruit has a rapid rate of spread and the ability to cause irreversible damage to native ecosystems. It is a very aggressive species, dispersing via seed and stem fragments. It invades disturbed areas, smothers trees and reduces biodiversity.

## 6.5.2 Cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*)



### Description

Cathedral bells is a fast-growing perennial climber that grows up to 10m high. Its corkscrew tendrils cling to supporting plants and structures. The oval leaves are arranged in opposite pairs and are light green with prominent purplish veins. Large, white or purple cup-and-saucer-shaped flowers are produced in the summer months, followed by green, oval seed pods 6-10cm long that split on ripening to release winged seeds.



### Adverse effects

Cathedral bells have a rapid spread rate and the ability to cause irreversible damage to native ecosystems.

## 6.5.3 Old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*)



### Description

Old man's beard is a deciduous, woody, climbing vine that can grow up to 20m high. Younger vines have six longitudinal ribs, and mature vines have stringy, pale brown bark that rubs off easily. Leaves are arranged in opposite pairs on stems made of five widely spaced leaflets that fall in autumn. The creamy-white 2cm flowers are fragrant and are produced from December to May, followed by grey, hairy seeds with distinctive white plumes.



### Adverse effects

Old man's beard smothers and kills all plants to the highest canopy, and prevents the establishment of native plant seedlings. It moves readily into established forest over the canopy and by layering.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, control and reduce the geographic distribution and/or extent of banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard within the Hutt City Council TA boundary to protect the environmental values of this area.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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### Principal measures to achieve objectives

#### Requirement to act

- Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

#### Inspection and monitoring

Hutt City Council:

- Staff and/or its contractors may conduct searches in areas that are vulnerable to infestation by banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard

Greater Wellington staff:

- May undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions
- Will inspect plant outlets and markets within the Wellington Region for the sale and/or propagation of banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard

#### Service delivery

- Hutt City Council shall destroy by way of service delivery all banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard within the Hutt City Council TA boundary.
- Hutt City Council will take responsibility for undertaking the control programme for banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard within the Hutt City Council TA boundary.

#### Advocacy and education

Hutt City Council staff will:

- Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public to report any infestations
- Provide education, advice and awareness-raising and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard

#### Plan rules for land occupiers within the Hutt City TA boundary

- Any person within the Hutt City Council territorial authority boundaries shall report to Hutt City Council the presence or suspected presence of banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard on land they occupy.
- An occupier shall, on receipt of a written direction from an authorised person, destroy\* all banana passionfruit, cathedral bells and old man's beard present on the land they occupy.

*\*For the purpose of this rule, destroy means the permanent preclusion of the plant's ability to set viable seed.*

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

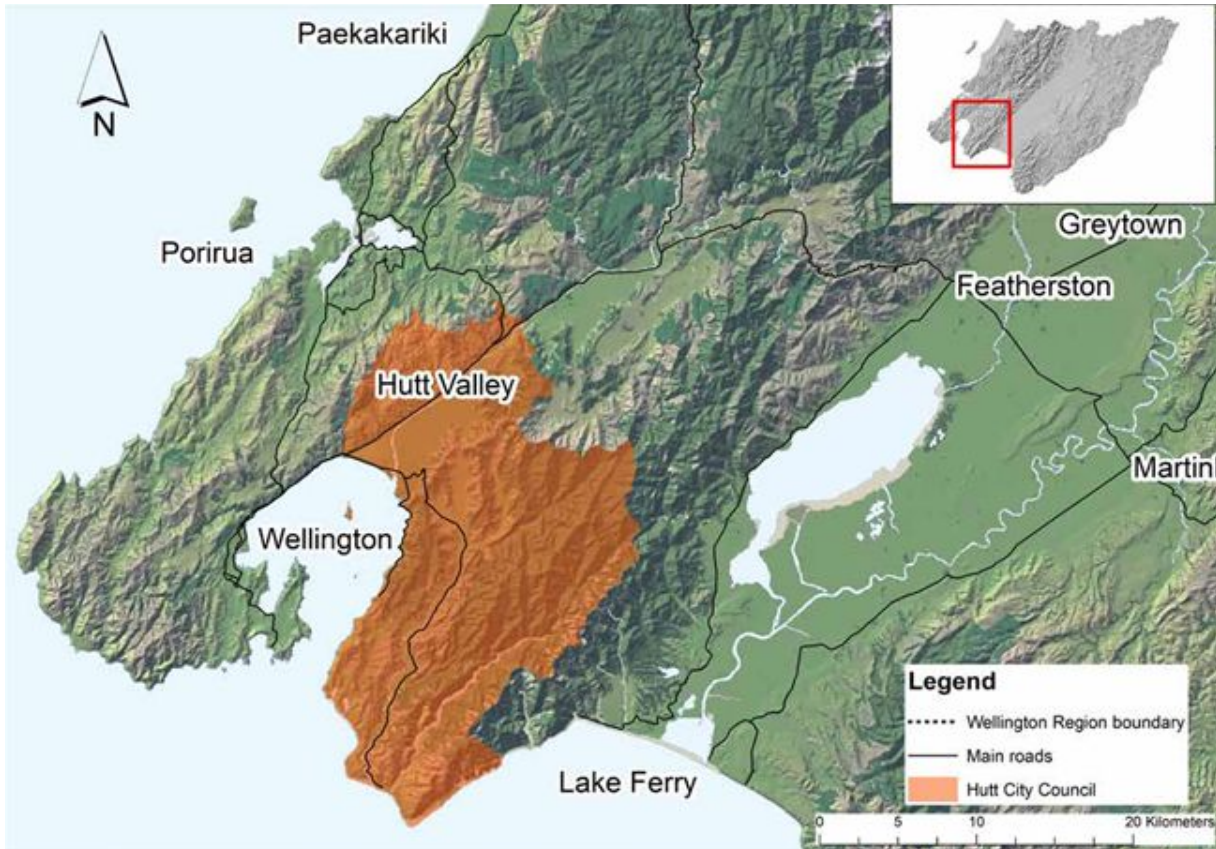
**Explanation of rules**

Rule 1 is to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control these plants within the Hutt City Council territorial authority boundaries.

Rule 2 makes provision for Greater Wellington to assist Hutt City Council in situations where occupiers decline to allow Hutt City Council to undertake control of these species and they then fail to carry out the control themselves.

**Advice note**

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.



Map 6: Map of the Hutt City Council programme area

## Site-led programmes for animals

### 6.5.4 European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus occidentalis*)



#### Description

Hedgehogs are small, brown-to-grey, insectivorous mammals with spiny coats, and have the ability to roll into tight prickly balls for defence.

#### Adverse effects

Hedgehogs are voracious nocturnal predators, consuming invertebrates, ground-nesting birds' eggs and small reptiles. They also vector a wide variety of human, bird, pet and agricultural diseases, including bovine Tb.

#### Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control hedgehogs in KNE areas and TA reserves (see Maps 2 and 8) to reduce their impacts on the cultural and economic values, and biodiversity in those areas.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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#### Principal measures to achieve objective

##### Requirement to act

Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

- Provide advice to community groups undertaking pest animal control, with priority given to activity in or around KNEs and in defendable or strategic geographic locations such as peninsulas, islands and corridors

##### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may undertake inspections, monitoring and surveillance within KNEs to determine the presence of hedgehogs

##### Rule

- 1 No person shall possess and/or release any hedgehog within a KNE identified on Map 2.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

##### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of hedgehogs by service delivery within KNEs as part of the integrated management of those areas, to levels that protect the biodiversity values of the areas
- Provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA

##### Explanation of rule

Rule 1 is to assist in preventing the further spread of, and to control hedgehogs in the Wellington Region.

##### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide information and advice on pest animal identification, impacts and control

##### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## 6.5.5 Feral deer – fallow, red and sika (*Dama*, *Cervus elaphus*, *C. nippon*)



### Description

Fallow are a small deer, with a coat that is either black, brown with spots, or, occasionally, white. Adults weigh 30-85kg.

Red deer are a medium-sized deer with a reddish brown coat and a creamy coloured rump patch. Adults weigh 80-200kg. They are the largest and most common deer in the region.

Sika are a small deer, chestnut coloured in summer with spots, and dark coloured in the winter. When alarmed, sika display a white rump patch, and make a piercing whistle. Adults weigh 45-85kg.

Red deer were liberated in the Wairarapa in the 1800s and were well established by the early 1900s. Fallow and sika were illegally released in the Wellington Region in more recent times for recreational hunting. Red deer still remains the most common species in the region. Feral deer frequent native bush, regenerated scrubland, exotic forestry and rough grassland in the region.

Any deer which is not held behind effective fences or otherwise constrained, and identified in accordance with a recognised identification system, is considered to be feral by Greater Wellington.

### Adverse effects

Feral deer can change forest structure and the composition of the understorey of forests by heavy and selective browsing on trees and shrubs. Palatable plant species such as pate, broadleaf, five-finger, lancewood, and hen and chicken fern can be all but removed from the ground tier. Browsing reduces vegetation cover and density and causes the loss of plant species' richness, and alters community composition in favour of unpalatable species. Also, feral deer can cause severe damage to young trees in plantation forests by browsing young trees and stripping bark from older trees.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control feral deer in KNE areas (see Appendix 3, Map 1) and on TA reserves within the Wellington Region to reduce their impacts on the cultural and economic values, and biodiversity of those areas.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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### Principal measures to achieve objective

#### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control by service delivery of feral deer in KNEs
- Provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA
- Provide a referral or cost recovery service to land owners/occupiers who require deer control

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale\* and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

Releasing deer is an offence under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977.

#### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide education and advice to land owners/occupiers and the public about feral deer, the threat they pose to the region, and how to control them.
- Advice note

## 6.5.6 Feral goat (*Capra hircus*)



#### Description

Feral goats originate from domestic goats and come in a variety of colours and sizes. Both sexes generally have horns and are short-haired and bearded. Males stand about 70-150cm and can weigh 50-70kg. Adult females are significantly smaller.

Any goat that is not held behind effective fences or otherwise constrained, or identified in accordance with a recognised identification system, is considered to be feral by Greater Wellington.

#### Adverse effects

Goats destroy the understorey of forests, and when combined with possum damage to the upper canopy, severe deterioration of native forest occurs. Browsing reduces vegetation cover and density and causes the loss of plant species' richness and altered community composition in favour of unpalatable species. Goats also damage vegetation planted on land retired for soil conservation purposes, and newly planted and young trees in exotic forests.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control feral goats in KNE areas (see Appendix 3, Map 1) and on TA reserves within the Wellington Region to reduce their impacts on the cultural and economic values, and biodiversity of those areas.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control by service delivery of feral goats in KNEs
- Provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA
- Provide a referral or cost recovery service to land owners/occupiers who require goat control

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

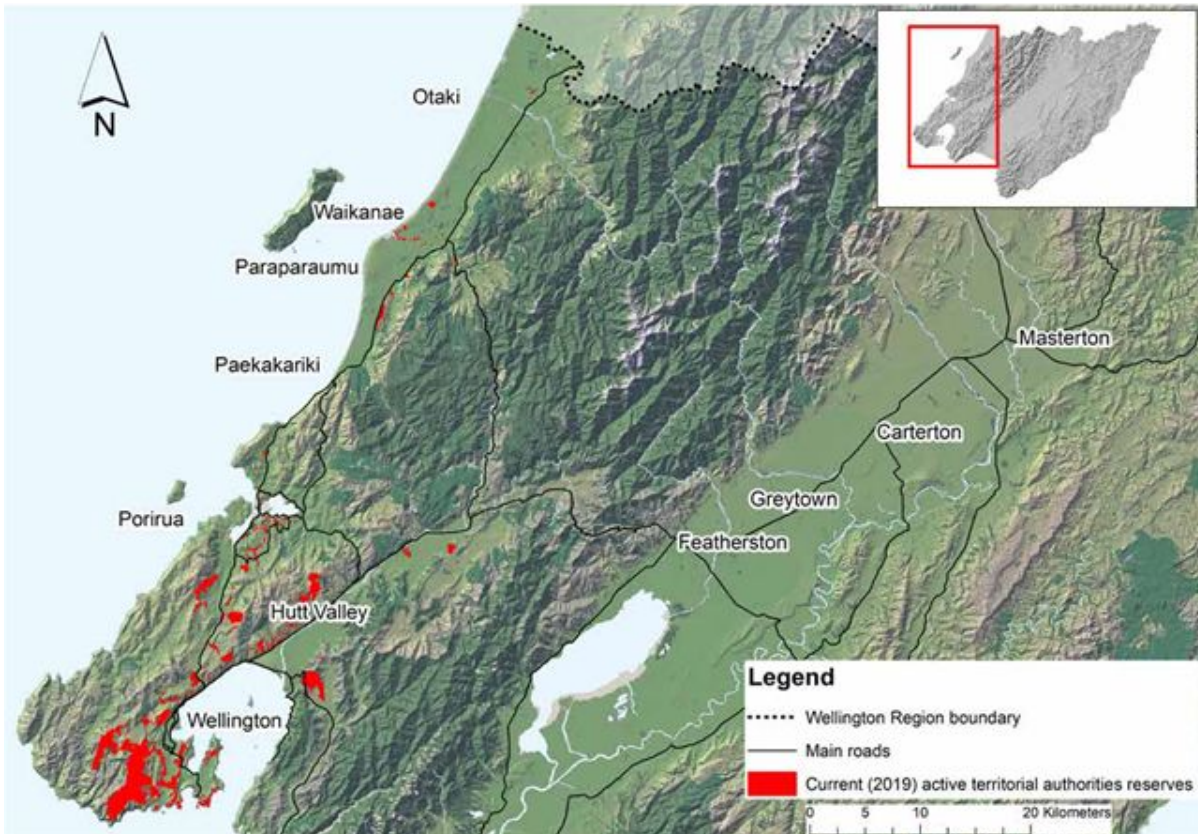
- Provide education and advice to land owners/occupiers and the public about feral goats, the threat they pose to the region, and how to control them
- Make the public aware of their responsibilities when housing domestic goats

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale\* and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

*\*Sale to slaughter of feral goats is exempt from this rule.*

Releasing goats is an offence under the Wild Animal Control Act 1977.



Map 7: Territorial Authorities reserves under active pest management



## 6.5.7 Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*, *G. tibicen hypoleuca*)



### Description

Magpies are large, black-and-white birds with a distinctive warbling call. The black-backed magpie, *Gymnorhina tibicen*, and the more predominant white-backed magpie, *Gymnorhina tibicen hypoleuca*, commonly interbreed, producing birds with intermediate markings. Both sub-species of the Australian magpie were introduced to New Zealand with the aim of controlling invertebrate soil pests. Magpies were widely distributed throughout the Wellington Region by the 1970s. Their preferred habitat is open grassland and cultivated paddocks with tall trees nearby for shelter. They are frequently found in paddocks, city parks and playing fields, on the edges of native and exotic forest and occasionally on mountains up to 1,700m altitude.

### Adverse effects

Magpies are extremely territorial birds and show aggression to anything that may pose a threat to their territory. Especially during breeding season, magpies can become very aggressive and attempt to drive off humans and animals by swooping and dive-bombing.

Magpies are also known to harass, attack and kill a variety of native and exotic birds.

### Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control magpies to protect the public from aggressive magpies swooping and attacking people, and to reduce the effects of magpies on the natural environment in the Wellington Region.

**Exclusion**

**Eradication**

**Progressive containment**

**Sustained control**

**Site-led**

### Principal measures to achieve objective

#### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington will:

- Report the time of magpie complaints, the location and number of birds disposed of, and the time of disposal

#### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of magpies by service delivery within 10 working days where there is known to be a threat of injury to members of the public, or complaints are made to that effect
- Respond to land owners/occupiers wanting to undertake magpie control within fifteen (15) working days of receiving a request for information and/or assistance

#### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide advice, education and assistance to occupiers wanting to undertake magpie control
- Support appropriate research initiatives into magpie impacts

#### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## 6.5.8 Mustelids – ferret (*Mustela furo*), stoat (*M. erminea*) and weasel (*M. nivalis*)



### Description

Ferrets, stoats and weasels are part of the mustelid family, which is a group of small to medium-sized carnivores. Mustelids have large home ranges and live from sea level to alpine, in forests and in rural and urban areas. They are active day and night and are opportunistic predators.

Ferrets are the largest mustelid in New Zealand. Male ferrets grow up to 44cm and females up to 37cm in length. The undercoat is creamy yellow with long, black guard hairs that give the ferret a dark appearance. A characteristic black face mask occurs across the eyes and above the nose.

Stoats have long, thin bodies with smooth, pointed heads. Ears are short and rounded. They are smaller than ferrets. Males grow up to 30cm and females up to 25cm in length. Their fur is reddish-brown above with a creamy underbelly. Stoats have relatively long tails with distinctive bushy, black tips.

Weasels are the smallest and least common of the three mustelids, growing to 20-25cm long. Their fur is brown with white underparts, often broken by brown spots, and their tails are short, brown and tapering.

### Adverse effects

Although habitat loss and modification remain a threat to native biodiversity, an equally serious threat is from invasive introduced species. Introduced predators such as ferrets, stoats and weasels pose a significant threat to our remaining natural ecosystems and habitats and threatened native species, and can have considerable negative impacts on primary production. Ferrets, stoats and weasels are distributed throughout the Wellington Region.

Mustelids feed mainly on small mammals: rabbits, hares, rodents, hedgehogs, possums and rats. They also eat a large variety of birds, reptiles (geckos and skinks), weta, beetles, fish, frogs and other invertebrates. They will attack prey that is much larger than themselves, and adverse effects on New Zealand's native fauna have been confirmed for a number of bird species (including kiwi, penguins, wading birds and passerines), lizards and native invertebrates. Stoats in particular are considered the primary factor contributing to the decline of mainland kiwi and have been linked to the disappearance of a number of other threatened indigenous bird species, such as the kōkako.

The animals' killing behaviour is independent of hunger, and mustelids will, if the opportunity arises, kill any suitable prey and cache the surplus for future use.

Mustelids have an unknown but suspected participation in the bovine Tb cycle, and they carry parasites and toxoplasmosis, which causes abortions in sheep and illness in humans.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan:

- (i) Sustainably control mustelids in KNE areas and TA reserves (see Maps 2 and 8) to protect the environmental, cultural and economic values at those sites.
- (ii) Eradicate mustelids on land contained within the boundaries of Predator Free Wellington initiatives (see Map 3)

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Will undertake inspections, monitoring and surveillance in KNE areas and on land contained within the boundaries of Predator Free Wellington initiatives, to determine the presence of new infestations and status in pre- and post-eradication sites (see Appendix 3, Map 1)
- Staff will undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of mustelids in KNEs
- Support and/or undertake control in conjunction with Predator Free Wellington project partners
- Provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA
- Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for mustelids where appropriate

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide advice and training to anyone undertaking mustelid control, with priority given to activity in or around KNEs and in defendable or strategic geographic locations such as peninsulas, islands and corridors

### Enforcement

Greater Wellington will:

- Enforce restrictions on the sale, breeding, distribution and exhibition of mustelids

### Rule

- 1 No person shall possess and/or release any mustelid within the Wellington Region.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

### Explanation of rule

Rule 1 is to assist in preventing the further spread of mustelids in the Wellington Region.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

A research permit can be obtained to hold a live mustelid for research purposes only.

## 6.5.9 Pest cat (*Felis catus*)



### Description

All pest cats\* originate from domestic cats. They are usually short-haired and slightly built, with large heads and sharp features. Coat colours vary from pure black to orange tabby and some resemble the striped dark and pale grey of the true European wild cat. They commonly revert to black, tabby or tortoiseshell, with varying extents of white starting from the belly and breast. Adult male cats are generally larger than the females and can weigh up to 5kg. Diet is wide-ranging and includes small mammals, fish, birds, reptiles (lizards) and invertebrates. Pest cats can produce two or three litters per year with an average of four young in each.

*\*Pest cat means any cat within the Wellington Region that is:*

- (i) Not microchipped in an area where microchipping is compulsory, and free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans, or
- (ii) Not microchipped, or registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, and is free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans

### Adverse effects

New Zealand's unique native wildlife is particularly vulnerable to predation by cats. Pest cats kill young and adult birds and occasionally take eggs and prey on native lizards, fish, frogs and large invertebrates. Cats are highly efficient predators, and have been known to cause local extinctions of seabird species on islands in New Zealand and around the world. Both sea and land birds are at risk, particularly those that nest or feed on or near to the ground.

