

**Minutes of the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee,
held at Environment Canterbury, Council Chamber, 200
Tuam Street, Christchurch on Wednesday, 2 August 2023
at 10:30am.**

Present

Committee Chair Greg Byrnes, Committee Deputy Chair Nick Ward, Councillors Iaeen Cranwell, Joe Davies, David East, Grant Edge, Tutehounuku Korako, Ian Mackenzie, Claire McKay, Deputy Chair Craig Pauling, Genevieve Robinson*, Chair Peter Scott, Vicky Southworth, John Sunckell, and Deon Swiggs.

*via audio/visual link

1. Karakia/Mihi Timatanga - Opening

The meeting was opened with a mihi whakatau by Committee Chair Byrnes followed with a karakia by Cr Davies.

Cr Korako and Chair Scott joined the meeting at 10.31am during the karakia.

2. Apologies

An apology was received from Cr Dietsche.

Cr Robinson joined the meeting online at 10:32am during the apologies.

3. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest reported.

4. Public Forum, Deputations, and Petitions

There were no requests for public forum, deputations, and petitions.

5. Extraordinary and Urgent Business

There was no extraordinary or urgent business.

6. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

7. Minutes

Refer pages 9 to 13 of the agenda.

7.1 Unconfirmed Minutes - Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee - 8 March 2023

Refer pages 9 to 13 of the agenda.

The minutes from the previous meeting were confirmed.

Resolved BBC/2023/006

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Confirms the minutes from the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee meeting held on 8 March 2023.

Cr Ward/Cr Cranwell
CARRIED

8. Report Items

Refer pages 14 to 63 of the agenda.

8.1 Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee Resolutions Status Report - August 2023

Refer pages 14 to 16 of the agenda.

Staff provided visibility on the status of resolutions made by the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee.

Resolved BBC/2023/007

Staff recommendation adopted without change.

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Notes the status of previous resolutions provided in the Status of Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee Resolutions report August 2023.

Cr Swiggs/Chair Scott
CARRIED

Cr Korako left the meeting at 11.10am and returned at 11.10am during questions of clarification on agenda item 8.2.

Cr East left the meeting at 11.15am and returned at 11.20am during questions of clarification on agenda item 8.2.

8.2 National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity - Preliminary Assessment of Requirements and Impacts

Refer pages 17 to 25 of the agenda.

Staff provided the Committee with an overview of the Government's recently released National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB), due to come in force from 4 August 2023. The new NPSIB will have a range of impacts on Environment Canterbury's current and future biodiversity work programme as well as both regional and local planning frameworks.

Staff Recommendation:

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Notes that the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB) has been released, and will come into force on 4 August 2023
2. Notes the impacts on work already underway to deliver on the obligations of the NPSIB.
3. Notes that additional work will be required to deliver on the obligations of the NPSIB.
4. Notes that staff continue to determine the impacts of the NPSIB on Environment Canterbury and across the region, and will continue to update committee or council.

Cr Swiggs/Cr Pauling

An amendment to the motion was moved under Standing Order 23.4, which provides for a motion to be substituted with an amendment, provided the mover and seconder of the original motion agree to its withdrawal.

4. Endorses staff to continue to determine the impacts of the NPSIB on Environment Canterbury and across the region, and will continue to update and bring back advice to the committee or council.

Resolved BBC/2023/008

Substantive Motion:

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Notes that the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB) has been released, and will come into force on 4 August 2023.
2. Notes the impacts on work already underway to deliver on the obligations of the NPSIB.
3. Notes that additional work will be required to deliver on the obligations of the NPSIB.
4. Endorses staff to continue to determine the impacts of the NPSIB on Environment Canterbury and across the region, and will continue to update and bring back advice to the committee or council.

Cr Swiggs/Deputy Chair Pauling
CARRIED

8.3 Supporting Wetlands on Farm

Refer pages 26 to 53 of the agenda.

Staff presented the 'Managing Wetlands as Farm Assets' project final report, and provided detail of the continuing work programme to build farmer engagement and support Canterbury's wetlands.

Secretarial note: Committee Chair Byrnes requested that staff note in the minutes that further support would be considered through the Long-Term Plan process.

Staff recommendation:

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Notes the conclusion of the Managing Wetlands as Farm Assets project.
2. Notes the planned programme of work to support the continuation of the project's momentum.

Cr Ward/Cr Sunckell

An amendment to the motion was moved by Cr Swiggs and seconded Cr Pauling, and was added to the substantive motion.

