~~Consultation version~~

~~Proposed~~ Regional Pest Management Plan -for Taranaki

Post-Hearing version:

As reported to the Taranaki Regional Council Ordinary Committee

Taranaki Regional Council

Private Bag 713

Stratford 4352

31 October 2017

Document: 1679033

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Foreword

This document is the ~~proposed~~ *Pest Management Plan for Taranaki* (the Plan). Its purpose is to set out the statutory framework by which the Taranaki Regional Council will undertake the management of pest animals and pest plants in the Taranaki region for the next 10 years.

The Plan is the fourth plan prepared by the Taranaki Regional Council for its pest management functions. This Plan identifies and sets out management programmes in relation to 16 'pest' animal and plant species that the Taranaki Regional Council believes warrant regional intervention.

~~Some relatively minor changes from the previous pest plant and pest animal strategies have been incorporated into the Plan to take into account changes to the Biosecurity Act and the promulgation of the National Policy Direction for Pest Management.~~ We want to ensure that we are making the best use of resources to effectively manage the pests that are of most concern to the environment and economy of our region.

In brief, the following highlights and significant changes are noted:

- Rules relating to the control of animal and plant pests are combined within a single document;
- ~~Inclusion of g~~Good N~~n~~eighbour rules are included for Possums; Giant buttercup; Giant gunnera; Gorse; Nodding~~,~~; Plumeless~~,~~ and Variegated thistles; Old man's beard; ~~Pampas;~~ Wild broom; Wild ginger; and Yellow ragwort. These rules ~~that~~ are binding on both private and Crown land occupiers;
- Targeted application of rules for Giant buttercup; Gorse, Nodding, Plumeless, and Variegated thistles; and Wild broom;
- Application of rules to control Old man's beard in the Patea and Waingongoro catchments;
- The Plan focuses~~Focus~~ on eradication programmes or sustained control programmes (for which rules apply). Non-regulatory programmes and activities for ~~with~~ other harmful organisms~~species~~ are~~nd non-regulatory programmes to be~~ addressed in the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037*, which is a companion document to this Plan.

Some prioritising has necessarily been required to identify those pests that are of most concern, and which meet the 'tests' required under section 71 of the Act. The results of those tests are set out in the cost benefit analysis document entitled *Impact Assessments and Cost-Benefit Analyses*.

On behalf of the Taranaki Regional Council~~,~~ I would like to thank all those who participated in the preparation of the Pest Management Plan for Taranaki. I look forward to working with you to achieve effective pest management in the Taranaki region.~~am pleased to present this proposed Plan to the people of Taranaki, and now call for your submissions. The Council will consider all submissions received, in detail, before the Plan is finalised and becomes a statutory document.~~

~~This is your opportunity to influence pest management in the Taranaki region. I look forward to receiving your submission on the proposed Plan. Please send any submissions to:~~

~~The Chief Executive~~
~~Taranaki Regional Council~~
~~Private Bag 713~~
~~STRATFORD~~

~~By 30 June 2017~~

David MacLeod

Chair, Taranaki Regional Council

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PART ONE: PLAN ESTABLISHMENT

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1. Introduction

~~1.1 Proposer~~

~~The Taranaki Regional Council has a regional leadership role under the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act), and intends to establish a regional pest management plan (RPMP). The first formal step is notification of the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan for the Taranaki region for 10 years. The proposed Plan builds on the previous regional pest management strategies for plants and animals.~~

~~1.2~~1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan is to outline the framework for efficient and effective management, or eradication, of specified animal and plant organisms in the Taranaki region so as to–

- minimise the actual or potential adverse or unintended effects associated with those organisms; and
- maximise the effectiveness of individual pest management actions by way of a regionally coordinated approach.

Many organisms in the Taranaki region, or which could infest the Taranaki region, are considered undesirable or a nuisance. For some of those organisms it is considered that a pest management plan will add significant value to the region by providing for their eradication or effective management, and that value will exceed the value derived from uncoordinated individual actions (or inaction)[DOC]. ~~There are many organisms in the Taranaki region considered undesirable or a nuisance. However, it is only where an individual's pest management actions or inaction impose undue effects upon others that regional management is warranted. The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) contains prerequisite criteria that must be met to justify such intervention.~~ This Plan~~Proposal~~ identifies which organisms should be classified as pests and managed on a regional basis.

~~Once operative, t~~The ~~RPMP~~Plan will empower the Taranaki Regional Council to exercise the relevant advisory, service delivery, regulatory and funding provisions available under the Act to deliver the specific objectives identified in Part Two: Pest Management.

~~1.3~~1.2 Scope and Coverage

The ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan will operate within the administrative boundaries of the Taranaki region (Figure 1) as defined by the Local Government (Taranaki R~~r~~egion) Reorganisation Order 1989. It covers a total land area of 723,610 hectares on the North Island's west coast. The boundaries of the Taranaki Regional Council conform to those of water catchments and extend from the Mohakatino catchment in the north to the Waitotara catchment in the south and inland to, but not including, the Whanganui catchment.

The region extends 12 nautical miles offshore to include the waters of the territorial sea (see map below).

The framework set out in the Plan, which focuses on eradication programmes or sustained control programmes (for which rules apply), is supported by the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037*, which also addresses other harmful organisms and non-regulatory pest management programmes undertaken by the Council.

~~1.4~~1.3 Duration

The ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan will take effect on the date it becomes operative ~~as a regional pest management plan~~ under section 77(5) of the Act. It will ~~is proposed to~~ remain in force for ~~a period of~~ 10 years from that date. The ~~RPMP~~Plan may cease at an earlier date if the Taranaki Regional Council declares by public notice that it has achieved its purpose. It may also cease at an earlier date if, following a review, it is revoked.

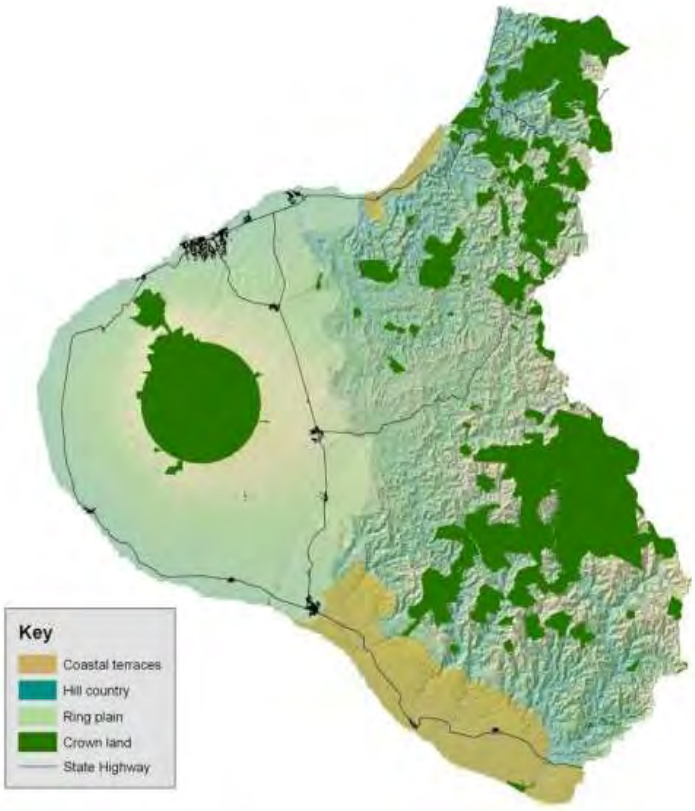

Figure 1: The Taranaki Region

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2. Planning and statutory background

2.1 Strategic background

~~Pest management influences, or is influenced by, the overall way land and water is used and managed. Several planning or operational activities contribute to the overall efficiency in reducing pest impacts on the region's economic, environmental, social and cultural values. The activities occur both inside the Council and externally.~~

~~Council's biosecurity framework~~

Regional pest management in the Taranaki region sits within a biosecurity framework, which includes this Plan, and a biosecurity strategy entitled *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037*. The framework is underpinned by a number of supporting actions, which either provide inputs into regional pest management, or result from their activity. Land occupiers and the wider community, either as beneficiaries or exacerbators or both, complete the partnership.

~~2.1.1 Biosecurity framework outside Council~~

An effective biosecurity framework works both within a region and at a national level. Neighbouring regional pest plans and pathway management plans and national legislation, policy and initiatives influence the ~~RPMP~~Plan, and the plans and strategies of territorial authorities may have complementary influence. As a result, an ~~RPMP~~Plan is an integral cog in a secure biosecurity system to protect New Zealand's environmental, economic, social, and cultural values from pest threats.

2.2 Legislative background

Regional councils undertake local government activities and actions under several legislative mandates. While managing pests is not dependent on one particular statute, its effectiveness is connected to the purpose of a~~the~~ particular statute. All regional councils in New Zealand prepare and operate regional pest management plans under the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act).

2.2.1 Biosecurity Act 1993

A regional council can use the Act to exclude, eradicate or effectively manage pests in its region, including unwanted organisms. A regional council is not legally obliged to manage a pest or other organism to be controlled, unless it chooses to do so[1]. As such, the Act's approach is enabling rather than prescriptive. It provides a framework to gather intervention methods into a coherent system of efficient and effective actions. Indeed, section 71 of the Act sets out prerequisite criteria that must be met to justify such intervention. These criteria include that each subject–

- is capable of causing at some time an adverse effect on certain values;[2] and

For each subject–

- the benefits of the plan must outweigh the costs, or the consequences of inaction, or other courses of action;
- persons who are required to pay some or all of the costs of implementation must either be beneficiaries of the plan or exacerbators of the problems proposed to be resolved by the plan;
- there is likely to be adequate funding for the plan's implementation; and
- that each ~~proposed~~ rule helps to achieve the plan's objectives and does not trespass unduly on individual rights; and
- that the Plan~~proposal~~ is not frivolous or vexatious, is clear enough to be easily understood, and
- that if the council has rejected a similar proposal within the last 3 years, new material information answers the previous objections.

Part 5: Managing pests and harmful organisms

Part 5 of the Act specifically covers pest management. Its primary purpose is to provide for harmful organisms to be managed effectively or eradicated. A harmful organism is assigned pest status if included in a pest management plan (also see the prerequisites in

[1] *Council officers may also enforce sections 52 and 53 of the BSA, which relate to the sale, propagation or spread of "unwanted organisms".*

[2] *That is, on one or more of the following: economic wellbeing; the viability of threatened species; the survival and distribution of indigenous plants and animals; the sustainability of natural and developed ecological systems and processes and biological diversity; soil resources; water quality; human health; social and cultural wellbeing; recreational enjoyment of the natural environment; the relationship between Māori, their culture and traditions and their ancestral lands, waters and other taonga; and animal welfare.*

sections 69–78 of the Act). Part 5 includes a requirement for ongoing monitoring, to determine whether pests and unwanted organisms are present, and keeping them under surveillance. Part of this process is to develop effective and efficient measures (such as policies and plans) that prevent, reduce, or eliminate the adverse effects of pests and unwanted organisms on land and people (including Māori, their kaitiakitanga and taonga). Part 5 also addresses the issue of who should pay for ~~the cost of~~ pest management.

Part 2: Functions, powers and duties in a leadership role

Regional councils are mandated under Part 2 (functions, powers and duties) of the Act to provide regional leadership for biosecurity activities, primarily within their immediate jurisdictional areas.

Section 12B(1) sets out how regional councils provide leadership. It includes ways that leadership in pest management issues can help to prevent, reduce or eliminate adverse effects from harmful organisms. Some of these activities include helping to develop and align ~~RPMP~~Plans and regional pathway management plans in the region, promoting public support for managing pests, and helping those involved in managing pests to communicate and cooperate so as to make programmes more effective, efficient and equitable.

Section 13(1) sets out the powers that support regional councils in this leadership role. These are powers to –

- establish (eg, appoint a management agency for a plan; implement a small-scale management programme);
- research and prepare (eg, gather information; keep records; prepare a proposal to activate an ~~RPMP~~Plan);
- enable (eg, giving councils the power to monitor pests to be assessed, managed or eradicated); and
- review (eg, not allow an operational plan; review, amend, revoke or replace a plan).

Part 6: Administering a~~n~~ ~~RPMP~~Plan

Once operative, an ~~RPMP~~Plan is supported by parts of Part 6 (as nominated in the plan) that focus on the voluntary and mandatory actions of a regional council. For example, a regional council must assess any other proposal for an ~~RPMP~~Plan, must prepare an operational plan for any ~~RPMP~~Plan (if they are the management agency for it), and must prepare an annual report on the operational plan.

~~Changes to the Act since 1993~~

The Act has been amended since 1993, including through the Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012. Important changes are–

- legislative (eg, being able to bind the Crown to stated Good Neighbour Rules (GNR) within a pest management plan, or to rules within a pathway management plan;
- structural (eg, giving regional councils a clear regional leadership role in managing pests; adding pathway management to the suite of pest management programmes; linking programmes with stated intermediate outcomes and programme objectives; using consistent terms in pest management programmes);
- compliance-related (eg, setting out the extra requirements under the National Policy Direction (NPD) that must be complied with; introducing greater transparency of risk assessment in the analysis of benefits and costs);
- procedural (eg, allowing funding, roles, and responsibilities related to small-scale management programmes to be delegated; allow a partial review (including adding a pest or pathway management plan) to be done at any time); and
- consultative (eg~~,~~: increasing the flexibility in public consultation.

2.2.2 Resource Management Act 1991

Regional councils also have responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to sustainably manage the natural and physical resources of the region, including the coastal marine area. These responsibilities include sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources safeguarding the life-supporting capacity and protecting environmentally significant areas and habitats (s5(2) and s6(c)).

The RMA sets out the functions of regional councils in relation to the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems in the coastal marine area of the region (s30(1)(c)(iiia)), the control of actual or potential effects of use, development or protection of land (s30(1)(d)(v)), and the establishment, implementation and review of objectives, policies and methods for maintaining indigenous biological diversity (s30(1)(ga)).

The focus of the RMA is on managing adverse effects on the environment through regional policy statements, regional and district plans, and resource consents. The RMA, along with regional policies and

plans, can be used to manage activities so that they do not create a biosecurity risk or those risks are minimised. While the Biosecurity Act is the main regulatory tool for managing pests, there are complementary powers within the RMA that can be used to ensure the problem is not exacerbated by activities regulated under the RMA.

The Biosecurity Act cannot over-ride any controls imposed under the RMA, for example, bypassing resource consent requirements.

2.2.3 Local Government Act 2002

The purpose of the Local Government Act 2002 (the LGA) is to provide "… a framework and powers for local authorities to decide which activities they undertake and the manner in which they will undertake them". The LGA currently underpins biosecurity activities through the collection of both general and targeted rates. While planning and delivering pest management objectives could fall under the powers and duties of the LGA, accessing legislation focused on managing pests at the regional level is the most transparent and efficient approach. The Council is mandated under s11(b) of the LGA to perform the funding function, and s11(b) provides for Council to perform duties under Acts other than the LGA.

2.2.4 Wild Animal Control Act -1977 and the Wildlife Act 1953

Activities undertaken in implementing this Plan must comply with the provisions of other legislation. Two such Acts are the Wild Animal Control Act 1977 (and Wild Animal Control Amendment Act 1997) and the Wildlife Act 1953. Particular relevant requirements are noted below.

(a) The Wild Animal Control Act 1977 controls the hunting and release of wild animals such as deer, ~~feral~~ goats and pigs as well as regulates deer farming and the operation of safari parks. It also gives local authorities the power to destroy wild animals under operational plans that have the consent of the Minister of Conservation.

