

## Meeting Notes

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Meeting title	<b>BIOSECURITY ADVISORY GROUP</b>
Group Area	Southern Canterbury
Date	29 November 2021
Time	1:30pm – 4:30pm
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Invited	Angela Johnston, Cllr. Anne Munro, Brent Glentworth, Carl Diamond, Cllr. Elizabeth Mckenzie, Gary Foster, Ines Stager, John Talbot, Laurence Smith, Michael McMillan, Paige Lawson, Rich Langley, Rob Young, Richard Paterson, Zoe Buxton, Matt Simpson, Gavin Loxton, Kaitlin Brydon, Gina Slee, John Abelen
In attendance	Angela Johnston, Cllr. Anne Munro, Carl Diamond, Cllr. Elizabeth McKenzie, Gary Foster, Gina Slee, Ines Stager, John Talbot, Laurence Smith, Matt Simpson, Richard Patterson, Brent Glentworth, Michael McMillan
Apologies	Rich Langley & Paige Lawson

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Person:</u>	<u>Action:</u>
1.	<p><b><u>Welcome, introductions, apologies &amp; housekeeping</u></b></p> <p>Cllr. Mckenzie opened meeting.</p> <p>Apologies from Rich Langley &amp; Paige Lawson</p>	Cllr. Mckenzie	
2.	<p><b><u>Notes/Actions</u></b></p> <p>2.1 <b><u>Actions &amp; Updates from last meeting</u></b></p> <p>Engagement plan was sent out to group – on agenda for later in the meeting however feedback shared with group by Laurence now. Feedback will be taken into consideration and will look to incorporate where we can.</p> <p>Gavin’s biocontrol update – to be re-sent to group members.</p> <p>Gary Foster’s item from previous meeting about members participating in projects – email was sent regarding this, didn’t get much feedback, reflects that people are busy and most people are pursuing own areas of interest, probably best to keep pursuing own areas and provide feedback to group where available.</p>	Laurence Smith	Gavin’s biocontrol update to be re-sent

	<p>Old man's beard mite biocontrol update – has been released on a site on the Orari river. Will keep monitoring to check progress and will continue to work with Landcare on this.</p> <p>Request for details on the MOU between Otago Regional Council and Southland Regional council collaboration – it's possible that Marlborough Council will come on board in the future.</p> <p>Comment re confusion over the names of the Southern Collaborative Partnership and the Southern Biosecurity Advisory Group being too similar.</p> <p>Chilean Needle Grass field day happening tomorrow – 30 November.</p>	Gina Slee	
2.2	<p><u>Comms &amp; Engagement Plan Update</u></p> <p>Presented earlier in meeting in item 2.1.</p>	Laurence Smith	
2.3	<p><u>Council Update</u></p> <p>Currently in Annual plan discussions, at early stage with budget. Would be helpful to hear feedback on whether people think programmes are effectively funded.</p>	Cllr. Mckenzie	
3.	<p><b><u>Public Forum</u></b></p> <p>3.1 <u>Opportunity for public engagement with the BAG</u></p> <p>No public in attendance.</p> <p>Councillor McKenzie requested that Wallaby Programme Leader Brent Glentworth give feedback from wallaby public meeting held recently.</p> <p>Brent updated the group that there were 2 meetings, the first meeting was about engaging with partners to give update regarding the winter poison programme. Other meeting was a coordination group meeting, with a very diverse range of people. The Southern Biosecurity Advisory Group had two members there, Angela Johnston &amp; Matt Simpson. Minutes for both meetings will be available soon.</p> <p>Brent also gave a Wallaby update: 3 dog teams working – bit hot and wallaby aren't interested in bait as there are plenty of food options. Bit slow on the delivery side of the programme, hard to hunt.</p>	Cllr. Mckenzie  Brent Glentworth	



As well as project work on the likes of Darwin's Barberry and Wild Thyme.