Pest cats are implicated in a small way in the spread of bovine Tb, with the potential to spread the infection to cattle. They also carry parasites and toxoplasmosis, which causes abortions in sheep and illness in humans. Pest cats can be aggressive towards domestic pet cats. Through fighting they cause severe injuries, sometimes resulting in the pet cats having to be put down.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control pest cats in KNE areas and on TA reserves (see Maps 2 and 8) within the Wellington Region to minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing, the environment, human health, the enjoyment of the natural environment and the relationship between Māori, their culture and their traditions and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu and taonga.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Requirement to act

- Every person will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Staff and/or its contractors may undertake inspections, monitoring and surveillance within KNEs and actively managed TA reserves, to determine the presence of pest cats and the status of existing or historical sites of cat colonies

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington:

- Will undertake direct control of pest cats within KNEs as part of the integrated management of those areas, to levels that protect the biodiversity values of the areas (see Map 2)
- Staff and/or its contractors will provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA (Map 7)

### Advocacy and education

- Greater Wellington will provide information and advice on the impacts of pest cats and best-practice control methods, particularly to communities near KNEs and TA reserves.

### Enforcement

- Greater Wellington will enforce prohibitions on cat colonies and abandonment.

*\*Pest cat means any cat within the Wellington Region that is:*

- (i) Not microchipped in an area where microchipping is compulsory, and free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans, or
- (ii) Not microchipped, or registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, and is free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans

### Rule

- 1 No person shall feed or provide shelter to pest cats on private or public land within the Wellington Region, without the permission of the occupier.

A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

### Explanation of rule

Rule 1 prevents members of the public from encouraging or supporting pest cat colonies on private and public land, to assist with controlling pest and unwanted cat populations.

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

Under section 14(2) of the Animal Welfare Act 1999: "A person commits an offence who, being the owner of, or person in charge of, an animal, without reasonable excuse, deserts the animal in circumstances in which no provision is made to meet its physical, health, and behavioural needs".

## 6.5.10 Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*)



### Description

The Australian brushtail possum is a nocturnal marsupial introduced and liberated in New Zealand by private individuals and acclimatisation societies between 1837 and 1898 to establish a fur trade. Possums were accorded various levels of protection until 1947. When it became clear that the environmental damage inflicted by them far outweighed any profit made from their skins, this protection was lifted.

Possums in New Zealand occur as two colour types: "blacks" and "greys". Adult male blacks vary in colour from rich red-brown to brown, while the females have darker or black-brown fur. Adult male greys are often strongly rufous in the neck and shoulders, and the greys often have a distinct silver tinge in the fur. Possums make a loud rasping call at night.

Size and weight are dependent on habitat. In good conditions adult possums can weigh 3-5kg. Their lifespan is about nine years. Possums reach reproductive maturity at approximately two years of age. Usually females rear three young every two years.

Possums can be found throughout the Wellington Region, generally in bush/pasture margins as these provide a plentiful supply of food and suitable habitat.

### Adverse effects

Because of their feeding habits, possums pose a serious threat to the biodiversity of the Wellington Region. Possums also pose a threat to agriculture by grazing pasture and crops and serving as a vector in the spread of diseases affecting domestic animals and people, including bovine tuberculosis (Tb). Possums' wide-ranging diet consists of leaves, fruit, seeds, buds and bark, but they will also eat birds' eggs, chicks and insects.

Their browsing damages and destroys forests and affects pasture, and vegetable and horticultural crops. They compete with native birds by eating berries and flowers, and predate on their young and eggs.

### Regional Possum Predator Control Programme

The Regional Possum Predator Control Programme (RPPCP) is a Greater Wellington pest management initiative that aims to control possums and other predators that are serious threats to our native biodiversity and economy.

OSPRI also undertakes possum control within the Wellington Region that aims to eradicate bovine Tb from the vector population and protect the region's livestock under the National Bovine Tuberculosis Pest Management Plan.

Greater Wellington has built on the work completed by OSPRI through the RPPCP, which maintains low possum populations in areas declared bovine Tb free. The RPPCP continues to expand within the Wellington Region as new areas are declared free from bovine Tb.

The RPPCP is funded by Greater Wellington rates (general and targeted). Although possum control is undertaken on private land, no additional costs are imposed on land owners/occupiers. The RPPCP is being expanded through the Wellington Region as funding allows, and Greater Wellington will contact eligible landowners to undertake the control on their properties.

Possums are monitored using the National Trap/Catch Protocol to determine the "Residual Trap Catch" (RTC) of an area. It counts the number of possums caught per 100 trap nights and expresses this as a percentage catch. A low possum population is a RTC rate of 5 percent or less. This measures the success of an operation or indicates when control should be implemented and funding can be directed towards areas with high possum populations.

Ongoing control reduces the number of carcasses in an operational area and the amount of toxin needed to keep possums at a low level. It allows native vegetation and wildlife to recover alongside preventing damage to primary production.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Eradicate possums on land contained within the boundaries of the Predator Free Wellington initiative (see Map 3)</li> <li>(ii) Control possums in KNEs and TA reserves to reduce the impacts of possums on the biodiversity and cultural and economic values of the Wellington Region</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(iii) Control possums on land contained within the RPPCP to ensure that population levels are maintained at an RTC rate (or equivalent) of 5 percent or less</li> </ul> <p>to protect the environmental, cultural, economic and human health values at those sites.</p> |
|---|--|

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Will undertake inspections, monitoring and surveillance on land contained within the boundaries of the Predator Free Wellington initiative, to determine the presence of new infestations and status in pre- and post-eradication sites (see Appendix 3, Map 2)
- Staff will undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Support and/or undertake control in conjunction with Predator Free Wellington project partners
- Undertake direct control by service delivery in KNEs and other sites of ecological significance in agreement with the land owners/occupiers
- Establish new possum control programmes, in collaboration with landowners, in areas that have historically received bovine Tb vector control and now meet OSPRI's criteria to be declared Tb free
- Provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA
- Provide a referral or cost recovery service to land owners/occupiers who require possum control outside KNEs or the RPPCP
- Support research initiatives, including biological control

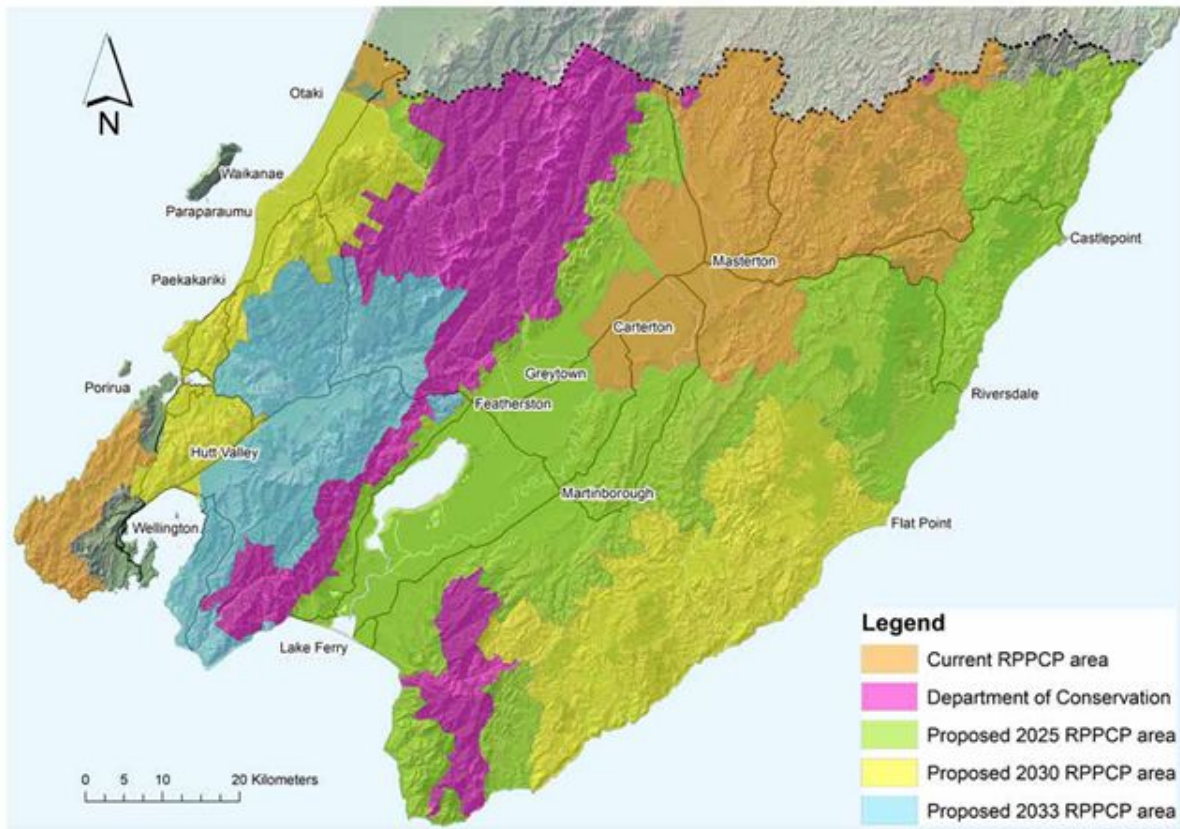
### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide information and advice on pest animal identification, impacts and control
- Provide advice and support to community groups undertaking pest animal control

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.



Map 8: Map of the Regional Possum Predator Control Programme 2019 - 2039



## 6.5.11 Rat – Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) and ship rat (*R. rattus*)



### Description

Rats are small black, grey or brown mammals with naked tails. Rats occupy a wide range of terrestrial habitats throughout Aotearoa/New Zealand.

Norway rats (*R. norvegicus*) are the larger of the two European rats found in New Zealand. They have short bodies and heavy tails, which are slightly shorter than the head and body length, and have relatively small ears, which usually do not cover the eyes when pulled forward. Norway rats have brown fur on their backs and pale grey fur on their bellies. Adults normally weigh 150-300g, but can weigh up to 500g, and are up to 390mm long. They are competent swimmers, enabling them to colonise offshore islands.

Ship rats (*R. rattus*) are smaller than Norway rats but their tails are larger, thicker and longer than their bodies. They have pointed muzzles and large ears and eyes. The body is sleek with a scaly, sparsely haired tail. Ship rats are slender with large, hairless ears, are grey-brown on the back and have a similarly coloured or creamish-white belly, or are black all over. The uniformly coloured tail is always longer than the head and body length combined. Adults usually weigh 120-160g but can exceed 200g.

Breeding commences as early as three or four months of age. Females can produce 15-20 young per year. Mortality can be high. They inhabit a wide range of urban, rural and forest habitats. Ship rats are more common in forest areas.

### Adverse effects

Rats are generalist omnivores and opportunistic feeders, eating 10 percent of their body weight per day. This makes them a competitor for food with many species and predators of others. They eat a variety of native flora and fauna, in particular native birds (eggs and fledglings), invertebrates, reptiles, snails, amphibians and lizards.

Excessive consumption of seeds by rats can greatly reduce native seedling recruitment and ultimately modify plant communities in invaded ecosystems. They compete with native birds for nests and burrows, and have been implicated in the decline of a number of threatened birds. Rats are particularly damaging to cereal production, stored products and the food services industry, and are a disease vector to humans.

## Objective

Over the duration of the Plan:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (i) Sustainably control rats in KNE areas and TA reserves (Maps 2 and 8) | (ii) Eradicate rats on land contained within the boundaries of Predator Free Wellington initiatives (see Map 3) |
|--|---|

to protect the environmental, cultural, economic and human health values at those sites.

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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## Principal measures to achieve objective

### Inspection and monitoring

Greater Wellington:

- Will undertake inspections, monitoring and surveillance in KNE areas, and on land contained within the boundaries of the Predator Free Wellington initiative, to determine the presence of new infestations and status in pre- and post-eradication sites (see Maps 2 and 3)
- Staff will undertake compliance activities when required, such as rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, and processing of exemptions

### Service delivery

Greater Wellington will:

- Undertake direct control of rats in KNEs
- Support and/or undertake control in conjunction with Predator Free Wellington project partners
- Provide a cost recovery service in actively managed TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA
- Assist in the release of biocontrol agents for rats where appropriate

### Advocacy and education

Greater Wellington will:

- Provide information and advice on pest animal identification, impacts and control
- Provide advice and support to community groups undertaking pest animal control, with priority given to activity in or around KNEs and in defendable or strategic geographic locations such as peninsulas, islands and corridors

### Advice note

Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.

## 7 ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Given its longstanding experience in pest management, Greater Wellington is satisfied that the overall effects of the Plan will be beneficial to the regional community. While Greater Wellington is confident that a plan is an effective way of managing pests, there are some aspects of the implementation of the Plan that may have real and perceived adverse effects.

### 7.1 Effects on Māori

It is anticipated that pest animal and plant management under the plan will have a positive effect on the relationship of Māori with their culture and traditions and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu and taonga, by contributing to the protection of taonga and mauri associated with indigenous biodiversity, landscapes and waterways.

Positive results stemming from the plan can include improved quality of traditional food-gathering sites (eg, wetlands and estuaries), and improved availability of native plant resources for food, fibre and the purposes of rongoā.

It is acknowledged that feral animals such as deer, pigs and goats are valued as replacements for traditional hunting resources. Feral deer and feral pigs will be actively controlled in KNE reserves and TA reserves in agreement with the associated TA. Feral goats will primarily be controlled in KNEs and in areas in the region deemed to have high ecological values. Therefore the effect of the Plan on the regional availability of these hunting resources (outside of KNEs and TA reserves) will be minimal.

### 7.2 Effects on the environment

This Plan will enhance and protect the ecological environment, including natural ecosystems and processes, soil health and water quality, by removing, reducing or managing the pest species that threaten it. The use of control tools such as toxins and traps can negatively affect indigenous wildlife. Greater Wellington actively participates in current research and training that aim to minimise the non-target effects of pest control, and readily adopts best-practice methods for poisoning and trapping operations.

Enjoyment of the cultural environment will also be enhanced where pest management overlaps with amenity and recreational values. The economic environment will experience some benefit as a result of suppressing or eradicating pests that have impacts on primary productivity. In addition, the tourism industry (domestic and international) is expected to gain from this Plan through enhancement of the natural areas used by visitors.

### 7.3 Effects on overseas marketing of New Zealand products

The control of pests in areas of high natural value (including KNEs) should increase the recreational and aesthetic values associated with these areas, which may have positive impacts on international tourism.

The provisions of this Plan do not replace other legislation or regulations relating to the use of toxins and their impacts on Māori culture and traditions, and public health and safety. Greater Wellington shall monitor and report on any impacts arising from the use of toxins through systems and processes established under the relevant legislation. Greater Wellington will also routinely record and report any adverse effects arising from its direct control operations, including non-target kills.

The use of best-practice methods when applying toxins, and the employment of the mixed method of control, should mitigate any threats to the marketing of New Zealand products. Moreover, by managing pests that affect agriculture, horticulture and forestry, the volume of exports may be improved through increased productivity.

## 8 MONITORING

The Greater Wellington Regional Council will monitor the extent to which the objectives set out in Part Two of this Plan are being achieved.

### 8.1 Measuring what the objectives are achieving

Table 9: Monitoring of RPMP progress

PEST	ANTICIPATED RESULT	INDICATOR	METHOD OF MONITORING	FREQUENCY OF MONITORING	FREQUENCY OF REPORTING
<b>EXCLUSION</b>					
Alligator weed, Chilean needle grass, nassella tussock, wallabies	No exclusion pests establish in the region.	No exclusion pests found in the region.	Undertake inspections of high-risk areas and respond to reports from public.	Annually, and passive surveillance.	Annually.
<b>ERADICATION</b>					
Moth plant, Senegal tea, spartina, velvetleaf, woolly nightshade	All known sites controlled to zero density by 2028.	Extent and density of subject pest.	Inspection of all known sites. Surveillance of areas vulnerable to invasion. Respond to reports from public.	Annual inspections (and passive surveillance until zero density has been achieved).	Annually.
Rooks	All known rookery sites controlled to zero active nests.	Number of active nests in the region.	Inspection of all rookeries. Surveillance of areas where rookeries may establish. Respond to reports from public.	Annually, and passive surveillance.	Annually.
<b>PROGRESSIVE CONTAINMENT</b>					
Purple loosestrife	Reduced distribution of this pest in waterways identified as natural, significant or outstanding.	Extent and density of subject pest in the region.	Inspection of all known sites. Surveillance of areas vulnerable to invasion. Respond to reports from public.	Annually, and passive surveillance.	Annually.

**SUSTAINED CONTROL**

Blue passionflower, boneseed, climbing spindleberry, eelgrass, giant hogweed	Prevent and slow the spread of these pests onto other properties. Minimise impacts on native ecosystems.	Extent and density of subject pest in the region.	Monitoring of all known sites. Surveillance of areas vulnerable to invasion. Respond to reports from public.	Annually, and passive surveillance.	Annually.
Feral rabbit	Rabbits are maintained below level 5 on the Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012.	Regional rabbit monitoring trend data. Complaints/Enquiries received. Monitor the spread of rabbits in the region.	Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012.	Annually.	Annually.
Magpie	Support community in minimising adverse effects of these pests on human health and natural ecosystems.	All human health, magpie-related complaints are responded to within ten (10) working days.	Site inspection upon request or complaint from member of the public. Response database.	Annually.	Annually.
Possum	Manage populations to RTC (or equivalent) of 5 percent or less. Support community in minimising adverse effects of these pests on primary production land, native ecosystems and social values.	Keep populations in RPPCP control areas to RTC (or equivalent) of 5 percent or less.	Number of possums caught per 100 trap nights, expressed as a percentage catch. Wax tag and chew card monitoring may also be used as equivalent means of monitoring. Night counts.	Annually.	Annually.
Wasp	Support community in minimising adverse effects of these pests on human health and natural ecosystems.	All human health, wasp-related complaints are responded to within ten (10) working days.	Site inspection upon request or complaint by member of the public. Response database.	Annually.	Annually.

**SITE-LED**

Banana passionfruit, cathedral bells, old man's beard	Support community in minimising adverse effects of these pests on natural ecosystems within Hutt City Council boundary.	Number of hectares under a site-specific programme.	Undertaken by Hutt City Council.	Undertaken by Hutt City Council.	Undertaken by Hutt City Council.
European hedgehog, feral goat, mustelids, pest cat, rat	Support community in minimising adverse effects of these pests on native ecosystems.	Extent and density of subject pest in the region.	Monitoring in KNE sites using tracking tunnels. Aerial surveys and ungulate browse plots. Monitoring using a range of technologies in conjunction with Predator Free Wellington partners.	Annually.	Annually.

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## 8.2 Monitoring the management agency's performance

Greater Wellington is proposed to be the management agency. As the management agency responsible for implementing the Plan, Greater Wellington will:

- (a) Prepare an operational plan within three months of the Plan being approved
- (b) Review the operational plan, and amend it if needed
- (c) Report on the operational plan each year, within five months after the end of each financial year
- (d) Implement the Plan in line with the operational plans
- (e) Maintain up-to-date databases of complaints, pest levels and densities, and responses from Greater Wellington and land owners and/or occupiers

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## 8.3 Monitoring Plan effectiveness

Monitoring the effectiveness of the Plan will ensure that it continues to achieve its purpose. It will also check that relevant circumstances have not changed to such an extent that the Plan requires review. A review may be needed if:

- (a) The Biosecurity Act is changed, and a review is needed to ensure that the Plan is not inconsistent with the Act
- (b) Other harmful organisms create, or have the potential to create, problems that can be resolved by including those organisms in the Plan
- (c) Monitoring shows that the problems from pests and other organisms to be controlled (as covered by the Plan) have changed significantly
- (d) Circumstances change so significantly that Greater Wellington believes a review is appropriate

If the Plan does not need to be reviewed under such circumstances, it will be reviewed in line with section 100D of the Act. Such a review may extend, amend or revoke the Plan, or leave it unchanged.

The procedures to review the plan will include officers of Greater Wellington:

- (i) Assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the principal measures specified for each pest and organism (or pest group and organisms) to be controlled to achieve the objectives of the Plan
- (ii) Assessing the impacts that the pest or organism (covered by the Plan) has on the region, and any other harmful organisms that should be considered for inclusion in the Plan
- (iii) Liaising with key interest groups on the effectiveness of the Plan

# PART THREE - PROCEDURES



*Biosecurity officer entering bait station data into a mobile field app.*

## 9 POWERS CONFERRED

### 9.1 Powers under Part 6 of the Biosecurity Act

The Principal Officer (Chief Executive) of Greater Wellington may appoint authorised persons to exercise the functions, powers and duties under the Act in relation to an RPMP.

Greater Wellington will use those statutory powers of Part 6 of the Act as shown in Table 10, where necessary, to help implement this Plan.

