

Meeting Notes

Meeting title	Central Biosecurity Advisory Group
Date	Monday 5 th September 2022
Time	3:00pm – 6:00pm
Venue	Dunsandel Community Centre, Dunsandel
Invited	Andy Cox, Barry Austin, Cllr Bob Mugford, Chas Todhunter, Fiona McDonald, Hamish Gilpin, Helen Stewart, Cllr Ian Mackenzie, Maree Goldring, Michael McMillan, Michael Salvesen, Nicky Snoyink, Roger Bray, Laurence Smith, Rich Langley, Paige Lawson, Carl Diamond, Bruce Marshall
In attendance	Andy Cox, Barry Austin, Cllr Bob Mugford, Fiona McDonald, Hamish Gilpin, Cllr Ian Mackenzie, Nicky Snoyink, Roger Bray, Laurence Smith, Paige Lawson, Carl Diamond, Bruce Marshall.
Apologies	Maree Goldring, Rich Langley

Item No.	Notes	Action
1	Welcome, introductions, apologies & housekeeping Cllr Mckenzie arrived late, Fiona as Vice Chair, chaired the meeting.	
2	Notes/Actions	
2.1	<u>Actions & updates from last meeting</u> Laurence addressed the actions that arose from the previous meeting.	
2.2	<u>Council update</u> No council update.	
3	Public Forum	
3.1	<u>Opportunity for public engagement with the BAG</u> No public attendance. Fiona: How do we get public engaged?	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once the meeting location is set, can we specifically invite relevant groups from the area to attend? • BAG members can also promote to networks about the public coming along to a meeting. • Can there be more opportunities to meet in the field? The public might not want to come along to a whole meeting but will attend a practical event. • If issues are raised that directly affect the local community, then they will show up. If they can't see what the issue is, then they will be less engaged. • Can we advertise in places like the Selwyn times? They have had good readership in the past. 	
4	Main Discussion Items	
4.1	<p><u>BAG review update</u></p> <p>Laurence ran through presentation</p> <p>Thank you to everyone for your contribution over the last term. We hope to see some people back next year.</p>	Rich to share presentation with meeting notes
4.2	<p><u>Feral Ungulate Strategy – Te Ara ki Mua</u></p> <p>Laurence spoke with Andy Thompson from the Department of Conservation (DoC) regarding a representative attending a future BAG meeting. He had advised he was not the best person to speak about the feral ungulate's strategy.</p> <p>Laurence has been speaking with another contact, Pete Thomas who is based on the West Coast. Pete is happy to come and speak at the next BAG meeting in March.</p> <p>Pete shared that there is \$30 million dollars available nationally to be spend over the next four years. The approach is currently focussed on quick wins supporting work that is already underway, including providing some funding on Banks Peninsula to enhance the feral goat eradication programme.</p> <p>Laurence: What does this group see as ECan's role moving forward?</p>	Rich to share strategy with meeting notes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurence: Could involve facilitation and guidance • Roger: Does ECan run any control programmes at the moment? • Laurence: Feral goats are declared pests on Banks Peninsula only, but we are not on the ground controlling them. There is a pig working group on Banks Peninsula currently, there is no control programme in place. • Roger: Is any of the \$30 million being given to ECan for control? • Laurence: No, it won't. • Laurence: ECan Biosecurity was invited to the original meeting with high level agencies but hasn't been invited back. • Nicky: This strategy doesn't stack up against the Legislation and that is something to be aware of. The Wild Animal Control Act sets out priorities for animal numbers etc and this strategy won't achieve them. • Andy: This problem will hit hard in the next decade, could become a worse issue than wallaby. • Laurence: Besides feral goats on Banks Peninsula there are no other ungulates declared as pests in the regional pest management plan. Organisms of Interest are those species that didn't make it through the process to get into the plan. However, they are being reassessed by Morgan Shields for potential future inclusion. • Nicky: ECan's role should be telling DoC what the strategy framework is and what the priorities are. 'Keeping them honest.' • No one is officially monitoring animal numbers so no one can lobby DoC about fulfilling what they're supposed to deliver via the Wild Animal Control Act. • Cllr Mackenzie: ECan has little jurisdiction on DoC crown land. DoC and Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) need to understand where their responsibility lies. • Carl: If a species isn't a declared pest in the RPMP, we don't have jurisdiction to enforce under the Biosecurity Act. We can't pick up new pieces of work (e.g. monitoring) that aren't in the plan, long term plan etc. without something else dropping off. It would need to go through council for funding options etc. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy: It is very hard to get evidence that animals are being assisted to spread around the region. People need to be caught in the act. 	
4.3	<p><u>Regional and local programme update</u></p> <p>Marine Biosecurity – Carl</p> <p>It is important for the success of marine biosecurity that everyone is working together. Carl Attended a recent hui between Ngāti Wheke, ECan, NIWA and MPI about this.</p> <p>There is currently a source of Mediterranean fan worm on docks at Lyttelton Port that cannot be accessed as they're unsafe. ECan has given 75K to Whaka Ora, working in partnership and developing a plan for moving forward.</p> <p>A marine biosecurity officer will be hired next year.</p> <p>The Ministry for Primary Industries are currently writing a surveillance plan for Mediterranean fan worm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger: Is ECan currently monitoring for exotic marine species? • Carl: Currently in Lyttelton for fan worm, as it is considered high risk area. There is a disjointed effort across New Zealand. The strategy was meant to be written by MPI and has been talked about for several years. It was close to being finished 18 months ago, ECan was told the strategy was 3 months away then it went quiet. Could be due to staff movement. <p>Great Willowherb</p> <p>MPI is looking at transferring the programme to Regional Councils. It's not in the plan but is an unwanted organism so currently we can inspect but not control. We might need to include in the RPMP but it's difficult to add species without a full-scale review.</p> <p>Biosecurity Act 1993 Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger: Has ECan been asked to comment or submit on the draft? • Laurence: Not ECan specifically but representatives from the Biosecurity Managers Group (including 	

	<p>Laurence) have spoken with MPI. They gave feedback and concerns about the proposal.</p> <p>Cat Management Review. Review document to be sent out.</p> <p>Feral Pigeons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger: Should pigeons be included in the plan? • Laurence: They have no owners so are very difficult to control and enforce as they readily move. 	<p>Rich to send cat management review with meeting notes</p>
4.4	<p><u>General Business</u></p> <p>Cllr Mackenzie: A Rakaia Gorge resident has contacted about the numbers of Canadian Geese. He asked if there was interest in a Canterbury wide Canadian goose control programme rather than relying on hunters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl: Annual control efforts in Christchurch are carried out by the Christchurch City Council. The geese near the Avon Heathcote are targeted as they are directly in the flight path. There seems to be a lack of geese near Bromley now due to works in the area. That may be why the public are seeing higher geese numbers in other areas. • Laurence: Will be attending a meeting on 12th Oct to discuss geese with MPI. Maybe there is potential to expand this further than the Avon Heathcote? <p>Nicky: The gravel management strategy is up for review. It might be a good place for biosecurity to be heard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurence is a member of the group so will push for biosecurity interests. • Roger: Wild cherry is an emerging pest in riverbeds. They are spreading all through the Ashburton River as they sucker. 	
5	Next Meeting	
5.1	TBC: First meeting of the new Biosecurity Advisory Groups planned for Feb/March	
6	Meeting Close	
	5:07 pm	