*Comment re 2 locations of Wild thyme in Forest Creek.*

Southern biosecurity team is aware of the locations, have searched further down the Rangitata river over the last 5 years, and have searched east, west and north to get a handle on where it is. Will need continued search.

*Question – why is wild thyme an issue?*

*It is very invasive and Canterbury is susceptible to it, currently a significant problem in Otago. Can still plant it in your garden, just don't want it to become the problem it is in Otago.*

*Discussion re plants that wild thyme displaces.*

#### 4.2 Future Rabbit Research

Item did not go ahead as Gavin wasn't at meeting.

Cllr. McKenzie read from Gavin's email to group about what the item was going to be about.

Gavin  
Loxton,  
Brent  
Glentworth,  
Gina Slee

#### 4.3 Biosecurity Act Update

Review won't be released to public until next year.

Laurence  
Smith

#### 4.4 The Gap Between Biosecurity & Biodiversity

Laurence shared presentation, ran through bullet points on the gaps between biodiversity and biosecurity.

*Comment that there should be a connectivity between the ECan biodiversity group and the BAGs. This presentation should also go to that group. Biodiversity champions group members should be on each BAG.*

Laurence  
Smith

#### 4.5 Biosecurity 5-year Business Plan

Carl ran the group through a digital copy of the Biosecurity 5-year Business Plan. Hard copy will be sent out to group members before Christmas. Primary audience is internal staff to give clarity about the direction we are going, mostly for the biosecurity officers. Officers will get their copies at the section meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> of December – would appreciate people not sharing it until after the primary audience has seen it.

Carl  
Diamond

<p>4.5</p>	<p><u>Charging Inspection Costs to Land Occupiers</u></p> <p>Presentation shared by Laurence about direct charging policy – what is current happening under the Biosecurity Act, and how costs are recovered.</p> <p><i>Question re what’s driving the proposed changes?</i> Ensuring we are aligning with other parts of Council who charge for their enforcement.</p> <p><i>Question – have to recover costs, but no actual change in the cost difference, so why change?</i></p> <p>Simplicity of process and consistency – allows us to give clarity on what the charge actually is.</p> <p>Will result in fairer and more consistent approach to charging people.</p> <p><i>Discussion around policy regarding dealing with financial hardship, more than just engaging with communities under stress.</i></p> <p><i>Question re student army getting involved with grubbing</i> Student army aren’t available until after nassella has seeded.</p> <p><i>Discussion re control of nassella tussock.</i></p> <p>Intending to go out under the fees and charges policy under this long-term plan. This is intended to get initial feedback from BAGs, but everyone will get a chance. May be pushed back a year if we aren’t fast enough but will be consulted on.</p> <p><i>Suggestion that when it goes out for consultation, it includes an example of what it was, vs what it will be.</i></p>	<p>Laurence Smith</p>	<p>Carl to check with Finance department to see if policy around financial hardship exists.</p> <p>Carl to send out Nick Daniel’s paper on dealing with communities under stress.</p> <p>Laurence to create example for consultation document</p>
<p>4.8</p>	<p><u>General Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilding pine – question regarding what is happening with Eastern MacKenzie, haven’t seen anything happening in that area yet, and it was meant to start in July.</li> <li>• Local community-based meetings – found it valuable to go have local meetings, where we can get public engagement and perhaps a good opportunity to educate people in community. Local engagement/recruitment for later on.</li> </ul> <p><i>Suggestion to have meeting in Kurow – Nassella tussock and African love grass, could incorporate local schools too.</i></p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Laurence to ask Graham Sullivan or Steven Palmer to give update on this</p> <p>Paige to look into advertising these meetings in local newsletters</p>
<p>5. 5.1</p>	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>February/March – All Groups – meeting location TBC</p>	<p>Rich Langley</p>	

5.	<b><u>Meeting Close</u></b> 3:45pm, closed with a Karakia by Cllr. Mckenzie.		
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