Table 10: Powers from Part 6 to be used

<b>Administrative provisions</b>	<b>Biosecurity Act reference</b>
The appointment of authorised and accredited persons	Section 103(3) and (7)
Delegation to authorised persons	Section 105
Power to require assistance	Section 106
Power of inspections and duties	Sections 109, 110 and 112
Power to record information	Section 113
General powers	Sections 114 and 114A
Use of dogs and devices	Section 115
Power to intercept risk goods	Section 120
Power to examine organisms	Section 121
Power to apply article or substance to place	Section 121A
Power to give directions	Section 122
Power to act on default	Section 128
Liens	Section 129
Declaration of restricted areas	Section 130
Declaration of controlled areas	Section 131
Options for cost recovery	Section 135
Failure to pay	Section 136

*Note: Any non-compliance with the Biosecurity Act or contravention of any rules under the RPMP will be subject to the enforcement provisions under Part 8 of the Biosecurity Act.*



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## 9.2 Powers under other sections of the Act

A land owner and/or occupier or any person in breach of a plan rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act where the rule provides for this. Greater

Wellington can seek prosecution under section 157(5) of the Act for those offences.

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## 9.3 Power to issue exemptions to plan rules

Any land owner and/or occupier or other person may write to Greater Wellington to seek an exemption from any provision of a plan rule set out in Part Two of the Plan. Also, upon application, the Greater Wellington Regional Council will consider issuing an exemption to provide for the keeping of any pest species for zoological or research purposes to individuals and/or institutions.

The requirements in section 78 of the Act must be met for a person/institution to be granted an exemption. Greater Wellington's operating procedures must also note those requirements in full. The requirements are:

- (a) Greater Wellington is satisfied that granting the exemption will not significantly prejudice the attainment of the Plan's objectives
- (b) Greater Wellington is satisfied that one or more of the following applies:

- (i) The requirement has been substantially complied with and further compliance is unnecessary
- (ii) The action taken on, or provision made for, the matter to which the requirement relates is as effective as or more effective than compliance with the requirement
- (iii) The requirement is clearly unreasonable or inappropriate in the particular case
- (iv) Events have occurred that make the requirement unnecessary or inappropriate in the particular case

Greater Wellington will keep and maintain a register that records the number and nature of exemptions granted (including any agreed memoranda of understanding, management plans and alternative pest management arrangements). The public will be able to inspect this register during business hours.

# 10 FUNDING

## 10.1 Introduction

The Act requires that funding to achieve this Plan be thoroughly examined. This includes the reason for, and source of, all funding.

## 10.2 Funding sources and reasons for funding

The Biosecurity Act and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 require that funding be sought from:

- People who have an interest in the Plan
- Those who benefit from the Plan
- Those who contribute to the pest problem

Funding must be sought in a way that reflects economic efficiency and equity. Those seeking funds should also target those funding the plan and the costs of collecting funding.

## 10.3 Anticipated costs of implementing the Plan

The anticipated costs to Greater Wellington of implementing the Plan reflect a similar level of pest management funding to that in previous years. Greater Wellington expects that the relative cost of pest management will be similar for the duration of the Plan. The cost for implementing the full suite of programmes contained in the Plan is \$61,844.000 over 10 years (see Table 11).

The funding of the implementation of the Plan is from a region-wide general rate set and assessed under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, and in determining this Greater Wellington has had regard to those matters outlined in section 100T of the Biosecurity Act.

Where the implementation of this Plan is to be funded by a targeted rate, the matters outlined in section 100T of the Biosecurity Act will be given specific regard as part of the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan process.

The anticipated costs of implementing the Plan reflect a best estimate of expenditure levels. Funding levels will be further examined and set during subsequent Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes.

Table 11: Indicative costs to implement the Plan (in \$000s, inflation adjusted)

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
<b>SPECIES-LED</b>	1,127	1,250	1,295	1,317	1,346	1,362	1,387	1,415	1,442	1,474
<b>SITE-LED KNE</b>	1,170	1,183	1,182	1,206	1,226	1,256	1,280	1,309	1,334	1,364
<b>ANIMALS</b>	2,297	2,433	2,477	2,523	2,582	2,618	2,667	2,724	2,776	2,838
<b>SPECIES-LED</b>	1,304	1,378	1,429	1,454	1,487	1,508	1,536	1,569	1,598	1,634
<b>SITE-LED KNE</b>	841	890	924	943	967	981	1,001	1,023	1,043	1,067
<b>PLANTS</b>	2,145	2,268	2,353	2,397	2,454	2,489	2,537	2,592	2,641	2,701
<b>LANDSCAPE - RPPCP</b>	1,649	1,682	1,835	1,865	1,897	1,930	1,963	1,998	2,034	2,071

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### 10.3.1 General rate and revenue

Private land occupiers will contribute to the programmes identified in this Plan through a proportion of the general rate that is levied on every separately rateable property in the region under section 33 of the Rating Powers Act 1988, and a proportion of Greater Wellington's investment revenue.

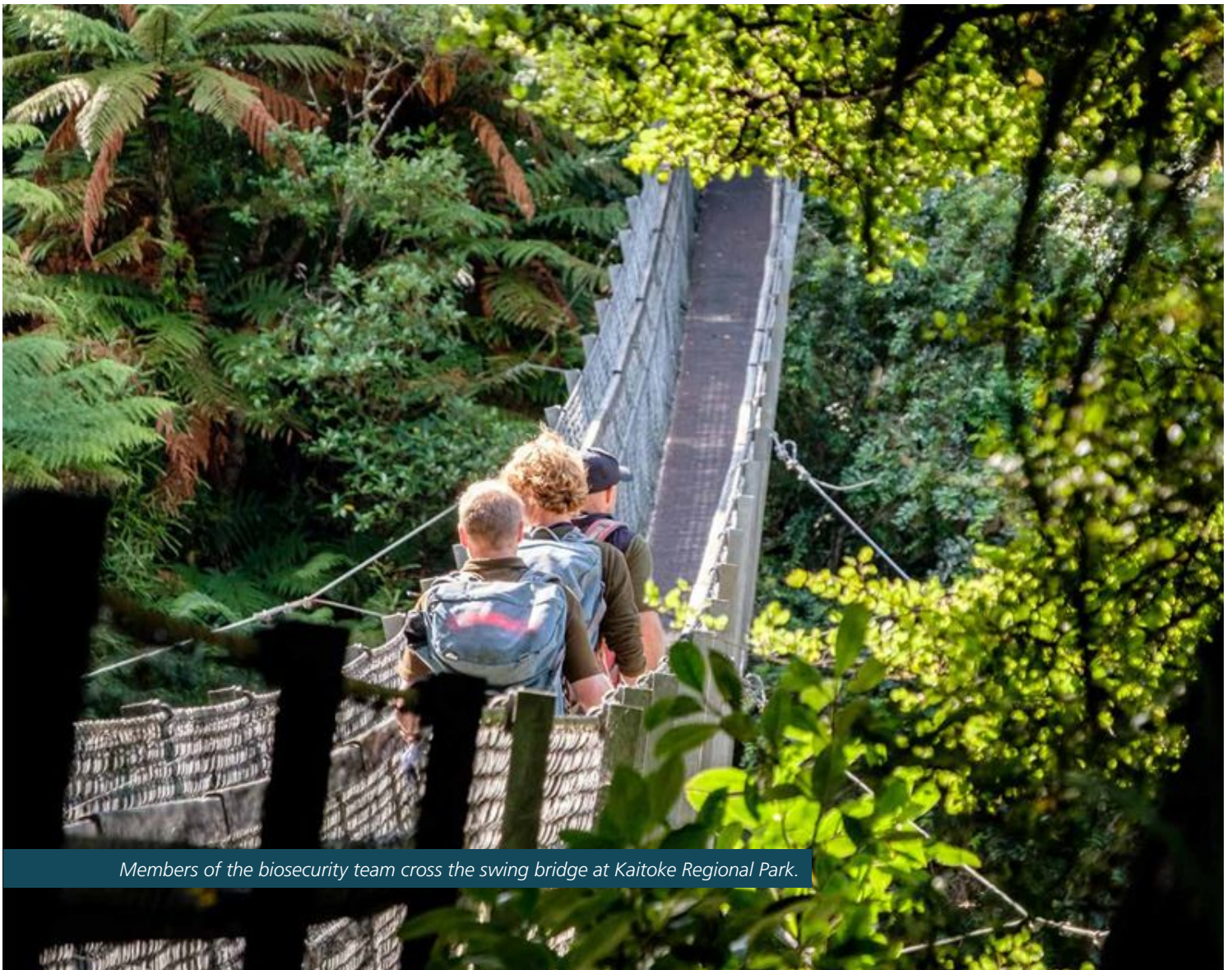
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### 10.3.2 Recovery of direct costs

Greater Wellington will recover costs for a particular function or service under section 135 of the Biosecurity Act. In the event that Greater Wellington incurs costs arising from a land occupier's failure to comply with a notice of direction, Greater Wellington may:

- Recover actual and reasonable costs associated with additional inspections for pest infestations
- Recover actual and reasonable costs associated with undertaking the control of pest infestations

The amount of money recovered from direct charges will vary from year to year depending on the number of cost recovery pest control operations undertaken, if any. No unusual administrative problems or costs are expected in recovering the costs from any of the occupiers who are required to pay.



*Members of the biosecurity team cross the swing bridge at Kaitoke Regional Park.*

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# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1 Glossary of terms

Act	The Biosecurity Act 1993.
Animal	Any mammal, bird, fish, reptile or other vertebrate; any insect or other invertebrate; any living organism, except a plant, a micro-organism or a human being.
Authorised person*	A person for the time being appointed an authorised person under section 103 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.
Beneficiary	The receiver of benefits accruing from the implementation of a pest management measure or the Plan.
Biodiversity	The variability among living organisms from all habitats, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological systems of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.
Biological control	Applying a natural enemy that will prey on or adversely affect a pest with the intention of reducing the level of infestation of the pest.
Biosecurity	Protection within the region from the risks posed by organisms to the environmental, social, cultural and economic wellbeing, through exclusion, eradication and control.
Chief technical officer	A person appointed a chief technical officer under section 101 of the Act. The Ministry of Health, Ministry for Primary Industries and Department of Conservation all have appointed chief technical officers.
Costs and benefits*	Costs and benefits of any kind, whether monetary or non-monetary, and whether quantifiable or non-quantifiable.
Defined area	An area as shown on maps in this Plan that illustrates where a pest designation is operative.
Destroy	Kill or dispose of in a manner that will not allow the pest to re-infest an area. See also the definition used for rule purposes, section 6.25.
Disease	An impairment of the normal state of an organism that interrupts or modifies its vital functions. All species of plant, wild and cultivated alike, are subject to disease.
Distribute	Propagate, offer for sale, or sell, transport, release or in any way spread a pest, whether for commercial gain or not. Distribution has a corresponding meaning.
District council	District council constituted under Part 1A of the Local Government Act 1974.
Ecosystem	A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment, interacting as a functional unit.
Effects*	Unless the context otherwise requires, the term "effects": (a) includes the following, regardless of scale, intensity, duration or frequency: (i) a positive or adverse effect and (ii) a temporary or permanent effect; and (iii) a past, present or future effect; and (iv) a cumulative effect that arises over time or in combination with other effects; and (b) also includes the following: a potential effect of high probability; and a potential effect of low probability that has a high potential impact.
Environment*	Includes: a. ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and their communities; and b. all natural and physical resources; and c. amenity values; and d. the aesthetic, cultural, economic and social conditions that affect or are affected by any matter referred to in parts (a) to (c) of this definition.
Environmental values	Incorporate those values that are associated with the environment.
Eradication	Reduce the infestation level of a subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to zero levels in an area in the short to medium term.
Exacerbator	A person who, by their activities or inaction, contributes to the creation or continuance of or makes worse a particular pest management problem.

Exclusion	Prevent the establishment of a subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, that is present in New Zealand but not yet established in an area.
Exotic	Introduced species that are not native to New Zealand.
Feral	Existing in a wild state and not reliant directly on human activities for survival.
Feral animal	Any animal not held behind effective fences or otherwise constrained or identified in accordance with the Animal Identification Act 1993.
Feral goat	Any goat not held behind effective fences or otherwise constrained or identified in accordance with the Animal Identification Act 1993.
Feral rabbit	Any rabbit existing in a wild state and not reliant directly on human activities for survival.
Forestry	An area principally comprising exotic tree plantings.
General rate	A rate levied on every separately rateable property within the boundaries of the Wellington Region, pursuant to section 13 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. The rating system to be used shall be on the basis of equalised capital value.
Habitat	The place or type of site where an organism or population normally occurs.
Hapū	Kinship group, clan, tribe, subtribe/section of a large kinship group and the primary political unit in traditional Māori society.
Health	In relation to human health, a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.
Indigenous	Produced by or naturally occurring in the region.
Infestation	Where one or more plant pests occur.
Integrated management	Regionally coordinated responses through different sectors (eg, biodiversity issues and cross-boundary issues).
Iwi	Māori tribe, usually a number of hapū with a common ancestor.
Kaitiakitanga	The exercise of guardianship by the tangata whenua of an area in accordance with tikanga. Māori in relation to natural and physical resources, and includes the ethic of stewardship.
Key Native Ecosystems or KNE	Areas selected to represent a comprehensive range of indigenous biodiversity in the Wellington Region. Sites are prioritised depending on ecological criteria.
Key Native Ecosystem programme	Greater Wellington initiative to protect and enhance native biodiversity in Key Native Ecosystems throughout the Wellington Region through integrated pest management programmes.
Landowner	As for occupier below.
Mana whenua	Customary authority exercised by an iwi or hapū in an identified area.
Management agency*	The Department, authority, or body corporate specified in a pest management plan as the agency given the task of implementing that Plan.
Māori land	Māori customary land and Māori freehold land as defined by section 4 of the Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993.
Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale 2012	Refers to Version 1.0 of the Modified McLean Rabbit Infestation Scale, as adopted by the New Zealand Rabbit Coordination Group, 12/10/2012. This guideline outlines a method for monitoring rabbit populations.
Monitor	To gather information, either actively or passively, about pests known to occur in the region to determine the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• presence or absence of pests, or</li> <li>• distribution and/or density of pests, or</li> <li>• effects of pests on social, economic or environmental factors,</li> </ul> or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• effects of the Plan on the distribution and/or density of pests, or on social, economic or environmental factors, or</li> <li>• extent to which objectives of the Plan are being achieved.</li> </ul>
Non-productive coastal habitats	Any coastal land that does not provide primary income from production-based activities.
Occupier*	(a) In relation to any place physically occupied by any person, means that person; and (b) In relation to any other place, means the owner of the place; and (c) In relation to any place, includes any agent, employee, or other person, acting or apparently acting in the general management or control of the place.
Operational plan	A plan prepared by a management agency under section 85 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Organism*	(a) Does not include a human being or a genetic structure derived from a human being; (b) Includes a micro-organism; (c) Subject to paragraph (a) of this definition, includes a genetic structure that is capable of replicating itself (whether that structure comprises all or only part of an entity, and whether it comprises all or only part of the total genetic structure of an entity); (d) Includes an entity (other than a human being) declared by the Governor-General by Order in Council to be an organism for the purposes of the Act; (e) Includes a reproductive cell or developmental stage of an organism; (f) Includes any particle that is a prion.
Passive surveillance	Opportunistic findings by members of the public, other agencies, organisations and voluntary groups, and other Greater Wellington staff.
Pathway*	Means by which unwanted organisms can travel from one area to another within a geographical range, with or without the use of their natural dispersal mechanisms.
Person*	Includes the Crown, a corporation sole, and a body of persons (whether corporate or non-corporate).
Pest*	An organism specified as a pest in a pest management plan.
Pest cat	Any cat within the Wellington Region that is: (i) Not microchipped in an area where microchipping is compulsory, and is free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans, or (ii) Not microchipped, or registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, and is free-living, unowned and unsocialised, and has limited or no relationship with or dependence on humans.
Pest management plan*	A plan to which the following apply: (a) it is for the eradication or effective management of a particular pest or pests; (b) it is made under Part 5; (c) it is a national pest management plan or a regional pest management plan.
Place*	Includes any building, conveyance, craft, land or structure, and the bed and waters of the sea and any canal, lake, pond, river or stream.
Plant	Any grass, tree, shrub, herb, flower, nursery stock, culture, vegetable or other vegetation. This includes the fruit, seed, spore, portion or product of any plant and includes all aquatic plants.
Principal Officer*	The chief executive officer of a regional council, including an acting chief executive.
Productive land	Any land that provides the land owner/occupier with primary income from production-based activities and requires protection from pests to retain ongoing production values.
Progressive containment	To contain or reduce the geographic distribution of a subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to an area over time.
Public notice	1. A notice published in a newspaper circulating generally in the district to which the subject matter of the notice relates. 2. Where there is no newspaper circulating generally in any district, a notice published on placards affixed to public places in the district to which the subject matter of the notice relates. "Published" and "publicly notified" have corresponding meanings. A public notice setting forth the object, purport or general effect of a document shall in any case be sufficient notice of that document.
Regional policy statement	An operative regional policy statement approved by a regional council under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. This includes all operative changes to such a policy statement (whether arising from a review or otherwise).
Release	For the avoidance of doubt, in relation to any rule within this Plan, release includes, but is not limited to, the deliberate or neglectful liberation of any pest organism.
Road*	Includes all bridges, culverts and fords forming part of any road.
Sale	Includes bartering, offering for sale, exposing, or attempting to sell, or having in possession for sale, or sending or delivering for sale, causing or allowing to be sold, offered or displayed for sale.
Sections 52 and 53 of the Act	Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, which prohibit the communication, release, spread, sale and propagation of pests, must be complied with. These sections should be referred to in full in the Biosecurity Act 1993. A breach of section 52 or 53 creates an offence under section 154(O) of the Act.
Sell	Means to exchange or otherwise dispose of goods or services with or without a transfer or exchange of money or other value. For the purposes of this document, the meaning of 'sell' includes, without limitation, any of the following: (a) exposing goods or services for sale; (b) offering or attempting to sell goods or services; (c) having goods in your possession for sale; (d) sending or delivering for sale; (e) causing, authorising or allowing any of the above actions, and 'sale' has a corresponding meaning.

Service delivery	Pest control work undertaken by Greater Wellington at no direct cost to the land owner/occupier.
Site-led pest programme	The subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, that is capable of causing damage to a place is excluded or eradicated from that place, or is contained, reduced or controlled within the place to an extent that protects the values of that place.
Species	For the purpose of this Plan, a species is considered to include all cultivars, varieties and forms of that species, unless stated otherwise. However, a species is considered to exclude any hybrids of that species with another species, unless stated otherwise.
Stakeholders	Land owners/occupiers identified as beneficiaries of regional intervention, or exacerbators of a pest problem.
Structure	For the purpose of this Plan, any building, equipment, device or other facility made by people and that is fixed to land; and includes any raft.
Sustained control	To provide for the ongoing control of a subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.
Taonga	Treasure or property prized and protected by a tribe. The term carries a spiritual meaning and may be things that cannot be seen or touched.
Territorial authority*	A city council or a district council.
Unwanted organism*	Any organism that a chief technical officer believes is capable or potentially capable of causing unwanted harm to any natural and physical resources or human health; and (a) Includes: (i) Any new organism, if the Environmental Risk Management Authority has declined approval to import that organism; and (ii) Any organism specified in the Second Schedule of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996; but (b) Does not include any organism approved for importation under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, unless— (i) The organism is an organism which has escaped from a containment facility; or (ii) A chief technical officer, after consulting the Environmental Risk Management Authority and taking into account any comments made by the Authority concerning the organism, believes that the organism is capable or potentially capable of causing unwanted harm to any natural and physical resources or human health.
Urban area	The area included within the metropolitan urban limits and the areas included within the urban zones of rural and coastal settlements.
Wāhi tapu	Places or things that are sacred or spiritually endowed. These are defined locally by the hapū and iwi.
Waterbody	Fresh water or geothermal water in a river, lake, stream, pond, wetland or aquifer, or any part thereof, that is not located within the coastal marine area.
Wetland	Includes permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water and land water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions.
Vector	An organism that transmits a disease or parasite from one animal or plant to another.
Zero density	When there are no known animals or plants left of the pest species of concern, in the area of concern, at the end of annual pest control operations. Zero density is a status slightly less than eradication because of the risk of re-infestation and the longevity of seed banks.
Zone	A specified area within the region as defined by maps within the pest management plan.

\*As defined in the Biosecurity Act 1993.



