

## Attachment 4

# Stakeholder engagement summary report

This document summarises the consultation that has taken place during the development of the Proposal for the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan (“the Proposal”) as at 25 May 2017.

### Consultation during development of Proposal

In December 2015 Environment Canterbury released a discussion document on the future of pest management in Canterbury. The purpose of the discussion document was to seek the community’s views on the best approaches to be taken in a new regional pest management plan.

Environment Canterbury received a total of 97 feedback responses and 13 public meetings were held. The intention across all of the public meetings was to provide an overview of the discussion document and review process, outline the proposed shift in focus, and seek detailed feedback from the community on current and future pest management.

The outcome of this consultation was general agreement on the concept of placing greater priority on prevention, early intervention and pest risk pathway management, but not at the expense of controlling existing legacy pests.

### Ministers

Environment Canterbury met with representatives from the Department of Conservation (DOC) at various stages during the consultation process. In addition to general consultation around the process for the review and a high level structure of the Proposal, other discussion points were around establishing pests of mutual interest with DOC being the primary delivery agent, and management of specific interests such as Russell lupins, spartina, wallabies, rabbits and feral goats (under the Wild Animal Control Act).

General consultation also took place with Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) representatives as they are large landowners and will have ‘Good Neighbour’ responsibilities under the Proposal.

Environment Canterbury attended a workshop run by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to discuss requirements for the National Policy Direction.

### Local authorities

Environment Canterbury has had meetings with neighbouring councils and consulted with them in relation to the process for the regional pest management plan review and high level structure of the proposal. Each meeting also had specific topics to discuss, in particular:

- Progress of Marlborough District Council and West Coast Regional Council’s pest management plans to establish where they are at in their process and also to ensure that they align with the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan (CRPMP).
- Consultation with Otago Regional Council in relation to a joint work plan for wallaby management as an area of concern.

- Discussion with Timaru District Council, Ashburton District Council, Selwyn District Council, Kaikōura District Council, Christchurch City Council and Waimakariri District Council on managing pests on roadsides and gravel extraction conditions.
- Outlined with Ashburton District Council and Selwyn District Council the tension between protecting native vegetation on roadsides and impact from adjoining land occupiers having responsibility for pest management

Canterbury Planning Managers Group comprises representatives from each of the territorial authorities in Canterbury and Environment Canterbury including, Christchurch City Council, Waimakariri District Council, Ashburton District Council, Selwyn District Council, Hurunui District Council, Waimate District Council, Timaru District Council, Mackenzie District Council, Waitaki District Council, Ministry for the Environment and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. There were several meetings with this group at various stages of the process. Apart for the general procedural information and consultation, there were some specific discussion topics which helped with the formation of the Proposal.

### **Tangata Whenua**

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu representatives attended the Canterbury Planning Managers Group meetings as stated above. Environment Canterbury also consulted with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu representatives, the Rūnanga Working Group and Te Paiherenga to discuss the process for the regional pest management plan review and high level structure of the Proposal. Some specific talking points with these groups were around the link between biodiversity and production pest management, establishing other pests or organisms of interest, managing pests/organisms outside the plan, funding streams and the responsibilities and obligations of resource users.

### **Other persons**

Environment Canterbury has held consultative meetings with key industry and interest groups such as NZ Merino, KiwiRail, Federated Farmers, NZ Forestry, Forest & Bird, Anti 1080 activists, Upper Rangitata Gorge Landcare Group, QEII Trust, Canterbury Pest Management Liaison Committees, District Councils mayors, Zone Committee chairs, Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Lyttelton Reserves Committee, the farming community and land managers. There is some overlap with landowner and community engagement.