(b) The Wildlife Act 1953 controls and protects wildlife not subject to the Wild Animal Control Act 1977. It defines wildlife which are not protected (eg, ~~feral~~ cattle, ~~feral c~~cats, ~~feral~~ dogs), are to be game (eg, mallard ducks, black swan), partially protected or are injurious. It authorises that certain unprotected wildlife may be kept and bred in captivity even if they are declared pests under a pest management plan (eg, ~~ferret,~~ stoat~~,~~ and weasel~~), and polecat~~.

2.2.5 Other legislation

Other legislation (such as the Reserves Act 1977 and the Conservation Act 1987) contains provisions that support pest management within a specific context. The role of regional councils under such legislation is limited to advocacy. As regional councils have a specific role under the Biosecurity Act, only taking on an advocacy role would be of little use.

2.3 Relationship with other pest management plans

A regional pest management plan must not be inconsistent with–

(a) any national ~~or regional~~ pest management plan or Plan ~~(whether relating to the same region or any other region or regions)~~ that is focused on ~~concerning~~ the same organism; or

(b) any regulation or regulations.

Coordination with other pest management plans, and pest control operations undertaken by the Department of Conservation, TB Free, Waikato Regional Council and Horizons, will be achieved through a process based on consultation, collaboration [DOC], and communication between the Taranaki Regional Council and the relevant agency. Alternative pest management arrangements [KR] or m~~M~~emoranda of u~~U~~nderstanding will be developed as required. Liaison on national pest control matters will take place with the Ministry of Primary Industries.

~~2.4 Relationship with the National Policy Direction~~

~~The National Policy Direction (NPD) became active on 17 August 2015. The stated purpose of the NPD is to ensure that activities under Part 5 of the Act (Pest Management) provide the best use of available resources for New Zealand's best interests, and align with each other, (when necessary), to help achieve the purpose of Part 5.~~

~~The table overleaf sets out the NPD requirements and the steps taken to comply with them.~~

Table 1: NPD requirements and steps taken to comply

NPD requirements	Steps taken to comply
Programme is described	Checked that the types of programmes (described in section 5 of the proposal) comply with clause 5 of the NPD.
Objectives are set	Checked that the contents of section 6 of the Proposal comply with clause 6 of the NPD
Benefits and costs are analysed	Analysed the costs and benefits (see clause 6 of the NPD). That analysis is contained in the companion document 'Impact Assessments and Cost-Benefit Analyses for the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan for Taranaki'
Funding rationale is noted	Checked the funding rationale described in section 10 of the Proposal has been developed in line with clause 7 of the NPD.
Good neighbour rules (GNRs) are described	GNRs have been developed in line with Clause 8 of the NPD

2.52.4 Relationship with Māori

The Act, and the Taranaki Regional Council, seek to provide for the protection of the relationship between Māori as tangata whenua and their ancestral lands, their waters, sites, wāhi tapu, and taonga, and for the protection of those aspects from the adverse effects of pests, through the RPMPPlan. Māori involvement in biosecurity is an important part of exercising kaitiakitanga over their mana whenua. Māori also carry out significant pest management through their primary sector economic interests and as land owners and/or occupiers.

The Local Government Act 2002 (the LGA) requires the Taranaki Regional Council to recognise and respect the Crown's responsibilities under the Tiriti o Waitangi – Treaty of Waitangi. It also requires councils to maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making processes. This includes considering ways to help Māori to contribute. These responsibilities and requirements were met while preparing this Plan and will continue after it takes effect.

2.6 Consultation overview

In 2012 and 2013, the Taranaki Regional Council carried out a preliminary review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Animals* and the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants* (2007). As part of that review, Council prepared a report summarising key findings and proposed new directions to be included in a revised pest management plan. Four responses were received from a range of stakeholders including the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI); Federated Farmers; Department of Conservation, and KiwiRail.

Further pre-consultation has occurred with a series of meetings to discussed proposed changes to be incorporated into a revised plan. Meetings and discussions have occurred with Iwi, the Department of Conservation, District Councils, Federated Farmers and contractors from within the region. The meetings covered progress made under the current Regional Pest Management Strategy, and an open table discussion on management options for potential pests to be included in the new RPMP. A Draft Proposed RPMP was further distributed to key stakeholders for early comment.

This proposed RPMP has been publicly notified for public submissions to confirm community expectations and policy directions to be incorporated into the final plan.

3. Responsibilities and obligations

3.1 The management agency

The Taranaki Regional Council is the management agency responsible for implementing thise ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan. The Taranaki Regional Council is satisfied that it meets the requirements of s 100 of the Act in that it–

(a) is accountable to the Plan funders, including Crown agencies, through the requirements of the LGA 2002;

(b) is acceptable to the funders and those persons subject to the ~~RPMP~~Plan's management provision because it implemented previous Regional Pest Management Strategies; and

(c) has the capacity, competency and expertise to implement the ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan.

How the Taranaki Regional Council will undertake its management responsibilities is set out in Section 5.3 (Principle Measures) and ~~Part~~in Part Three Section 8 ~~Three~~ (Procedures)[WRC] of the ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan, and in the Council's ~~standard operating procedures~~ Operational Plan.

~~3.2 Compensation and disposal of receipts~~

~~The proposed RPMP does not provide for compensation to be paid to any persons meeting their obligations under its implementation. However, should the disposal of a pest or associated organism provide any net proceeds, a person will be paid disbursement in the manner noted under section 100I of the Act.~~

~~3.3 Affected parties~~

~~3.4~~3.2 Responsibilities of owners and/or occupiers

Pest management is an individual's responsibility in the first instance because generally occupiers contribute to the pest problem and in turn benefit from the control of pests. The term occupier has a wide definition under the Act and includes–

- the person who physically occupies the place; and
- the owner of the place; and
- any agent, employee, or other person acting or apparently acting in the general management or control of the place.

Under the Act, place includes: any building, conveyance, craft, land or structure and the bed and waters of the sea and any canal, lake, pond, river or stream.

Owners and/or occupiers must manage pest populations at or below levels specified in the rules. If they fail to meet the rules' requirements, they may face legal action. In some instances, owners and/or occupiers must report pests to the Taranaki Regional Council. ~~It~~ It is illegal ~~No person can~~ to sell, propagate, distribute or keep pests.

An owner and/or occupier is not able to ~~cannot~~ stop an authorised person from entering a place, at any reasonable time, to–

- find out whether pests are on the property;
- manage pests; or
- ensure the owner and/or occupier is complying with biosecurity law.

While the owner and/or occupier may choose the methods they will use to control any pests, they must also comply with the requirements under other legislation (e.g. the Resource Management Act 1991 ~~RMA~~ and/or the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.)

~~This Proposal treats all private land equitably and emphasises the responsibilities and obligations of all land owners and /or occupiers, including Māori. Council acknowledges the complex and variable relationships of Māori land ownership and occupation. This includes multiple owners (including lessees) or a range of corporate management systems under the Companies Act 1993 or Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. Where owners and/or occupiers are unknown, the Māori Land Court; or the Registrar of Companies may help to identify and communicate with them.~~

~~3.5~~3.3 Crown agencies

Under section 69(5) of the Act, all land occupiers, including the Crown, must meet 'good neighbour rules' within regional pest management plans, as well as general rules. A good neighbour rule responds to the issues caused when a land occupier imposes unreasonable costs on an adjacent land occupier who is actively managing a certain pest, by ~~inaction by one neighbour~~ not undertaking management, or sufficient management, of that pest.[DOC] ~~contributes to the creation, continuance, or exacerbation of pest issues for an adjacent neighbour.~~ This is an opportunity for

the Council to promote more integrated and effective pest management, regardless of land tenure, and develop equity across occupiers. In common with other land occupiers, however, the Council may exempt the Crown from any requirement in a p~~P~~lan rule upon written request (refer section 8.3~~8.3~~10.3 of this Plan~~roposal~~).

3.5.13.3.1 Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation manages 146,973 hectares of Crown land in the Taranaki region (21% of the total land area) under the Reserves Act, the National Parks Act, and the Conservation Act 1987.

The Department also has particular responsibilities and expertise in the management and prevention of spread of pest plants and pest animals that pose a threat to indigenous biodiversity, including pest fish such as Brown bull-headed catfish, under ~~the Conservation Act 1987,~~ the Wild Animal Control Act 1977, the Wildlife Act 1953 (see section 2.2.4), ~~Unwanted Organisms (Biosecurity Act 1993),~~ and the ~~Noxious Fish (~~Freshwater Fisheries~~)~~ Regulations 1983.[3]

~~Under section 6(ab) of the Conservation Act 1987 the Department is required to preserve "...so far as is practicable all indigenous freshwater fisheries, and protect recreational freshwater fisheries and freshwater fish habitats". Particular pest fish, such as koi carp and rudd, are classified as noxious fish under the Noxious Fish (Freshwater Fish) Regulations 1983 and the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 (Schedule 3). Section 64 of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 prohibits the unauthorised catching or keeping of Gambusia and section 67C specifies conditions applicable for the taking of European carp or Japanese koi from any containment area.~~

[3] *Particular pest fish are classified as "unwanted organisms" under the BSA or as "noxious fish" under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983. The regulations make it an offence to obtain or keep in captivity any mosquito fish (Gambusia affinis), or to control or spread certain pest fish as specified in Schedule 3 including European carp, Japanese koi and Rudd. Part 8A also contains additional provisions for European carp and Japanese koi. Under sections 52 and 53 of the BSA it is an offence to sell, distribute, or release "unwanted organisms" such as Brown bull-headed catfish, European carp, Gambusia, Japanese koi, and Rudd.*

3.5.23.3.2 Land Information New Zealand

Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) administers vacant and non-rateable land, as well as 4412 hectares of Crown Forestry Land in Taranaki[4]. LINZ also has responsibility for un-alienated Crown land and surplus railway land in the region.

3.5.33.3.3 KiwiRail

KiwiRail is, on behalf of the Crown, the owner and manager of New Zealand's railway infrastructure. There are approximately 215 kilometres of railway line in the Taranaki region accounting for 763 hectares of railway land.

Kiwirail is required to control pests on land that it administers, as set out in plan rules prescribed in Part Two of this Plan~~roposal~~. In individual circumstances, the Taranaki Regional Council may, in accordance with section 8.3~~8.3~~10.3 of the Plan~~Proposal~~, exempt any person from any requirement included in a Plan rule.

3.5.43.3.4 New Zealand Transport Agency

The New Zealand Transport Authority (NZTA) is the road controlling authority for 391 kilometres of state highways[5] in the Taranaki region. The land on which state highways lie, including those parts of road, roadway or road margin extending to adjacent property boundaries, accounts for approximately 1,278 hectares in the Taranaki region.

NZTA is required to control pests on land that it occupies, including all formed roads, roadways or road margins for which it is responsible, in accordance with the plan rules prescribed in Part Two of this Plan~~roposal~~. In individual circumstances, the Taranaki Regional Council may, in accordance with section 8.3~~8.3~~10.3 of the Plan, exempt any person from any requirement included in a plan rule.

3.63.4 Territorial local authorities

Three territorial authorities are wholly or partly contained within the Taranaki region. They are the South Taranaki District Council, Stratford District Council (excluding parts of the district that lie in the

[4] *Comprising the Te Wera block (TNPR23/51).*

5 Taranaki Regional Council 2015, Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21, p 10.

Whanganui catchment), and the New Plymouth District Council.

Each territorial authority will be bound by the rules in this ~~Proposed~~ Plan (with the exception of situations where adjoining land occupiers of road reserves are deemed responsible in accordance with section 3.3.4 below) Each territorial authority will be responsible for meeting its own costs of complying with this ~~Proposed~~ Plan.

Territorial authorities are occupiers of land (such as parks and reserves) and are road controlling authorities in their districts. Territorial authorities are jointly responsible for 3,504 kilometres of local roads in the Taranaki region.[6]

~~3.7~~3.5 Road reserves

Road reserves include the land on which the formed road lies and the verge area that extends to adjacent property boundaries. The Act allows the option of making either roading authorities (NZ Transport Agency and district councils) or adjoining land occupiers responsible for pest management in road reserves (see s6(1) of the Act).

As such, the Taranaki Regional Council has decided that, for the purposes of this Plan, roadside responsibilities for pest animal and pest plant management lie with the roading authorities where they apply to 'formed' roads. Pest animal and pest plant control on unformed ~~{~~paper~~}~~ roads occupied by other persons are the responsibility of the person physically occupying that land.

[6] *Taranaki Regional Council 2015, Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21, p 10.*

PART TWO: PEST MANAGEMENT

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4. Organisms declared as pests

The organisms listed in Tables 2 and 3 below are classified as pests. The table also indicates what management programme or programmes will apply to the pest and if a ~~rule, including a~~ Good Neighbour Rule (GNR), applies.

Attention is also drawn to:

- The general administrative **powers** of inspection and entry, contained in **Part 6 of the Act**, which are available to the Taranaki Regional Council; and
- The **statutory obligations** of any person under **sections 52 and 53 of the Act**. Those sections ban anyone from selling, propagating or distributing any pest, or part of a pest, covered by the ~~RPMP~~Plan. Not complying with sections 52 and 53 is an **offence** under the Act, and may result in the penalties noted in section 157(1).
- **Exemptions** to any plan rule may apply under Section 78 of the Biosecurity Act. WRC

Table 1~~1~~2~~:~~ Animal organisms classified as pests

Common name	Scientific name	Programme	GNR	Page
Possum	*Trichosurus vulpecula*	Sustained control	√	27

Table 2~~2~~3~~:~~ Plant organisms classified as pests

Common name	Scientific name	Programme	GNR	Page
Climbing spindleberry	*Celastrus orbiculatus*	Eradication		18
Giant reed	*Arundo donax*	Eradication		20
Madeira (Mignonette) vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Eradication		22
Moth plant	*Araujia hortorum / A. sericifera*	Eradication		xx
Senegal tea	*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*	Eradication		24
Giant buttercup	*Ranunculus acris*	Sustained Control	√	30
Giant gunnera	*Gunnera manicata* & *G~~unnera~~. tinctoria*	Sustained Control	√	32
Gorse	*Ulex europeaus*	Sustained Control	√	34
Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles	*Carduus nutans, C. acanthoides, Silybum marianum*	Sustained Control	√	36
Old man's beard	*Clematis vitalba*	Sustained Control	√	38
~~Pampas (Common and Purple)~~	~~*Cortaderia selloana, and C.jubata*~~	~~Sustained Control~~	~~√~~	~~40~~
Wild broom	*Cytisus scoparius*	Sustained Control	√	42
Wild ginger (Kahili and Yellow) ~~ginger~~	*Hedychium gardnerianum* *Hedychium flavescens*	Sustained Control	√	44

Yellow ragwort	*Jacobaea vulgaris*	Sustained Control	√	46

4.1 Other harmful organisms

In addition to the pests listed in Tables 2 and 3 above there are a number of harmful organisms that are already present in Taranaki for which eradication is technically unfeasible and / or regulatory intervention in the form of rules is not considered appropriate.

Other harmful organisms include, but are not limited to, those species identified through previous public processes.. Such organisms are not accorded pest status and control of them will be undertaken as part of a site-led or pathway management response and in conjunction with co-operating land occupiers and/or other affected parties (see Section 5.3.3(b),(c),and (d)).

For further information refer to Section 7 and Appendix 1 of this Plan and to the Taranaki Regional Council *Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037*.

5. Pest management framework

5.1 Pest management programmes

One or more pest management programmes will be used to control pests and any other organisms covered by this Plan. The types of programme are defined by the NPD and reflect outcomes in keeping with–

- the extent of the invasion; and
- whether it is possible to achieve the desired control levels for the pests.

The intermediate outcomes for the programme types relevant to this Plan are described below.

1. **Eradication Programme**: to reduce the infestation level of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to zero levels in an area in the short to medium term.
2. **Sustained Control Programme**: to provide for ongoing control of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.