## Appendix 2 Harmful organisms

### Plants

African club moss	<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>
African feather grass	<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i>
African fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>
Apple of Sodom	<i>Solanum linnaeanum</i>
Artemisia	<i>Artemisia spp.</i>
Artillery plant	<i>Galeobdolon luteum</i>
Arum lily	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>
Asiatic knotweed	<i>Reynoutria japonica</i>
Australian sedge	<i>Carex longebraciata</i>
Barberry	<i>Berberis glaucocarpa</i>
Bathurst bur	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>
Blackberry	<i>Rubus spp. barbed cultivars</i>
Blue morning glory	<i>Ipomoea indica</i>
Blue passionflower	<i>Passiflora caerulea</i>
Bomarea	<i>Bomarea caldasii, B. multiflora</i>
Boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Brush wattle	<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>
Buddleia	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>
Californian arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria montevidensis</i>
Californian bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus californicus</i>
Cape honey flower	<i>Melianthus major</i>
Cape ivy	<i>Senecio angulatus</i>
Cape tulip	<i>Moraea flaccida (syn. Homeria collina)</i>
Chilean flame creeper	<i>Tropaeolum speciosum</i>
Chinese pennisetum	<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i>
Chocolate vine	<i>Akebia quinata</i>
Climbing asparagus	<i>Asparagus scandens</i>
Climbing dock	<i>Rumex sagittatus</i>
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster franchetii, C. horizontalis</i>
Crack willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>
Darwin's barberry	<i>Berberis darwinii</i>
Delta arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>
Didymo	<i>Didymosphenia geminata</i>
Elaeagnus	<i>Elaeagnus x reflexa</i>
Evergreen buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>
German ivy	<i>Senecio mikanioides</i>
Giant knotweed	<i>Reynoutria sachalinensis and hybrids</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>

Great bindweed	<i>Calystegia silvatica</i>
Gunnera	<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>
Hawaiian arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
Himalayan honeysuckle	<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>
Hornwort	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>
Houttuynia	<i>Houttuynia cordata</i>
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Japanese spindletree	<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>
Johnson grass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
Madeira vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>
Manchurian wild rice	<i>Zizania latifolia</i>
Marram grass	<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>
Mexican daisy	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>
Mile-a-minute	<i>Dipogon lignosus</i>
Mist flower	<i>Ageratina riparia</i>
Monkey apple	<i>Acmena smithii</i>
Montbretia	<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiflora</i>
Nasturtium	<i>Nasturtium officinalis</i>
Nodding thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Noogoora bur	<i>Xanthium occidentale</i>
Pampas grass	<i>Cortaderia jubata, C. selloana</i>
Parrot's feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
Perennial nettle	<i>Urtica dioica (subsp.)</i>
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>
Phragmites	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
Plectranthus	<i>Plectranthus ciliatus</i>
Polypodium (common polypody)	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>
Purple ragwort	<i>Senecio glastifolius</i>
Pussy willow	<i>S. cinerea</i>
Pyp grass	<i>Ehrharta villosa</i>
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Saffron thistle	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
Silver poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>
Smilax	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>
Spanish heath	<i>Erica lusitanica</i>
Stinking iris	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>
Sweet pea shrub	<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>

Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Tradescantia	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>
Tuber ladder fern	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>
Variiegated thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i>
Velvet groundsel	<i>Senecio petasitis</i>
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>
White bryony	<i>Bryonia cretica subsp. dioica</i>
White edged nightshade	<i>Solanum marginatum</i>
Wild ginger	<i>Hedychium, gardnerianum, H. flavescens</i>
Wild onion	<i>Allium vineale</i>
Wilding pines	<i>Pinus spp.</i>

### Animals

Argentine ant	<i>Linepithema humile</i>
Australian subterranean termite	<i>Coptotermes acinaciformis</i>
Brown bullhead catfish	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>
Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Darwin's ant	<i>Doleromyrma darwiniana</i>
Feral deer	<i>Cervus elaphus, C. nippon, Dama</i>
Feral pig	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
Gambusia	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>
Goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus</i>
Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus occidentalis</i>
House mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>
Koi carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
Rainbow lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>
Rainbow skink	<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>
Red-eared slider turtle	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>
Rudd	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
Sulphur-crested cockatoo	<i>Cacatua galerita</i>
Tench	<i>Tinca tinca</i>

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## Appendix 3 Acronyms

GNR – Good Neighbour Rule

KNE – Key Native Ecosystem

NIPR – National Interest Pest Response

NPD – National Policy Direction for Pest Management 2015

NPPA – National Pest Plant Accord

NPPBA – National Pest Pet Biosecurity Accord

NRP – Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

the Plan – Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Plan

RPMP – Regional Pest Management Plan

RPPCP – Regional Possum Predator Control Programme

RTC – Residual Trap Catch

TA – Territorial authority

Tb – Tuberculosis

---

## Appendix 4 Participants in the New Zealand biosecurity pest management system – roles and responsibilities

The **Ministry for Primary Industries** is in charge of border protection and responding to the incursions of new to New Zealand organisms.

The **Department of Conservation** undertakes pest management work on Crown land that is managed by the Department of Conservation. DOC is also the government agency responsible for facilitating the overall Predator Free 2050 programme and the administrator for the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, Wildlife Act 1953 and Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983.

**OSPRI NZ** is responsible for the implementation of the National Pest Management Plan for Bovine Tuberculosis. It runs the national bovine Tb programme, which aims to eradicate bovine Tb by 2055. This programme is run by a subsidiary company called TBfree.

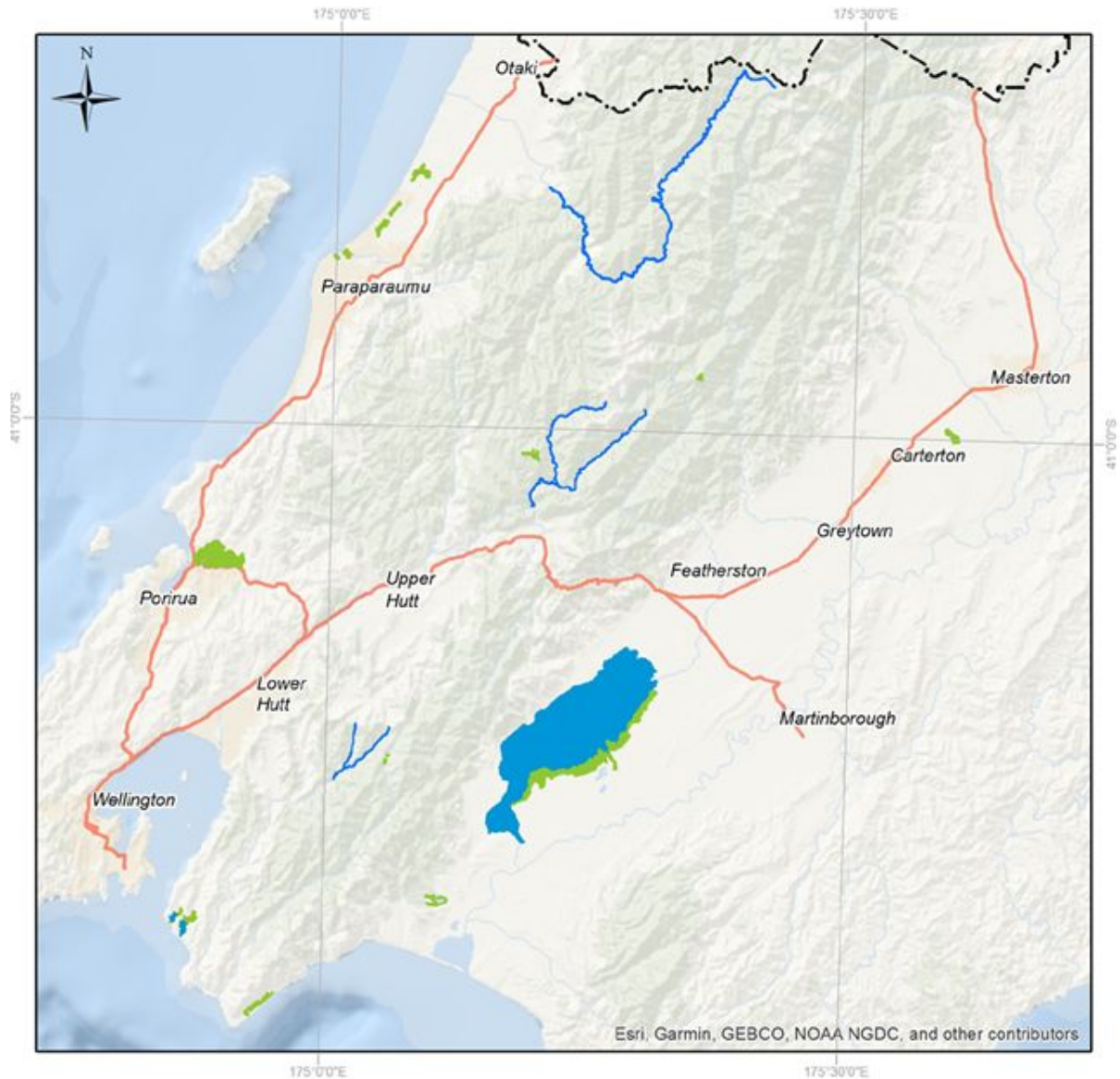
**Territorial authorities** undertake pest management in their reserves or pest management on private land for selected pests. Greater Wellington works closely with TAs in our region (under a Memorandum of Understanding between Greater Wellington and a number of TAs for the delivery of KNE and TA reserves programmes) and also delivers pest management service to a number of TA.

**Greater Wellington Regional Council** is the key organisation responsible for delivering large-scale pest control beyond Crown land and administering this Plan. We actively work with private landowners, territorial authorities, community groups and iwi in planning and undertaking “on the ground action” for pest control.

**Crown agencies** (Land Information New Zealand, New Zealand Transport Agency and KiwiRail) are responsible for pest management on Crown land (outside of DOC public conservation estate), road and rail corridors.

## Appendix 5 PNRP Maps

### Outstanding water bodies (Schedules A1, A2, A3 )



This version of the map is not complete. The version of this map available online through the online web map viewer shows the complete, detailed information on a GIS overlay that is not shown on this hard copy. The online version is available on the Council's website at <http://mapping.gw.govt.nz/gwrc/> (select theme Proposed Natural Resources Plan 2015) and can be accessed from the Council offices or public library.

-  Lake
-  River
-  Wetland
-  State Highway
-  Region boundary line

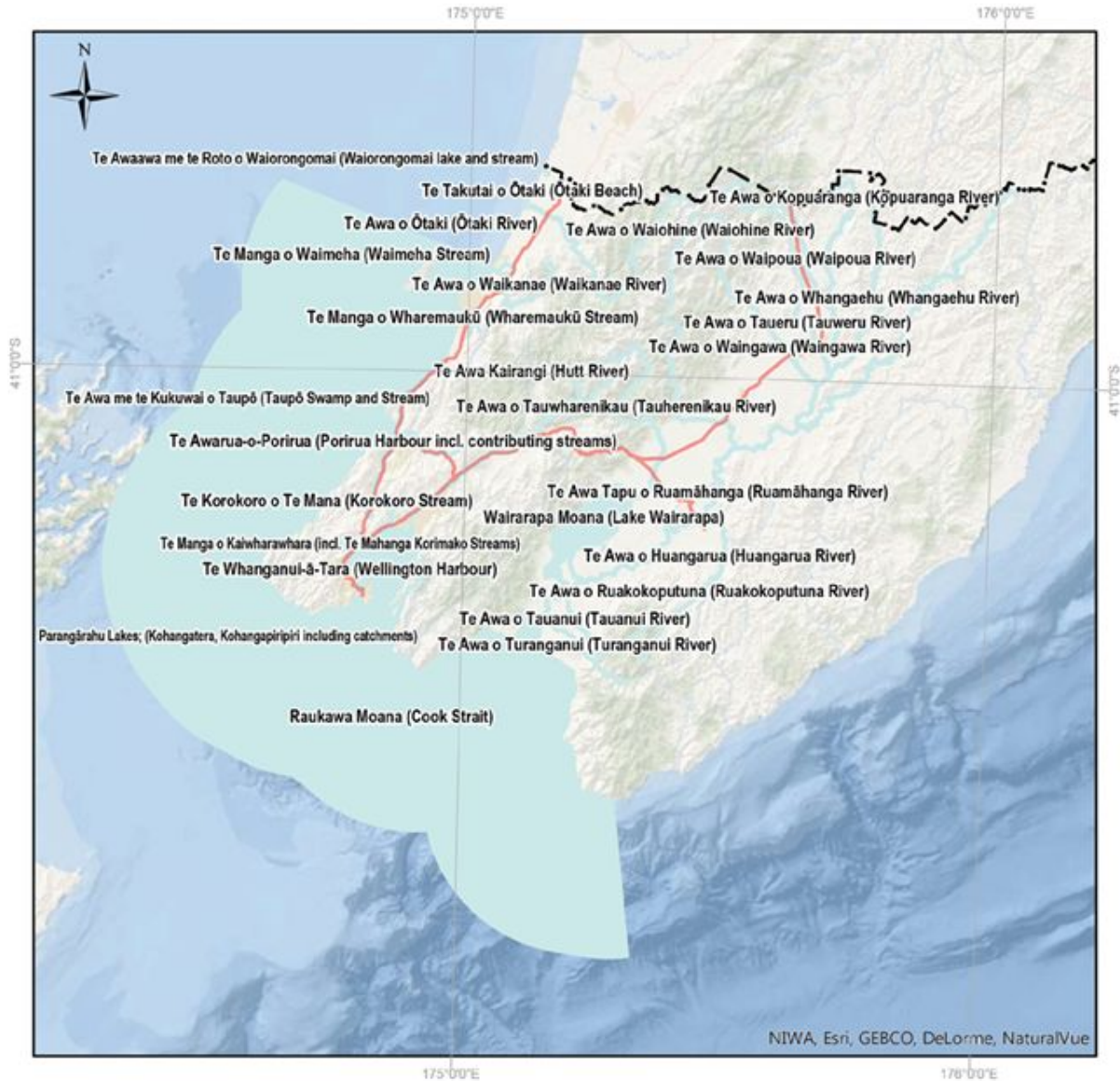


Basemap: World Oceans Base  
Projection: NZTM 2000

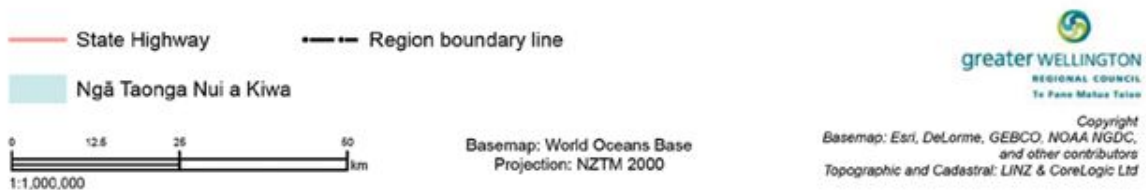
  
greater WELLINGTON  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Pare Matua Takao

Copyright  
Basemap: Esri, DeLorme, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC,  
and other contributors  
Topographic and Cadastral: LINZ & CoreLogic Ltd

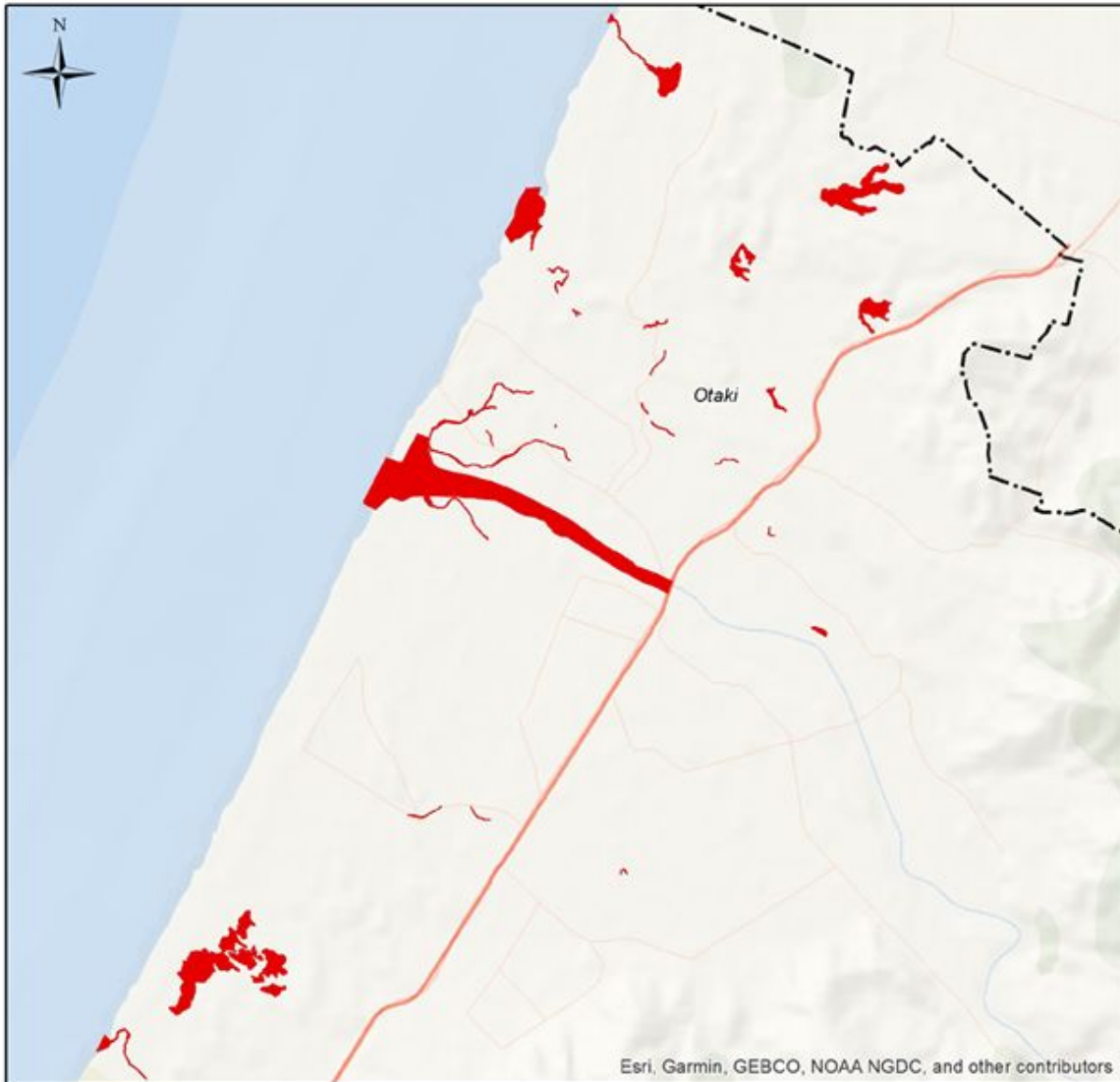
## Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa (Schedule B)



This version of the map is not complete. The version of this map available online through the online web map viewer shows the complete, detailed information on a GIS overlay that is not shown on this hard copy. The online version is available on the Council's website at <http://mapping.gw.govt.nz/gwrc/> (select theme **Proposed Natural Resources Plan 2015**) and can be accessed from the Council offices or public library.



## Sites of significance to Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki (Schedule C1)



This version of the map is not complete. The version of this map available online through the online web map viewer shows the complete, detailed information on a GIS overlay that is not shown on this hard copy. The online version is available on the Council's website at <http://mapping.gw.govt.nz/gwrc/> (select theme Proposed Natural Resources Plan 2015) and can be accessed from the Council offices or public library.

