

## Meeting Notes

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Meeting title	<b>BIOSECURITY ADVISORY GROUP</b>
Group Area	Christchurch / Banks Peninsula Canterbury
Date	22 February 2022
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, Morgan Shields, Rich Langley, Carl Diamond, Bruce Marshall, Paige Lawson, Zoe Buxton, Graham Sullivan, Verity Halkett, Claire Fletcher, Kaitlin Brydon
In attendance	Cllr. Lan Pham, Pam Richardson, Paul de Latour, Rich Langley, Richard Ball, Morgan Shields, Philip Hulme, Laurence Smith, Kaitlin Brydon, Bruce Marshall, Gabe Ross, Gina Waibl, John Clemens, Paige Lawson, Colin Meurk
Apologies	Carl Diamond

	<u>Item</u>	<u>Person:</u>	<u>Action:</u>
1.	<p><b><u>Welcome, introductions, apologies &amp; housekeeping</u></b></p> <p>Cllr. Pham opened meeting with Karakia</p> <p>Apologies from Carl Diamond, Colin Meurk will be arriving after 3pm</p> <p>Acknowledgement of new normal of meeting online</p> <p>Acknowledgement of recent floods on Banks Peninsula</p> <p>Round group check in.</p>	Cllr. Pham	Phil Hulme to talk more about projects he's involved with on future agenda
2.	<p><b><u>Notes/Actions</u></b></p> <p>2.1 <i><u>Actions/Updates from last meeting</u></i></p> <p>Biosecurity connecting with the biodiversity section – Carl Diamond called a meeting a few weeks ago, this is an ongoing work in progress, aimed at getting better aligned and being across each other's programmes a bit more.</p> <p>Strategic approach across agencies to weeds – conversation took place at the biosecurity/biodiversity meeting. Huge job, ongoing at a higher level, with national stakeholders.</p>	Rich Langley / Laurence Smith	

<p>Check, clean, dry update – included in the emailed handout. Rich can forward final report that is for MPI if anyone is interested.</p>	Rich	Members to let Rich know if interested in CCD MPI report
<p>Cost recovery process – discussing this internally. Amount of cost recoverable work actually happening has reduced significantly. Ongoing discussions with finance team around process etc as well.</p>	Laurence	
<p>Comment re drop in enforcement/Notices of Direction would indicate that things are under control but they aren't – number of reasons for this, e.g. feral rabbits budget has been reduced, nassella tussock approach is changing, gorse and broom has encountered challenging conditions like Covid to take into consideration.</p>		
<p>Canadian Geese- there is a draft document regarding an approach to Canadian Geese, but this hasn't been progressed yet. There is a meeting held annually to discuss culls, and there has been a cull the last three years in a row. The need to cull is more related to birds crossing the flight path at ChCh Airport, not so much about impact on biodiversity etc. Canadian Geese from the Heathcote area don't mix with the Te Waihora Canadian Geese. Not sure that the draft plan will be able to be shared with the group at this stage.</p>		
<p>Discussion re numbers seem to be rising on Banks Peninsula, some land occupiers are doing control, but there is a cost for ammunition, they would be looking for funding. The Canadian geese need to be managed to low levels. Not a declared pest in the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan, it is a free-for-all to hunt them. Not sure if they will ever be in the plan, a widespread issue.</p>		Cllr. Pham to have discussion with Council about where best things like Canadian Geese should sit in terms of discussion
<p>Multi agency issue. Coordinated approach would be good. Several members support the case to do something about this.</p>		
<p>Question re should the Canadian Geese issue be taken to the annual plan submissions? Comment from Cllr. Pham that she is not sure how this would best fit in the annual plan submissions, needs to be somewhere to put it. Not sure how best to manage it, there would be an appetite amongst agencies.</p>		Laurence to raise issue of Canadian Geese at Feral Ungulates meeting.
<p>Suggestion to bring up issue of Canadian Geese at Feral Ungulates agency meeting.</p>		

2.2	<p>Discussion re ways to manage Canadian Geese, discussion re getting public buy in, culls have been disrupted in the past by the public not appreciating it.</p> <p><b><u>Council Update</u></b></p> <p>Cllr. Pham gave a brief Council Update.</p> <p>Election year this year.</p> <p>Finalising annual plan for consultation on Thursday.</p> <p>Rates increase is coming, percentage figure doesn't look good but the actual dollar figure isn't that bad.</p> <p>No change for the biosecurity programme</p> <p>Consultation on the annual plan will be from early March until April. Councillors are available to discuss the plan.</p> <p>Lots going on in terms of central government reforms</p> <p>Question re are there new rates being suggested? E.g. flooding rate being suggested across Canterbury?</p> <p>May 2021 floods caused astronomical damage, \$12million bill for clean-up of those floods. Proposing a general rate for the entire Canterbury region because of the scale of the event, cost to individual landowners would be really high otherwise. Will be out for consultation as with climate change we will be seeing more flooding. Capital value general rate.</p>	Cllr. Pham	
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>Suggestion from Cllr. Pham that BAG members could do presentations that would entice the public to attend meetings.</p>		
4.	<p><b><u>Main Discussion Items</u></b></p> <p>4.1 <u>Regional and local programmes update</u></p> <p>Report update that was sent out taken as read.</p> <p>Bruce gave overview of local update.</p> <p>Discussion re differences between 2 Old Man's Beard programmes – compliance and site led.</p>	Laurence Smith/ Bruce Marshall	

