

	<p>Josh Brown, Hurunui Landcare Group – here today to talk to the group.</p> <p>Group interest in seeing pest plants in person, e.g. African Feather Grass. COVID has impacted our ability to get in the field but will make this happen in the future.</p> <p>2.2 <u>Council Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floods across Canterbury, some areas are still being cleaned up, discussing future recovery, repairs, ratings. Climate change means there is unpredictability in the future. • Council had a briefing in August on Environment Canterbury’s application for renewal of global consent for agrichemicals. • Currently preparing submission documents to Government on freshwater farm plan regulations, managing intensive winter grazing, and managing wetlands. • Recent reports on state of environment in Canterbury, not looking that great, looking to see what’s going wrong and what needs to be done to fix things. • Shortly will be going on to look at next year’s annual plan. <p>Discussion re need for a more holistic look at rivers, rather than just looking at rating groups, and around how this will look.</p> <p>Comment re Nitrates and the use of Overseer app. Overseer limit doesn’t tell people anything as it doesn’t say where nitrates are being lost, lost through trees and groundwater – types of trees are very important.</p>	Cllr. Edge	
<p>3.</p> <p>3.1</p>	<p><u>Main Discussion Items</u></p> <p><u>Regional update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update report sent out to group taken as read. • Feral animal issues - pigs and deer in particular. Not declared pests in the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan, but they do fall under legislation in the Wild Animal Control Act. Proposing a higher-level meeting with various organisations and representatives of the community to discuss broader issues, particularly around pigs and deer. Issue of biodiversity and economic impact. Initial meeting will be in mid-November. • Marine Biosecurity – have undertaken a survey in Lyttelton, Akaroa Harbours, and Timaru port for Mediterranean Fanworm, found quite a bit of it in Lyttelton. The survey was quick and relatively limited in Timaru, found nothing there, but 	Laurence Smith	

is an area we are continuing to work in. MPI and other partners are working with ECan to work on a plan.

- New advisory groups – Nassella Advisory Group (NAG) and Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Both groups to look at entire Canterbury Region. Now revisiting the approach to the NAG and wondering whether it's needed or if we are better just to ask reps from BAGs to look at specific issues. The TAG is on the way to being formulated, terms of reference for the group are being created. Will be sending something out soon to see if anyone would like to express an interest in joining. The TAG is primarily for people with a specialist background.
- Velvet leaf – no known sites, but has been found at the border in radish seed. MPI is working with purchasers of seed.
- Pest Pathways – MOU put together with a few other councils to work together for pathway management across regional borders. 'Southern Biosecurity Collaborative Partnership'.
- African love grass – contracted John Taylor and his detector dog Wink to search for African Love Grass. Has been found in the Greta Cutting in North Canterbury. John will be doing a delimitating survey down south early next year.
- Find-a-Pest app – promoting it as much as we can, hopefully everyone has downloaded it, helpful if people can report anything they find.
- Weed biological control – looking at how Australians use a system to categorize proposed success of a biological agent – about gaining a better understanding of what agents will be successful. Previously haven't known how successful agents will be, but this new system should be able to provide a better indication on whether this agent will be successful or not before it's brought in. Better use of money. National Biological Control Collective funds \$500,000 of biocontrol every year, ECan contribute \$25,000 to the fund, last year we spent \$100,000 outside of the collective on bio control.
- Wallaby programme – comprehensive report was sent out to the group separately. Most of the work is currently happening outside the wallaby containment area, and within the buffer zone around the containment zone, particularly in the south of the containment area. Wallabies at low levels are very hard to detect, best method is with dog and gun. Brent Glentworth could potentially present his report to the group in the future if members are interested.
- Wilding Conifer programme – 244 contract staff currently working on this. Maps provided in the update show where the management units are. Work will continue potentially for the

Brent Glentworth,
Wallaby
Programme
Leader, to
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Wallaby report to
group in future.

	<p>next 8 years. Work is now moving into larger scale programmes, now that the outer edges have been captured. This year's budget is around 18 million.</p> <p>Discussion re concern with pines going in on one side of the road, while they are being cleared from the other side of the road – and both sides being paid.</p> <p>ECan working on 'Plant Me Instead' guide.</p> <p><u>Local update – Northern Area</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gorse and broom inspections have been occurring over winter, have completed a number of inspections, but Covid19 & rain have had an impact. • Nassella tussock – the team have been contacting land occupiers to ask if anyone is interested in an early inspection. Compliance returns have been sent out. • Post lockdown the team have been working on Darwin's barberry (over 250 sites in Canterbury). Working on targeted areas where there is potential for birds to spread plant into native areas. • Also working on boneseed – concentrated in Kaikoura/Gore Bay and some control in Amberley/Leithfield. The Northern team have also been going into Central Canterbury to assist the Central Biosecurity team with control. • Waipara River Care group – community-based group wanting to come up with a plan of what they'd like to see happen in their area. ECan is looking to support that group with some outcomes, understanding is that some ECan staff have been out and met with the group in the last week or so, to look at what's out there. <p>Discussion re collaborating with other groups/sections in ECan on projects, looking to see where Biosecurity can collaborate where it's appropriate, e.g. some projects are more appropriate for biodiversity. Have had initial discussions.</p>	<p>Leanne Lye</p>	<p>Laurence to send out rules around Wilding Conifers – currently looking at the RPMP, could be tweaks to Wilding Conifers.</p>
<p>3.2</p>	<p><u>Nassella Update</u></p> <p>Chilean Needle Grass – Matt Smith is now organising this programme. Matt Smith & Noel Crump have been working with land occupiers to revise the containment agreements for their properties.</p> <p>Looking at areas of high risk to help focus search this season. The two properties with the densest populations are joining forces and employing someone to do the control for them – ECan is</p>	<p>Laurence Smith & Matt Smith</p>	

providing some funding, as it frees up time and resource within the team to put into surveillance efforts.

