

## Meeting Notes

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Meeting title	<b>BIOSECURITY ADVISORY GROUP</b>
Group Area	Northern Canterbury
Date	16 March 2021
Time	3:00pm – 6:00pm
Venue	Cheviot Hotel, Cheviot
Invited	Cllr. Grant Edge, Cllr. Vince Daly, Duncan Lundy, Norm Kereikeepa, Hamish Roxburgh, Richard Reed, Winton Dalley, Hamish Chamberlain, Mark Giles, Ted Howard, Hamish Galletly, Lorna Sandeman, Clint McConchie, Carl Diamond, Nick Daniels, Leanne Lye, Rich Langley, Laurence Smith, Kaitlin Allan
In attendance	Rich Langley, Laurence Smith, Richard Reed, Carl Diamond, Hamish Chamberlain, Mark Giles, Hamish Galletly, Hamish Roxburgh, Winton Dalley, Cllr Vince Daly, Nick Daniels, Ted Howard, Leanne Lye, Kaitlin Allan
Apologies	Cllr. Grant Edge, Lorna Sandeman, Duncan Lundy, Clint McConchie

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Person:</u>	<u>Action:</u>
1.	<p><b><u>Welcome, introductions, apologies &amp; housekeeping</u></b></p> <p>Rich opened the meeting, gave apologies on behalf of those that couldn't be there. Discussion around the need for each group to have a vice/deputy chair. Call for volunteer to chair this meeting, Hamish Roxburgh volunteered.</p>	Rich Langley	Vice Chair needs to be elected for each committee
2.	<p><b><u>Notes/Actions from last meeting</u></b></p> <p>2.1 <u>Group Admin</u></p> <p>Payment for members of this group for this meeting will be paid at the end of this round of meetings – this is the last meeting so payment will be made shortly.</p> <p>Confirming meeting attendance – please give an early indication if meeting time/date suits you, can always put in an apology in down the track if something pops up.</p> <p>2.2 <u>Actions from last meeting</u></p> <p><i>Touch up on any actions from the last meeting that required follow up.</i></p> <p>As the last BAG meeting was combined with the wider groups, the actions to come out of it are a bit more generalised.</p>	Rich Langley	Members to RSVP to meetings as soon as possible
		Rich Langley & Laurence Smith	

<p>Main actions were a result of feedback collated from the groups, which has been sent out.</p> <p>Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevalent theme was groups want to try cover less in more depth and want more time to be able to discuss things – have allowed more time in agenda for this.</li> <li>• Members want more direction on how to utilise networks, ECan need to make sure that members are equipped for this. Going forward, ECan are going to provide notes after each meeting to serve as talking points, this will be useful to share with community members.</li> <li>• Need for groups to put milestones in place for things they wish to achieve, members are encouraged to think about what could be a goal/milestone the groups could work towards.</li> </ul> <p>Another action was to look into establishing separate focus groups for pests. Laurence gave an update on the establishment of other committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chilean Needle Grass Action Group (previously a Pest Committee) has been maintained, sits outside the BAG group and mainly occupiers from Cheviot. Going to maintain that group for now.</li> <li>• Planning to organise Nassella advisory group – for the 3 types of Nassella in Canterbury - Chilean Needle Grass (Nassella neesiana) Nassella tussock (Nassella trichotoma) &amp; Mexican Feather Grass (Nassella tenuissima)</li> <li>• Looking to form a technical advisory group to help with decision making around invasive organisms for CRPMP inclusion in the future, as well as changes to our current CRPMP. Input from people with experience in scientific/botanical/biological/government agencies</li> </ul> <p>Discussion around when the Nassella Advisory Group will be formed – after this round of meetings an email will be sent out to garner interest to the groups, as well as to the wider community. This will be region wide, not just North Canterbury.</p> <p>The Northern Biosecurity Advisory group support the establishment of the Nassella Advisory Group.</p>	<p>Laurence Smith</p>	<p>ECan to provide talking points post meetings</p> <p>Members to think about goal/milestone setting opportunities</p> <p>Email to be sent out to garner interest in Nassella Advisory Group</p>
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<p><b>3.</b></p> <p><b>3.1</b></p>	<p><b><u>Public Forum</u></b></p> <p><i>Opportunity for public engagement with the BAG</i></p> <p><i>Floor is open for any members of the public to ask questions or raise concerns. Time may be restricted.</i></p> <p>No public in attendance.</p> <p>Rich explained to the group the meetings are advertised on the ECan website, on Facebook and in the local paper. Members are also encouraged to invite their networks too. Did have public attendance at the Southern BAG meeting.</p> <p>Discussion around questions posed at an A&amp;P show to Councillor Vince Daly around frustrations about mowing on roadsides, there is a period where roadsides with Chilean Needle Grass sites can't be mowed because the plant is seeding, but that has passed now. Laurence Smith &amp; Leanne Lye currently in talks with Hurunui District Council to provide some more clarity around mowing. Will provide update to the BAG on this.</p> <p>Discussion around the outcome of CNG experiments/trials undertaken in Marlborough, will be presented at next meeting.</p>	<p>Hamish Roxburgh</p> <p>Rich Langley</p>	<p>Leanne Lye/Laurence Smith to update group on outcome of mowing conversations with HDC</p> <p>CNG trial results to be presented at next meeting</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b></p>	<p><b><u>Main Discussion Items</u></b></p> <p><i>Utilising Networks</i></p> <p><i>How can Environment Canterbury staff better equip BAG members to utilise their networks and support the biosecurity programme?</i></p> <p>One of the key objectives of the Biosecurity Advisory Groups is that things can be discussed in the group and then be taken out to networks in the community, and likewise items can be brought back into the group via those networks. Working on finding a better way to foster that relationship.</p> <p>Looking at putting together a sheet of talking points that can be given to members after each meeting – bullet points to help assist with conversations about what has been discussed at meetings with the wider community/networks. Aim is to keep it nice and brief.</p> <p>Website – has been clunky and not worked so well, so creating an external page that is also available to the public. This way anyone can stay in touch and access information from the groups – e.g. past and upcoming meetings – notes/agenda</p>	<p>Rich Langley</p>	<p>External webpage to replace existing BAG website.</p>

