

## Meeting Notes

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Meeting title	<b>BIOSECURITY ADVISORY GROUP</b>
Group Area	Southern Canterbury
Date	28 February 2022
Time	1:30pm – 4:30pm
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Invited	Gary Foster, John Talbot, Rob Young, Gavin Loxton, John Abelen, Richard Patterson, Angela Johnston, Ines Stager, Matt Simpson, Cr Anne Munro, Cr Elizabeth McKenzie, Michael McMillan, Carl Diamond, Laurence Smith, Paige Lawson, Morgan Shields, Rich Langley, Zoe Buxton, Kaitlin Brydon, Greg Stanley, Graham Sullivan, Gina Slee
In attendance	Angela Johnston, Cllr. Anne Munro, Cllr. Elizabeth McKenzie, Gary Foster, Gavin Loxton, Gina Slee, Ines Stager, John Talbot, Lance Smith, Laurence Smith, Matt Simpson, Michael McMillan, Morgan Shields, Paige Lawson, Rich Langley, Kaitlin Brydon, Richard Patterson, Rob Young, Zoe Buxton
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. McKenzie opened meeting with Karakia</p> <p>Apologies from Carl Diamond.</p>	Cllr. McKenzie	
2.	<p><b><u>Notes/Actions</u></b></p> <p>2.1 <i><u>Actions/Updates from last meeting</u></i></p> <p>Have checked in with ECan's finance department about supporting people with financial hardship – information on the policy has been sent out to the group.</p> <p>Nick Daniel's paper on dealing with communities under stress has been sent out to the group.</p> <p>Gavin Loxton's biocontrol update has been sent out to group, apologies for lateness. Gavin to give update in this meeting.</p> <p>Paige Lawson looking into options on how best to be advertising BAG meetings publicly, they are open to the public.</p> <p>Considering members doing presentations at meetings to appeal to the public to come along.</p> <p>Laurence Smith has a presentation on charging for inspection costs, have been having further conversation internally with</p>	Rich Langley / Laurence Smith	

2.2	<p>ECan's finance team, will present when there has been a decision made on options.</p> <p>Feral Ungulates – meeting next week with some stakeholders involved in the control of feral ungulates, to learn more about their strategic approach regarding this issue.</p> <p>Discussion around involvement of land holders/other groups in ungulates meeting.</p> <p><u>Council Update</u></p> <p>Cllr. McKenzie gave a brief update on the climate change levy, and prioritisation of continuing to work with Central Government on wallaby funding.</p>	Cllr. McKenzie	Laurence to send invitation to join the feral ungulates meeting to Angela Johnston.
3.	<p><u>Public Forum</u></p> <p>3.1 <u>Opportunity for public engagement with the BAG</u></p> <p>No public in attendance.</p>		
4.	<p><u>Main Discussion Items</u></p> <p>4.1 <u>Regional and local programmes update</u></p> <p>Update that was sent out - taken as read.</p> <p>Gina Slee gave brief run through of local update from report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Control work to happen soon for Yellow Water Lily</li> <li>• Search and control work on African Love Grass around Omarama happened before Christmas and in the last week</li> <li>• Concentrating on rabbit inspections at the moment in rabbit prone areas, and re-inspections of properties under Notice.</li> <li>• Darwin's barberry programme happening in partnership with community groups, have also engaged contractors.</li> </ul> <p>Significant find of Nassella tussock in the southern region, Laurence Smith presented photos/videos to the group of the find.</p> <p>Questions around how the nassella tussock find was missed for 30 years? Many reasons – e.g. budget under the previous pest management plan for surveillance was very small, and lack of awareness from the community. Spread from</p>	Laurence Smith/ Gina Slee	