~~5.1~~5.2 Objectives

Objectives have been set for each pest or class of pests. As required by the NPD, the objectives include-

- the particular adverse effect/s (s54(a) of the Act) to be addressed;
- the immediate outcomes of managing the pest;
- the geographic area to which the objective applies;
- the level of outcome, if applicable;
- the period for achieving the outcome; and
- the intended outcome in the first 10 years of the Plan (if the period is greater than 10 years).

~~5.2 Pest management programmes~~

~~One or more pest management programmes will be used to control pests and any other organisms covered by this RPMP. The types of programme are defined by the NPD and reflect outcomes in keeping with–~~

- ~~the extent of the invasion; and~~
- ~~whether it is possible to achieve the desired control levels for the pests.~~

~~The intermediate outcomes for the two programme types relevant to this RPMP are described below.~~

1. ~~**Eradication Programme**: to reduce the infestation level of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to zero levels in an area in the short to medium term.~~
2. ~~**Sustained Control Programme**: to provide for ongoing control of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.~~

5.3 Principal measures to manage pests

The principal measures used in the ~~RPMP~~Plan to achieve the objectives are in four main categories. Each category contains a suite of tools to be applied in appropriate circumstances.

5.3.1 Requirement to act

Land occupiers or other persons may be required to act–

(a) Where plan rules dictate pests are to be controlled; and

(b) pursuant to restrictions under sections 52 and 53 of the Act, requiring persons not to release, spread, propagate, sell or distribute a pest.

The Council's powers to act through service delivery are set out in section 5.3.3.

5.3.2 Council i~~I~~nspection ~~and monitoring~~

Inspection by Council may include staff–

(a) visiting properties, undertaking monitoring, or doing surveys to determine whether pests are present, or rules and management programmes are complied with, or to identify areas that control programmes will apply to (places of value, exclusion zones, movement control areas);

(b) managing compliance to regulations (rule enforcement, action on default, prosecution, exemptions);

(c) taking limited control actions, where doing so is effective and cost efficient; or

(d) monitoring effectiveness of control.

5.3.3 Service delivery

Council may deliver the service–

(a) by undertaking direct control to facilitate the eradication of Climbing spindleberry, Giant reed, Madeira (Mignonette) vine, and Senegal tea

(b) in relation to the Self-Help Possum Control Programme;

(c) in relation to Key Native Ecosystems where the presence of the subject threatens regionally significant biodiversity values;

(d) by undertaking the direct control of any other pest or harmful organism as time and circumstances permit;

(e) by providing control tools (e.g. traps, chemicals), including sourcing and distributing biological agents, or provisions ~~(e.g. traps, chemicals)~~; and

(f) on a user pays basis.

For further information on surveillance, monitoring, and direct control actions to be taken and eradication targets, refer to sections 4 and 5 of the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037.* WRC

5.3.4 Advocacy and education

Council may–

~~(f)~~(g) provide general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to land owners and/or occupiers and the public about pests and pathways (and control of them);

(a) encourage land owners and/or occupiers to control pests;

(b) facilitate or fund community and land owners and/or occupier self-help groups and committees;

(c) help other agencies with control, advocacy, and the sharing or sourcing of funding;

(d) promote industry requirements and best practice to contractors and land owners and/or occupiers;

(e) encourage land owners and/or occupiers and other persons to report any pests they find or to control them; or

(f) facilitate or commission research.

5.4 Alternative Pest Management Arrangements KR ~~Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)~~

Council may develop alternative management arrangements (ie Management Plans or Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)) ~~MOUs~~ with agencies to establish agreed levels of service with those agencies, to act to control pests on their land, or to defer enforcement actions ~~such as good neighbour~~ on rules in this Plan, in preference for pragmatic levels of service that achieve the objectives of the ~~RPMP~~Plan.

5.5 Rules

Rules play an integral role in securing many of the pest management outcomes sought by the objectives of the Plan~~is Plan~~. They create a safety net to protect land owners and/or occupiers from the effects of the actions or inactions of others where non-regulatory means are inappropriate or do not succeed. Importantly, amendments to the Act arising from the *Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012* now make the Crown bound by those rules identified as **Good Neighbour Rules** in ~~RPMP~~Plans.

Section 73(5) of the Act prescribes the matters that may be addressed by rules, and the need to–

(a) specify if the rule is to be designated as a 'Good Neighbour Rule';

(b) specify if breaching the rule is an offence under the Act;

(c) specify if an exemption to the rule, or any part of it, is allowable or not; and

(d) explain the purpose of the rule.

Rules can apply to owners and/or occupiers or to a person's actions in general.

The NPD and accompanying guidance notes include extra requirements for a new Good Neighbour Rule. Of particular note, the Good Neighbour Rule will–

(a) identify who the Good Neighbour Rule applies to– either all owners and/or occupiers, or a specified class of owner and/or occupier;

(b) identify the pest to be managed;

(c) state that the pest must already be present on the owner's and/or occupier's land;

(d) state that the owner and/or occupier of the adjacent or nearby land must, in the view of the

management agency, be taking reasonable measures to manage the pest on their land; and

(e) (if relevant) state the particular values or uses of the neighbouring land that the pest's spread affects, and that the Good Neighbour Rule is intended to address.

For example, the following is an example of a GNR that refers to owners and/or occupiers of land:

> *A land occupier must maintain possum numbers present on their land to below a 10% residual trap catch within 500 metres of their boundary to protect production and indigenous biodiversity values, AND where an adjacent land occupier is in the Self-Help Possum Control Programme and is maintaining possums present on their land to below a 10% residual trap catch, excepting any property or part of a property east of the Self-Help Possum Control Programme boundary or in an urban area.*

6. Pest descriptions and programmes

The following section describes the pests, or groups of pests, to be managed under the Plan's management programmes, and their adverse effects~~this Plan~~. This section also describes any rules that will be used to achieve the management objectives ~~of the Plan~~.

For each pest listed the Act requires a ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan to describe ~~the reasons for inclusion,~~ the objective of pest management (see Section 5.1 above), and the principal measures used to achieve the objectives (see section 5.3 above).

The Plan~~Plan~~ also proposes various general and Good Neighbour Rules (see section 5.5 above), whose contravention will be an offence under the Act.

Eradication

The eradication programme covers organisms which are present in the region but infestations are limited in size or density, or eradication is feasible and is a cost-effective solution to prevent a species becoming entrenched, and to protect future production or environmental values. The programme involves regular ongoing control to reduce infestations levels of the pests, in the short to medium term, to zero density levels across the region and across all habitats and properties. Taranaki Regional Council has decided it is appropriate to be the lead agency or partner for eradicating these pests from the region.

6.1 Climbing spindleberry (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

6.1.1 Adverse effects

Climbing spindleberry (also known as Oriental bittersweet) is a deciduous, perennial, twining climber. It can spread vegetatively and by birds eating the fruit and depositing the seeds.

The plant seeds prolifically and is shade tolerant, allowing it to establish and spread quickly, forming dense colonies that compete with other plant species for soil moisture, nutrients and light. Once established, Climbing spindleberry is difficult to control and becomes very invasive.

Climbing spindleberry represents a particular threat to indigenous biodiversity and, to a lesser extent, plantation forests and farm shelterbelts. It can compete with and replace indigenous plants in disturbed or low forest, and on forest and riparian margins. Its density can affect the regeneration of indigenous flora, topple and kill small trees, and suppress desirable groundcovers. Preventing Climbing spindleberry from becoming established will reduce the possibility of more significant costs in the future.

Climbing spindleberry

~~6.1.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~6.1.3 An analysis of the benefits and costs of eradicating Climbing spindleberry is contained in the companion report entitled Impact Assessments and Cost-Benefit Analyses[7] ('the CBA Report'). The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Climbing spindleberry management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Climbing spindleberry in the Plan, with the focus on the Council undertaking the direct control of the plant, is considered appropriate because -~~

~~6.1.4 Early and proactive action will prevent the establishment of the plant in the region and avoid significant public good impacts on indigenous biodiversity and forestry over the long term; and~~

~~6.1.5 Eradication is technically feasible as the plant has a restricted distribution range within Taranaki (there are 22 known active sites); and~~

~~6.1.6 Reliance on alternative measures, including voluntary actions to control or prevent the spread of the plant, is unlikely to be efficient or effective in achieving the eradication objective, and there will be subsequent significant net costs to the community with respect to reduced conservation and forestry production values, as the plant spreads, through a lack of effective co-ordinated plant pest control.~~

~~6.1.7 Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on plantation forestry, farm shelterbelts, and indigenous biodiversity.~~

~~6.1.8~~6.1.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan eradicate Climbing spindleberry, by destroying all ~~known~~ infestations known ~~as~~ at the date the plan becomes operative and, where practicable, destroy any new infestations that are identified, to prevent adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity and production forestry values in the Taranaki region.

~~[7] Taranaki Regional Council, 2017.~~

~~6.1.9~~6.1.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Climbing spindleberry, the following principal measures will be applied:

Inspection and monitoring
Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Climbing spindleberry to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.
Advocacy and education
Taranaki Regional Council will– 1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations; 2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the introduction or spread of Climbing spindleberry; and **3.** Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management
Service delivery
Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Climbing spindleberry.

6.2 Giant reed (*Arundo donax*)

6.2.1 Adverse effects

Originally introduced into New Zealand as an ornamental garden plant, Giant reed is a tall, perennial, clump-forming bamboo-like grass with a dense root mass and short rhizomes.

Giant reed can grow up to eight metres tall. Usually grey-green in colour, it also has a variegated form, with white stripes. A plume-like flower-head is produced at the top of the stem in late summer. It is primarily spread by vegetative reproduction, either from underground rhizome extensions or from plant fragments transported by water, and both stems and rhizomes have the ability to propagate.

The plant can inhabit riparian and forest margins, scrub-land, production and regenerating indigenous forests and degraded pasture.

Once established it forms dense clumps, which exclude and/or compete with other plant species for soil moisture, nutrients and light. Giant reed represents a particular threat to indigenous biodiversity values along riparian, wetland and forest margins and can also cause problems in recreational areas and by obstructing drainage channels.

~~6.2.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of eradicating Giant reed is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Giant reed management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Giant reed in the Plan, with the focus on the Council undertaking the direct control of the plant, is considered appropriate because–~~

~~(a) Early and proactive action will prevent the establishment of the plant in the region and avoid significant public good impacts on water quality, species diversity (including riparian and wetland plant species) and threatened species over the long term; and~~

~~(b) Eradication is technically feasible as the plant has a very confined habitat range and is not yet widespread in Taranaki (there are 39 known active sites); and~~

~~(c) Reliance on alternative measures, including voluntary actions to control or prevent the spread of the plant, is unlikely to be efficient or effective in achieving the eradication objective, and there will be subsequent significant net costs to the community with respect to reduced conservation values, as the plant spreads, through a lack of effective co-ordinated plant pest control; and~~

~~(d) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on water quality, species diversity, forestry, and sheep and beef production.~~

~~6.2.3~~6.2.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan eradicate Giant reed (including the variegated form), by destroying all ~~known~~ infestations known ~~as~~ at the date the plan becomes operative and, where practicable, destroy any new infestations that are identified, to prevent adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values in the Taranaki region.

~~6.2.4~~6.2.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Giant reed, the following principal measures will be applied:

Inspection and monitoring
Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Giant reed (including the variegated form) to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.
Advocacy and education
Taranaki Regional Council will– 1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations; 2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the introduction or spread of Giant reed; and **3.** Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management
Service delivery
Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Giant reed (including the variegated form).

6.3 Madeira (Mignonette) vine *(Anredera cordifolia)*

6.3.1 Adverse effects

Madeira vine (also known as Mignonette vine) is a perennial climber arising from a fleshy rhizome. The plant has bright green fleshy leaves, long racemes of cream flowers from January to April, and warty stem tubers. It can grow up to seven metres high.

Originally widely distributed as an ornamental plant, Madeira vine has become a significant potential threat to indigenous biodiversity values. It reproduces through the shedding and spread of stem tubers and each tuber is capable of generating a new plant. Dumping garden waste or moving topsoil containing tubers have been the main cause of the plant's spread.

The preferred habitat of Madeira vine includes gardens, forest and riparian margins, disturbed and low indigenous forests, particularly in coastal areas. The plant is very invasive and can form dense colonies, which exclude and/or compete with other plant species for soil moisture, nutrients and light. Once established, it is very difficult to control.

~~6.3.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of eradicating Madeira vine is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Madeira vine management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Madeira vine in the Plan, with the focus on the Council undertaking the direct control of the plant, is considered appropriate because~~

~~(a) Early and proactive action will prevent the establishment of the plant in the region and avoid significant public good impacts on indigenous biodiversity over the long term; and~~

~~(b) Eradication is technically feasible as the plant has a limited distribution (it is confined to 53 known active sites near the coast in Taranaki) and there is a high probability that control will be successful; and~~

~~(c) Reliance on alternative measures, including voluntary actions to control or prevent the spread of the plant, is unlikely to be efficient or effective in achieving the eradication objective, and there will be subsequent significant net costs to the community with respect to reduced conservation values, as the plant spreads, through a lack of effective co-ordinated plant pest control; and~~

~~(d) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on native and plantation forestry.~~

~~6.3.3~~6.3.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan eradicate Madeira (Mignonette) vine, by destroying all ~~known~~ infestations known~~, as~~ at the date the plan becomes operative and, where practicable, destroy any new infestations that are identified, to prevent adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity and production forestry values in the Taranaki region.

~~6.3.4~~6.3.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Madeira (Mignonette) vine, the following principal measures will be applied:

Inspection and monitoring
Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Madeira vine to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.
Advocacy and education
Taranaki Regional Council will– 1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations; 2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the introduction or spread of Madeira vine; and **3.** Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management
Service delivery
Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Madeira vine.

6.4 Moth plant *(Araujia hortorum / A. sericifera*[RF&B]

6.4.1 Adverse effects

Moth plant is a rampant, evergreen vine with sticky, white sap and twining flexible stems. It can grow up to 10 metres tall. The leaves are thick, somewhat wavy, triangular, smooth on the upper surface and downy underneath.

Clusters of pink-white flowers appear from December to May, followed by distinctive thick, leathery, pear-shaped, choko-like pods up to 10cm long and 7 cm through. The pods contain pulp, & the pods dry & split open to disperse numerous black, seeds with downy parachutes that drift long distances on air currents, establishing new infestations.

Moth plant grows rapidly and forms large, heavy, long-lived masses. It is tolerant of shade, very tolerant of drought or damp, wind, salt, many soil types, and damage, but is frost tender. The seeds are poisonous and irritant-inducing to some humans, and are not grazed by animals.

Moth plant invades almost any frost-free habitat, including intact and disturbed forest and margins, tracks, coastline, cliffs, shrub lands, mangroves, and inshore and offshore islands. It can germinate in light wells or semi-shade inside established forest, often long distances from seed sources, and smothers and kills plants up into the canopy, preventing the establishment of native plant species.

6.4.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan eradicate Moth plant, by destroying all infestations known at the date the plan becomes operative and, where practicable, destroy any new infestations that are identified, to prevent adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values in the Taranaki region.

6.4.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Moth plant, the following principal measures will be applied:

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Moth plant to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

4. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations;
5. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the introduction or spread of Moth plant; and
6. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Moth plant.

~~6.4~~6.5 Senegal tea (*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*)

~~6.4.1~~6.5.1 Adverse effects

Senegal tea is a perennial, semi-aquatic herb with dark green leaves and white flowers. The plant flowers in summer and autumn and may grow up to 1.5 metres in height. The plant has been widely distributed as an ornamental pond plant through the aquarium trade and has become an extremely aggressive freshwater weed.