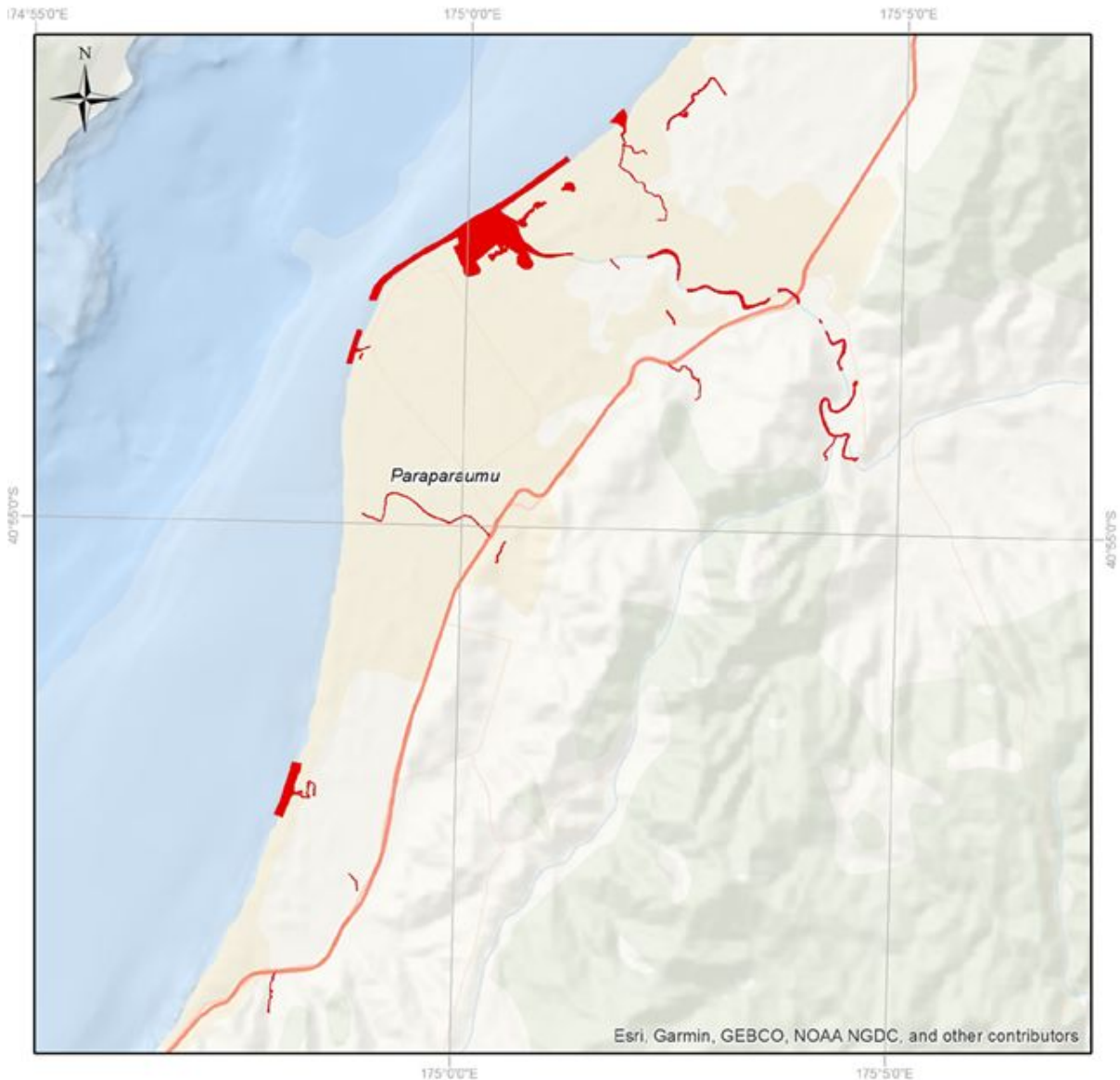
— State Highway      ■ Site of significance  
- - - Region boundary line

0 1 2 4  
1:85,000 km

Basemap: World Oceans Base  
Projection: NZTM 2000

  
greater WELLINGTON  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Puna Mātaua Taiaroa  
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Basemap: Esri, DeLorme, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC,  
and other contributors  
Topographic and Cadastral: LINZ & CoreLogic Ltd

## Sites of significance to Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai (Schedule C2)



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— State Highway      ■ Site of significance  
 - - - Region boundary line

0 1.25 2.5 5 km  
 1:100,058

Basemap: World Oceans Base  
 Projection: NZTM 2000

  
 greater WELLINGTON  
 REGIONAL COUNCIL  
 Te Pare Matua Taiao  
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GW/BIO-G-2019/74  
May 2019





**Report** 19.74  
**Date** 6 May 2019  
**File** CCAB-8-2143

**Committee** Council  
**Author** Charlotte Panton, Comms and Engagement Advisor

## **Greater Wellington Regional Council's Communication Policy for the 2019 pre-election period**

### **1. Purpose**

To seek Council's endorsement of the communication policy for the pre-election period, from 12 July 2019 to 12 October 2019 (Election Day).

### **2. Background**

The Office of the Controller and Auditor-General has published a best practice guide on managing the public communications of local authorities. The guide includes recommendations on the types of communications that are acceptable in a pre-election period ([Attachment 1](#)). The pre-election period for the 2019 local body elections runs from 12 July 2019 to 12 October 2019.

The Office of the Controller and Auditor-General recommends that councils adopt a communications policy based on its guidelines. An agreed set of policies ensures that both councillors and officers clearly understand what communication activities are acceptable during the three-month pre-election period.

### **3. Comment**

#### **3.1 Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) must not promote the re-election prospects of a sitting Council member**

It is recommended that the Council adopts the principles under sections 3.2 and 3.3 of this report (below) for the 2019 pre-election period. These rules apply to GWRC's communications. Councillors are still free to undertake any personal communication for election purposes or otherwise, provided they use their own resources and make it clear that the opinions they express are their personal views and are not the Council's position.

The principles are based on the premise that GWRC must not promote, nor be perceived to promote, the re-election prospects of a sitting Council member, either directly or indirectly. They also recognise that decisions to restrict communications must be balanced with the need for GWRC to continue to communicate matters of Council business to the public.

### **3.2 Policy for communication for the pre-election period from 12 July to 12 October 2019**

It is proposed that the following principles be observed during the pre-election period from 12 July to 12 October 2019:

- GWRC's resources shall not be used for re-election purposes.
- Councillors shall not use GWRC resources or platforms to express their personal views or opinions.
- Communication by GWRC shall be limited to what is necessary to carry out or convey Council business. The Chief Executive will determine this.
- GWRC's mass communication channels, including newspaper advertorials, social media accounts, radio advertising, rates newsletters and website, shall not include content that may raise the profile of a councillor or councillors for re-election purposes.
- The Chief Executive, or his delegates, alone have the power to authorise GWRC communications.

### **3.3 What does this mean in practice?**

- Councillors must not use GWRC communication channels and resources, including GWRC branded stationery, postage, internet, social media, photographs, clothing, email and telephone, for campaign purposes.
- Councillors may continue to access GWRC resources to communicate with individual constituents in their official capacities as members of the Council. However, care should be taken to avoid using, or avoid the perception of using, these resources for campaign purposes.
- At the discretion of the Chief Executive, the Council Chairperson and committee chairpersons will continue to represent the Council in official communications. Quotes and comments attributed to them will continue to be used in media statements setting out the Council's position on issues, e.g. major decisions made at Council committee meetings, and the announcement of new initiatives.
- Mass communications from GWRC with constituents will not contain quotes from or about councillors, nor include journalistic use of photographic material that may raise the profile of a councillor or councillors unless it is directly relating to Council business within their assigned GWRC portfolio.

- Mandatory communications such as public notices required by statute, GWRC's annual plan and annual report will continue.
- Councillors will not be able to include the GWRC logo, telephone numbers, email addresses, and social media identifiers in their own social media, media releases, election campaign material, or private advertising.
- Councillor-originated publications and commentary within traditional (e.g. newspaper columns) and social media (e.g. blogs, digital communities) should include a disclaimer that states the material is not sponsored by GWRC, and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Council. The views of the Council and the opinions of the individual should be clearly distinguished in the body of the text.

### **3.4 Legal responsibilities of Councillors**

Councillors who intend standing for election should understand that, in addition to the requirements of this policy, they also need to be aware of and comply with the election advertising requirements of the Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA). Advertisements published during the pre-election period may appear to be promoting the election of a candidate even if this is not their purpose.

Section 113(1) of the LEA provides that:

- (1) No person may publish or cause to be published in any newspaper, periodical, notice, poster, pamphlet, handbill, billboard, or card, or broadcast or permit to be broadcast over any radio or television station, any advertisement that is used or appears to be used to promote or procure the election of a candidate at an election, unless subsection (2) or subsection (4) applies.

Section 113(2) provides that:

- (2) A person may publish or cause or permit to be published an advertisement of the kind described in subsection (1) if—
  - (a) the publication of that advertisement is authorised in writing by the candidate or the candidate's agent or, in the case of an advertisement relating to more than 1 candidate, the candidates or an agent acting for all of those candidates; and
  - (b) the advertisement contains a statement setting out the true name of the person or persons for whom or at whose direction it is published and the address of his or her place of residence or business.

Section 113(4) is not relevant when publishing such an advertisement but is reproduced here for information purposes:

- (4) A person may publish or cause or permit to be published an advertisement of the kind described in subsection (1) if—
  - (a) the publication of the advertisement is endorsed by an organisation or body representing residents or ratepayers in the community or district in which the advertisement is published; and
  - (b) the advertisement contains a statement setting out—
    - (i) the true name of the person or persons for whom or at whose direction it is

published and the address of his or her residence or place of business; and

- (ii) the true name of the organisation or body that has endorsed the publication of the advertisement and the address of the place of business of that organisation or body.

Once an intention to stand has been declared, any advertisements placed by a councillor to promote or procure their election should be authorised by the councillor (or their agent) in writing and include a statement along the lines of: *The publication of this advertisement was authorised by [true name] of [address of residence or place of business].*

Or:

*The publication of this advertisement was authorised by [agent's true name] on behalf of [true name] of [address of residence or place of business].*

Additional information and guidance for councillors/candidates who are standing for re-election will be available in documents such as the Candidate Handbook.

#### **4. Communication**

GWRC staff will be informed of this policy.

#### **5. Consideration of climate change**

The matters addressed in this report are of a procedural nature, and there is no need to conduct a climate change assessment.

#### **6. The decision-making process and significance**

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

##### **6.1 Significance of the decision**

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

##### **6.2 Engagement**

Due to its procedural nature and low significance, no engagement on this matter has been undertaken.

## 7. Recommendations

*That the Council:*

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Adopts** the pre-election communication policy set out in sections 3.2 and 3.3 this report for the period 12 July 2019 to 12 October 2019.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

**Charlotte Panton**  
Comms & Engagement  
Advisor, Customer  
Engagement

**Lindsey Brittain**  
Manager, Customer  
Engagement

**Nigel Corry**  
General Manager, People &  
Customer

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

**Francis Ryan**  
Manager Democratic  
Services

**Luke Troy**  
General Manager, Strategy

**Greg Campbell**  
Chief Executive

**Attachment 1:** Communications guidance in the local government pre-election period

## Appendix 4: Communications guidance in the local government pre-election period

Extract from Part 4 of Report of the Controller and Auditor-General, Good Practice for Managing Public Communications by Local Authorities, April 2004, ISBN 0-478-18117-5.

### Communications in a pre-election period\*

**Principle 12 – A local authority must not promote, nor be perceived to promote, the re-election prospects of a sitting member. Therefore, the use of Council resources for reelection purposes is unacceptable and possibly unlawful.**

4.45

Promoting the re-election prospects of a sitting Member, directly or indirectly, wittingly or unwittingly, is not part of the proper role of a local authority.

4.46

Council would be directly promoting a Member's re-election prospects if it allowed the member to use Council communications facilities (such as stationery, postage, internet, e-mail, or telephones) explicitly for campaign purposes.

4.47

Other uses of Council communications facilities during a pre-election period may also be unacceptable. For example, allowing Members access to Council resources to communicate with constituents, even in their official capacities as members, could create a perception that the Council is helping sitting Members to promote their re-election prospects over other candidates.

4.48

For this reason, we recommend that mass communications facilities such as –

- Council-funded newsletters to constituents; and
- Mayoral or Members' columns in Council publications –

be suspended during a pre-election period.

4.49

Promoting the re-election prospects of a sitting Member could also raise issues under the Local Electoral Act 2001. For example:

- Local elections must be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in section 4 of the Local Electoral Act – see Appendix 1 on page 27. The principles apply to any decision made by a Council under that Act or any other Act, subject only to the limits of practicality. A breach of the principles can give rise to an "irregularity" which could result in an election result being overturned.\*\*
- The publication, issue, or distribution of information, and the use of electronic communications (including web site and e-mail communication), by a candidate are "electoral activities" to which the rules concerning disclosure of electoral expenses apply.

4.50

"Electoral expenses"\*\*\* include:

- the reasonable market value of any materials applied in respect of any electoral activity that are given to the candidate or that are provided to the candidate free of charge or below reasonable market value; and
- the cost of any printing or postage in respect of any electoral activity.



4.51

A Member's use of Council resources for electoral purposes could therefore be an "electoral expense" which the Member would have to declare – unless it could be shown that the communication also related to Council business and was made in the candidate's capacity as a Member.

**Principle 13 – A Council's communications policy should also recognise the risk that communications by or about Members, in their capacities as spokespersons for Council, during a pre- election period could result in the Member achieving electoral advantage at ratepayers' expense. The chief executive officer (or his or her delegate) should actively manage the risk in accordance with the relevant electoral law.**

4.52

Curtailling all Council communications during a pre-election period is neither practicable nor (as far as mandatory communications, such as those required under the LGA, are concerned) possible. Routine Council business must continue. In particular:

- Some Councils publish their annual reports during the months leading up to an October election, which would include information (including photographs) about sitting Members.
- Council leaders and spokespersons need to continue to communicate matters of Council business to the public.

4.53

However, care must be taken to avoid the perception, and the consequent risk of electoral irregularity, referred to in the commentary to principle 12. Two examples are:

- journalistic use of photographic material or information (see paragraph 4.42 on page 21) that may raise the profile of a Member in the electorate should be discontinued during the pre-election period; and
- access to Council resources for Members to issue media releases, in their capacities as official spokespersons, should be limited to what is strictly necessary to communicate Council business.

4.54

Even if the Council's Communications Policy does not vest the power to authorise Council communications solely in management at normal times, it should do so exclusively during the pre-election period.

---

\* By "pre-election period" we mean the three months before the close of polling day for the purposes of calculating "electoral expenses": see Local Electoral Act 2001, section 104. However, a Council may decide to apply restrictions over a longer period.

\*\* See *Aukuso v Hutt City Council* (District Court, Lower Hutt, MA 88/03, 17 December 2003).

\*\*\* Also defined in section 104.



**Report** 19.169  
**Date** 30 April 2019  
**File** CCAB-8-2228

**Committee** Council  
**Author** Lucas Stevenson, Democratic Services Advisor

## Establishment of Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee

### 1. Purpose

For the Council to establish a hearing committee to consider submissions received on the Annual Plan 2019/20 consultation document and the proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy and the Resource Management Charging Policy.

### 2. Background

Three proposals are currently open for public submissions:

- The Annual Plan 2019/20 consultation document – consultation period 24 April to 24 May
- The proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy – consultation period 24 April to 24 May
- Proposed changes to the Resource Management Charging Policy – consultation period 30 April to 30 May.

It is proposed that the Council establish the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee to consider the submissions on the three proposals and to make recommendations to Council on any changes to each proposal as an outcome of its deliberations on the submissions.

The draft terms of reference for the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee are attached as [Attachment 1](#). The draft Terms of Reference do not provide for submitters to speak to their submission via remote participation.

### **3. Communication**

No external communications are required as an outcome of the proposals set out in this report.

### **4. Consideration of climate change**

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

#### **4.1 Mitigation assessment**

The matter does not affect the Council's interests in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and/or the Permanent Forest Sink Initiative (PFSI)

#### **4.2 Adaptation assessment**

The impacts of climate change in relation to the matter have been considered. It is recommended that climate change be considered to have no bearing on the matter.

### **5. The decision-making process and significance**

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

#### **5.1 Significance of the decision**

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance and engagement policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

#### **5.2 Engagement**

Due to its procedural nature and low significance, no engagement on this matter has been undertaken.

### **6. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*
- 3. Establishes the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee.*
- 4. Adopts the Terms of Reference for the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee.*
- 5. Appoints Crs Blakeley, Brash, Gaylor, Kedgley, Laban, Laidlaw, Lamason, McKinnon, Ogden, Ponter, Staples and Swain to the Hearing Committee, and appoints Cr... as Chair.*

Report prepared by:

**Lucas Stevenson**  
Democratic Services Advisor

Report approved by:

**Francis Ryan**  
Manager, Democratic Services

Report approved by:

**Luke Troy**  
General Manager, Strategy

**Attachment 1:** Draft Terms of Reference for the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee

**Attachment 1 to Report 19.169**

# **Terms of Reference for the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee**

## **1. Purpose**

The Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee is established to consider, and make recommendations to Council on submissions received on the Annual Plan 2019/20 consultation document and the proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy and the Resource Management Charging Policy.

## **2. Membership**

The membership of the Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee comprises:

- Cr Blakeley
- Cr Brash
- Cr Gaylor
- Cr Kedgley
- Cr Laban
- Cr Laidlaw
- Cr Lamason
- Cr McKinnon
- Cr Ogden
- Cr Ponter
- Cr Staples
- Cr Swain

... is Chairperson of the Hearing Committee.

The quorum is six members.

## **3. Meeting procedures**

All members have equal speaking rights and a deliberative vote. In addition, the Chairperson has a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

Members must be present for the substantial part of the hearing and deliberations in order to participate in the decision-making of the Hearing Committee.

#### **4. Powers**

The Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee has the power to:

- Consider submissions on the Annual Plan 2019/20 consultation document, proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy, and proposed changes to Resource Management Charging Policy.
- Seek clarification from Council officers on any technical matters; and
- Develop recommendations in relation to the proposals for consideration by Council.

#### **5. Responsibilities**

The Annual Plan 2019/20 Hearing Committee shall ensure that:

- The hearing and consideration process is carried out in a way that is effective and timely;
- Submitters are provided with the best possible opportunity to be heard in support of their submission;
- Hearing Committee members receive submissions with an open mind and give due consideration to each submission; and
- The decision-making process is robust and transparent.

The Hearing Committee will report direct to Council.

#### **6. Duration of Hearing Committee**

The Hearing Committee is deemed to be dissolved at the end of the decision-making process on the Annual Plan 2019/20, proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy, and proposed changes to the Resource Management Charging Policy.



**Report** 19.177  
**Date** 6 May 2019  
**File** CCAB-8-2233

**Committee** Council  
**Author** Tim Sharp, Whaitua Programme Manager

## **Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee: amendment to the terms of reference**

### **1. Purpose**

For the Council to adopt amendments to the terms of reference of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee to give effect to a co-chairing arrangement for the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee and to provide that the honorarium for each co-chair to be \$15,000 from the date of their appointment by the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee.

### **2. Background**

The Terms of Reference for Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee provide for a chairperson to be appointed by the Committee.

At its 17 September 2018 meeting, Council approved increasing the honorarium (from that set for Ruamāhanga and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committees) for members from \$7,500 to \$10,000 per annum and for the chairperson from \$12,000 to \$15,000 per annum. The justification for the increase was “Given the intention to run the process over a reduced timeframe of two years, it is likely that the time commitment of members will be higher over this period.”

At its first meeting, the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee discussed the fundamental role of the two iwi involved and the importance of operating the process within a kaupapa supported by mana whenua. The idea of co-chairs was proposed to support a partnership model with iwi for decision-making. At its second meeting the full Committee endorsed the proposal for two co-chairs: one mana whenua and one from the wider Committee.

Following a vote at its most recent (3<sup>rd</sup>) meeting, two co-chairs have been appointed: Kara Puketapu Dentice (Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust) and Louise Askin (from community). The Committee also considered whether the co-chairs could play a larger role in this area, where previously a specialist

external facilitator designed the process and ran meetings for both the Ruamāhanga and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua processes.

Kara Puketapu Dentice and Louise Askin each have experience managing and facilitating groups and boards. Further, members of the Project Team have extensive facilitation experience. Because of these factors, there is a broad view within the Committee (whom have discussed the role and need for a facilitator on a number of occasions) and Project Team that a facilitator may not be required. As such, the decision to employ an external facilitator has been deferred. Regardless, the facilitator role, should one be necessary, will be a much reduced role to that used in Ruamāhanga and Te Awarua-o-Porirua. It may be that a facilitator is brought in to assist with a particularly difficult learning session but the need for active 'meeting' or 'process' facilitation seems less necessary.

As a result, the co-chairs have a significantly increased role from previous Whaitua. They must actively facilitate meetings (where the previous whaitua chairs allowed the facilitator to run proceedings) and assist in the design of meetings and the forward schedule. Indeed, already, the co-chairs are taking an active role in meeting planning and engaging with the Project Team and Committee members. This is helping to reduce the costs of the project by deferring, at least presently, the appointment of a facilitator.

### **3. Consequence for Council**

A consequence for Council is the need to change the Terms of Reference to provide for two co-chairs, and to allocate remuneration for the co-chairs. The change to the Terms of Reference to allow for two co-chairs is a straight-forward wording change.

