

BIOSECURITY



BIOSECURITY ACTIVITIES

Resource management comprises the following activities:

Biosecurity planning – preparing, adopting and maintaining comprehensive and publicly considered policies, plans and strategies that will deliver to the Taranaki community, efficient and effective management of the Council’s biosecurity functions.

Pest animal management – controlling pest animals to minimise

their adverse effects on biodiversity, primary production and the regional economy and environment.

Pest plant management – controlling or eradicating pest plants to minimise their adverse effects on biodiversity, primary production and the regional economy and environment.

KEY CHANGES FROM THE LONG-TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN

There are no significant operational or financial changes from those outlined in the *Long-Term Council Community Plan*.

LEVELS OF SERVICE

1. Maintaining publicly considered pest management strategies that deliver efficient and effective management of the Council’s biosecurity functions

- **Measure:** Presence of appropriate pest management strategies.

Target: Pest management strategies are in place in accordance with statutory requirements.

Two adopted pest management strategies are in place, both most recently reviewed in 2007.

2. Controlling pest animals to minimize their adverse effects on biodiversity, primary production and the regional economy and environment

- **Measure:** Area of the ring plain maintained under the *self-help possum control programme* at levels to reduce risks to the environment and primary production.

Target: Residual trap catch (RTC) of less than 10% across the rural area covered by the self-help possum control programme.

In 2010 the RTC was 5.7% across the 228,500 ha of the rural area covered by the self help programme.

3. Controlling or eradicating pest plants to minimize their adverse effects on biodiversity, primary production and the regional economy and environment

- **Measure:** Control or eradication of “eradication” pest plants.

Target: Control of 100% of known infestations of Senegal Tea, Climbing Spindleberry, Mignonette Vine, Giant Reed and Darwin’s Barberry in the region.

In 2010 there were 25 properties where these plants were identified and controlled.

- **Measure:** The extent of “containment” pest plants.

Target: Reduce the aerial extent of containment pest plants and the number of Category C properties requiring three or more inspections (because of significant pest plant compliance problems).

In 2010, there were 192 Category C properties.

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ACTIVITIES – WHAT WE PLAN TO DO

1. BIOSECURITY PLANNING

What we plan to do in 2011/2012

- Commence five-yearly review of the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals*.
- Commence five-yearly review of the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants*.

2. PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

What we plan to do in 2011/2012

- Extend the *self-help possum control programme* on the Taranaki ring-plain by undertaking initial control operations on not less than 3,500ha.
- Support the *self-help possum control programme* by ensuring that landholders maintain possum populations within acceptable limits (10% residual trap catch) on land already included (228,000 hectares by 2009).
- Pest control undertaken in selected key native ecosystems subject to biodiversity plans consistent with the Council's *Biodiversity Strategy* (see Biodiversity activity).
- Undertake surveillance and, where necessary, control of other pest animals, including feral goats, deer, cats, hares, mustelids, pest fish and magpies.
- Advise, monitor and where necessary enforce or undertake control of rabbits and argentine ants.
- Undertake direct control and eradication of rooks.
- Monitor, provide advice on, and, if necessary, implement small-scale control of unwanted animal organisms.



- Provide regional share funding to the Animal Health board's *National Pest Management Strategy for Bovine Tuberculosis*.

3. PEST PLANT MANAGEMENT

What we plan to do in 2011/2012

- Undertake direct control and eradicate 100% of known infestations of Senegal Tea, Climbing Spindleberry, Mignonette Vine, Giant Reed and Darwin's Barberry in the region.
- Confine the spread of and, where appropriate, reduce the extent of "eradication" and "containment" pest plants through a programme of inspections and, where necessary, enforcement on all Category C properties at least three times per year, on all Category B properties at least once every two years, and on Category A properties as time permits.
- Develop and implement biological control programmes for Old Man's Beard, Ragwort, Gorse, Nodding and Plumeless Thistles. Make releases of control agents (approximately 2 per annum).
- Respond to and take necessary actions on all pest plants complaints within five days of receipt.
- Undertake a publicity and education programme in relation to the control of Mignonette Vine, Darwin's Barberry and Chilean Rhubarb.
- Monitor, provide advice on and, if necessary, implement small-scale control of unwanted plant organisms. Respond to all requests (approximately 100 per annum).
- Implement the National Pest Plant Accord, inspecting all plant nurseries and retail outlets annually to promote and, where necessary, enforcing the prohibition from propagation, sale or distribution of specified unwanted plant organisms



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INDICATIVE COSTS AND SOURCES OF FUNDS

2009/2010 Estimate \$	2010/2011 Estimate \$		2011/2012 Estimate \$	2011/2012 LTCCP \$
Expenditure				
47,743	45,442	Biosecurity planning	57,170	56,992
1,637,651	1,602,525	Pest animal management	1,590,287	1,583,635
391,665	387,178	Pest plant management	387,969	410,088
2,077,059	2,035,145	Total expenditure	2,035,426	2,050,715
Income				
1,088,192	1,226,331	General rates	1,238,657	1,117,171
115,500	118,900	Direct charges	118,900	121,382
873,367	689,914	Investment funds	677,869	812,162
2,077,059	2,035,145	Total income	2,035,426	2,050,715
0	0	Operating surplus/(deficit)	0	0
Capital expenditure				
0	0	Land	0	0
0	0	Buildings	0	0
90,000	128,000	Motor vehicles	249,000	132,000
8,150	13,400	Plant and equipment	11,700	7,500
0	0	Office furniture	0	0
0	0	Computer equipment	0	0
0	0	Flood and river control assets	0	0
0	0	Computer software	0	0
98,150	141,400	Total capital expenditure	260,700	139,500
Funded by:				
98,150	141,400	Transfer from retained earnings	260,700	139,500
98,150	141,400	Total funding	260,700	139,500