It inhabits wetlands and still or flowing water and is spread both by vegetative fragmentation and seed dispersal. Stem fragments may be spread by water movement, deliberate plantings or by drainage machinery. Dispersal of seed is by water movement, or mud sticking to animals or machinery.

Senegal tea forms dense floating mats, which can quickly cover waterways or wetland areas causing a number of serious and unintended adverse effects. These include the displacement of traditional food sources of value to Maori, particularly watercress, and the smothering of submerged native flora species, which affects the habitat and food source of some fish species. Heavy infestations and the rotting of dead plants can diminish oxygen available to fish by reducing water circulation. They can also impede the flow of water, causing flooding (problems with flooding attributable to this plant have occurred elsewhere in New Zealand), and interfering with navigation and recreational activities.

~~6.4.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~6.4.3 An analysis of the benefits and costs of eradicating Senegal tea is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Senegal tea management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Senegal tea in the Plan, with the focus on the Council undertaking the direct control of the plant, is considered appropriate because~~

~~6.4.4 Early and proactive action will prevent the establishment of the plant in the region and avoid significant public good impacts on indigenous aquatic biodiversity over the long term; and~~

~~6.4.5 Eradication is technically feasible. The pest has a very limited distribution (currently located at only two known sites) and there is a high probability that infestation levels can be reduced to zero densities in the short to medium term; and~~

~~6.4.6 Reliance on alternative measures, including voluntary actions to control or prevent the spread of the plant, is unlikely to be efficient or effective in achieving the eradication objective, and there will be subsequent significant net costs to the community with respect to reduced conservation values, as the plant spreads, through a lack of effective co-ordinated plant pest control; and~~

~~6.4.7 Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on waterways and wetlands including aquatic flora and fauna species.~~

~~6.4.8~~6.5.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan eradicate Senegal tea by destroying all ~~known~~ infestations known ~~as~~ at the date the plan becomes operative and, where practicable, destroy any new infestations that are identified, to prevent adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values in the Taranaki region.

~~6.4.9~~6.5.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Senegal tea, the following principal measures will be applied:

Inspection and monitoring
Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Senegal tea to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.
Advocacy and education
Taranaki Regional Council will– 1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations; 2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the introduction or spread of Senegal tea; and **3.** Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management
Service delivery
Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Senegal tea.

Sustained Control

The sustained control programme covers pests that, because of their biological and pest characteristics, need to be controlled to levels where their impacts on the economic, environmental or social values are reduced cost-effectively and on an ongoing basis. The programme involves the imposition of rules and associated costs on organisations and individuals to maintain pest numbers below, or at, a level that addresses the negative impacts of the species on their neighbours. The effect of the rules may apply to the whole property, parts of the property (i.e. on its boundaries), the whole region, or parts of the region. Exemptions to any plan rule may apply under Section 78 of the Biosecurity Act. [WRC] Public costs are incurred through the implementation of an inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance.

~~6.5~~6.6 Brushtail possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*)

~~6.5.1~~6.6.1 Adverse effects

The brushtail possum is an introduced marsupial animal widespread throughout New Zealand. A small to medium sized omnivore, the animal is nocturnal, with large ears, pointed face, close woolly fur, and bushy tail. Possums represent a major threat to the Taranaki region in terms of their actual or potential harmful effects on economic production and on indigenous biodiversity values.

Their main economic impact is reduced economic returns associated with agricultural production. Possums compete directly with livestock for pasture, reducing the carrying capacity of farmland and reducing farm income. Additionally, they can be a vector for Bovine tuberculosis, however a concerted and considerable investment into regional control has been successful in preventing the disease becoming endemic in the region (one of only three regions where this has been the case). Possums also cause substantial damage to plantation forests, indigenous vegetation and birds. The net overall result of Possums is reduction in the vigour, density and diversity of native flora and fauna species.

Possum population densities within the region vary according to the topography, vegetation and history of control in any specific area. The highest possum population densities lie between forest and pasture where there is a plentiful supply of food and suitable habitat. In those areas where the Taranaki Regional Council has implemented the 'Self-help Possum Control Programme' (SHP) (refer below and in the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037*), possum numbers are very low and have been maintained at these low levels for a number of years. Possum numbers outside the Programme are significantly higher.

The Self-help Possum Control Programme has been running successfully since the early 1990s through the Council working with land owners to facilitate possum control.

As at 30 June 2016, effective and sustained control of possums has been achieved over approximately 241,344 hectares of farmland on the ring plain and coastal terraces. The level of control achieved is an average 6.13% residual trap catch - a figure well below the 10% target considered necessary to protect pastoral production and the vegetative canopy of remnant forests and wetlands. It has also contributed to increased bird life. ~~The Council considers that the Programme may soon reach its practical and viable extent.~~

More recently, the Council has extended its possum control activities into urban areas, in collaboration with New Plymouth District Council.

The Council will continue to support the Self-help programme and look at opportunities to expand the programme (where appropriate) working in collaboration with Predator Free 2050 Limited, as outlined in Section 7 of the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037.* WRC

~~6.5.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Possums is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Possum management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Possums in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the animal by land occupiers in, or adjacent to, parts of Taranaki in the Self-help Possum Control Programme, is considered appropriate because–~~

~~(a) Possums have a continuing impact on production (dairy, forestry, and horticulture), animal health and biodiversity values and they are widespread across all forms of habitat in Taranaki; and~~

~~(b) Given the widespread nature of Possums, Council support is appropriate to facilitate effective and coordinated control on privately-owned land. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules is proposed for properties in, or adjacent to, those in the Self-help Possum Control Programme (ie the parts of the region that are intensively-farmed). Sustained possum control is also being undertaken in the Egmont National Park and on private intensively-farmed land~~

~~elsewhere and the ongoing effectiveness of that work needs to be protected; and~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(d) Given the significant impact caused by Possums in Taranaki, there are widely-accepted public good benefits from coordinating possum control in the ring plain and coastal terraces, through the implementation of a regionally-coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(c) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on dairy, forestry and horticulture production, animal health, and biodiversity.~~

~~6.5.3~~6.6.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Possum numbers on land within the Self-help Possum Control Programme and elsewhere as appropriate, to avoid or minimise adverse effects on pastoral production, animal health, and indigenous biodiversity values in the Taranaki region.

~~6.5.4~~6.6.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Possums, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Extension programme

Taranaki Regional Council will continue to implement the Self-help Possum Control Programme (SHP) and provide sustained possum control on the ring plain and coastal terraces by:

1. Undertaking initial possum control on rateable properties that lie in an area where at least 75% of land occupiers, covering at least 75% of the land area targeted, indicate, or have indicated, that they wish to be included in the SHP and will accept land occupier obligations.
2. Providing on-going technical advice, information, and support to land occupiers in the SHP, including monitoring and enforcement of rules.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties in the SHP with suspected or confirmed infestations of Possums to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers in the SHP to coordinate possum control
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to promote effective possum management; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated possum management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will –

1. Undertake additional initial direct control, as necessary, of Possums on properties in the SHP~~, which~~
2. Undertake additional initial direct control, as necessary, on properties in urban pest control programmes
3. Undertake control operations of Possums in areas surrounding Egmont National Park in conjunction with the Department of ~~O~~Conservation~~.~~
4. Undertake site-led possum control on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

General Rule for the Self-Help Possum Control Programme

~~6.5.4.1~~ **A land occupier in the Self-Help Possum Control Programme, must maintain possum numbers present on their land to below a 10% residual trap catch.**

~~6.5.4.2~~6.6.3.1 ~~*Explanation of the rule*: The reason for this general rule is to target private land within the Self-Help Possum Control Programme (as identified in Appendix B) to ensure that possums are effectively managed to address not only their cost impacts on adjacent land but also any pastoral production, animal health, and indigenous biodiversity values on the property.~~

Good Neighbour Rule

~~6.5.4.3~~6.6.3.2 **A land occupier must maintain possum numbers present on their land to below a 10% residual trap catch within 500 metres of their boundary to protect production and indigenous biodiversity values AND where an adjacent land occupier is in the Self-Help Possum Control Programme and is maintaining possums present on their land to below a 10% residual trap catch, excepting any property or part of a property east of the Self-Help Possum Control Programme boundary or in an urban area.**

~~*Explanation of the rules*: The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on pastoral production, animal health, and indigenous biodiversity values caused by the spread of Possums across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier (as identified in Appendix B). Scientific literature confirms that a 500 metre buffer zone should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with possums.~~

Contravention of these rules creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

~~6.6~~6.7 Giant buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)

~~6.6.1~~6.7.1 Adverse effects

Giant buttercup is a rhizomatous perennial plant with deeply segmented leaves ~~growing from single crowns~~. From early summer ~~Between November to April~~ the plant has yellow flowers on branched stems up to a metre tall.

Giant buttercup is very free seeding, with the hooked seeds being spread by water, animals and in silage and hay. ~~The failure of occupiers to prevent Giant buttercup from seeding has contributed to the increased distribution of the plant in Taranaki.~~ The plant's preferred habitat is in pasture and along roadsides, particularly in areas with high rainfall.

Sheep will eat giant buttercup, however the plant is seasonably unpalatable to cattle so infestations of giant buttercup can quickly overwhelm other pasture species in dairying areas thereby reducing pasture and dairy production. Once established in pasture, the plant can be~~is~~ costly and difficult to control.

~~6.6.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~6.6.3 An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Giant buttercup is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Giant buttercup management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Giant buttercup in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plant by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because~~

~~6.6.4 Giant buttercup is toxic in large quantities and has major adverse effects on dairy and beef pastoral production. It has the potential to spread throughout most of Taranaki's dairy and beef farmland; and~~

~~6.6.5 Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Giant buttercup in the region. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Giant buttercup is proposed for land within five (5) metres of a property boundary where the adjacent land occupier is also managing Giant buttercup. This programme is essentially a continuation of the existing programme for pastoral farmers; and~~

~~6.6.6 There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~6.6.7 There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Giant buttercup through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~6.6.8 Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on maintaining dairy and beef pastoral production values in Taranaki.~~

~~6.6.9~~6.7.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Giant buttercup to avoid or minimise adverse effects on dairy and beef pastoral production in the Taranaki region.

~~6.6.10~~6.7.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Giant buttercup, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Giant buttercup to establish the extent of any boundary infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers to promote effective control;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent spread of Giant buttercup; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management

Plan rules requiring land occupiers and other persons [WRC] to act

Good Neighbour Rule

~~6.6.10.1~~6.7.3.1 **A land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Giant buttercup present on their land within five (5) metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent dairy and beef production values AND where an~~~~the~~ adjacent land occupier is managing Giant buttercup within five (5) metres of their property boundary.**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The rule targets rural areas. The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on dairy and beef pastoral production values caused by the spread of Giant buttercup across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a 5 metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Giant buttercup.~~

Contravention of this rule creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

~~6.7~~6.8 Giant gunnera (*Gunnera tinctoria*, *G. manicata*)

~~6.7.1~~6.8.1 Adverse effects

All giant gunnera species and hybrids, including *Gunnera manicata* and *Gunnera tinctoria*,[8] are covered by this Plan. Giant gunnera species share many of the same features and are commonly mistaken for one another.

Giant gunnera is a giant, clump-forming, herbaceous perennial with massive umbrella sized leaves and stems up to two metres tall. It was a popular ornamental garden plant used extensively in bog gardens, however it has become invasive in several areas of New Zealand, including Taranaki.

Giant gunnera is a very free-seeding plant with the seeds being spread by water and birds. It represents a particular threat to indigenous biodiversity values, particularly in coastal, wetland and riparian areas. Once established the plants form dense colonies that can suppress the regeneration of indigenous flora. The presence of Giant gunnera in Key Native Ecosystems and other areas of high conservation value could have a disproportionately high impact on such areas, possibly impacting upon rare and endangered indigenous flora and fauna species.

Occasionally Giant gunnera causes the obstruction or infestation of production forestry and recreational areas.

[8] *Giant gunnera is also known as Chilean Rhubarb.*

~~6.7.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Giant gunnera species is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Giant gunnera management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach.The inclusion of Giant gunnera in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plant by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because~~

~~(a) Giant gunnera can form dense colonies which can invade and displace native vegetation, and impede access to waterways. It has a widespread distribution range in coastal and riparian areas in the Taranaki region; and~~

~~(b) Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Giant gunnera in the region. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Giant gunnera is proposed for land within 500 metres of a property boundary where the adjacent land occupier is also managing Giant gunnera. This programme is essentially a continuation of the existing programme for pastoral farmers; and~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(d) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Giant gunnera through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(e) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on indigenous biodiversity values and riparian management, including threatened species.~~

~~6.7.3~~6.8.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Giant gunnera to avoid or minimise adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values in the Taranaki region.

~~6.7.4~~6.8.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Giant gunnera, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Giant gunnera to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers to promote effective control;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Giant gunnera and encourage its control; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Giant gunnera ~~i~~on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

General rule

~~6.7.4.1~~6.8.3.1 **A private land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Giant gunnera present on their land to protect indigenous biodiversity values.**

~~*Explanation of the rule:* The reason for this rule is to prevent the further spread of the plant across the region and the consequential impacts on indigenous biodiversity and riparian values.~~

Good Neighbour Rule

~~6.7.4.2~~6.8.3.2 **A Crown land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Giant gunnera present on their land within 500 metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent indigenous biodiversity values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Giant gunnera within 500 metres of their property boundary.**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on indigenous biodiversity (including riparian) values caused by the spread of Giant gunnera via birds or water across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a 500 metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Giant gunnera.~~

Contravention of this rule creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

6.86.9 Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)

6.8.16.9.1 Adverse effects

Gorse is a deep-rooted, woody perennial shrub with sharp spikes.

The plant may grow up to four metres in height and has yellow flowers, which may ~~generally~~ appear all year~~ from May to November~~, followed by black seed pods. Gorse seeds are primarily ballistic and can be ejected up to five metres from their pods. However, the seeds ~~plant~~ can also be spread by water or animals, or via human activities such as road works and gravel extraction and distribution.

Gorse seeds can remain viable in the soil for many decades~~years~~. The plant's biological characteristics and its ability to grow almost anywhere~~,~~ mean~~s~~ that the plant can be a serious problem over large areas, including pasture, riparian zones, roadside margins, scrub-land, forest margins and coastal habitats.

The impact of Gorse is principally on agricultural production. Gorse forms dense spiny thickets, capable of totally suppressing pasture or restricting stock grazing in affected areas. Although Gorse does have benefits as a nursery plant for native species, the impacts on farm productivity, and the cost to land occupiers to control gorse may be significant. This is particularly the case on properties that are only marginally financially sustainable.

~~6.8.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Gorse species is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Gorse management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Gorse in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plant by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because:~~

~~(a) Gorse is widespread throughout the Taranaki region and has continuing and significant impacts on production values in the dairy, sheep and beef, and plantation forestry sectors; and~~

~~(b) Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Gorse in the region. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Gorse is proposed for rural land within 10 metres of a property boundary where the adjacent land occupier is also managing Gorse; and~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(d) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Gorse through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(e) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on dairy, sheep, and beef production and on plantation forestry.~~

6.8.36.9.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Gorse to avoid or minimise adverse effects on pastoral or forestry production values in the Taranaki region.

Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Gorse, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act
Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified

in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Gorse to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Gorse; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management.

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will-

1. Undertake biological control
2. Undertake direct control of Gorse ~~i~~on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

Good Neighbour Rule

~~6.8.3.1~~6.9.2.1 **A land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Gorse present on their land within 10 metres of their property boundary to protect pastoral or forestry production values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Gorse within 10 metres of their property boundary, excepting any property or part of a property in an urban area.**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The rule targets rural areas. The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on pastoral production values caused by the spread of Gorse across rural property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a 10 metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Gorse.~~

Contravention of this rule creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

6.96.10 Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles (*Carduus nutans, C. acanthoides, Silybum marianum*)

6.9.16.10.1 Adverse effects

Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles are largely biennial plants.