### **Summary of feedback received through consultation**

In general, feedback included:

1. General support for a more proactive approach to stop new pests becoming established in the region, including more surveillance and pathway management.
2. General opposition to reducing regulation of legacy pests, such as gorse and broom. Those that provided feedback were concerned that a reduction in regulation for these pests would cause an increase in their density and geographic spread, losing any gains that had been made in recent history.
3. Many new organisms (not currently included in the Regional Pest Management Strategy 2011-15) were suggested as pests for consideration under the proposed Plan that impact on biodiversity values.
4. There was clear support for the Proposal around:

- Keeping pests that are not in Canterbury out of Canterbury
  - Regional benefits from reducing pest spread, e.g. keeping wallabies out of central and north Canterbury, and keeping Chilean Needle Grass out of central and south Canterbury.
  - Good Neighbour Rules
  - Retaining Community Pest Initiatives
  - Rules to provide protection for pest control investments
  - Greater level of regulatory support for wilding conifer control efforts
  - Eradication of baccharies, entire marshwort, phragmites, egeria and rooks
  - A focus on preventing wallabies establishing themselves in new areas
5. Key issues/concerns from general issues and concerns to more specific:
- Maintaining current levels of control, not reducing efforts and losing gains made
  - The levels of coordination, management, and education associated with the new Plan
  - Keeping links between biodiversity and biosecurity visible in the Plan
  - A desire to know the specific rule requirements around boundary rule for gorse and broom
  - Managing pests on roadsides and the transport of pests through gravel extraction / use in relation to roading
  - The tension between protecting native vegetation on roadsides and impact from adjoining land occupiers having responsibility for pest management
  - The proposed declassification of ragwort, nodding thistle and variegated thistle received both support and opposition
  - Concern some land owners use the “excuse” of being required to eliminate the few isolated gorse/broom plants to clear native vegetation to increase production
6. Questions about what will be included in the Proposal and how aspects of the Proposal may work:
- How to make the Plan work and what the rules need to look like along with the procedures and processes to implement compliance against the rules
  - The management of road reserves
  - The link between resource consent conditions and pest management
  - Whether the Regional Pest Management Plan would be solely land-focused or land and marine-focussed
  - Te flexibility to add or remove pests from the plan once it has been made operative

## Meeting and Consultation Actions Summary Table

A summary of the actions undertaken is set out in the following table:

| Meeting/ Action   | Date          | Location  |
|---|---------------|---|
| Targeted Meeting with Runanga Working Group   | 06/10/2015    | Lincoln Events Centre   |
| Targeted Meeting with Te Paiherenga   | 30/11/2015    | CES, 89 Nazareth Avenue   |
| Discussion document published   | December 2015 | Environment Canterbury Website, hard copies available in Environment Canterbury Customer Services |
| Targeted Meeting with Department of Conservation  | 03/02/2016    | Department of Conservation Christchurch Office  |
| Discussion document public meeting, with only farming interests in attendance   | 04/02/2016    | A & P Room, Oxford Town Hall  |
| Targeted Meeting with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu  | 05/02/2016    | Te Whare o Te Waipounamu,   |
| Discussion document public meeting, with only farming interests in attendance   | 09/02/2016    | Kaikōura Memorial Hall supper room  |
| Discussion document public meeting, with only farming interests in attendance   | 10/02/2016    | Cheviot Trust Hotel   |
| Discussion document public meeting, with only farming interests in attendance   | 11/02/2016    | Greta Valley Tavern   |
| Discussion document public meeting, with only farming interests in attendance   | 12/02/2016    | Waiau Community Hall & Library  |
| Discussion document public meeting, with only farming interests in attendance   | 15/02/2016    | Waikari Memorial Hall   |
| Discussion document public meeting, including Ashley Pest Management Liaison Committee and North Canterbury High Country Federated Farmers representation | 16/02/2016    | Waimakariri District Council  |
| Discussion document public meeting with farming interests, Department of Conservation and Anti 1080 activists in attendance                               | 17/02/2016    | Kurow Hotel   |
| Discussion document public meeting with farming interests, ratepayers,  | 18/02/2016    | Caroline Bay Hall, Timaru   |