With regard to the honorarium, options for Council are as follows:

1. Split the honorarium for the chairs so that they would each receive \$12,500 per annum. This would not affect current budgets. It would however, be a relatively minor distinction between the honoraria for members and the co-chairs, whom have a far larger role
2. Remunerate each of the chairs \$15,000 per annum and backdate the honorarium to their date of appointment (16 March 2019 for Kara Puketapu Dentice, and 11 April 2019 for Louise Askin). This would increase the Whaitua honorarium costs by \$5,000 per annum, which would be met from the current overall whaitua budget.

Given the increased commitments on the chairs as outlined above, and the reduced costs of facilitation, Officers recommend Option 2.

A copy of the draft amended terms of reference is attached as [Attachment 1](#).

### **4. Communication**

No external communications are required as an outcome of the proposals set out in this report.



## 5. Consideration of climate change

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

### 5.1 Mitigation assessment

The matter does not affect the Council's interests in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and/or the Permanent Forest Sink Initiative (PFSI)

### 5.2 Adaptation assessment

The impacts of climate change in relation to the matter have been considered. It is recommended that climate change be considered to have no bearing on the matter.

## 6. The decision-making process and significance

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 6.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance and engagement policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

### 6.2 Engagement

Due to its procedural nature and low significance, no engagement on this matter has been undertaken.

## 7. Recommendations

*That the Council:*

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the content of the report.
3. **Adopts** the amendments to the terms of reference of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee (Attachment 1) to give effect to a co-chairing arrangement for the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee and to provide that the honorarium for each co-chair to be \$15,000 from the date of their appointment by the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee.
4. **Agrees** that the co-chair honorarium shall be backdated to 16 March 2019 for Kara Puketapu Dentice and 11 April 2019 for Louise Askin.

Report prepared by:

**Tim Sharp**  
Whaitua Programme  
Manager

Report approved by:

**Matt Hickman**  
Manager, Environmental  
Policy

Report approved by:

**Al Cross**  
General Manager, Environment  
Management

**Attachment 1:** Draft amended terms of reference for the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee

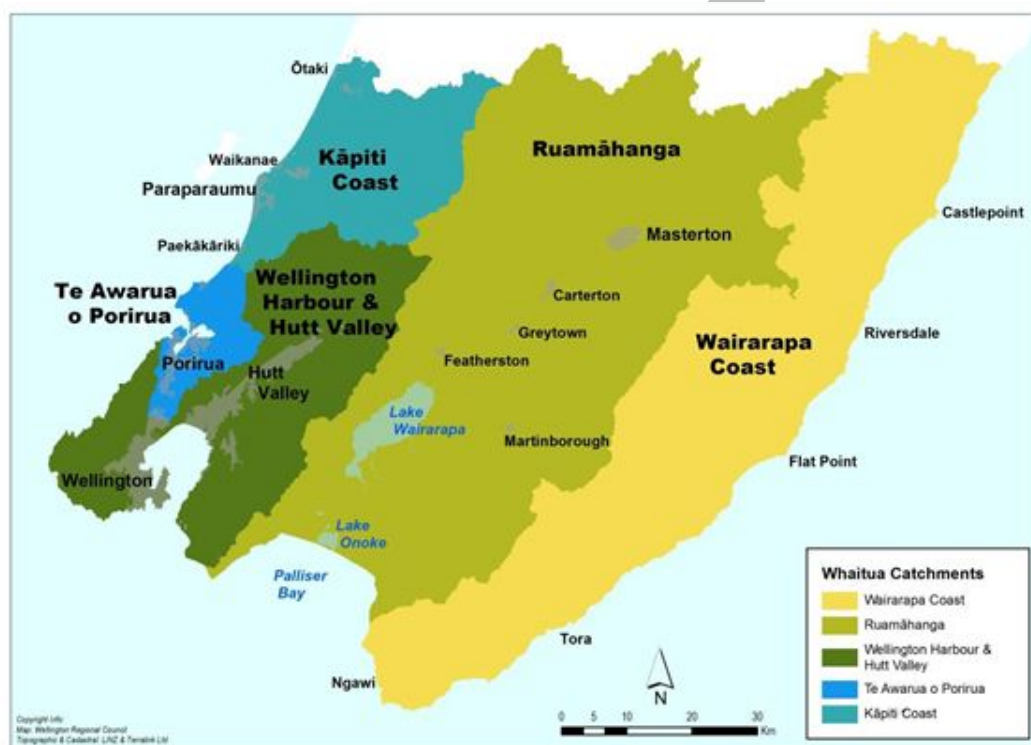
Attachment 1 to Report 19.177

## Terms of reference for the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee

‘Whaitua’ is a traditional Te Reo Māori term for a designated area.

The Regional Plan utilises the word ‘whaitua’ to describe a catchment or sub-catchment (zone) managed as an integrated system.

The area of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is shown on the map below.



### Purpose and function

The purpose of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is to facilitate community and stakeholder engagement in the development of a Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP). A WIP is a non-statutory report to Greater Wellington Regional Council (the Council) which will contain recommendations for specific plan provisions and work programmes for the integrated management of land and water resources within the whaitua boundary. The WIP may contain both regulatory and non-regulatory proposals.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will operate in partnership with mana whenua and develop recommendations guided by the five principles created as part of the Regional Plan Review process:

Ki uta ki tai – interconnectedness

Wairuatanga – identity

Kaitiakitanga – guardianship

To matou whakapono – judgement based on knowledge

Mahitahi – partnership (co-operative)

### **Status of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is an advisory body established by the Council. The Committee is not a subordinate decision-making body of the Council and is not a committee under the Local Government Act 2002.

### **Specific responsibilities**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is responsible for developing a Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP) that will outline regulatory and non-regulatory proposals for integrated land and water management within their whaitua boundary, including measures to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

The WIP developed will include:

1. An assessment of region wide objectives contained in the proposed or operative regional plan, as they relate to the whaitua
2. Specific whaitua objectives for water quality and quantity outcomes
3. Discharge limits, including for sediment, nutrients and other contaminants if appropriate, including setting timeframes and priorities, and management methods, to achieve freshwater and coastal objectives
4. An assessment of, and recommendations to alter, existing water allocation limits, to achieve identified objectives for the whaitua
5. Identification of mana whenua values and interests in the harbour and fresh water, and how these might be reflected in the regional plan
6. Programmes or activities that will support or contribute to the achievement of the established objectives for water quality and quantity outcomes, including such tools as environmental accords and post-settlement arrangements and,
7. Opportunities for the active integration of existing programmes and plans to achieve the objectives and targets for water quality and quantity outcomes.

In developing the WIP the following matters will also be considered:

1. Identification of the land and water issues, challenges, and opportunities for the whaitua
2. Identification of a vision of the future of land and water management for the whaitua

3. The management of stormwater and wastewater infrastructure
4. The management of urban development
5. Interactions between groundwater and surface water, fresh water, land use and coastal environments

In developing objectives, targets, limits and activity programmes the members of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee must work within the ambit of the following:

- The Resource Management Act 1991
- The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010
- The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2017
- The Regional Policy Statement 2013
- The National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water 2007
- The Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941
- Local Government Act 2002
- Any other document referred to the Whaitua Committee by Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee or the Environment Committee, or the General Manager, Environment Management.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall recommend to the Council that regulatory proposals within the WIP be referred to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee for incorporation into the Regional Plan through a plan change process.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall recommend to the Council that the non-regulatory proposals within the WIP will be further developed within Greater Wellington Regional Council and in conjunction with relevant external organisations. They will also be considered in the development of the next Long Term Plan.

#### **Council consideration of proposals in the WIP**

The Council is responsible for the review and approval of the regulatory proposals in the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee WIP, including ensuring consistency with relevant statutory requirements. Non-regulatory options put forward in the WIP will be considered by the Council in conjunction with relevant external organisations, including local and iwi authorities.

If the Council is not prepared to accept any specific elements of the regulatory proposals within the WIP, those specific elements will be referred back to the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee for further consideration.

## **Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee membership and operation**

### **Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee membership**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will be appointed by the Council and will have the following membership:

1. Two elected GWRC Councillors
1. Two appointed iwi members of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee acting as a voice of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee
2. One member nominated from each iwi authority whose rohe falls entirely or partly within the whaitua boundary, representing the interest of that mana whenua group
3. One member nominated by each territorial authority operating within the whaitua boundary - Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council and Upper Hutt City Council, who shall be an elected member of that territorial authority
4. Up to eight members from the community with a range of backgrounds and interests related to land and water management within the community and a commitment to achieving consensus decision making. Council may approve additional members if it determines their necessity to ensure appropriate balance.

In determining the composition of the community members of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee, consideration shall be given to balancing the following land and water management values:

- Indigenous biodiversity/environmental values
- Mana whenua values
- Recreational values
- Wider economic development interests
- Urban ratepayer interests
- Mātāwaka interests
- General community interests
- Incorporating existing structures/programmes and how they will be represented.
- Infrastructure interests
- Commercial interests

To be eligible to be considered for appointment to a Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee, a community nominee must either live in, or be able to demonstrate a close connection with the whaitua.

Each community member must also reflect the interests of a wider group within the community and have the skills, experience and knowledge to relay information between the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee and the community.

### **Staff eligibility**

Greater Wellington Regional Council officers will not be eligible to apply for membership of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee.

### **Co-ChairpersonChairs**

The Chairperson position is to be determined by the full Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee when all members have been appointed. The Chairperson position must be filled by a member of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara committee.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall have two Co-Chairs, with one Co-Chair appointed by the Committee from the mana whenua appointees to the Committee, and one Co-Chair appointed by the Committee from the community appointees to the Committee. The Co-Chair appointments are to be made by the full Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee when all members have been appointed.

### **Quorum**

A majority of the membership of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall be present to form a quorum.

### **Alternate members**

No alternates/proxies shall take the place of Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee members.

### **Committee meetings and workshops**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will meet around 10 times per year for a full day with additional workshops and meetings as required. At times, the workload will be significantly higher.

It is expected the Committee will undertake regular engagement with the wider community which represents a significant time commitment in addition to the Committee workshops and meetings.

### **Reporting**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will provide updates, at least quarterly, on work undertaken to both the Environment Committee and Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee.

### **Consensus**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will decide upon the recommendations proposed within their WIP by consensus.

### **Remuneration**

Each council shall be responsible for remunerating its nominee appointed by Council on the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee for the cost of that person's participation on the Committee.

All other members of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will be eligible to receive standard mileage allowances or reimbursement of travel expenses as determined by Council and shall be eligible to receive the following taxable honorarium:

- Appointed members (excluding the Chairperson): \$10,000 per annum each
- Co-Chairpersons (two): \$15,000 per annum each. This is only payable in the event that the Co-Chairperson is a non-Councillor member of the Committee.

### **Duration of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee**

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall exist for the duration of the development and completion of a WIP (Whaitua Implementation Programme) document, and shall cease to exist when Council has made decisions on regulatory proposals within the WIP

DRAFT





**Report** 19.56  
Date 6 May 2019  
File CCAB-8-2234

**Committee** Council  
**Author** Graeme Burnett, Senior Health, Safety & Wellbeing Advisor  
Mike Ward, Senior Health, Safety & Wellbeing Advisor  
Rachael Meikle, Health, Safety & Wellbeing Advisor

## Health, Safety and Wellness update

### 1. Purpose

To inform Council on the health, safety and wellbeing performance of the organisation and associated activities.

### 2. Background

During the period from 1 April 2019 to 30 April 2019, a total of 64 health, safety and wellbeing-related events were recorded in Keeping Everyone Safe at Work (KESAW). Of these events, 60 related directly to activities of our staff. The other 4 related to reported events that did not involve GWRC controlled work or activity – e.g. public in parks, contractors or other third party/license holder activity on our land. GWRC has either become involved in the response to the situation or has expressed direct interest in the investigations finding of the involved parties.

The following table is a breakdown of the events by outcome.

Event type	April 2019
Total Events Reported	64
Fatalities	0
Lost Time Injuries (LTI)	1
Medical Treatment Injuries (MTI)	1
First Aid/Pain & Discomfort	14
Property damage	6
Near miss & hazard id reports	42
Other (not involving GW)*	4



**Note\*:** These are reported events that did not involve GWRC controlled work or activity – e.g. public in parks, contractors or other third party/license holder activity on our land. GWRC has either become involved in the response to the situation or has expressed direct interest in the investigations finding of the involved parties.

There was one Lost Time Injury (LTIs) reported in April where a Biosecurity Pest Animal staff member suffered a back strain while working in the field. They had several days off work to rest their back and allow it to recover before returning to full duties.

The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate has increased slightly to 0.48 LTIs for every 100,000 hours worked. This performance measure remains well below the 0.90 performance target, as shown in the below graph.

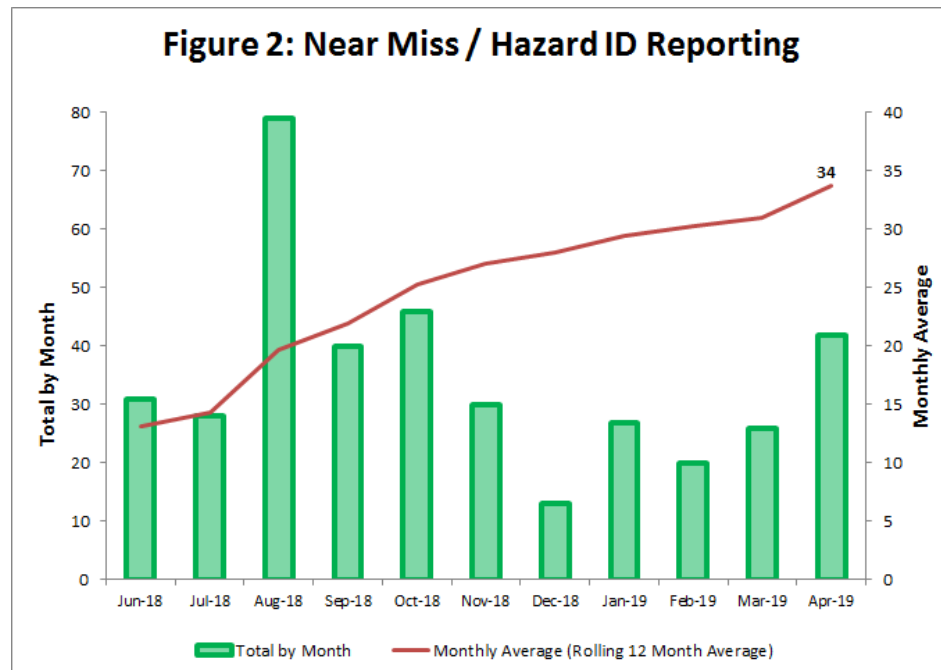
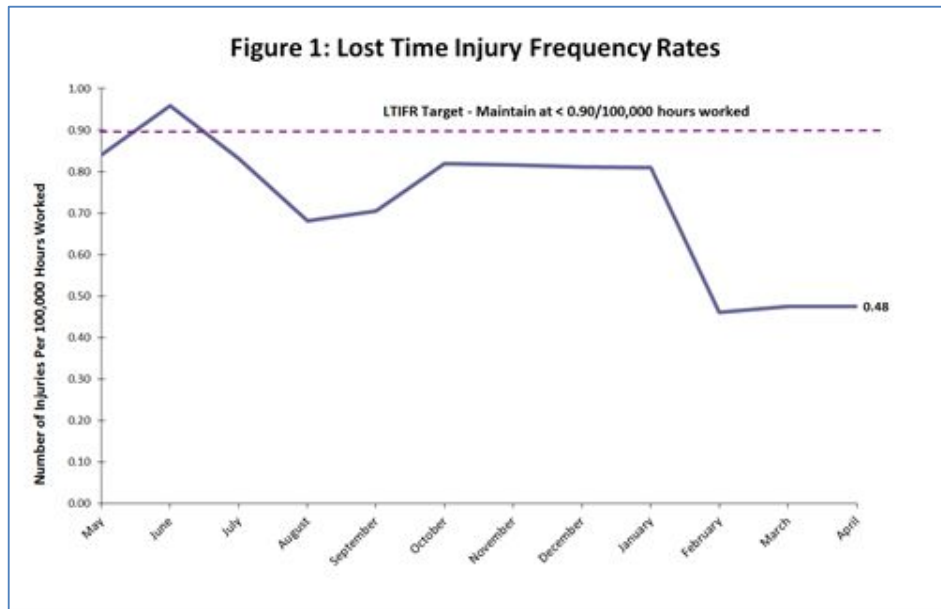


Figure 2 has an additional new measure (Red line) showing the monthly average number of near miss/hazard events calculated on a rolling 12 month average. This performance shows us that on a monthly average the number of

near miss/hazard events has been steadily increasing and currently show no sign of slowing down, which is very positive.

### **3. Pause 4 Safety – all staff organisational wide workshops.**

The ten ‘Pause for Safety’ workshops held in the first week of April were well received and a great success. More than 400 staff attended the workshops held in Masterton, Upper Hutt and Wellington and the feedback from staff, both frontline and management has been very positive.

For the Health, Safety and Wellbeing team a significant amount of their work, since the last Council update, has been focused on preparing for the organisational wide “Pause for Safety” workshops.

A big part of the success of these workshops was also down to the wonderful efforts and commitment of the members of staff from the HS&W forum. It would not have come into being without their input and, in many cases, their willingness to step well outside their personal comfort zones.

### **4. Health and safety critical risk initiatives.**

The following section provides a brief update on initiatives and activities associated with several of GWRC’s identified critical risk areas over the period since the previous report, in additions to preparation for ‘Pause 4 Safety.’

#### **4.1 Critical Risks Controls Project**

The improvement programme for critical controls has commenced with the initial focus on Transportation. There have been opportunities following a number of recent transport related near miss events to consider the effectiveness of the controls as well as reviewing and implementing improved controls.

Examples include the review of:

- Towing fixings and equipment for the recovery of four wheel drive vehicles in off road situations. This will provide a consistent approach and standardised equipment across the GW Fleet and is being led by the Environmental Science Department,
- The on-board emergency equipment across the whole GW Fleet (cars, utes, quads and Light Utility Vehicles). This will involve working with Health, Safety & Wellbeing Reps and other subject matter experts,
- The trailer braking maintenance and routine checks to ensure early detection of faults,
- The specific training and refreshers for transportation and upskilling staff on trailer maintenance.

Consultation with key GW stakeholders who have direct ownership of the transportation controls is being progressed with the focus on fleet management, procurement specification, maintenance and routine monitoring.

The outcome of this next step, for each critical risk, will be reported back into the Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee.

#### **4.2 Health and Wellbeing Project - Seasonal Flu Vaccination Clinics 2019**

Seasonal Flu Vaccination Clinics were set up to make free vaccinations available for all staff and councillors during April. Clinics have been run on site at Masterton, Upper Hutt, Shed 39 and Walter St, including additional clinics due to extra demand from staff at Walter St and Shed 39. In all, about 240 staff have taken the opportunity to receive their free vaccination.

#### **4.3 Good Yarn Workshop**

The initial in-house delivery of the 'Good Yarn' workshop is scheduled for late May 2019 and will be delivered to 12 staff from across the organisation

This workshop is designed to make it easier for people to talk about mental health at work – though the skills participants learn may not only benefit their interaction at work, but also with their whanau and in their community too.

The workshop will present a range of useful tools to help participants:

- Recognise the signs and symptoms of stress and common mental health problems,
- Give them confidence and the skills to talk to someone when they're concerned about them, and;
- Strategies to guide them towards appropriate supports.

It will also help the participants learn about practical things they can do in their day to day lives to protect and improve their mental health and the mental health of those around them.

### **5. Communication**

No external communication is proposed as an outcome of the consideration of this report.

### **6. Consideration of climate change**

The matters addressed in this report have been considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

#### **6.1 Mitigation assessment**

*Mitigation assessments are concerned with the effect of the matter on the climate (i.e. the greenhouse gas emissions generated or removed from the atmosphere as a consequence of the matter) and the actions taken to reduce, neutralise or enhance that effect.*

Officers have considered the effect of the matter on the climate. Officers consider that the matters will have no effect.

Officers note that the matter does not affect the Council's interests in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and/or the Permanent Forest Sink Initiative (PFSI)

## 6.2 Adaptation assessment

*Adaptation assessments relate to the impacts of climate change (e.g. sea level rise or an increase in extreme weather events), and the actions taken to address or avoid those impacts.*

Officers have considered the impacts of climate change in relation to these matters. Officers recommend that climate change has no bearing on these matters.