	<p>Laurence gave brief run through of regional update from emailed report.</p> <p>Check, clean, dry update – Rich ran through the update on the check, clean, dry programme from the emailed report.</p> <p>Questions re aquatic plants on the Banks Peninsula, location, type etc – Check, Clean, Dry advocates map anything that they find as they go around Canterbury. As far as ECan is aware, there are no submerged freshwater pests on Banks Peninsula.</p> <p>Question re marine pests. Unable to do anything significant about potential marine pests until MPI releases a robust national programme.</p> <p>Discussion re nassella tussock find in South Canterbury detailed in the report, should be trying to prevent the spread in areas that are highly likely to have nassella tussock, rather than beating the drum with the properties that already have it. Ramping up awareness programme, using the South Canterbury find to raise the profile and talk to the community about a change in approach, budget is now spread across programme in Canterbury.</p> <p>Question re calls to report plants to MPI – how much feedback actually comes back from that?</p> <p>Working to promote Find-A-Pest app, lots of work going on with future focus, behaviour change aspect is one of the most important factors.</p> <p>Question re process of reporting Velvet leaf to MPI, does MPI let ECan know?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">No, currently still outreach positions, MPI will deal with any finds. Working with them on awareness at this stage.</p>		<p>Basic errors in updates, Rich will send amended version for people to share with networks.</p>
4.2	<p><u><i>Climate Resilience Programme Update</i></u></p> <p>Greg Stanley, Regional Biodiversity Officer from Environment Canterbury presented to the group on his project, the Climate Resilience Programme (Part of Covid-19 Recovery Fund, Shovel Ready)</p>	<p>Greg Stanley</p>	

Question re who manages this programme?  
Greg manages it with Su Young Ko from the Rivers section.  
Greg is seconded to the Rivers section for this project.

Discussion re vegetation planted on rivers, e.g. willows,  
stabilising banks

Discussion re next steps for this programme, particularly in  
terms of pests

4.3 Biosecurity Advisor – Invasive Organisms

Morgan  
Shields

Morgan Shields introduced himself to the group and discussed  
the future focus of his role as ECan’s Biosecurity Advisor for  
Invasive Organisms.

Currently collating a list of species that we need to investigate  
and prioritise. Mostly plants, things that aren’t in Canterbury  
yet but could get here. Large scope. Morgan has been  
contacting a lot of different industries/experts etc to open  
conversations about potential species to add to the list.

Currently the list is 450 species long, once preliminary collation  
stage is complete Morgan will be looking at prioritising the list  
and working out where everything fits.

Comment from Laurence re the process of getting pests in the  
Plan and looking to make this easier to understand for the  
community. Morgan will be going out to the community to ask  
what they think should be in the CRPMP. Looking to better  
communicate with the community as to why certain organisms  
aren't in the plan etc.

At the final stage of getting the Technical Advisory Group  
(TAG) up and running to further assist with Morgan’s work.

Discussion re garden escapees

Discussion re upcoming RPMP review

Pam has requested to be  
able to sit down and talk  
with Morgan to progress  
things.

4.4 BAG Chair Election and future membership

Laurence

November is the end of the first 3-year term of the BAG groups,  
there may be people that don’t want to be on the groups  
anymore, and there will be an opportunity for people to leave  
the groups and new people to come on board.

A new Chair will be elected, if somebody is considering putting  
themselves forward to be the Chair, or nominating another

<p>4.5</p>	<p>person, please find out if the person in question is willing to sit on the group for another term.</p> <p>We will aim to hold elections for the chair at the next meeting.</p> <p>Comment re waiting until new members are confirmed after November to elect new Chair</p> <p>Discussion re pros and cons to Councillors vs committee members being the Chair.</p> <p>Discussion re facilitator vs Chair to run meetings.</p> <p>Comment that if facilitated, this should be done by an external facilitator.</p> <p><u>General Business</u></p> <p>No general business.</p>		
<p>4.</p>	<p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>May/June</p>	<p>Rich Langley</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b><u>Meeting Close</u></b></p> <p>Meeting closed with Karakia 4:40pm</p>	<p>Cllr. Pham</p>	