Nassella Tussock – Matt gave a presentation on the ‘Nassella Inspection Programme Overview 2021’ as well as survey results.

Carl Diamond explained to the group that on 30th of September, Nick Daniels is taking a paper to Council re how ECan deals with regulatory responsibilities when communities are under stress. Paper is on ECan website, link sent to group in Microsoft Teams Chat. The Council meeting will either be live streamed, or videoed and put on website after meeting if you wish to follow up.

Discussion re lack of trust for ECan from farmers, and bigger issues at play. Trying different approach with small number of properties who are denying access, considering individual scenarios and allowing a one-off written agreement agreeing to only look at nassella tussock when entering the property. Not a policy change.

Leanne to organise sending the unabridged version of survey results to BAG members.

Rich to send link to group with Council paper.

3.3 ‘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 if they’re not in Canterbury already. First step is to work with the new Biosecurity Officer Invasive Organisms, and with the Technical Advisory Group once both are on board. Hoping to collaborate and spread costs for research across some or all of NZ councils. 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.

3.4 Biosecurity Communications and Engagement Programme

Paige & Rich

Biosecurity Comms/Engagement Plan will be passed on following the meeting for group to provide feedback.

Currently working to improve our communications and engagement programme to enhance how we take our biosecurity programme to the community. Want community to play their part and value biosecurity. Managing pests at the front end of the invasion curve relies on having a community that is engaged with the issues. This ties in with Biosecurity NZ’s ‘Ko Tātou – This is Us’ vision or 5 million sets of eyes.

Plan to be shared with group to provide feedback, Currently is an

	<p>Workshop last year with BAGs, asked for ideas on how we can better engage with community, have taken a lot of those ideas and fed them back into the plan.</p> <p>Brief run through of abridged version of the plan that will be sent out – not to be shared with the wider public yet.</p> <p>Group asked the members if there are any other suggestions for tactics ECan could explore, or any events the team could attend to better engage the community. These don't necessarily have to go into the plan and suggestions are welcome at any time if members know of any opportunities.</p> <p>Comment – specific target group would be small groups/individuals that are undertaking pest control would be a great soft target to focus on.</p> <p>Also looking to understand how BAG members (as stakeholders) are involved out in the community, and what might be useful tools for members to use when attending meetings to utilise networks – i.e. brief power point presentations etc.</p>	<p>internal plan only, not to be shared with public.</p>
<p>3.5</p>	<p><u><i>Engaging the Rural Community – Learnings from the Hurunui Landcare Group</i></u></p> <p>Hurunui Landcare Group was established in 2013, predominantly in support of dry land farms, sheep and beef. Running 2 programmes, first programme is Future Hurunui, a 3 year project with funding from MPI. The group has 3 people on the road, supporting farms on the ground with how to navigate the wave of regulation that they currently face, and also working with farmers to create farm environment plans. The second programme is funded by Te Uru Rākau, aiming to plant 65ha of native trees.</p> <p>Josh and the Hurunui Landcare Group have found a one-on-one approach more effective with engaging with farmers than workshop-based approaches. Workshops are great for disseminating things at a high level but doesn't engage a large percentage of farmers. Assuming the trust is there, you get a lot more questions in a one-on-one environment.</p> <p>How ECan can build the trust with farmers is unsure, Hurunui Landcare Group are happy to work with ECan with things that will support farmers, e.g. SCAR programme. Not looking to duplicate anyone's advice, would rather connect farmers with experts where they're comfortable, and there are experts within ECan. This issue of distrust of a regulator is not going away any time soon, working with community groups that already have that trust could help to build trust. Not to say Hurunui Landcare Group will always agree with ECan. There is an opportunity to work with</p>	<p>Josh Brown</p>

	<p>community groups that assist with the delivery of farm environment plans, as one component of these is biosecurity.</p> <p>Question re how many farm environment plans are Hurunui Landcare Group doing, and how many of these have a biosecurity component? – Currently have 235 members, on track for 300 next year, for every member Hurunui Landcare Group wants to have a farm environment plan, 2/3rd of these will have biosecurity plans. Would be happy to have feedback on FEPs from ECan.</p> <p>Discussion around what works well with farmers’ experiences with the Hurunui Landcare Group.</p>		<p>Carl Diamond to arrange catch up with Josh.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>November – looking at an all-groups meeting, if members are keen. Meeting could be potentially combined with Chilean Needle Grass field day on 30 November 2021 (North Canterbury). Will send out email to gauge interest.</p>	<p>Rich Langley</p>	<p>Rich to send out email re all group meeting, members to express interest.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Meeting Close</u></p> <p>Cllr. Edge closed the meeting – 5:30pm.</p>	<p>Cllr. Edge</p>	