

Meeting Notes

Meeting title	Christchurch/Banks Peninsula Biosecurity Advisory Group
Date	Monday 22 nd August 2022
Time	2:00pm – 5:00pm
Venue	Environment Canterbury, 200 Tuam St, Waimakariri Room
Invited	Paul de Latour, Pam Richardson, Carl Diamond, Philip Hulme, Cllr Jeff Bland, Bruce Marshall, Laurence Smith, Morgan Shields, Paige Lawson, Rich Langley, John Clemens, Richard Ball, Cllr Lan Pham, Karl Dean, Colin Meurk, Gina Waibl,
In Attendance	Paul de Latour, Pam Richardson, Carl Diamond, Philip Hulme, Cllr Jeff Bland, Bruce Marshall, Laurence Smith, Morgan Shields, Paige Lawson, Rich Langley, John Clemens, Richard Ball, Tumu Taiao Yvette Couch-Lewis, Cllr Lan Pham, Karl Dean, Colin Meurk, Lindsay Main, Alison Evans
Apologies	None

Item No.	Description	Action
1	<p>Welcome, introductions, apologies & housekeeping</p> <p>Round table of introductions.</p>	
2	<p>Notes/Actions</p>	
2.1	<p><u>Actions & Updates from last meeting</u></p> <p>Feral Ungulates Update: Laurence spoke with Andy Thompson from the Department of Conservation (DoC) regarding a representative attending a future BAG meeting. Andy advised he was not the best person to speak about the feral ungulate’s strategy. Laurence has been speaking with another contact, Peter Thomas at DoC who is based on the West Coast. He is happy to come and speak at the next BAG meeting in March.</p> <p>Laurence shared map of the new G&B inspection structure for Banks Peninsula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam shared reading an article that spoke of the Māori world view and that all land should be covered in something whether that be a weed or not. Pam Q: Is there Māori land on Banks Peninsula? Do we know how that land is being managed with weed control? • Yvette A: The Banks Peninsula is covered by 4 Papatipū Rūnanga who undertake control work on their land. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam Q: Should we be discussing what methods are being used on this land with Rūnanga? • Yvette A: Yes, I think they would be happy to talk about the work they've been undertaking. • Paul Q: Are the areas not prioritised on the map still going to receive communication about undertaking control and obligations? • Laurence A: Yes, we will still engage with other areas, but compliance will be based on priority. • Colin Q: Is boneseed included in this? • Laurence A: No, maps are relating to gorse and broom only. 	Invite Rūnanga to share their weed control work on Banks Peninsula for a future meeting.
2.2	<p><u>Council update</u></p> <p>Council has mostly been focussed on upcoming election; Cllr Pham will not be standing again so this will be last BAG meeting attended as Cllr.</p> <p>Special thanks to Cllr Pham for her contribution to the group during the last 3 years.</p>	
3	<u>Public Forum</u>	
3.1	<p><u>Opportunity for public engagement with the BAG</u></p> <p>Lindsay Main shared a presentation about his efforts with other members of the community to control Wilding Pines on Banks Peninsula.</p> <p>Note: Radiata is not highlighted as invasive species by MPI. It is not outcompeted by other conifer species.</p> <p>Laurence Q: How much landowner buy-in is there? Have they been contributing to the control work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsay A: Stated there was no landowner contribution on the MPI application form and the application was still accepted. Historically MPI like there to be some contribution from landowners. • Pam A: WC aren't really talked about on Banks Peninsula. <p>Paul Q: Are macrocarpa heading the same way? We're seeing them pop on up the roadsides.</p>	Rich to share Lindsay's presentation with meeting notes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsay A: Can't comment on the invasiveness of macrocarpa <p>Pam: Let's talk more about WC on BP during the next term so we (the Group) can understand better and drive some community engagement and awareness.</p> <p>Colin: Rocky outcrops are at risk from other weedy species too for example boneseed, spur valerian, pig's ear.</p> <p>Pam Q: How do we advance the WC programme on BP?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurence A: We (Ecan Biosecurity) would need to have conversation with the WC team to see if there is any more support for BP. • Carl A: We can arrange Steve Palmer to come and give a presentation. <p>Yvette Q: What support is there for landowners who are being asked to remove their shelter belts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurence A: The WC team are currently writing a 'Plant me instead' guide to provide advice on what species would be suitable to replant. • Colin: Previously wrote a guide 'Establishing shelter in Canterbury with Nature Conservation in Mind'. <p>Richard Q: Where are you recruiting volunteers from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindsay A: Mostly social networks. <p>Pam: Perhaps we can arrange a biosecurity meet up in the future to have presentations (next year) and raise the profile of WC on BP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'Biosecurity on Banks Peninsula' event is planned for November that may be an appropriate time. <p>Phil provided an update on new additional role, launching The Centre for One Biosecurity Research, Analysis and Synthesis (COBRAS.)</p> <p>https://www.farmersweekly.co.nz/biosecurity-centre-for-lincoln-a-world-first/</p> <p>It will focus on predicting and mitigating the impact of invasive weeds, animals and pathogens.</p>	<p>Rich to arrange Steve Palmer to present at next BAG meeting.</p> <p>Rich to share guide with meeting notes</p> <p>Rich to include Phil's work with COBRAS on a future BAG agenda.</p>
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	The COBRAS multi-disciplinary team comprises highly respected researchers from the domains of animal, environmental and plant health, Mātauraka Māori, economics, and climate change.	
4	Main Discussion Items	
4.1	<p><u>Research Update</u></p> <p><i>Prof. Hulme will provide a short presentation on his recent work: 'Quantifying the risk of non-native conifer establishment across heterogeneous landscapes'</i></p> <p>Prof. Hulme shared his research.</p> <p>Karl Q: Does MPI need to know this information for the right tree in the right place?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phil A: Yes, looking at how their risk calculator can come from ecological perspective as well rather than just forestry. 	Rich to share Phil's presentation with meeting notes and recent paper.
4.2	<p><u>BAG Review Update</u></p> <p><i>Feedback to the group, the key take-aways from our workshop during the last meeting. Discuss any remaining considerations and questions.</i></p> <p>Rich shared a presentation highlighting the key feedback received from all Biosecurity Advisory Groups during the review workshops.</p> <p>Q: Is there a gap not having DoC represented on the group?</p> <p>Clr Bland: It might be good to have district council representatives be both councillors and on ground staff. The Councillors work with ground staff as a team, and each can contribute in a different way. Can we take the meetings to the community? Then everyone can come and listen and have an input on topics.</p> <p>Pam: Can there be flexibility between different BAGs? Can each have representation from agencies that the groups work with ie. CCC, DoC</p> <p>Yvette: When engaging with Rūnanga, 'inviting' is not the right word to use as resourcing and capacity is the issue. Engagement should be with Māori landowners and Papatipū Rūnanga.</p>	

