

## **Meeting Notes**

Meeting title	BIOSECURITY ADVISORY GROUP
Group Area	Christchurch / Banks Peninsula Canterbury
Date	13 September 2021
Time	2:00pm – 5:00pm
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Invited	John Clemens, Colin Meurk, Pam Richardson, Paul de Latour, Philip Hulme, Richard Ball, Karl Dean, Jeff Bland, Cllr. Lan Pham, Aperahama Kipa, Gabe Ross, Gina Waibl, Sam Yeatman, Laurence Smith, Rich Langley, Carl Diamond, Bruce Marshall, Paige Lawson, Zoe Buxton, Graham Sullivan, Verity Halkett, Claire Fletcher
In attendance	Cllr. Lan Pham, Gina Waibl, Philip Hulme, Jeff Bland, John Clemens, Claire Fletcher, Carl Diamond, Bruce Marshall, Kaitlin Brydon, Laurence Smith, Paige Lawson, Pam Richardson, Paul de Latour, Rich Langley, Gabe Ross, Colin Meurk
Apologies	Richard Ball, Karl Dean

	ltem	Person:	Action:
1.	Welcome, introductions, apologies & housekeeping	Cllr.	
	Cllr. Pham opened meeting.	Pham	
	Apologies from Richard Ball & Karl Dean		
	Recognition to Colin Meurk for receiving the NZ Order of Merit.		
	Round group check in.		
2.	Notes/Actions	Rich	
2.1	<u> Group Admin – BioBites Article, Model Release Forms</u>	Langley	
	Payments are up to date.		
	Thanks to everyone for giving us access to your photos for BioBites.		
	Model release forms – some haven't been signed, will get them signed next time group can meet in person.		
2.2	Actions from last meeting	Rich Langley	
	All information requested at last meeting has been sent out.		
	Website preview – hasn't been much progress on the website but will hope to have an update at next meeting.		

	Comms and engagement – this will be covered later in the meeting. Request for a diagram to show how the new Technical Advisory Group and Nassella Advisory Group will work. TAG has terms of reference which are nearly finalised, this will be sent out when complete, along with advertising for expressions of interest. Once the terms of reference are finalised, will	Laurence Smith	Laurence to create and distribute diagram showing difference between TAG & BAG.
	<ul> <li>create a diagram to show the difference between TAG &amp; BAG.</li> <li>Parliamentary report on the gap between Biosecurity &amp; Biodiversity to be shared with group once it has come through.</li> <li>Connecting Brian with Pig Group in the Conway – this has grown, number of people have come forward to talk to it. Will be part of a wider conversation on Banks Peninsula, will include Brian in all communications.</li> </ul>		Parliamentary report to be sent out when it comes through
	Discussion around feral goat operation success, going into mop up stage, which will include recording how many pigs are out there and where.		Pam to keep Laurence in the loop re feral pig number
	Query from last meeting with regards to possums being mentioned on rates letter, not on the rates letter this year.		hambol
	BioBites Spring Edition – will be in letterboxes end of September, has gone to printers. Received a lot of submissions from Biosecurity Officers, great that they are pushing their own projects.	Paige Lawson	
2.3	<u>Council Update</u> Council submissions on new Resource Management reforms - one of the submissions was to raise the importance of biosecurity within the new matters of national importance sections – need a vehicle to get NZ to Pest Free 2050.	Cllr. Pham	Cllr. Pham to send Carl link to Council's submission on RMA, Carl will circulate to group.
	National Park City – you may have seen mention this in The Press, the ChCh/BP area could be recognised as a National Park City – could heighten biosecurity along with biodiversity values.		
	Formal policy with public meeting for our engagement with farmers who are feeling under stress, want to be sensitive to them but also clear about what our policy is. Approaching things in the right way.		
3.	Main Discussion Items		

3.1 <u>F</u>	Regional and local programmes update	Laurence	
•	Number of enquiries/issues being highlighted re the issue of feral deer and pigs, particularly deer grazing the understory of native forests. Environment Canterbury Biosecurity are organising a meeting, initially with organisations at a higher level, then at a more local level in effected areas e.g. Banks Peninsula and Kaikoura. Will include Runanga, DOC, LINZ, Federated Farmers, Deer Stalkers etc, and representatives from community to have a discussion around the issues and desired outcomes, and how the community would like to get to those outcomes.	Smith	
	This is not seen as an Environment Canterbury management issue, as the legislation that exists to control feral pigs and deer is the Wild Animal Control Act, administered by DOC. Environment Canterbury is however, looking to support the community with coming together to find solutions. The objective of the initial meeting is to have a broader conversation regarding values and potential avenues to support the community, as well as highlighting where specific issues are in the region.		
	Biosecurity staff met with rūnanga last week via Te Paiherenga, and highlighted the issue to them. Rūnanga would like to come back to us about how they'd like to be involved.		
	Looking to hold the initial meeting in mid-November, worthwhile to have members of BAG as part of conversation.		
•	Discussion around Canada Geese Control, National problem. Biosecurity Working Group currently writing a letter to the Minister, part of the Act says you can put forward a request for a responsible person to be assigned to an issue. Main issues with flight paths/airport – annual control.	Laurence Smith	Any support locals in BP can get for Canada geese control would be appreciated.
•	Feral Goat control on Banks Peninsula was a great success, following up with properties and making sure they're aware of the rules and why they exist. Most people have been very supportive. There is a risk of reinfestation, looking forward to next area that we do.	Bruce Marshall	
•	Regional & Local programmes update was sent out via email, taken as read. Group asked if they have any questions.	Laurence Smith	