Nodding thistle forms a large flat rosette then has flowering stems up to 1.5 metres tall with a long fleshy taproot. The large purple flower heads droop or 'nod' when mature.

Plumeless thistle is similar to nodding thistle but grows taller (up to two metres tall) and has smaller flower heads that stay erect. The plants require the same control measures. Both Nodding and Plumless thistles

Variegated Thistle

Nodding & Plumeless thistles

are avoided by ~~poisonous to~~ cattle and sheep.

Variegated thistle is spiny and easily recognised by cream marks on its leaves, which give it a variegated appearance.

All three thistles are extremely invasive pasture plants. They will grow in most soil types and, owing to the mixed age and size of the plants, are difficult and costly to control. If not controlled, the thistles form dense stands that suppress pasture and obstruct livestock movement. Thistle fragments and spines may also injure livestock, damage the fleeces or hides of livestock, and may cause 'scabby mouth' in lambs.

Variegated thistle matures very rapidly, seeds prolifically, and is spread by wind and animals. It grows best on high fertility soils in pasture, along roadside margins, and in other unused areas~~waste ground~~. The broad leaves smother pasture and create bare ground for its seeds to germinate.

~~6.9.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

6.9.3 ~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Nodding, Plumeless, and Variegated thistle management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plants by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because~~

~~(a) Infestations of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles are relatively confined in the Taranaki region. However, the biological and pest characteristics of the plants are such that small infestations can have a disproportionate impact on neighbouring pasture, and on production values in the dairy and sheep and beef sectors. There is also potential for Variegated thistle to impact on horticultural production if not well-managed; and~~

~~(b) Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles in the region. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Nodding and Plumeless thistles is proposed for land within 100 metres of a property boundary, and for Variegated thistles within five (5) metres of a property boundary, where the adjacent land occupier is also managing thistles; and~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(d) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(e) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on dairy, sheep, and beef production and on horticultural production in respect of Variegated thistles.~~

~~6.9.4~~6.10.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles to avoid or minimise adverse effects on dairying and sheep and beef production in the Taranaki region.

~~6.9.5~~6.10.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Nodding, Plumeless or Variegated thistles to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers to promote effective control;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistles; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management.

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will-

1. Undertake biological control;
2. Undertake direct control of thistles ~~i~~on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

Good Neighbour Rules

~~6.9.5.1~~6.10.3.1 **A land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Nodding and Plumeless thistles present on their land within 100 metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent dairying and sheep and beef production values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Nodding and Plumeless thistles within 100 metres of their property boundary,**

~~6.9.5.2~~6.10.3.2 **A land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Variegated thistles present on their land within five (5) metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent dairying and sheep and beef production values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Variegated thistles within five (5) metres of their property boundary.**

~~*Explanation of the rules:* The rules target rural areas. The reason for these rules is to prevent unreasonable costs on pastoral production values caused by the spread of Nodding, Plumeless and Variegated thistle across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a 5–100 metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Variegated, Nodding and Plumeless thistles.~~

Contravention of these rules creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

~~6.10~~6.11 Old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*)

~~6.10.1~~6.11.1 Adverse effects

Old man's beard is a deciduous, woody, perennial climber that may reach 25 metres in height. In summer it has creamy white flowers followed by 'fluffy' seed heads in autumn and winter. The plant grows in well-drained alluvial soils and can occupy a wide range of habitats including riparian margins, forest remnants, gardens, and hedgerows. Wind, water and birds disperse the seeds.

Old man's beard is recognised as the most damaging pest climber in New Zealand and it is a significant threat to indigenous biodiversity values in the region. It has the potential to infest most lowland forested areas (~~under~~ 750 metres or less above sea level) of Taranaki and is particularly troublesome in second growth or damaged indigenous forests (typical of many of the small but important remnant areas on the ring plain).

One plant is capable of blanketing an area up to 180 square metres~~m~~^{2}. The plant climbs high into the canopy, forming a thick blanket of growth, which prevents light reaching the support trees, eventually smothering and killing them. Old man's beard also prevents the establishment of native seedlings.

~~6.10.2Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Old man's beard is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Old man's beard management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Old man's beard in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plant by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because~~

~~(a) Old man's beard is widespread in the region, and has significant adverse impacts on indigenous biodiversity values, including threatened species; and~~

~~(b) Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Old man's beard in the region. Excluding certain areas in the region where the Council is working to bring infestations under control, a sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Old man's beard across the whole property, or within 10 metres from the property boundary, is proposed for land where the adjacent land occupier is also managing Old man's beard; and~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(d) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Old man's beard through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(e) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on indigenous biodiversity values, including threatened species, especially in forested and riparian areas but also farm shelterbelts, plantation forests and orchards.~~

~~6.10.3~~6.11.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Old man's beard to avoid or minimise adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity and production forestry values in the Taranaki region.

~~6.10.4~~6.11.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Old man's beard, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Extension programme (Waingongoro Old man's beard programme)

Taranaki Regional Council will incrementally implement the Waingongoro Old man's beard Programme to:

1. Undertake initial Old man's beard control along the mid and lower reaches
2. Provide ongoing technical advice, information, and support to land occupiers in the programmes, including monitoring and enforcement of rules.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Old man's beard to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote effective control;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Old man's beard and encourage its control; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will -

1. Undertake biological control;

~~1.~~2. Incrementally undertake initial direct control of Old man's beard along the Waingongoro River south of Opunake Road;

~~2.~~3. Undertake direct control of Old man's beard ~~i~~on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response;

~~3.~~4. Investigate the undertaking of direct control along the mid to lower parts of the Patea River.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

General Rule

~~6.10.4.1~~6.11.3.1 **A private land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Old man's beard on their property, except:**

(a) any parts of a property that lie within 50 metres from the middle of the Waingongoro River south of Opunake Road and for which the Council has not completed its initial control programme; and

(b) **any parts of a property that lie within 50 metres from the middle of the Patea River east of State Highway 3**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on indigenous biodiversity (and riparian) values caused by the spread of Old man's beard from modified landscapes to natural areas across Taranaki. The rule applies to private land only (as the Crown can only be bound to good neighbour rules). The rule does not apply within 50 metres from the middle of the Waingongoro River south of Opunake Road unless Council has undertaken initial control. Likewise the rule does not apply to the Patea River east of State Highway Three. The rule does not apply to these areas as the plant is considered too widespread for land occupiers to undertake effective control and the cost of control would be disproportionately high.~~

Good Neighbour Rule

~~6.10.4.2~~6.11.3.2 **A Crown land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Old man's beard present on their land within 10 metres of their property boundary to protect indigenous biodiversity values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Old man's beard within 10 metres of their property boundary.**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The reason for this good neighbour rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on indigenous biodiversity (and riparian) values caused by the spread of Old man's beard on Crown land, across property boundaries, where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a 10 metre buffer~~

~~distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Old man's beard.~~

Contravention of these rules creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

6.11 Pampas – Common and Purple (*Cortaderia selloana* and *C. jubata*)

6.11.1 Adverse effects

Common pampas (*Cortaderia selloana*) and Purple pampas (*C. jubata*) were introduced to New Zealand in the late 1800s as supplementary stock fodder and as a shelterbelt plant. Both forms also became popular ornamental plants.

Pampas plants can grow up to three metres high and are erect, tall, clump-forming perennial grasses with coarse abrasive leaves. The distinctive flower stems can grow up to five metres high. Common Pampas has fluffy white flowers, which appear in mid-March, while Purple Pampas has purple flower heads that appear in late January, and later fade to brown. Other than that, the plants share the same features and require the same control measures.

Pampas has a fast growth rate and is very hardy. The root system of a single plant can occupy as much as 103 cubic m of soil and it flowers prolifically, with up to 100,000 seeds produced per flower head. The primary mode of distribution for Pampas seed is by wind and seed can be blown a considerable distance away from the parent plant. It can also be dispersed by gravel, vehicles and livestock.

Pampas predominantly impacts on indigenous biodiversity and, to a lesser extent, forestry production values. The biggest threat to indigenous biodiversity values is in coastal areas where Pampas cannot be easily shaded out and/or managed. It is a particular threat on coastal cliffs, islands and sand dune habitats but also can impact on wetlands, and scrub and forest margins. In those areas Pampas can suppress or exclude indigenous flora, and may eventually eliminate indigenous seed sources, thereby altering the existing structure and species composition.

In production forestry areas, the plants can interfere with the planting of exotic forests by crowding out seedlings and imposing significant costs of control on the occupier.

Pampas can be readily controlled using herbicides. However, effective herbicide control is costly and time consuming as it involves not only the costs of the herbicide, but the costs of penetrant and labour. Repeat applications may be required due to it becoming resistant in pastoral situations. The plants can be grazed by stock, however, mechanical removal of large mature plants is difficult.

6.11.2 Reasons for proposed programme

An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Pampas species is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Pampas management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Pampas in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plant by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because–

(a) Pampas has a widespread distribution range in the Taranaki region. It is prevalent across much of the farmed landscape (where it has been extensively used for hedging purposes) and in 'wild' situations such as roadside verges. Without control the plant can become very invasive, forming dense impenetrable stands. Its seed-banks can re-infest barren, burnt and sprayed sites, and grazed plants can re-sprout. Pampas can invade and displace native vegetation, and interfere with plantation forestry; and

(b) Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Pampas in the region. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Pampas is proposed for Crown and private land;. This programme reduces the requirement for control for pastoral farmers; and

(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and

(d) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Pampas through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and

(e) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on plantation forestry and biodiversity values.

6.11.3 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Common pampas and Purple pampas to avoid or minimise adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity or production forestry in the Taranaki region.

6.11.4

6.11.5

6.11.6Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Pampas, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Pampas to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers to promote effective control;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Pampas and encourage its control; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Pampas on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

Good Neighbour Rule

6.11.6.1 **A land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Common pampas or Purple pampas present on their land within 2,000 metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent indigenous biodiversity and production forestry values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Pampas within 2,000 metres of their property boundary.**

Explanation of the rule: The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on plantation forestry and indigenous biodiversity values caused by the spread of Pampas via birds across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a 2,000 metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Pampas.

Contravention of this rule creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

6.12 Wild broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)

6.12.1 Adverse effects

Wild broom is a multi-branched shrub that grows up to 2.5 metres tall. The plant has bright yellow flowers throughout October and November and these are followed by flat, dark seed pods. The seeds are ballistic~~,~~ and ~~although~~ animals and flowing water also have a role in their dispersal.

Wild broom seeds prolifically and can grow under a wide variety of soil and climatic conditions. The plant is principally a problem in pastoral situations where it forms thickets and shades out pasture grasses, affecting agricultural production and imposing costs of control on the occupier.

Wild broom can also invade and modify semi-open indigenous ecosystems such as riparian areas. In some areas, Wild broom may affect aesthetic or recreational values by inhibiting access to riparian margins ~~and~~ or reducing indigenous biodiversity values generally.

6.12.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Wild broom to avoid or minimise adverse effects on dairying, sheep and beef~~,~~ and forestry production in the Taranaki region.

6.12.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Wild broom, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Wild broom to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote effective control of Wild broom;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Wild broom; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management.

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will

1. Undertake biological control;[KR]

~~1.~~2. U~~u~~ndertake direct control of Wild broom i~~e~~n Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response**.**

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

Good Neighbour Rule

6.12.3.1 **A land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Wild broom present on their land within 10 metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent dairying, sheep and beef or production forestry values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Wild broom within 10 metres of their property boundary.**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The rule targets rural areas. The~~

~~reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs caused by the spread of Wild broom on pastoral or arable production values across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Scientific literature confirms that a ten metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Wild broom.~~

Contravention of this rule creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

6.13 Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) (*Hedychium gardnerianum*; *H. flavescens*)

6.13.1 Adverse effects

Kahili ginger and Yellow ginger share many of the same features and, when not in flower, are often ~~commonly~~ mistaken for one another. Yellow ginger flowers are cream coloured and are seen late autumn and early winter. Kahili ginger flowers are lemon yellow with red centre stamens and are seen during the late summer and early autumn followed by red seeds. The leaves are wider than that of Yellow ginger.

Both varieties can grow up to two metres or more and produce many branching rhizomes, which spread outwards and over themselves to create a rhizome bed a metre or more deep. In addition to branching rhizomes, Kahili ginger also produces up to 100 seeds per flower head, making it a more prolific spreader than Yellow ginger.

Kahili and yellow ginger are ecologically versatile plants that are extremely difficult to control or eradicate once established. Once popular garden plants, both gingers are now generally considered to be insidious, and have a significant impact on indigenous biodiversity values. Once established in indigenous forested areas and other habitats, the tough rhizomes form a solid web over large areas smothering and replacing under-storey species and seedlings. Kahili ginger and Yellow ginger can suppress indigenous regeneration by up to 90%, however, Kahili ginger is the more invasive~~sidious~~ plant given its seeding ability.

Kahili ginger and yellow ginger can also block streams and drains and obstruct walking tracks, reducing access to some recreational and conservation areas and the aesthetic appeal of such areas.

~~6.13.2 Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Wild ginger management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Wild ginger in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plants by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because–~~

~~(a) Wild ginger infestations are widespread throughout Taranaki. Most infestations occur in and around New Plymouth where it has extensively been used for streambank stabilisation purposes. However, the plants are also found in many home gardens and waste areas in Taranaki. Wild ginger has significant biodiversity impacts and can out-compete almost all native species. It can also establish in plantation forests and prevent forest regeneration. The plants are not yet found in areas where they may affect rare and endangered species; and~~

~~(b) Council support and coordination maximises the effectiveness of individual control of Wild ginger in the region. A sustained control programme involving the imposition of rules to control Yellow ginger is proposed for land within five (5) metres from the property boundary, and to control Kahili ginger on land within 1,000 metres from the property boundary, where the adjacent land occupier is also managing Kahili ginger. This programme is essentially a continuation of the existing programme for Kahili ginger, and reduces the scope of the rule for Yellow ginger; and~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(a) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Wild ginger – both Yellow and Kahili - through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(d) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on biodiversity and on plantation forestry.~~

~~6.13.3~~6.13.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) to avoid or minimise adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity in the Taranaki region.

~~6.13.4~~6.13.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Wild ginger, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote effective control;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Wild ginger and encourage its control; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management.

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will undertake direct control of Wild ginger on Key Native Ecosystems as part of an agreed site-led response.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

General Rule

~~6.13.4.1~~6.13.3.1 **A private land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Yellow ginger and~~or~~ Kahili ginger present on their land.**

~~Explanation of the rule:~~ ~~The reason for this general rule is to prevent unreasonable costs on indigenous biodiversity values caused by the spread of Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) throughout the region.~~

Good Neighbour Rule for Yellow Ginger

~~6.13.4.2~~6.13.3.2 **A Crown land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Wild ginger (Yellow) present on their land within five (5) metres of their property boundary to protect indigenous biodiversity values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Wild ginger (Yellow) within five (5) metres of their property boundary.**

Good Neighbour Rule for Kahili Ginger

~~6.13.4.3~~6.13.3.3 **A Crown land occupier within the Taranaki region must destroy all Wild ginger (Kahili) present on their land within 1,000 metres of their property boundary to protect indigenous biodiversity values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Wild ginger (Kahili) within 1,000 metres of their property boundary.**

~~Explanation of the rules:~~ ~~The reason for these rules is to prevent unreasonable costs on indigenous biodiversity values caused by the spread of Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier. Kahili ginger is a prolific seeder and can be spread by birds as well as by rhizomes hence the Kahili rule's 1000 metre buffer distance compared with 5 metres for Yellow ginger, which spreads by rhizomes only. Scientific literature confirms that these distinct buffer zones should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Wild ginger.~~

Contravention of these rules creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

6.14 Yellow ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*)

6.14.1Adverse effects

Yellow ragwort is a herbaceous biennial or perennial with conspicuous yellow flowers during summer.