	<p>What else can we do to support the community in education and awareness?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bite sized updates for community. This gives visibility about the Biosecurity Advisory Groups. Can include weed of the month, hot topic, project updates following the BAG meeting. Who does this go out too? What format? • Online session – drop in, drop out with short presentations, • Education with contractors. • More public education, weed of the month. • All Wai should be included – what’s happening in that space? 	<p>Rich to share interim biosecurity update with members in November before next meeting in March.</p>
<p>4.3</p>	<p><u>Feral Ungulates Strategy - Te ara ki mua</u></p> <p>Can we (ECan) connect the community with Te ara ki mua?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are their concerns? • What can they do to help themselves? • What support is out there? • Where can we point people too for resources? <p>It requires buy in from the community, getting people to understand what the issues are is the problem. This needs to be community lead.</p> <p>Pam Q: How do we prepare ChCh/BP to prove to DoC that they’re ready for funding to control feral animals?</p> <p>How do we get past the impasse in the community? Those that want to keep feral animals vs those that want rid of them?</p> <p>Can we invite DoC to Biosecurity on BP day?</p>	<p>Laurence to keep speaking with Pete regarding attending a future meeting.</p>
<p>4.4</p>	<p><u>Predator Free Banks Peninsula Update</u></p> <p>They have been struggling to meet the targets as there have been issues with staffing, covid and weather. They also working in very intense terrain.</p> <p>It’s good they have flexibility in the programme ie If some traps are getting low kill they will move them or discontinue the line.</p> <p>Total eradication can be very problematic, it’s very different to sustained suppression as you need to get every animal.</p> <p>If we take out pests, what will fill the space? Is there a plan?</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Tāwhaki are thinking about solutions. They are planning how to join up landowners. <p>Yvette: Any community group whose ultimate goal is to eradicate is in for a long haul. Need to give resourcing where we can. With a long-term goal, for every action there is a reaction.</p>	<p>Colin to share grazing report from the Mackenzie.</p>
4.5	<p><u>Regional and local programmes Update</u></p> <p>Phil Q: What is the seedbank with great willowherb?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurence A: Unsure, and MPI don't know. A decision needs to be made at next governance meeting whether this will become the responsibility of Regional Councils. <p>Pam Q: Can we see Biosecurity Act review when it's made public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurence A: Yes, we will share it. <p>Pam: Need to be careful when taking land slips/spoil to previously uninfected areas. There has been weed/pest spread due to this activity.</p> <p>Carl: Marine biosecurity - important that everyone needs to work together. Attended a hui last week 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 plan for moving forward.</p> <p>A marine biosecurity officer will be hired next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam: Can you please work in with CCC and DoC. We need to extend this to Akaroa Harbour, just as important. 	
4.6	<p><u>General Business</u></p> <p>Laurence: DoC budget for RPMP pests has been cut from 80K to 18K this year.</p>	
5	<p>What's Next for the Biosecurity Advisory Groups</p> <p>Current groups will not be able to formally meet again until the new groups are selected.</p>	

	Environment Canterbury staff will still provide a biosecurity update and will be in touch with current members about dates and process for re-applying to stay on the Biosecurity Advisory Group.	
6	Meeting Closed: 5:00pm	