2. Endorses the planned programme of work to support the continuation of the project's momentum.

Cr Swiggs/Cr Pauling
CARRIED

Resolved BBC/2023/009

Substantive motion:

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Notes the conclusion of the Managing Wetlands as Farm Assets project.
2. Endorses the planned programme of work to support the continuation of the project's momentum.

Cr Ward/Cr Sunckell
CARRIED

8.4 Biodiversity and Biosecurity Quarterly Work Programmes Update

Refer to pages 54 to 61 of the agenda.

Staff updated the Committee on the progress of the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio (excluding the Braided River Revival programme which is reported to the Catchment Resilience Committee).

Resolved BBC/2023/010

Staff recommendation adopted without change.

That the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee:

1. Receives the work programme report for quarter four 2022/23 for the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio (excluding the Braided River Revival programme which is reported to the Catchment Resilience Committee).

Deputy Chair Pauling/Cr Swiggs
CARRIED

8.5 Report from the Committee Chair

Refer to pages 62 to 63 of the agenda.

The Committee Chair raised matters of current interest to the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Committee and noted activities since the previous Committee meeting.

Secretarial Note: the chair requested that it be noted that the committee aims to travel to different parts of the region as part of a field trip.

The Chair requested that the attached document from Cr Korako be included in the minutes.

Resolved BBC/2023/011

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Biodiversity & Biosecurity Committee:

1. Receives the report from the Chair of the Biodiversity & Biosecurity Committee.

Cr Davies/Cr Ward
CARRIED

9. Resolution to go into Public Excluded

Refer pages 64-65 of the agenda.

Resolved BBC/2023/012

That at 12:22pm the resolution to exclude the public set out on pages 64 to 65 of the agenda be adopted.

Cr Cranwell/Cr Swiggs
CARRIED

The public were re-admitted to the meeting at 12:26pm.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8 November 2023.

11. Karakia Whakamutunga - Closing

A karakia was provided at the end of the Catchment Resilience Committee meeting which followed the Biodiversity and Biosecurity meeting.

The meeting concluded at 12:27pm.

Committee Chair Greg Byrnes
Councillor, Environment Canterbury

Nuk Korako

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Kottier

Date: 2 August 2023 at 10:38:06 NZST

To: Tutehounuku Korako

Subject: Bullet points for todays ECan meeting

1. The action to contain Fanworm within Lyttelton Harbour is a collective responsibility first and foremost. All parties including Iwi, Hapu, Council, Regional Council, Central Government and their agencies such as Biosecurity NZ, MPI, LPC, the boating community, commercial boating operators all have a big role to play.
2. Regulators and the major players in the harbour have a responsibility to the harbour and wider Christchurch communities to protect the biodiversity and species in our harbour and to ensure fanworm and other invasive species are not transferred to bays and harbours around the peninsula and further afield, by mostly small commercial and pleasure vessels, that currently don't have to comply with a clean vessel policy.
3. The instances of invasive species arriving in Lyttelton will increase as water temperatures rise. Therefore, it is imperative that vessels coming and going **must** comply with a clean vessel policy.
4. Irrespective of the financial costs to implement such a policy, what is the actual cost to the environment, to biodiversity, the aquaculture industry, community and future generations, our grandchildren, great grandchildren if this policy is not implemented? If the policy was implemented in 2008 we wouldn't be in this current predicament.
5. Is this a legacy we all want to be remembered for??? A legacy of inaction and marine environmental degradation.
6. National and Regional policy need to be aligned. Currently, from the outside looking in, policy and regulation overlap and are confusing, cumbersome, and thwart those tasked with implementing the rules. **For example**, teams at the coalface have no power it seems, to force boaties to remove their biofouled vessel from the water, to have them cleaned. There are no teeth...There's too much confusion as to who is responsible, and little accountability. It all seems too hard; we can't see what's going on under the water, therefore sweep it under the carpet. This attitude needs to change agencies need to work together for the common good.
7. A quick short to medium term solution needs to be enacted whilst the larger issues of policy amendment and realignment is worked on. Work needs to have timeframes and deliverables. There needs to be accountability and follow through.

8. The development of a suitable haul out facility is crucial and goes hand in hand with a clean vessel policy. Discussions are underway to this end with ideas on how to implement and develop a viable business model. The process of cleaning yachts at low tide on the beach, Purau for example, or on slipways, with the bio foul being washed back into the harbour must cease immediately, with real consequences should the rules be flouted.
9. We can't wait two, three or four years, an interim solution of containment within the harbour must be implemented with urgency. Vessels will be moving with frequency come summer therefore action must be taken to complement the work already being done by ECan and MPI to educate boaties and the public.

John Kottier
Program manager
Kaimahi for Nature



Te Hapū o
Ngāti Wheke
RĀPAKI

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