	<p>machinery, vehicles, stock (particularly sheep) is an issue with moving nassella/grass weeds</p> <p>Discussion around pest pathway management with contractors, e.g. Kiwi Rail/NZTA – looking at ramping up programme. Katie Evans from MPI is interested to come meet with this group about pest pathway management in the future.</p> <p>Regional update – taken as read.</p> <p>Report on Check, Clean, Dry programme going to MPI – Rich can send to group if there is interest.</p>		<p>Katie Evans from MPI to come meet with the group re pathway management</p>
4.2	<p><u>Wilding Conifer Programme Update</u></p> <p>Wilding Conifer Programme update presentation from Lance Smith shared with group.</p> <p>Discussion re control work in the Hunter Hills Catchment</p> <p>Discussion re seed sources and what farmers can use for shelter belts etc instead – ‘Plant Me Instead’ guide is being put together in conjunction with the Biodiversity team. 60 species going into the guide, exotics and natives. Guide is currently with the design team so shouldn’t be far away from completion.</p> <p>Discussion around land use once the wilding conifers are gone, e.g. return to farmland vs native bush</p>	<p>Lance Smith</p>	
4.3	<p><u>Climate Resilience Programme Update</u></p> <p>Apologies from Greg Stanley, Regional Biodiversity Officer from Environment Canterbury who was unable to attend the meeting and present to the group on his project, the Climate Resilience Programme (Part of Covid-19 Recovery Fund, Shovel Ready).</p> <p>Members are invited to give comments/queries on Greg’s reports that were sent out to the group via email.</p> <p>Opportunity to invite Greg to come to a future meeting, or potentially set up a separate meeting with Greg.</p>	<p>Greg Stanley</p>	<p>Rich to invite Greg to next Southern BAG meeting</p>

4.4	<u>Biosecurity Advisor – Invasive Organisms</u>	Morgan Shields	Morgan to provide regular updates at meetings.
	<p>Morgan Shields introduced himself to the group and discussed the future focus of his role as ECan’s Biosecurity Advisor for Invasive Organisms.</p> <p>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. Contacting community groups/industry/Crown research institutes/universities – open to receiving information from all sources. Looking into distribution of pests etc. Once we have the list, will be able to prioritise species and increase our surveillance programme.</p> <p>Will be looking at increasing surveillance around places undertaking plant sales, including online, roadside stalls etc.</p> <p>Request to receive regular updates from Morgan at meetings</p> <p>Technical Advisory Group (TAG) pretty much there with terms of reference etc, will be an external group looking at practical/scientific methods around invasive organisms.</p>		
4.5	<u>BAG Chair Election and future membership</u>	Laurence	<p>Rich to discuss with Michael the potential to have a more formal contribution in meetings.</p> <p>Rich to send out email with Chair election process.</p>
	<p>November is the end of the first 3-year term of the BAG groups, will be looking at new membership, don’t want to lose all members but understand that people might not want to sit on the BAG for another term. Will need a new Chair, group Terms of Reference also allows a Vice and Co-Chair.</p> <p>Discussion re mana whenua perspective in meetings. Michael McMillan asked whether he would like the opportunity to have a slot to share things happening for rūnanga. Something to consider for future meetings.</p> <p>If members are willing to put their hands up or nominate other group members to be the member Chair, could elect Chair at next meeting. Get in touch via the biosecurity advisory group email.</p> <p>Elections for local Government coming up this year.</p>		
4.6	<u>Space Invaders – Building a Weed Control Strategy</u>	Ines Stager	
	<p>Ines Stager talked to the group about looking for an overall strategy for weed control for the entire region, and then breaking that off into subsets, possibly getting together an inventory of what’s out there. Looking to try and find a way to</p>		



4.	<p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>May/June – will try schedule next 2 meetings in at the same time, second will be early September.</p> <p>Comment re Kurow meeting – people in Kurow are very interested in coming along to the public forum. Catchment group down there – Haka Environment Enhancement Group, very interested in environmental issues in their valley, particularly with wallaby, nassella, and African love grass.</p>	Rich Langley	Rich to organise meeting in Kurow when possible.
5.	<p><b><u>Meeting Close</u></b></p> <p>Meeting closed with Karakia 3:25pm</p>	Cllr. McKenzie	