	Question re if there is still a solo Rook in North Canterbury. A. ECan haven't received any reported sightings for a few years, used to be spotted in the Waikari area.		
	Comment from Laurence regarding Velvetleaf in the report – there has not been a new incursion of Velvet leaf – was caught at the border in radish seed. Approx. 0.01% chance for something to get through in seed. The biosecurity system extends from the border right through to on the ground and is something that everyone should be part of.	Laurence Smith	Phil to send Carl a high level summary of what PhD student has found re seed at the border.
	Question re Pest Pathway Workshop – have there been any updates on how ECan sees the Check Clean Dry Programme going? A. MPI have invested a lot more in their comms/engagement specifically to bolster that programme and facilitate the strategy 2020-2025. To date, have walked the walk and been supportive. Looking at how we target specific groups and looking at the plan for this season and hiring another person for other parts of the region. Seen as important and worth the investment.	Rich Langley	Rich to catch up with Prof. Philip Hulme prior to summer regarding the CCD programme.
	Marine Biosecurity – Paige and Holly have drafted up a comms/engagement plan to get out in the community around marine biosecurity. Plan is currently getting feedback from stakeholders and once it is finalised it will be shared with this group, be good for members to then send to their networks, more people that know about it the better.		
3.2	Weed Risk in Canterbury' Assessment	Laurence	
	Last year, AgResearch were engaged to look at 30 different species in terms of risk. Species were ranked from 1-30. Some could have a high risk of spread, but not be a top priority in terms of threat to agriculture or biodiversity. Next step is to look at their impacts, dispersal methods, pathways they move on, likely places we could find them – job for the Technical Advisory Group. This is important to help inform our future surveillance programme. First step in future focus. Hundreds of things we could look at, need to narrow that down to the most problematic that are just emerging or potentially threatening us here in Canterbury.		
	Biosecurity Officer Invasive Organisms will be on board soon which will help this process.		
	Question re if this is in conjunction with other organisations. A. The idea has been socialised with other regional councils, have formed a small group to try work together on this		

	nationally. Hoping to contribute a little bit of money each, which might encourage more buy in from others, and can all work together on this.		
3.3	<ul> <li>Biosecurity Communications and Engagement Programme</li> <li>Built ideas from BAG workshops into the Biosecurity Comms/Engagement Plan. Message was clear that the community needs good communication and information, as well as updates. Was also clear that face to face engagement is far more effective.</li> <li>Paige shared the Comms &amp; Engagement Plan on her screen with the group. The plan identifies who we are already engaging with, who we plan to engage with, and opportunities to engage further.</li> <li>Aiming to attend the Ellesmere, Kaikoura, Mackenzie &amp; Amuri shows this season.</li> <li>Keen to get into schools, have recently met with ECan's Education team, they already have a program they deliver in schools, want to focus on aligning it with what we do at ECan. Initially the programme was written in conjunction with DOC</li> </ul>	Paige & Rich	Plan to be shared with group to provide feedback, Currently is an internal plan only, not to be shared with public.
	and is predominantly animal focused, want to make it more plant pest and future focused. Discussion around group being provided resources to share with their networks.		Rich to request electronic version of RPMP quick guide. Local/Regional update to be shareable.
3.4	<ul> <li><u>Biosecurity on Banks Peninsula – Meeting</u></li> <li>Paige and Rich have been working on organising a weed control meeting on Banks Peninsula later this year, it's called Biosecurity on Banks Peninsula. Aiming to bring all community groups, agencies/trusts that are contributing to biosecurity/biodiversity/pest control together to learn about what each other are doing, and find opportunities to collaborate. Electronic invite will go out this week. Please forward e-invite out to contacts, need all the relevant people there.</li> <li>Discussion around date – could be clashes with show week.</li> </ul>	Paige	BAG members to forward e-invite to relevant contacts. Paige to review meeting date.

3.5	<u>General Business</u> Discussion around co-opting new members to the group – process outlined in group Terms of Reference.	All	
4.	November – looking at all group meeting, potentially combined with Chilean Needle Grass field day	Rich Langley	
5.	Meeting Close 5pm		