The majority of plants flower in their second season, from December to March, followed by mature seeds a few weeks after the first appearance of flowers. A large plant can produce 150,000 seeds in one season. It commonly grows 45 to 60 centimetres high.

Yellow ragwort can be a serious pasture weed, found in pasture~~waste places~~, riparian margins, open forests, ~~and~~ swamps and other habitats. Once established, the plant has the ability to spread rapidly and invade 'clean' pasture areas. It seeds freely and is dispersed principally by wind and, to a lesser extent, by water and animals, and in hay.

Yellow ragwort is a particular problem in dairying and beef parts of Taranaki. Heavy infestations will reduce pasture production, thereby reducing the carrying capacity of dairy land, and imposing added farm production costs on the occupier. Ragwort is readily eaten by sheep.

Ragwort is toxic to cattle, horses and deer so they avoid the plant and pasture nearby. This enhances the smothering effects of the plant and further reduces pasture utilisation.

~~6.14.2Reasons for proposed programme~~

~~An analysis of the benefits and costs of sustained control of Yellow ragwort is contained in the companion CBA report. The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to Yellow ragwort management and a discussion on who should pay for the proposed management approach. The inclusion of Yellow ragwort in the Plan, with the Council imposing rules and coordinating ongoing control of the plant by land occupiers, is considered appropriate because~~

~~(a) Yellow ragwort has a widespread distribution range in the Taranaki region and can significantly affect dairy and beef pasture production. While there are scattered infestations of Ragwort throughout the region, most land occupiers are effectively managing the plant as part of normal farm work; and.~~

~~(b) Given the widespread nature of this pest, Council support and coordination is aimed at maximising the effectiveness of individual control of Yellow ragwort in the region; and,~~

~~(c) There are no alternative measures that are a preferable means of achieving the objectives; and~~

~~(d) There are regional public good benefits from sustained management of Yellow ragwort through the implementation of a regionally coordinated inspectorial, monitoring and enforcement regime to ensure compliance, while land occupiers pay for the cost of any direct control; and~~

~~(e) Implementation of the Plan will have a positive effect on dairy, deer, and beef production.~~

~~6.14.3~~6.14.2 Objective

Over the duration of the Plan, sustainably control Yellow ragwort to avoid or minimise adverse effects on dairy or beef production values in the region.

~~6.14.4~~6.14.3 Principal measures to achieve objective

To achieve the objective for Yellow ragwort, the following principal measures will be applied:

Requirement to act

Land occupiers will comply with the rules specified in this section of the Plan.

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council will inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of Yellow ragwort to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

1. Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote effective control of Yellow ragwort;
2. Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the spread of Yellow ragwort; and
3. Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated pest management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council will undertake biological control of Yellow ragwort.

Plan rules requiring land occupier and other persons to act

General Rule

~~6.14.4.1~~6.14.3.1 **A private land occupier west of the Pest Management Line as identified in Appendix A of the Plan must destroy all Yellow ragwort on their land, except:**

- **Any Crown land in which case 6.14.4.2 applies.**

~~*Explanation of the rules:* The reason for these general rules is to target private land on the ring plain and coastal terraces to ensure that Yellow ragwort is effectively managed, to address not only its cost impacts on adjacent land, but also any dairy or arable production values on the occupied land.~~

Good Neighbour Rule

~~6.14.4.2~~6.14.3.2 **A Crown land occupier within the region, or land occupier east of the Pest Management Line as identified in Appendix A of the Plan, must destroy all Yellow ragwort present on their land within 20 metres of their property boundary to protect adjacent dairying or beef production values AND where the adjacent land occupier is managing Yellow ragwort within 20 metres of their property boundary.**

~~*Explanation of the rule*: The reason for this rule is to prevent unreasonable costs caused by the spread of Yellow ragwort on dairy or beef production values, (including deer) across property boundaries where active management is being undertaken by an adjacent land occupier and dairy or arable land values are being impacted upon. Scientific literature confirms that a 20 metre buffer distance should be sufficient to address most externality impacts associated with Yellow ragwort.~~

Contravention of these rules creates an offence under section 154(N)(19) of the Biosecurity Act.

~~Other harmful organisms~~

7. Other harmful organisms

7.1 Overview

Some harmful organisms have not been declared 'pests' for the purposes of this Plan because regulatory responses, including the imposition of rules, are not considered appropriate or necessary.

Notwithstanding that the organisms noted below will not be classified as pests for the purposes of this Plan, they may have significant adverse effects which may be mitigated by non-regulatory action such as pathway management, advice and education, liaison and advocacy, biological control and/or site-led management as appropriate.

A summary of the management regime for other harmful organisms, including but not confined to the species identified in **Table 4** below, is outlined below.

For further information refer to the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037*.

7.2 Management of other harmful organisms

Table 4: Management of other harmful organisms

Pathway/surveillance	
All exotic reptiles and amphibians (other than the currently established 3 species of *Australian Litoria*) found in the wild	
Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)	Brown bull-headed catfish (*Ameiurus nebulosus*)
Darwin's ant (*Doleromyrma darwiniana*)	Plague skink (*Lampropholis delicata*)
Rainbow lorikeet (*Trichoglossus haematodus*)	Red-eared slider turtle (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)
Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)	Rusa deer (*Cervus timorensis*)
Sea Spurge (*Euphorbia paralias*)	Wallaby – Dama (*Macropus eugenii*);
White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)	
Site-led animals and birds	
Argentine Ant (*Linepithema humile*)	Eastern rosella (*Platycercus eximius*)
Feral cat (*Felis catus*)	Feral deer - Red deer: (*Cervus elaphus*); Sika deer: (*Cervus Nippon*); Sambar deer: (*Cervus unicolor*); Fallow deer: (*Cervus dama*), Wapiti (*Cervus elaphus nelson*); and White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus borealis*)
Feral goat (*Capra hircus*)	Feral pig (*Sus scrofa*)
German wasp (*Vespula germanica*), Common wasp (*V. ulgaris*), Paper wasps (*Polistes humilis and P. chinensis*)	Hare (*Lepus europaeus occidentalis*)
Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus occidentalis*)	Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*)
Mustelids: Ferret (*Mustela furo*); Stoat (*Mustela erminea*); and Weasel (*Mustela nivalis vulgaris*)	Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)
Rock pigeon (*Columba livia*)	Ship rat (Rattus rattus) and Norway rat (*R. norvegicus*)
Site-led freshwater fish:	
Gambusia (*Gambusia affinis*)	Koi carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)
Rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*)	
Site-led plants	
Arum lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica and cultivar* 'Green goddess'	Australian sedge (*Carex lonebrachiata*)
Bamboo (Various bamboo species including *Bambusa spp. Phyllostachys spp.* and pseudosasa japonica)	Banana passionfruit (*Passiflora tripartite*)
Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*)	Blue morning glory (*Ipomoea indica*)
Brush wattle (*Paracerianthes lophantha*)	Cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*)
Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)	Chocolate vine (*Akebia quinata*)
Climbing asparagus (*Asparagus scandens*)	Coastal banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*)
Contorta pine (*Pinus contorta*)	Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster glaucophyllus*)
Darwin's barberry (*Berberis darwinii*)	Egeria oxygen weed (*Egeria densa*)
Elaeagnus (*Elaeagnus x reflexa*)	Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)
Grateloupia (Devil's Tongue) (*Grateloupia turuturu*)	Grey willow (*Salix cinera*)
Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)
House Holly Fern (*Cyrtomium falcatum*)	Hornwort (*Ceratophyllym demersum*)
Ivy (*Hedera helix*)	Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)
Japanese walnut (*Juglans ailantifolia*)	Jasmine (*Jasminum polyanthum*)
Lagarosiphon oxygen weed (*Lagarosiphon major*)	
Periwinkle (*Vinca major*)	Plectranthus (*Plectranthus ciliatus*)
Potato vine (*Solanum jasminoides*)	Ragwort – Pink (*Senecio glastifolius*)
Reed sweet grass (*Glyceria maxima*)	Smilax (*Asparagus asparagoides*)
Spanish heath (*Erica lusitanica*)	Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)
Tree privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*)	Tutsan (*Hypericum androseamum*)
Undaria (*Undaria pinnatifida*)	Wandering willy (*Tradescantia fluminensis*)
Wilding cherry species (*eg Prunus avium, P. serotina, and P. serrulata*)	Woolly nightshade (*Solanum mauritianum*)
Yellow bristle grass (*Setaria pumila*)	

Pathway, surveillance, site-led management and other non-regulatory responses are considered appropriate options for the harmful organisms listed in Table 5 above.

7.3 Objectives

Over the duration of the Plan, and in conjunction with the Taranaki Regional Council *Biosecurity Strategy 2017-2037*, to manage other harmful organisms, to avoid or minimise adverse effects on economic wellbeing; the environment; human health; enjoyment of the natural environment; the relationship between Māori, their culture, their traditions and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu and taonga; or the marketing overseas of New Zealand production in the Taranaki region, through site-led or pathway management, by way of the following measures:

7.4 Principal measures to achieve objective

Inspection and monitoring

Taranaki Regional Council may inspect and monitor properties with suspected or confirmed infestations of harmful organisms to establish the extent of any infestations and to identify any remedial action that needs to be undertaken.

Advocacy and education

Taranaki Regional Council will–

Provide advice and information to land occupiers and the general public to promote awareness and encourage the public reporting of any infestations;

Provide a broad suite of general purpose education, advice, awareness and publicity activities to other interested parties to prevent the introduction or spread of the harmful organisms, or encourage their control; and

Undertake liaison and advocacy to promote effective integrated management

Service delivery

Taranaki Regional Council may undertake direct control of the harmful organisms listed in Table 5, on KNEs as part of an agreed site-led response, and elsewhere as appropriate.

~~8.~~7. Actual or potential effects of implementation

Given its longstanding experience in pest management, Taranaki Regional Council is satisfied that the overall effects of the ~~RPMP~~Plan will be beneficial to the regional community. While Taranaki Regional Council is confident that a ~~RPMP~~Plan is an effective way of managing pests, there are some aspects of the implementation of the ~~RPMP~~Plan that may have real or perceived adverse effects.

~~8.1~~7.1 Effects on Māori

It is hoped that pest animal and plant management under the ~~RPMP~~Plan will have a positive effect on the relationship of Māori with their culture and traditions, and their ancestral lands, waters, sites, wāhi tapu, and taonga, by contributing to the protection of taonga and mauri associated with indigenous biodiversity, landscapes, and waterways.

Positive results stemming from the ~~RPMP~~Plan can include improved quality of traditional food gathering sites (eg wetlands and estuaries), and improved availability of native plant resources for food, fibre, and the purposes of rongoā.

It is acknowledged that ~~feral~~ wild animals such as deer, pigs, and goats are valued as replacements for traditional hunting resources. However, none of these ~~feral~~ species are priorities for pest control under the ~~RPMP~~Plan, and therefore the effect of the ~~RPMP~~Plan on the regional availability of these hunting resources will be minimal.

~~8.2~~7.2 Effects on the environment

This ~~RPMP~~Plan will enhance and protect the ecological environment including natural ecosystems and processes, soil health and water quality, by removing, reducing, or managing the pest species that threaten it. The use of control tools such as toxins or traps can negatively affect indigenous wildlife. Taranaki Regional Council actively participates in current research and training that aims to minimise the non-target effects of pest control, and readily adopts best practice methods for poisoning and trapping operations.

Enjoyment of the cultural environment will also be enhanced where pest management overlaps with amenity and recreational values. The economic environment will experience some benefit as a result of suppressing or eradicating pests that impact on primary productivity. In addition, the tourism industry (domestic and international) is expected to gain from this ~~RPMP~~Plan through enhancement of the natural areas utilised by visitors.

~~8.3~~7.3 Effects on overseas marketing ~~overseas~~ of New Zealand products

The control of pests in areas of high natural value (including Key Native Ecosystems), in conjunction with the *Taranaki Regional Council Biosecurity Strategy 2017–2037,* should increase the recreational and aesthetic values associated with these areas, which may have a positive impact on international tourism.

The provisions of this Plan do not replace other legislation or regulations relating to the use of toxins and impacts on Māori culture and traditions, and public health and safety. The Taranaki Regional Council shall monitor and report on any impacts arising through the use of toxins through systems and processes established under the relevant legislation. The Taranaki Regional Council will also routinely record and report any adverse effects arising from its direct control operations, including non-target kills.

The use of best practice methods when applying toxins and employment of the mixed method of control should mitigate any threat to the marketing of New Zealand products. Moreover the volume of exports may be improved through increased productivity by managing pests that affect agriculture, horticulture, and forestry.

9. Monitoring

9.1 Measuring what the objectives are achieving

The Taranaki Regional Council shall monitor the extent to which the objectives set out in Part Two of this Plan are being achieved by:

(a) annually mapping the implementation of the Self-help Possum Control Programme;

(b) monitoring possum population densities and trends, over time, in areas included in the Self-help Possum Control Programme;

(c) developing agreed collaborative monitoring, reporting and management programmes addressing possum control within and around the Egmont National Park;

(d) monitor, for each pest, the effectiveness of direct control undertaken by the Taranaki Regional Council;

(e) recording the number of public complaints pertaining to individual pests and instances of non-compliance with the plan rules; and

(f) recording the number of public enquiries in relation to individual pests, including requests for information.

(g) annually surveying at release sites and mapping the distribution of biological control agents.

9.2 Monitoring the management agency's performance

The Taranaki Regional Council is the management agency. As the management agency responsible for implementing the Plan, the Taranaki Regional Council will –

(a) prepare an operational plan within three months of the Plan being approved;

(b) review the operational plan, and amend it if needed;

(c) report on the operational plan each year, within five months after the end of each financial year; and

(d) maintain up-to-date databases of complaints, pest levels and densities, and responses from Regional Council and land owners and/or occupiers.

9.3 Monitoring plan effectiveness

Monitoring the effects of the Plan will ensure that it continues to achieve its purpose. It will also check that relevant circumstances have not changed to such an extent that the Plan requires review. A review may be needed if:

(a) the Act is changed, and a review is needed to ensure that the Plan is not inconsistent with the Act;

(b) other harmful organisms create, or have the potential to create, problems that can be resolved by including those organisms in the Plan;

(c) monitoring shows the problems from pests or other organisms to be controlled (as covered by the Plan) have changed significantly; or

(d) circumstances change so significantly that the Taranaki Regional Council believes a review is appropriate.

If the Plan does not need to be reviewed under such circumstances, it will be reviewed in line with s100D of the Act. Such a review may extend, amend, or revoke the Plan, or leave it unchanged.

The procedures to review the Plan will include officers of the Taranaki Regional Council –

(a) assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the principal measures (specified for each pest and other organism (or pest group or organisms) to be controlled to achieve the objectives of the Plan;

(b) assessing the impact the pest or organism (covered by the Plan) has on the region, and any other harmful organisms that should be considered for inclusion in the Plan; and

(c) liaising with Crown agencies, territorial authorities, iwi authorities and key interest groups, on the effectiveness of the Plan.

9.4 Monitoring other effects of this Plan

The provisions of this Plan do not replace other legislation or regulations relating to the use of toxins, impacts on Maori culture and traditions, and public health and safety. Where appropriate, the Taranaki Regional Council shall monitor and report on any impacts arising through the use of toxins through systems and processes established under the Resource Management Act. The Taranaki Regional Council will also routinely record and report any adverse effects arising from its direct control operations, including non-target kills.