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| Timaru Herald, Forestry, Forest & Bird and Federated Farmers in attendance   |                            | District Council                              |
| Discussion document meeting with farming interests, Upper Rangitata Gorge Landcare Group and Federated Farmers in attendance   | 19/02/2016                 | Ashburton Federated Farmers meeting room      |
| Targeted Meeting with Canterbury Planning Managers Group (Territorial Authorities)   | 19/02/2016                 | Lincoln Events Centre                         |
| Discussion document public meeting with Christchurch City Council Ranger and Summit Road Society representation  | 22/02/2016                 | Addington Racecourse, Christchurch            |
| Discussion document public meeting with farming interests and Selwyn Pest Management Liaison Committee   | 22/02/2016                 | Lincoln Events Centre                         |
| Discussion document public meeting with farming interests, Federated Farmers Contractor, Conservation and land manager in attendance   | 23/02/2016                 | Little River Rugby Clubrooms, Banks Peninsula |
| Targeted Meeting with Christchurch City Council  | 25/02/2016                 | Christchurch City Council offices             |
| Targeted Meeting with NZ Merino  | 29/02/2016                 | NZ Merino offices                             |
| Targeted Meeting with QEII Trust   | 29/04/2016                 | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch  |
| Discussion document feedback summary published   | June 2016                  | Environment Canterbury Website                |
| Targeted Meeting with NZ Merino  | 19/07/2016                 | NZ Merino offices                             |
| Further stakeholder/ community meeting with members of Federated Farmers, Pest Management Liaison Committees, District Councils Mayors, Zone Committee Chairs, Forest and Bird, and land managers in attendance. | 19/08/2016 &<br>10/05/2017 | Amberley Rugby Clubrooms, Hurunui             |
| Further stakeholder/ community meeting with members of Federated Farmers, Pest Management Liaison Committees, District Councils Mayors, Zone Committee Chairs, Forest and Bird, and land managers in attendance. | 23/08/2016 &<br>12/05/2017 | Ashburton Hotel                               |
| Further stakeholder/ community meeting with members of Federated Farmers, Pest Management Liaison Committees, District Councils Mayors, Zone Committee Chairs, Forest and Bird, Banks Peninsula Conservation     | 26/08/2016 &<br>15/05/2017 | Little River Rugby Clubrooms, Banks Peninsula |

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| Trust, Lyttelton Reserves Committee, and land managers in attendance.  |                           |  |
| Further stakeholder/ community meeting with members of Federated Farmers, Pest Management Liaison Committees, District Councils Mayors, Zone Committee Chairs, Forest and Bird, and land managers in attendance. | 29/08/2016 &<br>8/05/2017 | Environment Canterbury offices, Timaru       |
| Targeted Meeting with Canterbury Planning Managers Group (Territorial Authorities)   | 16/09/2016                | Lincoln Events Centre                        |
| Targeted Meeting with Rūnanga Working Group  | 05/10/2016                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with Te Paiherenga  | 10/10/2016                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with Marlborough District Council and West Coast Regional Council   | 26/10/2016                | Epic Innovation, Christchurch                |
| Targeted Meeting with Timaru District Council  | 03/11/2016                | Timaru District Council offices              |
| Targeted Meeting with Land Information New Zealand   | 06/12/2016                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with Waimakariri District Council   | 01/02/2017                | Waimakariri District Council offices         |
| Targeted Meeting with Department of Conservation   | 20/02/2017                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with Ashburton District Council   | 27/02/2017                | Ashburton District Council offices           |
| Targeted Meeting with Department of Conservation   | 30/03/2017                | Department of Conservation offices           |
| Targeted Meeting with Otago Regional Council   | 03/04/2017                | Environment Canterbury offices, Timaru       |
| Targeted Meeting with Department of Conservation and NZ Merino   | 28/04/2017                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with KiwiRail   | 28/04/2017                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with Rūnanga Working Group  | 10/05/2017                | Environment Canterbury offices, Christchurch |
| Targeted Meeting with Canterbury Planning Managers Group   | 12/05/2017                | Lincoln Events Centre                        |