## 7. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is sought under this report.

### 7.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

## 8. Recommendations

*That Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

**Graeme Burnett**  
Senior Health, Safety &  
Wellbeing Advisor

Report prepared by:

**Mike Ward**  
Senior Health, Safety &  
Wellbeing Advisor

Report prepared by:

**Rachael Meikle**  
Health, Safety & Wellbeing  
Advisor

Report approved by:

**Nigel Corry**  
General Manager, People and  
Customer

**Report** 19.174  
Date 6 May 2019  
File CCAB-8-2231

**Committee** Council  
**Author** Helen Guissane, Programme Lead, Corporate Planning and Reporting

## Summary report for the third quarter 2018/19

### 1. Purpose

To present a summary report of Greater Wellington Regional Council's achievements from 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019 (Quarter Three).

### 2. Background

The report included as [Attachment 1](#) provides an overview of key results in the first quarter.

The report includes:

- An update on key metrics
- Highlights relating to our high level outcomes/goals including progress of major projects
- An overview of Health and Safety and Wellbeing
- Financial summaries.

### 3. Communication

Matters in the report have been communicated through a variety of channels as relevant during the quarter. No external communication is proposed as an outcome of the consideration of this report.

**4. Consideration of climate change**

It is not necessary to conduct a climate change assessment for the report.

**5. The decision-making process and significance**

No decision is being sought in this report.

**5.1 Engagement**

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

**6. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

**Helen Guissane**  
Programme Lead, Corporate  
Planning and Reporting

**Luke Troy**  
General Manager, Strategy

**Attachment 1:** Summary report for the third quarter 2018/19

# Council Quarterly Report

## Q3 2018/19

1 January — 31 March



greater WELLINGTON  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Pane Matua Taiao



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This quarterly summary report includes:

- **Overview of the quarter**
- **key metrics and performance measures**
- **priority outcome area and core business summaries**
- **health, safety and wellbeing summary**
- **financial summary**

## OVERVIEW OF THE QUARTER

During the quarter Greater Wellington has made considerable progress across the work programme. Our financial position shows that both revenue and expenditure are forecast to be favourable to budget by year end. We continue to show good progress against the key indicators. However, the ongoing challenge of improving performance on the Wellington bus network continues to dominate much of the attention. The programme has now turned a corner as the focus moves from immediate actions to supplement services and fix problems, to a longer-term focus on improving overall performance. Despite these ongoing challenges there continues to be significant growth in patronage on both rail and bus networks.

Progress made in the other priority outcome areas over the quarter includes, completion of hearings on the proposed Natural Resources Plan and the Regional Pest Management Plan, the finalisation of the Whaitua Implementation Programme for Te Awarua-o-Porirua, the signing of a project funding agreement for Riverlink with Hutt City Council. Other notable milestones include a considerable increase in participation in the Movin'March programme, the finalisation of a programme business case for a new multi-user ferry terminal, the development of a draft Wellington Regional Investment Plan, the start of the Predator Free Wellington project with GW staff signing up landowners for control in the Miramar 'proof of concept' area, and the conclusions of the Regional Pest Management Plan hearings. These major milestones illustrate the diversity of work undertaken by Greater Wellington and the leadership that the organisation is bringing to major regional programmes of work.

Behind the scenes a number of major improvement programmes are underway, including the refresh of our core finance, HR and asset management systems and preparation for the move to our new accommodation in Wellington and Masterton – these will provide an important foundation for the organisation.

# KEY METRICS

## High quality public transport services

### Percentage of services on-time - bus



**TARGET**  
95%

**ACTUAL YTD**  
YTD 92.4%

NB: Measurement reflects on-time services at origin.

### Percentage of services on-time - train



**TARGET**  
95% (Kapiti, Hutt, Johnsonville)  
**ACTUAL YTD** 89.7%  
(Kapiti 83.7%, Hutt 89.6%, Johnsonville 97.2%)

**TARGET**  
80% (Wairarapa)  
**ACTUAL**  
YTD 58.5% (Wairarapa)

NB: Measurement reflects services on-time at key interchange stations and final destination.

## Growth in public transport patronage

### Percentage increases in number of passengers - bus



**TARGET YTD**  
1.0%

**ACTUAL YTD**  
3.4%

NB: Both the target and YTD Actual figure includes all boardings, including transfers.

### Percentage increases in number of passengers - train



**TARGET YTD**  
2.5%

**ACTUAL YTD**  
6.1%

## Maintained quality of freshwater

### TARGET

Deposited fine sediment at each site for at least 10 of the 12 months does not exceed 20% cover

**ACTUAL**  
(Jan, Feb, Mar)



KAIWHARAWHARA  
@ NGAIO GORGE

Achieved



RUMAHANGA @  
PUKIO

Achieved



HUTT @  
BOULCOTT

Achieved



PORIRUA  
STREAM

Achieved

\* All measurements undertaken during the quarter were within baseline.

### TARGET

Zero contamination of drinking water from the tap

**YTD ACTUAL**  
Achieved

## KEY METRICS

### Improved wellbeing, health and safety

Lost time injury frequency rate – number of incidents per 100k hours worked



### Effective project management

Percentage of major projects with overall green status



### Diversity and gender equality within GWRC

Gallup survey response to the question “Everyone at GWRC is treated fairly regardless of ethnic background, race, gender, age, disability or other differences not related to job performance”



**TARGET**

3.5/5 (Gallup survey undertaken yearly in April/May)

### Compliance with statutory requirements under the LGA

Approval of Annual Plan within statutory timeframes

**TARGET**

Plan is approved by 30 June 2019.

### Improved perception and understanding of Greater Wellington’s relevance by the community

NB: a new reputation tracker is in development as discussed with Council.

### Engaged staff

Gallup overall employee engagement index



**Innovation** – Assessment of progress towards developing a culture of innovation



\* Targets based on Gallup survey undertaken yearly in April/May

## Fresh water quality and biodiversity

The quality of the fresh water in our rivers, lakes and streams is maintained or improved, and our region contains healthy plant, bird and wildlife habitats.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary

During the quarter, Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee completed its Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP). The WIP was supported by the Ngati Toa Rangitira statement – a statement of intent for the future of Te Awarua-o-Porirua, which sits alongside the WIP for implementation. The WIP provides direction on a number of GW activities with freshwater and harbour outcomes, and regulatory elements will be incorporated into the pNRP as part of a Plan Change.

The Whaitua te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee has progressed to forming a committee structure and chairing arrangements. Work also continues to build a framework for delivering Whaitua implementation in the Ruamahanga catchment.

We are awaiting the final decisions of the Hearing Panel of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) which must be notified by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019. In the meantime, work continues on the first Plan Variation which will integrate the regulatory component of the Ruamahanga WIP into the PNRP; the first policy options are expected to be put in front of Te Upoko Taiao-Regional Plan Committee in September.

The height of the summer saw toxic algal blooms rise to unprecedented levels across the region, including a first ever recorded bloom in the Otaki River. Detailed and well-timed information was provided to all stakeholders and communities. Our Facebook post showing drone footage of toxic algae, alone reached over 20,000 people.

We delivered over 40 Great Outdoors events in our Parks during the summer period and community engagement has now commenced on the Queen Elizabeth Park Draft Coastal Retreat Plan.

Harbours “no excuses” enforcement days went well, showing excellent compliance with regards to lifejacket use.

A project is underway with assistance from NIWA to develop regional air quality indicators (transport-related and home-heating).

The Masterton wood smoke mapping report has been completed and is being considered by MDC before being published.

The total number of environmental notifications was up slightly from 291 in Q2 to 303 in Q3. The air discharge complaints remain a significant proportion of these (110 over this period) which include odour and smoke notifications.

We kickstarted the Predator Free Wellington project with GW staff signing up landowners for control in the Miramar ‘proof of concept’ area. Control works are scheduled to commencing in July.

Regional Pest Management Plan hearings were concluded and a draft Plan prepared. Council approval will be sought in May.

A total of 294 pest animal (38% of which related to rabbits) and 71 pest plant client enquiries were dealt with. Predator traps in KNE sites alone have captured over 820 pests in the third quarter; mainly hedgehogs. Rodent monitoring shows low densities.

We assisted with the coordination of the New Zealand Association for Environmental Education Seaweeek (2-10 March). This year’s theme, “Tiakina o Tātou Mōana - Care for our Seas”, highlighted the impact of plastic, litter and other pollutants on our coasts and seas.

Our staff also provided support to the MPI Fruit Fly response in Auckland.

## Fresh water quality and biodiversity

The quality of the fresh water in our rivers, lakes and streams is maintained or improved, and our region contains healthy plant, bird and wildlife habitats.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary (cont'd)

An expression of interest has been provided to Te Uru Rākau (TUR is Forestry New Zealand, a branch of the Ministry for Primary Industries) for a 1 Billion Trees partnership grant to support our riparian programme. The proposal will allow riparian projects to be delivered via GW and increase the efficiency of TUR's implementation of direct grants to the public through existing GW systems.

The priority catchment contestable fund – aimed at assisting good management practice and innovation in intensive farming areas – is on track to meet its works budget of \$450K for the 2018/19 financial year.

The Riparian Programme continues to have new applications coming in from landowners. Greater Wellington is currently checking in with landowners as to whether pre-approved work is going to be completed before the end of the financial year. With increasing demand on the programme we are reviewing prioritisation criteria for approving riparian projects.

The Wellington Region Erosion Control Initiative (WRECI) programme is progressing towards finalising its four-year contract milestones for 2019-2023. This contract will set out objectives for this \$18M programme (\$7.6M from Te Uru Rākau, and about \$5M from GW and landowners) over the four year period. Response from landowners to this year's pole planting is positive, and it is likely that landowner pole requirements will exceed the number of poles available.

## Major Project update

### Proposed Natural Resources Plan: Schedule one process – Decision Version

The Proposed Natural Resources Plan First Schedule process, as set out in the Resource Management Act 1991

Commentary	Hearing panel have been completing their deliberation process and drafting the decisions on submissions. Due to the deliberation time being longer than anticipated this project will exceed the 18/19 annual plan approved budget however a change request has been approved for additional budget and savings sought from other environment group areas.
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Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
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### Proposed Natural Resources Plan: Plan Change One

The Proposed Natural Resources Plan First Schedule process, as set out in the Resource Management Act 1991

Commentary	This first phase of the policy development is underway however due to lack of a quorum the Te Upoko Taiao committee was unable to approve the draft issue statements and objectives.
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Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary

### Regional resilience

Our infrastructure is resilient to adverse events and supports our region's economic and social development.



#### Flood protection and security

Overall the work programme is progressing well. While some of the work is facing minor delays there are no significant risks.

RiverLink remained a major focus during the quarter with work continuing at a steady pace. A project funding partner agreement has been signed between Hutt City Council and Greater Wellington for the next phase of work, the tender evaluation for services to prepare consent applications has been completed and the summer engagement activities have been wrapped up.

The Te Kauru FMP is nearing the final stage of submissions and formal hearings on the final draft. The aim is to complete this work ready for adoption by Council in June 2019.

Public consultation on the CDEM Group Plan 2019-2024 began during the quarter. The consultation will be open for one month, before the final draft is reviewed by the Minister of Civil Defence and Emergency Management in May for implementation from 1 July 2019.

The first module of the Emergency Management in the Wellington Region training and exercise plan has been delivered across the region. Representatives from over 50 organisations attended recovery workshops, including central and local government, iwi, private businesses and community organisations.

17 emergency Community Response Plans have now been completed for the year.

## Major Projects update

RiverLink									
The proposed upgrade project combines Greater Wellington led flood protection works with components of the Hutt City Council led Making Places Project and the NZTA led Melling intersection improvements projects.									
Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
Commentary	Cross organisation and Mana whenua Project Board established. Preferred candidate for Project Director identified. Project Funding Partner Agreement signed between HCC and GWRC (with option for NZTA to join). 76 of 118 properties acquired. A major project risk carried on from last months concerns is with the NZTA board commitment which remains unknown and could adversely impact on project delivery and timeframes in the 2018-28 LTP. (Note: NZTA have subsequently agreed to only fund the Detailed Business Case for the Melling Interchange project. They have signalled that a decision on infrastructure investment will be some years away.)								

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary

### Public transport

The Wellington region has a world-class integrated public transport network.



Implementation of the new bus network continued to be a major focus in this quarter. A number of timetable adjustments and enhancements were implemented on 3 February (Wellington city), 3 March (Hutt Valley) and 31 March 2019 (Porirua).

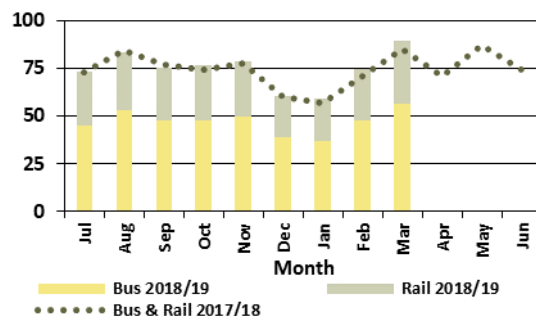
Stage two of the bus network implementation review commenced, with a terms of reference for the Review being adopted by the Sustainable Transport Committee on 20 March 2019.

Driver shortages have been a significant issue in this quarter. We are in the process of establishing a forum of all relevant stakeholders to provide a co-ordinated national approach to resolving driver shortages. The immediate challenge is to implement the Employment Relations Amendment Act (Rest Breaks) legislation from 6 May in a manner that minimises disruption

NZ Bus and Metlink agreed to a programme of planned cancellations as a temporary measure to respond to driver shortages.

From 25 February, the metro rail operator (Transdev) has had buses replacing one peak service per hour during the morning and afternoon peak on the Johnsonville Line due to a driver shortage. This driver shortage is forecast to continue throughout 2019.

Patronage per capita



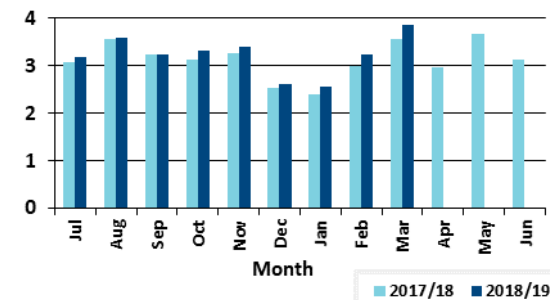
**NB:** All bus patronage numbers are provisional, as our reporting tool is subject to quality and assurance checks. Bus patronage by area is not comparable to 2017/18 results due to route changes under the new network that were implemented in July.

We have agreed funding mechanisms for the \$200 m of additional funding for network upgrades (track infrastructure catch-up renewals, and unlocking capacity and improving resilience) with KiwiRail and have joined the project governance boards with KiwiRail. These projects are in early stages of engagement of professional services to undertake detailed design and implementation planning. Once completed, these projects will help us ensure there are services to respond to the substantial rail patronage growth we are experiencing.

The second procurement component of the national ticketing solution request for tender to procure a range of financial services closed on 15 March 2019.

We continue to experience strong patronage growth on rail, with the exception of the Johnsonville Line - although the Johnsonville peak is up 2.1%. Rail peak patronage has increased by 7.9% (March year to date).

Patronage by month (millions)



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary (cont'd)

### Public transport

The Wellington region has a world-class integrated public transport network.



#### Sustainable transport choices

Movin'March and the Aotearoa Bike Challenge were key campaigns during Q3.

Movin'March was highly successful with a significant increase in the number of schools involved, including a 40% increase in the number of Porirua schools on board. This meant that we have engaged with more students from decile 1 schools than ever before. We have also increased the number of new schools coming on board while retaining our 'regulars'.

Social media was used effectively with five times the number of parents engaging with the Facebook site through the daily photo competition.

#### Major Projects update

##### Metlink Transition Programme

This programme follows on from the Public Transport Transformation Programme (PTTP). Its purpose is to complete the outstanding deliverables under PTTP and address issues arising from the launch

Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
Commentary	Project closed and transitioned to BAU during February.								

##### Integrated Fares & Ticketing – National Ticketing Programme (project NEXT)

The full electronic ticketing solution for Greater Wellington through a co-operative engagement with the National Ticketing Programme

Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
Commentary	<p>All Q3 activities have been completed including the RFT that sought three tenders in parallel which separate requirements, evaluation and contracts.</p> <p>The Steering group met to address key topics regarding governance and approved a new project schedule which has now been re-baselined returning RAG colours to green.</p> <p>A project manager will be appointed to coordinate and manage GW inputs and business readiness in national NEXT project.</p>								

##### PT Plan Review

The review is required to reflect changes to the Wellington Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP). The 2014 PT Plan also needs updating to reflect significant progress on many major initiatives and policies in the current PT Plan

Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
Commentary	Consultation on the draft PT plan is now proposed to be delayed until a new council is constituted to set direction for the 19/20 financial year. This delay will reduce risk of duplication with ongoing projects such as LGWM and PIR								



## Leadership areas

**Strong leadership and collaboration supports robust regional growth**



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary

#### Regional economic development

During the quarter, work on the Labour Market strategy progressed and is now more focused on a workforce development plan. Deloitte were appointed as the consultants and have finished their preliminary work which has involved extensive consultation across the region. Consultants (Martin Jenkins) have also been appointed to start work on reviewing the role Greater Wellington has in regional economic development.

In support of development of the Māori Economic Strategy, an OHU was established and the development of the strategy will commence in quarter four .

#### Climate Change

Councillors agreed that Greater Wellington will work towards becoming carbon neutral by 2050. We are currently looking at options with the new accommodation in Wellington to decrease our carbon footprint.

Underway is a review of the partnership between mana whenua and council focused on the future needs of the partnership for all parties. The OHU have been determined by Ara Tahi as the mechanism for capturing the regional perspective of mana whenua for projects of regional significance.

Greater Wellington supported the 'Te Matatini ki te Ao' event which was held at the Westpac Trust Stadium from the 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> February. We supported the tikanga elements of the event together with public transport connectivity.

## Leadership areas

Strong leadership and collaboration supports robust regional growth

## Major Projects update

<b>Central NZ Supply Chain (Northern Gateway/Port Futures)</b>									
A Programme for the future of the northern gateway of Wellington, including the Port, Ferry Terminal and related transport network connections									
Overall		Timing		Budget		Issues		Risks	
Commentary	<p>A new programme director has been appointed to finalise the joint business case. The business case for proposed ferry terminal has been completed in draft and is undergoing final checking before release and endorsed by stakeholders.</p> <p>The application for funding from the PGF funding to complete the Central NZ Supply Chain Network Study was not approved and this study will no longer proceed. Once the draft Regeneration Plan is available, consideration will be given to the need for independent review and economic advice.</p>								

<b>Wellington Regional Investment Plan</b>									
Working with the region's territorial authorities, NZTA and WREDA to develop a Wellington Regional Investment Plan. This will be an action plan that identifies and prioritises existing and new opportunities for investment across the region and will enable a conversation on the priorities and opportunities for partnership with Government and other partners.									
Overall		Timing		Budget		Issues		Risks	
Commentary	Draft plan written and ready for sign off. Agreed on a workshop with the Mayoral forum to finalise. Work with Central Government has started on an integrated housing plan which builds on the WRIP.								

<b>Let's Get Wellington Moving</b>									
Taking a fresh look at the entire transport system in central Wellington to identify a package of improvements that support community aspirations and strategic objectives for the city in terms of its look, feel and function									
Overall		Timing		Budget		Issues		Risks	
Commentary	<p>The LGWM Governance Group is currently engaging with central government on the Recommended Programme of Investment (RPI), to agree funding and sequencing, with an announcement expected May 2019. Further work is being completed to refine the indicative programme. Work is also underway to scope and implement a package of early improvements. Early planning has commenced to set up the new entity to deliver the next stages.</p>								

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary

### Organisational excellence

Taking care of the things that matter

ICT projects are generally progressing well. The focus this year remains on improving the resilience of our datacentre (Revera Readiness), desktop and back office (SOE) readiness for future state that supports the office move, and Radio Communications Network. We now have agreement on the scope for the Open Data initiative and have kicked off the options analysis for the architecture for the common platform.

We continue to monitor the perception of the community to Greater Wellington and note that during the quarter there has been a slight improvement in sentiment, though we continue to be challenged through media content and high levels of communications through our contact centre to MetLink issues.

Ensuring our systems and processes support the organisation to deliver the range of services we provide to the community, is a key consideration. Ongoing improvements remain a focus.

## Major Projects update

Optimus – Core Systems Refresh									
To replace Core System (Finance, HR/Payroll and Asset Management) to rectify many issues with the current installation of SAP)									
Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
Commentary	Two main activities are continuing with the design of the overall solution and the project team carrying out options analysis to validate whether the current UBW/Accela solution is the right one for GW. A review of future suitability is underway and the outcome will be independently assessed by PWC for robustness and presented to the Steering Committee in May for a final direction.								