~~Agencies other than the Taranaki Regional Council are more likely to undertake monitoring and respond to any problems under the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, and the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997.~~

PART THREE: PROCEDURES

~~10.~~8. Powers conferred

~~10.1~~8.1 Powers of authorised persons under Part 6 of the Act

The Principal Officer (Chief Executive) of the Taranaki Regional Council may appoint authorised persons to exercise the functions, powers, and duties under the Act in relation to a ~~RPMP~~Plan.

The Taranaki Regional Council will use those statutory powers of Part 6 of the Act as shown in Table 3~~Table 3Table 5~~ below, where necessary, to help implement this Plan.

Table ~~3~~35~~:~~ Powers from Part 6 to be used

Administrative provisions	Biosecurity Act Reference
The appointment of authorised and accredited persons	Sections 103(3) and (7)
Delegation to authorised persons	Section 105
Power to require assistance	Section 106
Power of inspections and duties	Sections 109, 110 & 112
Power to record information	Section 113
General powers	Sections 114 & 114A
Use of dogs and devices	Section 115
Power to seize abandoned goods	Section 119
Power to intercept risk goods	Section 120
Power to examine organisms	Section 121
Power to give directions	Section 122
Power to act on default	Section 128
Liens	Section 129
Declaration of restricted areas~~place~~	Section 130
Declaration of controlled areas	Section 131
Options for cost recovery	Section 135
Failure to pay	Section 136

Note: The Taranaki Regional Council's standard operating procedures document sets out the procedures the ~~Taranaki Regional~~ Council will follow when land owners and/or occupiers or other persons do not comply with the rules or other general duties.

~~10.2~~8.2 Powers under other sections of the Act

A land occupier or any person in breach of a plan rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act, where the rule provides for this. The Taranaki Regional Council can seek prosecution under section 157(5) of the Act for those offences.

A Chief Technical Officer (employed under the State Sector Act 1988) may appoint authorised people to implement other biosecurity law considered necessary. One example is where restrictions on selling, propagating and distributing pests (under sections 52 and 53 of the Act) must be enforced. Another example is where owners and/or occupiers of land are asked for information (under section 43 of the Act).

~~10.3~~8.3 Power to issue exemptions to plan rules

Any land occupier or other person may write to the Taranaki Regional Council to seek an exemption from any provision of a plan rule set out in Part Two of the ~~RPMP~~Plan. However, a rule may state that no exemptions will be considered, or it may limit the circumstances to which exemptions apply (eg, scientific purposes).

The requirements in section 78 of the Act must be met for a person to be granted an exemption. Taranaki Regional Council's operating procedures must also note those requirements in full. The requirements are:

(a) The council is satisfied that granting the exemption will not significantly prejudice the attainment of the plan's objectives; and

(b) The council is satisfied that 1 or more of the following applies:

(c) The requirement has been substantially complied with and further compliance is unnecessary;

(d) The action taken on, or provision made for, the matter to which the requirement relates is as effective as, or more effective than, compliance with the requirement:

(e) The requirement is clearly unreasonable or inappropriate in the particular case:

(f) Events have occurred that make the requirement unnecessary or inappropriate in the particular case.

The Taranaki Regional Council will keep and maintain a register that records the number and nature of

exemptions granted (including any agreed Management Plans or alternative pest management arrangements)[KR]. The public will be able to inspect this register during business hours.

9. Monitoring

9.1 Measuring what the objectives are achieving

The Taranaki Regional Council shall monitor the extent to which the objectives set out in Part Two of this Plan are being achieved by:

(a) annually mapping the implementation of the Self-help Possum Control Programme;

(b) monitoring possum population densities and trends, over time, in areas included in the Self-help Possum Control Programme;

(c) developing agreed collaborative monitoring, reporting and management programmes addressing possum control within and around Egmont National Park;

(d) monitor, for each pest, the effectiveness of direct control undertaken by the Taranaki Regional Council;

(e) recording the number of public complaints pertaining to individual pests and instances of non-compliance with the plan rules; and

(f) recording the number of public enquiries in relation to individual pests, including requests for information.

(g) annually surveying at release sites and mapping the distribution of biological control agents.

9.2 Monitoring the management agency's performance

The Taranaki Regional Council is the management agency. As the management agency responsible for implementing the Plan, the Taranaki Regional Council will–

(a) prepare an operational plan within three months of the Plan being approved;

(b) review the operational plan, and amend it if needed;

(c) report on the operational plan each year, within five months after the end of each financial year; and

(d) maintain up-to-date databases of complaints, pest levels and densities, and correspondence from Regional Council and land owners and/or occupiers.

9.3 Monitoring plan effectiveness

Monitoring the effects of the Plan will ensure that it continues to achieve its purpose. It will also check that relevant circumstances have not changed to such an extent that the Plan requires review. A review may be needed if:

(a) the Act is changed, and a review is needed to ensure that the Plan is not inconsistent with the Act;

(b) other harmful organisms create, or have the potential to create, problems that can be resolved by including those organisms in the Plan;

(c) monitoring shows the problems from pests or other organisms to be controlled (as covered by the Plan) have changed significantly; or

(d) circumstances change so significantly that the Taranaki Regional Council believes a review is appropriate.

If the Plan does not need to be reviewed under such circumstances, it will be reviewed in line with s100D of the Act. Such a review may extend, amend, or revoke the Plan, or leave it unchanged.

The procedures to review the Plan will include officers of the Taranaki Regional Council–

(a) assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the principal measures specified for each pest and other organism (or pest group or organisms) to be controlled to achieve the objectives of the Plan;

(b) assessing the impact the pest or organism (covered by the Plan) has on the region, and any other harmful organisms that should be considered for inclusion in the Plan; and

(c) liaising with Crown agencies, territorial authorities, iwi authorities and key interest groups, on the effectiveness of the Plan.

9.4 Monitoring other effects of this Plan

The provisions of this Plan do not replace other legislation or regulations relating to the use of toxins,

impacts on Maori culture and traditions, and public health and safety. Where appropriate, the Taranaki Regional Council shall monitor and report on any impacts arising through the use of toxins through systems and processes established under the Resource Management Act[9]. The Taranaki Regional Council will also routinely record and report any adverse effects arising from its direct control operations, including non-target kills.

Agencies other than the Taranaki Regional Council are more likely to undertake monitoring and respond to any problems under the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, and the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997.

9.5 Plan Review

The Taranaki Regional Council may review the Plan or any part of it, if it believes circumstances or management objectives have changed sufficiently. However, where the Plan has been in force for ten years or more and the Plan has not been reviewed within the last ten years, then the Taranaki Regional Council must review the Plan. A review may also become necessary if the Taranaki Regional Council or the Environment Court considers the Plan is inconsistent with any requirements of an operative National Policy Direction (NPD).

A Council can make minor amendments to the Plan without needing a review. Any minor amendment:

(i) Must not significantly affect any person's rights and obligations; and

(ii) Must not be inconsistent with the NPD.

A review may result in no change to the Plan, or may extend its duration.

[9] *Including the Resource Management (Exemption) Regulations 2017*

~~11.~~10. Funding

10.1 Introduction

The Act requires that funding is thoroughly examined. ~~For a Proposal, t~~This includes the reason for, and source of, all funding. ~~–~~

~~analysing the costs and benefits of the plan and any reasonable alternative measures;~~

~~noting how much any person will likely benefit from the plan;~~

~~noting how any person's actions or inactions may contribute to creating, continuing or making worse the problems that the plan proposes to resolve;~~

~~noting the reason for allocating costs; and~~

~~noting whether any unusual administrative problems or costs are expected in recovering the costs from any person who is required to pay.~~

10.2 Funding sources and reasons for funding

The Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 require that funding is sought from–

- people who have an interest in the Plan;
- those who benefit from the Plan; and
- those who contribute to the pest problem.

Funding must be sought in a way that reflects economic efficiency and equity. Those seeking funds should also target those funding the Plan and the costs of collecting funding.

In general, efficiency is best achieved by targeting costs to those closest to a particular work where those paying can act in respect of those works. If the person deciding has to pay for the results of their action or inaction, they may change their behaviour to minimise costs. Doing so would lead to the least-cost outcome for society. But if another person pays for those costs, the incentive to change behaviour is minimal. This may lead to a higher cost for society. Efficiency includes close targeting of costs to benefits and to those contributing to the problem (exacerbators). Equity is difficult to establish, particularly if a "public good" component exists. However, through the Plan development process, assumptions around efficiency, effectiveness and equity may be tested. Costs will be recovered from land occupiers by the means and to the extent identified below.

~~Analysis of benefits and costs~~

~~A full description of the adverse effects of the pests identified in this Plan is contained in the companion CBA report. A summary of the benefits and costs are shown and summarised in Table 7 (Appendix 1).~~

~~11.1 Beneficiaries and exacerbators~~

~~The CBA report also includes an analysis of beneficiaries and exacerbators in relation to the management of pest animals and plants, including recommendations on who should pay for the proposed management approach. Table 9 (Appendix 3) shows a summary of the beneficiaries (those who benefit from controlling pests); and exacerbators (those who contribute to the pest problem) for the pests and other harmful organisms referred to in this Proposed Plan.~~

~~11.2~~10.3 Anticipated costs to the Council of implementing the Plan

The anticipated costs to the Council of implementing the ~~proposed RPMP~~Plan reflect a similar level of pest management funding to previous years. The Taranaki Regional Council expects that the relative cost of pest management will be similar for the duration of the Plan.

The funding of the implementation of the ~~proposed~~ Plan is from a region-wide general rate set and assessed under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, and in determining this, the Taranaki Regional Council has had regard to those matters outlined in Section 100T of the Biosecurity Act.

~~11.2.1 Funding sources and reasons for funding~~

~~11.2.2 The Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 require that funding is sought from–~~

~~11.2.3 people who have an interest in the Plan;~~

~~11.2.4 those who benefit from the Plan; and~~

~~11.2.5 those who contribute to the pest problem.~~

~~11.2.6 Funding must be sought in a way that reflects economic efficiency and equity. Those seeking~~

~~funds should also target those funding the Plan and the costs of collecting funding.~~

~~11.2.7 In general, efficiency is best achieved by targeting costs to those closest to a particular work where those paying can act in respect of those works. If the person deciding has to pay for the results of their action or inaction, they may change their behaviour to minimise costs. Doing so would lead to the least-cost outcome for society. But if another person pays for those costs, the incentive to change behaviour is minimal. This may lead to a higher cost for society. Efficiency includes close targeting of costs to benefits and to those contributing to the problem (exacerbators). Equity is difficult to establish, particularly if a "public good" component exists. However, through the Plan development process, assumptions around efficiency, effectiveness and equity may be tested. Costs will be recovered from land occupiers by the means and to the extent identified below.~~

~~11.2.8~~10.3.1 General rate and investment revenue

Private land occupiers will contribute to the programmes identified in this Plan through a proportion of the general rate that is levied on every separately rateable property in the region under Section 33 of the Rating Powers Act 1988, and a proportion of the Taranaki Regional Council's investment revenue.

~~11.2.9~~10.3.2 Recovery of direct costs

The Council will recover costs for a particular function or service under section 135 of the Act. In the event that the Council incurs costs arising from a land occupier's failure to comply with a notice of direction, the Council may:

- recover actual and reasonable costs associated with additional inspections for pest infestations; and
- recover actual and reasonable costs associated with undertaking the control of pest infestations.

The amount of money recovered from direct charges will vary from year-to-year depending on the number of cost recovery pest plant control operations undertaken, if any.No unusual administrative problems or costs are expected in recovering the costs from any of the persons who are required to pay.

Table 4~~No unusual administrative problems or costs are expected in recovering the costs from any of the persons who are required to pay.~~

~~Table 4~~~~Table 6~~ below sets out the indicative income and costs for the Plan, up until 2020/2021. The figures include the effect of inflation. Funding sources include direct charges (usually arising from enforcement action), and a proportion of the general rate.

The New Plymouth, Stratford and South Taranaki district councils collect general rates on behalf of the Taranaki Regional Council. The policies adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council in relation to rate remissions, postponements, and additional charges are those adopted by the respective district councils.

~~11.2.10~~10.3.3 Funding limitations

No unusual administrative problems or costs are expected in recovering the costs from any of the persons who are required to pay.

Table ~~44~~6~~:~~ Indicative costs and sources of funds (exclusive of GST)

Expenditure	2016/17 $	2017/18 $	2018/19 $	2019/20 $	2020/21 $
Biosecurity pest animal and plant management planning, plans and strategy initiatives, and actions	2,049,707	1,806,794	1,829,842	2,050,486	1,922,269
Total expenditure	**2,049,707**	**1,806,794**	**1,829,842**	**2,050,486**	**1,922,269**
Income:					
Direct charges	108,250	110,116	112,104	114,297	116,631
Total income	**108,250**	**110,116**	**112,104**	**114,297**	**116,631**
Net cost of service	1,941,457	1,696,678	1,717,738	1,936,189	1,805,638
Funded by:					
General rates and investment revenue	1,941,457	1,696,678	1,717,738	1,936,189	1,805,638
Total Funding	**1,941,457**	**1,696,678**	**1,717,738**	**1,936,189**	**1,805,638**

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~~12.~~11. Glossary

This section provides the meaning of words used in this Plan and in the amended Biosecurity Act 1993. When a word is followed by an asterisk (*), the meaning which follows is the meaning provided in section 4 [interpretation section] of the Act.

Users of this Plan are advised that they should refer to the Act (or other relevant legislation) to ensure that the definition included in this Plan is the current statutory definition. In the case of any inconsistency or amendment of the definition, the statutory definition prevails.

Act* means the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Adjacent means, for the purpose of this Plan, a property that is next to, or adjoining, another property.

Animal means any mammal, insect, bird or fish, including invertebrates, and any other living organism except a plant or a human.

Appropriate means as determined to be appropriate by the Taranaki Regional Council or its officers acting under delegated authority.

Authorised person* means a person for the time being appointed an authorised person under section 103 (Inspectors, authorised persons, and accredited persons) of the Act.

Beneficiary means the receiver of benefits accruing from the implementation of a pest management measure or this Plan.

Biological control means the introduction and establishment of living organisms, which will prey on, or adversely affect a pest.

Biological diversity (or biodiversity) means the variability among living organisms, and the ecological complexes of which they are a part, including diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems.

Bovine tuberculosis means the state of being infected with Mycobacterium bovis. Mycobacterium bovis is an infectious, zoonotic, bacterial disease, characterised by the formation of tubercle lesions on affected animals.

Crown[10]

(a) means her Majesty the Queen in right of New Zealand; and

(b) includes all Ministers of the Crown and all departments; but

does not include:

(c) an Office of Parliament;

(d) a Crown entity; or

(e) ~~i~~a State enterprise named in the First Schedule to the State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986.

Crown land means any land occupied or owned by the Crown, a Crown entity under the Crown Entities Act 2004, and a crown-owned enterprise under the State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986.

Destroy, in relation to rules that apply to sustained control pests, means an annual minimum 99% level of control on land requiring treatment.

Direct control means pest animal or plant control undertaken by or funded by the Taranaki Regional Council.

Distribute, in relation to pest animals or plants, means to transport, or in any way spread a pest animal or plant.

District council means a district council as defined in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

Effect[11] includes:

any positive or adverse effect; and

any temporary or permanent effect; and

any past; present or future effect; and

any cumulative effect which arises over time or in combination with other effects–regardless of the scale, intensity, duration or frequency of the effect-and also includes:

any potential effect of high probability; and

any potential effect of low probability which has a high potential impact.

Endemic means a plant or animal native or restricted to a certain place, or, in the case of ~~feral~~ wild animal populations, means the presence of Bovine tuberculosis.

Environment includes:

ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and their communities; and

all natural and physical resources; and

amenity values; and

the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions which affect the matters stated in paragraphs (a) to (c) of this definition or which are affected by those matters.