	<p>etc. Be great if members could share link to website with their networks.</p> <p>Rich will send out some questions to get some feedback from BAG members to seek further information on what networks might be looking for.</p> <p>Couple of extra questions for the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When people approach you as members and talk to you about your involvement in this group, what kind of questions do they ask?</li> <li>• Have you been asked anything?</li> </ul> <p>Consensus that people don't know what the group is or what it is doing, and lots of people don't know it exists, which was the downfall of the Pest Management Liaison Committees – concern around the lack of interest.</p> <p>Laurence asked the group whether ECan can improve on what they give the group so members can utilise it? Agreement that in the grand scheme of things, the biosecurity advisory group isn't top of farmer's lists – so much coming at them.</p> <p>Discussion around how we can get people to know they should be interested in this group, e.g. to raise awareness around on farm biosecurity and preventing invasive pests coming onto a property in the first place</p> <p>Carl Diamond told the group that to get interest, the community needs to see success from this group, which requires ECan/members to bring issues to meetings. The agenda for this meeting has no member items. The BAG cannot be successful without input from the community. The latest Southern BAG meeting had members of the public come in and do presentations, which raised the level of discussion, fed information back that ECan would never have gotten otherwise. Networking/having conversations is very important.</p> <p>Discussion around the fundamental issue with getting the public to trust ECan. Pests are the bottom of the heap, something that people would rather deal with when it arises, much more serious issues coming at farmers currently – and people don't know what they don't know, communication needs to be a two way street. Until they know differently, people assume everything is under control.</p> <p>Laurence Smith explained the new role being advertised currently for Biosecurity Officer Community Engagement, the</p>	<p>Laurence Smith</p> <p>Carl Diamond</p> <p>Laurence Smith</p>	<p>Rich to send out questions regarding what networks are looking for</p>
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	<p>purpose of this role will be to engage with the community, attend public meetings and spread information.</p> <p>Discussion about blackberry being a rampant pest – terrible implications for riparian planting. Not just a biosecurity issue, biodiversity and waterways too – example of something the new Biosecurity Officer Community Engagement could facilitate the establishment of a community group for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggestion to invite Landcare Field Officer Josh Brown to the next meeting, could be a great way to get a cross over to farmers. Josh could present on what their projects are doing.</li> <li>• Suggestion to invite the CNG Committee to attend as part of the public forum.</li> </ul>	Hamish Chamberlain	Leanne Lye to pass Josh Brown’s contact details to Rich Langley
4.2	<p><u>Long Term Plan, Annual Plan</u></p> <p><i>Information on proposed programme budgets. BAG members are invited to submit on this and encourage their networks to do the same</i></p> <p>Refer to information sent out prior to meeting – taken as read.</p> <p>Consultation is now open until 11 April, can submit online, by email, by video or via hard copy post. Hearings 28-29<sup>th</sup> April, you can select if you’d like to speak at the hearings when making a submission.</p> <p>Question re implications of Option 1 vs Option 2 on delivery of the biosecurity programme – there will be no difference in delivery. Used to have pockets of money in each pest district, now that money is shared across the region, a lot more flexibility in where we spend money each year in each programme.</p> <p>Looking at getting ahead of the invasive organism curve - spend money now to save money later, e.g. awareness programme, new staff member to raise awareness etc</p> <p><i>Question re is it legal to work with plants not in the plan – operating outside the bounds of regulation?</i></p> <p>Laurence Smith &amp; Carl Diamond explained that it is ECan’s role to work with the community and investigate things that are raised. Currently do not have the resources to deal with all of the calls we get about various different things, feedback from the community is that there is the expectation that ECan is “it”. Even with pests we have in the CRPMP, we do not have enough money to deal with them all. If we do not do</p>	Carl Diamond	