GW Future Accommodation Programme									
Address Greater Wellington's long term accommodation requirements for the Wellington and Masterton based staff									
Overall	●	Timing	●	Budget	●	Issues	●	Risks	●
Commentary	Lease agreements for the new Wellington Cuba St premises were agreed, signed and became unconditional on 4 April 2019. Discussion is ongoing in relation to the consideration of an Activity Based Working (ABW) model at Cuba St, involving ELT and Agile Planet. The concept fit-out design is well underway, including consideration of energy efficiency and sustainability initiatives that can be incorporated. The preferred option for Masterton of a single storey new building (sale and lease-back) on the existing site was agreed by ELT and will be formally considered for approval by the Council at its 14 May meeting.								



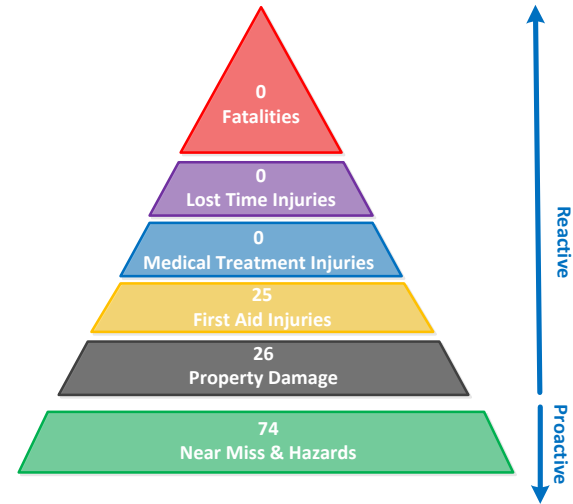
## Health and Safety and Wellbeing

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter summary

In this quarter twenty five (25) staff received first aid/pain and discomfort injuries. No Lost Time Injuries or Medical Treatment Injuries were recorded.

Twenty six (26) property damage and seventy four (74) near miss and hazard were reported.

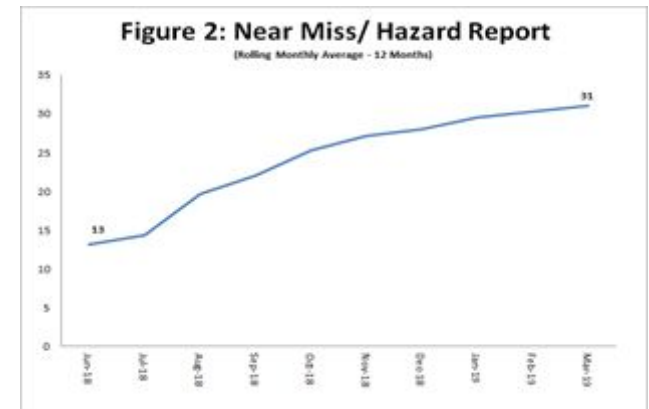
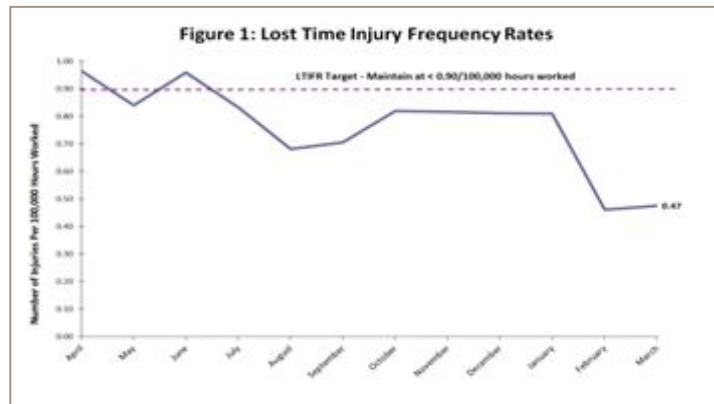
A big focus of the quarter was related to the final development of and preparation for the 'Pause 4 Safety' workshops. This included arranging and holding two HS&W Forum meetings. The 'Pause 4 Safety' workshops are to be delivered in the first week of quarter four.



#### Lag Indicators

**Figure 1:** The graph shows that our LTIFR has decrease to 0.47 occurrences/100,000 hours worked and is now well below the 0.90 occurrences/100,000 hours worked target set for FY18/19.

**Figure 2:** This shows us that our average monthly near miss reporting has continued to grow across Q3.



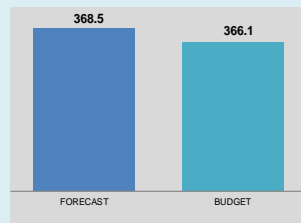
# FULL YEAR FORECAST FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## OPERATING SURPLUS

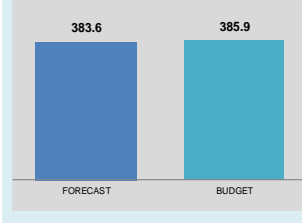
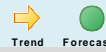
**-\$15.1m**

\$4.7m Favourable

## OPERATING REVENUE (\$m) *(excluding capital grants)*



## OPERATING EXPENDITURE (\$m)

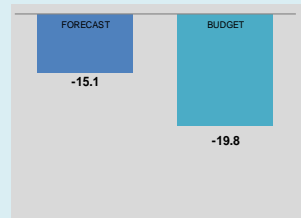


## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE - NET

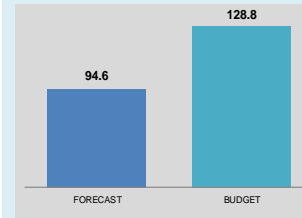
**\$94.6m**

\$34.1m Favourable

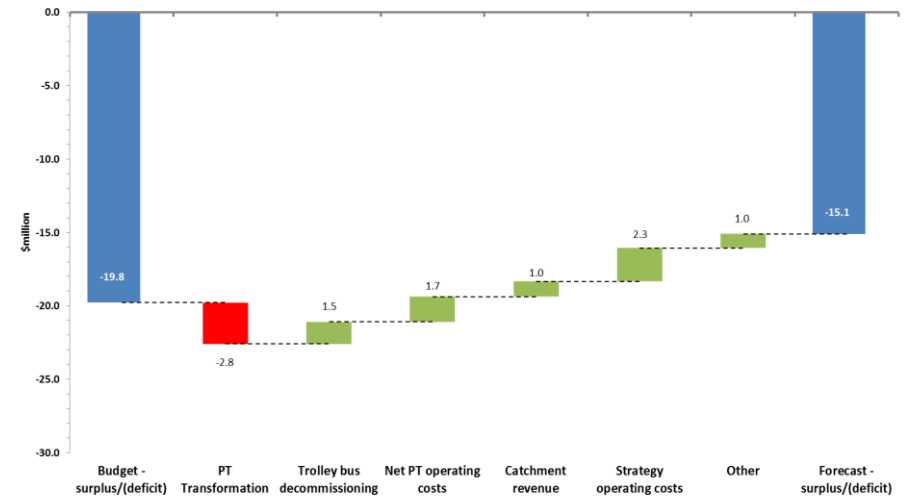
## OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) *(excluding capital grants)*



## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE - NET (\$m)



## Operating Surplus/(Deficit): Budget v. Forecast (full year) *(excluding Capex revenue)*



## FULL YEAR FORECAST FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY GROUP

The forecasts include items that will be considered for re-budget into next year.

### Operating revenue \$2.4m favourable

#### Catchment \$1.0m favourable

Increase to WRECI programme due to increased MPI grants.

Increased Predator Free Wellington works.

#### Investment management \$1.6m favourable

Additional interest earned from higher interest rates and investing additional funds.

### Operating expenditure \$2.3m favourable

#### Public Transport \$0.8m favourable

Trolley bus decommissioning project completed under budget, lower rail KPI payments, bus performance incentives and Snapper operating costs.

Offset by Increased expenditure in PTPP project due to additional transition and customer engagement resource requirements.

#### Investment management \$1.3m unfavourable

Lower interest recoveries from business groups due to lower than budgeted capital spend.

Additional interest expense from prefunding of debt.

#### Strategy \$2.3m favourable

Regional transport, LGWM, Ngauranga to Petone Cycleway projects behind schedule.

Personnel savings.

	\$m
<b>Budgeted Deficit</b>	<b>-19.8</b>
<u>Key variances to actual surplus are:</u>	
PT Transformation programme	-2.8
Trolley bus decommissioning project	1.5
Net PT operating costs	1.7
Catchment revenue	1.0
Strategy operating costs	2.3
Other	1.0
<b>Forecast Deficit</b>	<b>-15.1</b>

### Statement of Revenue and Expense by Business Group - Forecast vs Budget

	FULL YEAR			FULL YEAR			FULL YEAR		
	Operational Revenue			Operational Expenditure			Operational Surplus / (Deficit)		
\$'000	Forecast	Budget	Variance	Forecast	Budget	Variance	Forecast	Budget	Variance
<b>Group</b>									
Public Transport	241,678	241,612	66	239,953	240,715	762	1,725	897	828
Catchment Management	41,341	40,293	1,049	31,229	31,172	57	10,112	9,121	992
Environment Management	31,182	31,723	542	25,783	26,328	545	5,399	5,396	3
Te Hunga Whiriwhiri	1,330	1,330	0	1,092	1,192	100	238	138	100
Strategy	13,305	13,329	24	11,954	14,229	2,275	1,351	(900)	2,251
Corporate Services	2,190	2,137	53	19,026	19,388	362	(16,837)	(17,252)	415
People and Customer	200	180	20	9,292	9,376	83	(9,092)	(9,195)	103
Investment Management	(4,384)	(6,003)	1,619	(2,731)	(4,051)	1,320	(1,653)	(1,952)	299
Water Supply	34,458	34,308	150	41,125	40,651	474	(6,666)	(6,342)	324
Warm Wellington	3,237	3,237	0	3,237	3,237	0	0	0	0
WREMO	3,999	3,999	0	3,684	3,684	0	314	314	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>368,536</b>	<b>366,145</b>	<b>2,391</b>	<b>383,646</b>	<b>385,921</b>	<b>2,275</b>	<b>(15,110)</b>	<b>(19,776)</b>	<b>4,666</b>

## FULL YEAR FORECAST FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY GROUP

### Capital expenditure \$34.1m under spent

#### Public Transport \$22.4m under spent

Train heavy maintenance and other improvements \$6.1m.

Deferred rolling stock upgrades \$4.5m.

Station renewals and upgrades \$4.1m.

Park & ride developments \$1.8m.

The PT capital expenditure work programme has been impacted by the focus on the PTPP. Most of this expenditure will be carried forward to the following year,

#### Water Supply \$5.5m under spent

Delays in Ngauranga reservoir strengthening \$3.6m.

Timing of cross harbour pipeline project \$1.9m.

#### Corporate Services \$2.9m under spent

Timing of Optimus project.

#### Environment management \$1.9m under spent

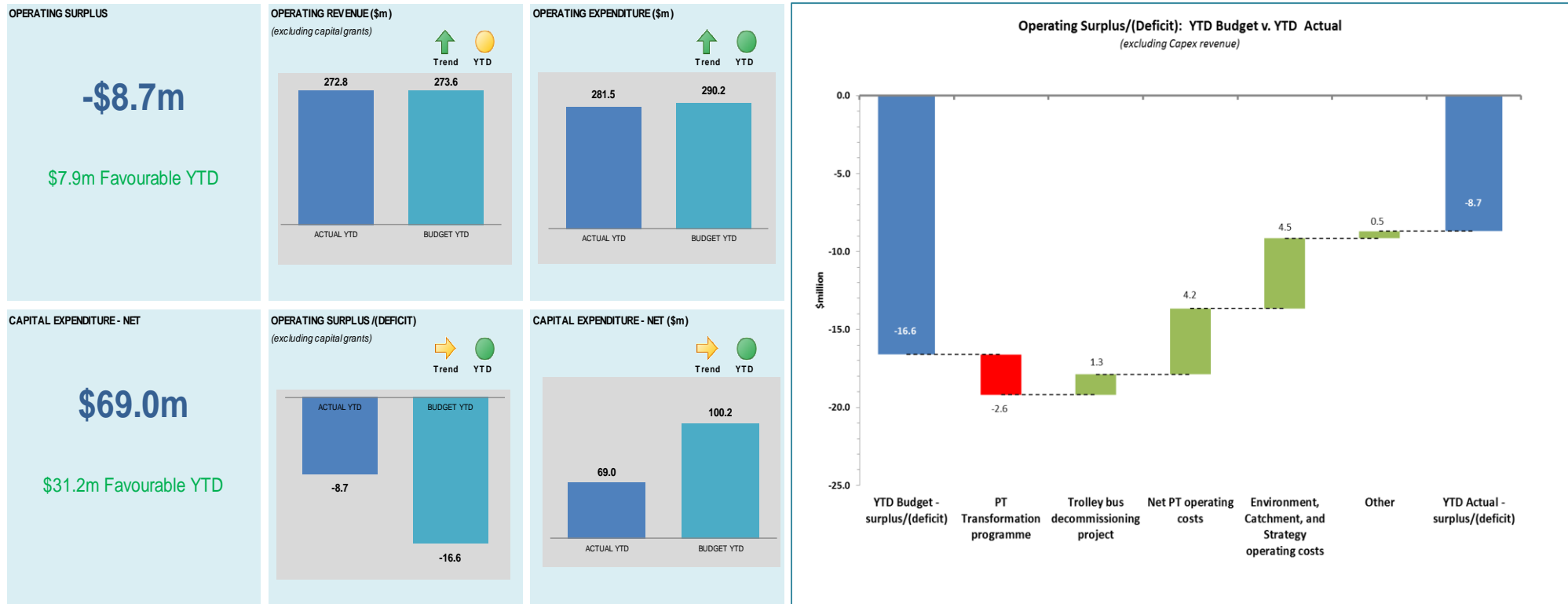
Timing of Wellington-Hutt Whaitua projects \$0.8m.

Timing of infrastructure upgrades \$1.5m with \$0.7m re-budgeted to 2019/20.

## Capital Expenditure by Business Group

\$000	FULL YEAR		
	Forecast	Total Budget	Variance
<b>Group</b>			
Public Transport (incl investment)	54,341	76,785	22,444
Catchment Management	17,147	18,203	1,056
Environment Management	4,926	6,839	1,913
Strategy	515	915	400
Corporate Services	7,569	10,433	2,864
People and Customer	200	700	500
Investment Management	771	250	521
Water Supply	9,154	14,645	5,491
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,624</b>	<b>128,770</b>	<b>34,146</b>

# MARCH YTD FINANCIAL SUMMARY





## MARCH YTD FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY GROUP

### Operating revenue \$0.9m unfavourable

#### Public Transport \$1.6m unfavourable

Lower NZTA grants reflecting lower claimable costs.

Lower bus fare revenue due to lower than dollar budget patronage and delayed start to bus operating contracts in comparison to budget.

#### Investment management \$1.7m favourable

Additional interest earned from higher interest rates and investing additional funds.

### Operating expenditure \$8.7m favourable

#### Public Transport \$4.8m favourable

Lower rail costs due to lower KPI payments and station maintenance underspend.

Lower bus costs due to delayed start to bus operating contracts in comparison to budget.

Offset by higher PTPP costs associated with this programme of work.

#### Strategy \$1.9m favourable

Timing of Lets get Wellington Moving project.

Lower spending on transport projects, personnel savings.

#### Catchment \$1.3m favourable

Timing of flood protection river maintenance.

Lower farm claims for the Riparian programme.

	\$m
<b>Budgeted Deficit</b>	<b>-16.6</b>
<u>Key variances to actual surplus are:</u>	
PT Transformation programme	-2.6
Trolley bus decommissioning project	1.3
Net PT operating costs	4.2
Environment, Catchment, and Strategy operating costs	4.5
Other	0.5
<b>Actual Deficit</b>	<b>-8.7</b>

### Statement of Revenue and Expense by Business Group - Actual vs Budget

	YEAR TO DATE			YEAR TO DATE			YEAR TO DATE		
	Operational Revenue			Operational Expenditure			Operational Surplus / (Deficit)		
\$000	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance
<b>Group</b>									
Public Transport	180,024	181,642	1,617	176,705	181,578	4,873	3,320	64	3,256
Catchment Management	30,250	30,255	5	22,217	23,581	1,364	8,033	6,674	1,359
Environment Management	23,545	23,895	351	18,414	19,579	1,165	5,130	4,317	814
Te Hunga Whiriwhiri	1,000	998	3	583	896	314	418	101	317
Strategy	9,679	9,997	318	8,101	10,069	1,968	1,577	(72)	1,650
Corporate Services	1,035	1,602	567	13,915	14,391	476	(12,880)	(12,789)	91
People and Customer	158	135	23	6,560	7,062	503	(6,402)	(6,927)	525
Investment Management	(4,251)	(5,984)	1,733	(581)	(2,627)	2,045	(3,670)	(3,358)	312
Water Supply	25,804	25,659	145	30,588	30,517	70	(4,783)	(4,858)	75
Warm Wellington	2,460	2,428	33	2,460	2,428	33	0	0	0
WREMO	3,062	2,999	63	2,507	2,761	254	555	237	317
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>272,767</b>	<b>273,626</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>281,469</b>	<b>290,237</b>	<b>8,769</b>	<b>(8,702)</b>	<b>(16,611)</b>	<b>7,909</b>

## MARCH YTD FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY GROUP

### Capital expenditure \$31.1m under spent

#### Public Transport \$18.2m under spent

Station renewals and upgrade delays \$3.7m.

Deferred rolling stock upgrades \$3.5m.

#### Water Supply \$6.9m under spent

Timing of cross harbour pipeline project \$1.5m.

Delays in Ngauranga reservoir strengthening \$2.7m.

#### Environment management \$2.1m under spent

Timing of Wellington-Hutt Whaitua projects \$0.7m.

Timing of science network upgrades \$0.7m.

#### Corporate Services \$1.9m under spent

Timing of Optimus project and various ICT programmes.

### Capital Expenditure by Business Group

\$000 Group	YEAR TO DATE		
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance
Public Transport (incl investment)	46,701	64,909	18,209
Catchment Management	11,381	12,960	1,579
Environment Management	2,141	4,297	2,156
Strategy	125	687	562
Corporate Services	3,651	5,632	1,980
People and Customer	151	480	329
Investment Management	807	200	607
Water Supply	4,072	11,029	6,957
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,028</b>	<b>100,194</b>	<b>31,166</b>

**Exclusion of the public****Report 19.185**

*That the Council:*

*Excludes the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

1. *Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of 10 April 2019*
2. *Greater Wellington Regional Council office accommodation*
3. *Procurement of Ferry Services*
4. *Future Fleet*
5. *Request for Change of Ownership Consent*

*The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:*

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered:</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
1. <i>Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of 10 April 2019</i>	<i>The information contained in these minutes relates to an event ticketing opportunity. The minutes outlines terms of the proposed ticketing agreement which is still subject to negotiation and acceptance. Having this part of the meeting open to the public would disadvantage GWRC if further negotiations were to take place as it would reveal GWRC's negotiation strategy. GWRC has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information which good reason for withholding exists under section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act (i.e. would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.)</i>
2. <i>Greater Wellington Regional Council office accommodation</i>	<i>The information contained in this report relates to a property sale, commercial lease and development which are still under negotiation. Having this part of the meeting open to the public would disadvantage the Council in</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for</i>

- the negotiations as it would reveal information on the Council's negotiation strategy. The Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.*
- withholding would exist under section 7(2)(i) of the Act (i.e. to carry out negotiations without prejudice).*
3. *Procurement of Ferry Services*      *Information contained in this report relates to ferry service procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. Release of this information would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of GWRC to carry on negotiations. GWRC has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.*      *That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7(2)(i) of the Act (i.e. to carry out negotiations without prejudice).*
4. *Future Fleet*      *The information contained in this report sets out the future requirements for the Wellington Region's Public Transport Network. Having this part of the meeting open to the public would disadvantage GWRC in its negotiations with other parties as it would reveal GWRC's negotiation strategy. GWRC has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.*      *That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7(2)(i) of the Act (i.e. to carry out negotiations without prejudice).*
5. *Request for Change of Ownership Consent*      *The information contained in this report relates to information provided by third parties that is the subject of a non-disclosure agreement and*      *The ground for exclusion of the public from the part of the Council meeting during which this report is discussed under section*

*the negotiation of documents related to the proposed change of ownership consent. Release of this information would likely prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.*

*Greater Wellington Regional Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information that would outweigh that likely prejudice.*

*48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 is that the public conduct of that part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information which the Council would have good reason for withholding under sections 7(2)(b)(ii), (c) (i), (i) and/or (j) of that Act.*

*This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as specified above.*