MINUTE AND DIRECTIONS OF HEARING PANEL

regarding rules for conifers as a pest agent

[Minute 7]

1. Having considered the submissions, evidence and further comments from submitters, the Hearing Panel considers that there is a strong case for inclusion of a rule or group of rules that enables control of conifers as a pest agent in the Wilding Conifer Containment Area.

2. We ask that Council, as a matter of urgency, provide us with an update on its position regarding the further comment from the Ministry of Primary Industries on technical and workability matters.

3. We ask the Council to provide us with the following:
   a. Does the Council recommend to us, if a rule or group of rules to manage conifers as a pest agent in the Wilding Conifer Containment Area were to be included in the RPMP, that sufficient consultation has been undertaken that would allow us to include such a rule or group of rules?
   b. If the Council recommends that there has been sufficient consultation, what timeframe and process would be required to develop an appropriate rule or group of rules, including appropriate consideration of allocation of costs?
   c. If the Council recommends that it considers insufficient consultation has taken place, what timeframe and process would be recommended to develop an appropriate rule or group of rules, including appropriate consideration of allocation of costs, after the plan has been made.

4. We direct the Council to provide us with a response to this minute by 5pm Tuesday 28 November 2017.

Issued by the Hearing Panel

27 November 2017