<p>4.3</p> <p>4.4</p>	<p>surveillance work and look at high risk sites, things could get away on us. By investigating things raised by the community we can say hand on heart we know whether we need to pursue something – part of ECan’s role is to make sure that things are not getting out of control. Pests being in the plan enables officers to do the work to control them – 60% of the budget goes to this. Remaining 40% of the budget goes to outside the plan – surveillance/awareness/communication – significant amount of work sits outside the plan. Have a duty to investigate changes and take the community with us.</p> <p>Discussion around farmers should be supporting ECan and ECan should be supporting farmers – we would be stronger as a result.</p> <p>BAG members can write submissions on the LTP individually or part of the group – but the ECan Councillor must excuse themselves from the submission discussion and drafting.</p> <p>Public LTP workshop was run early March on how to write an effective LTP submission, this workshop is available online – Google search – “Networking for the Environment” and scroll down to “Networking Hui 2021”</p> <p>Discussion around BAG group Chairs being due for review as it has been a year, and the need for creating Deputies. Chairs don’t have to be Councillors, any representative from the group could take things higher.</p> <p>Request by group for information on waterways and who manages these areas.</p> <p><u><i>Biosecurity Act Review</i></u></p> <p><i>Providing details of plans and legislation impacting on Environment Canterbury’s Biosecurity Programme. BAG members will have an opportunity to submit on this review in the future</i></p> <p>Refer to emailed update document. Taken as read. ECan made submissions on changes to the Biodiversity Act that would better help us – have not had an update on this yet. Looking to go to a public submission process in mid-year – August. Aiming to time a meeting of the groups around the release of the information, to discuss what it means etc.</p> <p><u><i>North Canterbury Engagement Plan</i></u></p> <p>Number of challenges with how we engage with the community in Canterbury – particularly in North Canterbury. Pilot</p>	<p>Laurence Smith</p>	<p>Review of Chairs/Deputies for groups</p> <p>Information to be provided to group on management of waterways</p>
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	<p>3 workshops at this stage – possibly a fourth down the track*. Each with their own theme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Listening</li> <li>2. Creating</li> <li>3. Refining</li> <li>4. Implementing*</li> </ol> <p>First workshop is just listening, external facilitators will be there for all meetings. Chair Jenny Hughey will attend the first meeting, Cllr. Edge will be at all workshops on behalf of all BAG Chairs.</p> <p>Mayor Marie Black will attend part of the first meeting.</p> <p>Discussion re lack of endorsement from the BAGs could have resulted in lack of engagement from community - BAG members didn't have enough information – need to look at how we can better involve the group in things like this</p> <p>Discussion re RAN (Rural Advocacy Network) representation at the workshops – would be really good to have RAN there, RAN has been invited but so far have not confirmed whether a representative will attend any of the workshops.</p> <p>Survey results from Nassella tussock survey need to be shared with community.</p> <p>Discussion re Nassella tussock cluster pilot meeting that took place at Carl Forrester's recently. Feedback from that cluster meeting is very similar to the previous cluster meeting with the Blythe Valley cluster. Both groups agree that the key is to get 5% over the line, the grading system is not going to make a difference. There is a need for biocontrol and technology – people are prepared to put money towards finding a solution.</p>		<p>Group needs to be more involved/informed in things like the Nassella Co-design</p> <p>Nassella tussock survey results to be shared with group</p>
4.6	<p><u>Regional and Local Programme Update</u></p> <p><i>Reports taken as read. This is an opportunity for members to ask questions about these updates.</i></p> <p>Refer to Environment Canterbury update document.</p> <p>Weed Risk in Canterbury – have now received report of 30 terrestrial pests to watch, next step is CLIMEX modelling.</p> <p>Leanne Lye provided an update on Yellow Bristle Grass – 1 known site when the RPMP was developed, so it sits in the eradication programme, however last year the known sites grew to 5, and in the last week a dozen new sites were found. Predominantly on roadsides, and next step is to search rail</p>	<p>Laurence Smith</p> <p>Leanne Lye</p>	<p>Members to send through any feedback on layout of update document</p>



4.7	<p>corridors. Dry land beef farmers especially should be on the look out.</p> <p>Leanne will send out ute guides on YBG for identification.</p> <p><u>Group member's items</u> No group member items put forward.</p>		<p>Leanne Lye to provide YBG ute guides to group. BAG members to discuss YBG with networks, get the word out there</p>
<p>5.</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p>	<p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p><u>Meeting Locations</u></p> <p><i>It was always out intention to meet in places that best suited the members – how are we doing?</i></p> <p>Discussion re different meeting locations – open to any suggestions about meeting places/site visit locations etc.</p> <p>Suggestion re looking at biocontrol in Hanmer Springs – in the Spring time.</p> <p>Next meeting will be early June.</p> <p><u>Future Agenda Items</u></p> <p><i>What are some of things we plan on bringing to the group a future meetings?</i></p> <p>Ran out of time for this item.</p>	<p>Rich Langley</p> <p>Laurence Smith &amp; Rich Langley</p>	<p>Members to send through any suggestions they have about meeting locations etc</p>
	<p><b><u>Meeting close – 6pm</u></b></p>		