[10] *Public Finances Act 1989*

[11] *Resource Management Act 1991*

Eradicate, in relation to an organism, means to totally clear the organism from New Zealand, or a region or part of a region.

Eradication means to reduce the infestation level of the subject that is present in New Zealand to zero levels in an area in the short to medium term.

Exacerbator means a person who contributes to the creation, continuance, or exacerbation of the problems proposed to be resolved by a pest or pathway management plan.

Exclusion means to prevent the establishment of the subject that is present in New Zealand but not yet established in an area.

Externality Impacts, in relation to pest management, are adverse and unintended effects imposed on others.

~~**Feral** means free-ranging, living in a wild state.~~

Good Neighbour Rule means a rule that seeks to manage the externality impacts arising from pests spilling over from one property to a neighbouring property that is free of, or being cleared, of that pest.

Habitat means the place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs.

Harmful organism means organisms that have not been declared 'pests' for the purposes of this Plan because, although they may have significant adverse effects, regulatory responses are not considered appropriate or necessary.

Indigenous means native to New Zealand.

Key Native Ecosystems refers to terrestrial sites (sites on land) identified by the Taranaki Regional Council to have regionally significant indigenous biodiversity values.

Management agency* means a management agency responsible for implementing a regional pest management plan.

Mana whenua means customary authority and title exercised by Iwi or hapu over the general environment within their tribal rohe.

Means of achievement means the general management options, tactics, or technical methods by which the Taranaki Regional Council or land occupiers will achieve an objective or objectives.

Mitigate means to reduce or moderate the severity of something.

Monitor, in respect of this Plan, means to measure and record parameters that indicate the levels of effectiveness of a certain pest management programme.

National Policy Direction (NPD), in respect of this Plan, means the currently operative National Policy Direction for Pest Management.

Notice of direction refers to a notice served by officers of the Taranaki Regional Council to note non-compliance with a plan rule and to identify and direct remedial action.

Objective means a statement of a desired, specific environmental outcome.

Occupier–*

in relation to any place physically occupied by any person, means that person; and

in relation to any other place, means the owner of the place; and

in relation to any place, includes any agent, employee, or other person acting or apparently acting in the general management or control of the place.

Occupied' has a corresponding meaning.

Operational plan means a plan prepared by the management agency under section 100B of the Act.

Organism –

does not include a human being or a genetic structure derived from a human being:

includes a micro-organism:

subject to paragraph (a), includes a genetic structure that is capable of replicating itself (whether that structure comprises all or only part of an entity, and whether it comprises all or only part of the total genetic structure of an entity):

includes an entity (other than a human being) declared by the Governor-General by Order in Council to be an organism for the purposes of the Act:

includes a reproductive cell or developmental stage of an organism:

includes any particle that is a prion.

Person* includes the Crown, a corporation sole, and a body of persons (whether corporate or unincorporated).

Pest* means an organism specified as a pest in a pest management plan.

Pesticide means a substance for destroying harmful pests.

Pest management plan and Plan* means a Plan made under Part V of the Act, for the exclusion, eradication or management of a particular pest or pests.

Plant means any plant, tree, shrub, herb, flower, nursery stock, culture, vegetable, or other vegetation; and also includes fruit, seed, spore and portion or product of any plant; and also includes all aquatic plants.

Principal officer* means, -

in relation to a regional council, its chief executive; and

in relation to a region, the chief executive of the region's regional council;

- and includes an acting chief executive.

Private land means any land which is for the time being held in fee simple by any person other than Her Majesty; and includes any Maori land.

Region[12], in relation to a regional council, means the region of the regional council as determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

Regional council means a regional council within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002.

Road includes all bridges, culverts, and fords forming part of any road.

Rohe means the territory or boundary that defines the area within which a tangata whenua group claims traditional association and mana whenua.

Rongoā means traditional Māori medicine. Rongoā is a system of healing that was passed on orally. It comprised diverse practices and an emphasis on the spiritual dimension of health. Rongoā includes herbal remedies, physical therapies such as massage and manipulation, and spiritual healing.

Rule* means a rule in a regional pest management plan under Part 5 of the Act.

Sale includes bartering, offering for sale, exposing, or attempting to sell, or having in possession for sale, or sending or delivering for sale, causing or allowing to be sold, offered or displayed for sale, and includes any disposal whether for valuable consideration or not and '**Sell**' has a corresponding meaning.

"**Site-led**" pest programme means a management programme for which the intermediate outcome for the programme is that the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject that is capable of causing damage to a place, is excluded or eradicated from that place; or is contained, reduced, or controlled within the place to an extent that protects the values of that place.

Subject means, -

in relation to a proposal for a pest management plan, means the organism or organisms proposed to be specified as a pest or pests under the plan; and

in relation to a pest management plan, means the pest to which the plan applies; and

in relation to a proposal for a pathway management plan, or to a pathway management plan, means the pathway or pathways to which the proposal for a plan, or to which the plan, applies; and

in relation to a small-scale management programme, means the unwanted organism specified in the programme.

Sustained control pest programme means a management programme for which the intermediate outcome for the programme is to provide for ongoing control of the subject, or an organism being spread by the subject, to reduce its impacts on values and spread to other properties.

Tangata whenua[13], in relation to a particular area, means the Iwi or hapu that holds mana whenua over that area.

Taonga means treasure, property: taonga are prized and protected as sacred posessions of the tribe. The term carries a deep spiritual meaning and taonga may be things that cannot be seen or touched. Included for example are te reo Māori (the Māori language), wāhi tapu, the air, waterways, fishing grounds and mountains.

Tapu means under spiritual protection or restriction.

Unwanted organism* means any organism that a chief technical officer believes is capable or potentially capable of causing unwanted harm to any natural and physical resources or human health, and

Includes—

(f) Any new organism, if the Authority [Environmental Risk Management Authority] has declined approval to import that organism; and

(g) Any organism specified in the Second Schedule of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996; but

(h) Does not include any organism approved for importation under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, unless—

The organism is an organism that has escaped from a containment facility; or

[12] *Resource Management Act 1991*

[13] *Resource Management Act 1991*

A chief technical officer, after consulting the Authority [Environmental Risk Management Authority] and taking into account any comments made by the Authority concerning the organism, believes that the organism is capable or potentially capable of causing unwanted harm to any natural and physical resources or human health.

Urban area means a city, town or urban settlement that comprises a built-up area of commercial, industrial, or residential buildings, including associated infrastructure and amenities. An urban area also includes low density 'lifestyle' residential areas, urban parkland and open spaces, usually within or associated with, built-up areas.

Wāhi tapu means places or things which are sacred or spiritually endowed. These are defined locally by tangata whenua of the Taranaki region.

Wild , in respect of deer, pigs and goats, means free-ranging, living in a wild state.

Working day* means any day except:

a Saturday, a Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, Labour Day, the Sovereign's birthday and Waitangi Day; and

the day observed in the region of a regional council as the anniversary day of the province of which the region forms part; and

a day in the period commencing on the 20th day of December in any year and ending with the 15th day of January in the following year.

Appendices

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Appendix 1: Summary of costs and benefits

Table 7: Types and analysis of costs and benefits across the region (over 50years)

Pest/s	Costs of scenario	Benefits of scenario	Conclusion
Climbing spindleberry			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Eradication	$88,967	$3,723,884:	Net benefit to the region: $3,723,884 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$3,724,631 No Council costs.	None	Not adopted
Giant reed			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Eradication	$88,967	$173,736	Net benefit to the region: $84,769 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$173, 952 No Council costs.	None	Not adopted
Madeira (Mignonette) vine			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Eradication	$131,144	$10,954,185	Net benefit to the region: $10,823,041 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$10,954,230 No Council costs	None	Not adopted
Senegal tea			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Eradication	$8,832	$19,080	Net benefit to the region: $10,248 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$19,090 No Council costs	None	Not adopted
Possums			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control	Council costs: $19,347,807 Compliance costs: $5,010,212	$37,093,807	Net benefit to the region: $12,735,880 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$131,430,629 No Council or compliance costs	None	Not adopted
Giant buttercup			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control			Good neighbour rules net beneficial for receptor dairying and sheep and beef land uses only
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention			Not adopted
Giant gunnera			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control	Council costs: $733,308 Compliance costs: $1,503,064	50 years: $2,823,717	Net benefit to the region: $587,345 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of

Pest/s	Costs of scenario	Benefits of scenario	Conclusion
			biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	No Council or compliance costs.	None	Not adopted
Gorse			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control			Good neighbour rules net beneficial for receptor dairying, sheep and beef, hill country and forestry land uses only
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention			Not adopted
Nodding, Plumeless & Variegated thistles			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control			Good neighbour rules net beneficial for receptor dairying, sheep and beef and hill country land uses only
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention			Not adopted
Old man's beard			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control	Council costs: $915,526 Compliance costs: $4,264,010	$8,305,816	Net benefit to the region: $3,126,280 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	50 years: $2,404,823 No Council costs	None	Not adopted
Pampas (Common and Purple)			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control			Good neighbour rules net beneficial for receptor forestry and conservation land uses only
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention			Not adopted
Wild broom			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control			Good neighbour rules net beneficial for receptor dairying, sheep and beef, hill country and forestry land uses only
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention			Not adopted
Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili)			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control	Council costs: $368,827 Compliance costs: $229,191	$15,070,669	Net benefit to the region: $14,472,606 Additional non-monetised benefits associated with the protection of biodiversity values are also anticipated.
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$15,146,746 No Council costs	None	Not adopted
Yellow ragwort			
Preferred Management (Option 1): Sustained Control	Council costs: $1,025,002 Compliance costs: $6,899,198	$20,314,512	Net benefit to the region: $12,390,312
Alternatives considered (if any) Option 2: No regional intervention	$23,899,426 No Council costs	None	Not adopted

For further information please refer to the report entitled *Pest Management Plan for Taranaki - Impact Assessments and Cost-Benefit Analyses.*

Appendix 2: Descriptions of other harmful organisms

Table 8: Descriptions of other harmful organisms

Appendix 3: Summary of Beneficiairies and Exacerbators

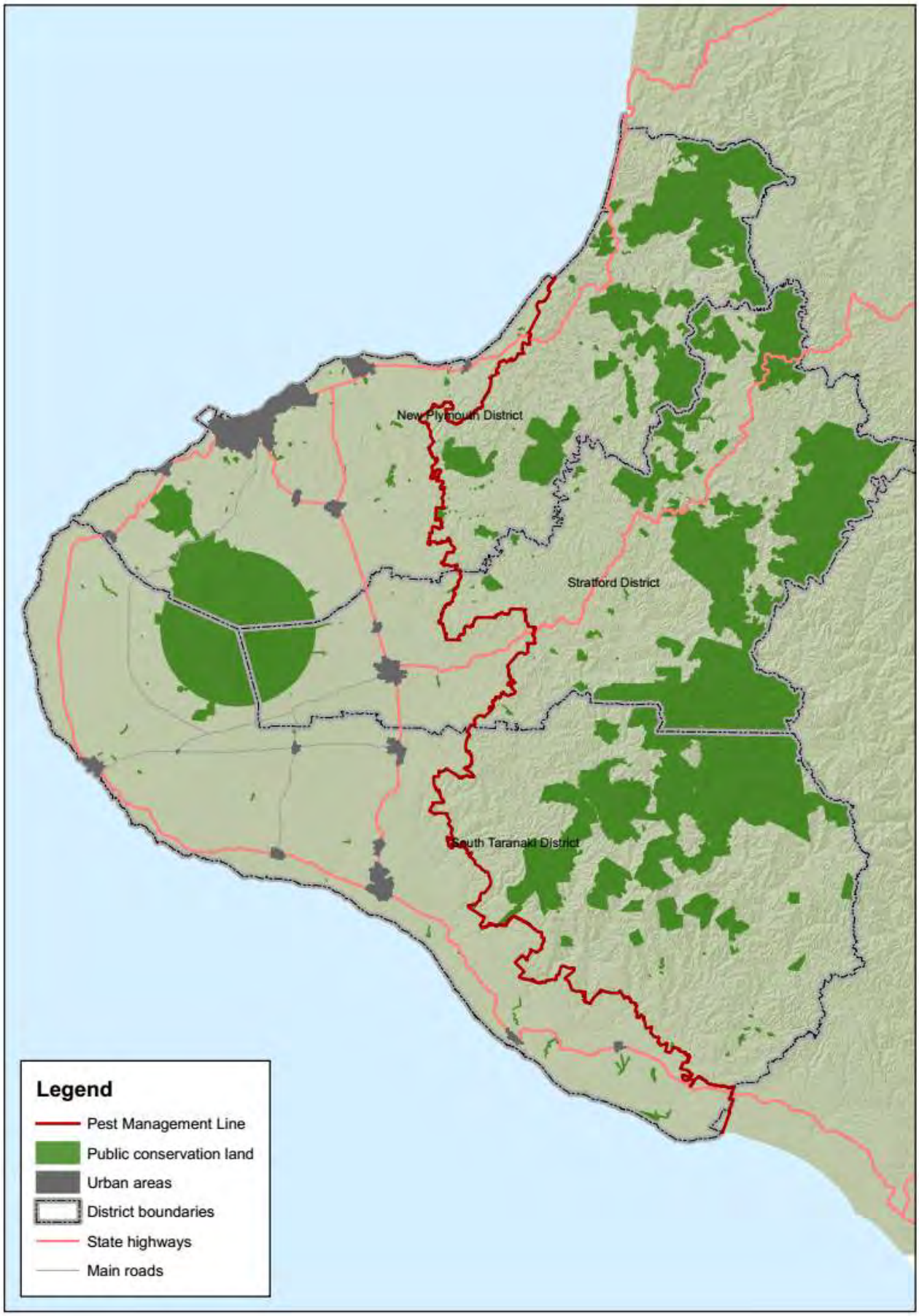
Table 9: Beneficiaries and Exacerbators

Pest/s	Beneficiaries	Exacerbators
Eradication		
Climbing spindleberry	Forestry sector, which will benefit from the protection of their young trees during planting and re-planting phases. Rural owners/occupiers, who will benefit from their farm shelterbelts being protected from infestation. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of indigenous biodiversity values.	Forestry sector, which does not control Climbing spindleberry on their sites or dispose of it incorrectly. Gardeners or those intentionally dumping or incorrectly disposing of Climbing spindleberry.
Giant reed	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of economic values. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of water quality, species diversity and threatened species.	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who do not control Giant reed infestations on their land or who intentionally or unknowingly spread the plant along pathways. Anyone who intentionally dumps or incorrectly disposes of Giant reed.
Madeira (Mignonette) vine	Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of native and plantation forests.	Gardeners or those intentionally dumping or incorrectly disposing of Madeira vine.
Senegal tea	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of waterways and wetlands, and aquatic flora and fauna species. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of water quality, species diversity and threatened species	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who do not control Senegal tea infestations on their land or who intentionally or unknowingly spread the plant along pathways. Gardeners or those intentionally dumping or incorrectly disposing of Senegal tea.
Sustained control		
Possums	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of dairy, forestry and horticulture economic production values. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of environmental biodiversity, health, and social/ cultural values.	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who do not control Possum infestations on their land to below 10% Residual Trap Catch.
Giant buttercup	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who will benefit from the protection of agricultural pastoral production values and animal health. All other land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from control of Giant buttercup. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of regional and international economic values of pasture farmers, and of animal and human health.	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who do not control Giant buttercup infestations on their land. Land occupiers who intentionally dump or incorrectly dispose of Giant buttercup or who spread the weed along pathways through poor weed hygiene practices. Road controlling authorities / hay contractors who do not control Giant buttercup or who spread the pest along pathways through poor weed hygiene practices.
Giant gunnera	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of indigenous biodiversity and plantation forestry. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of waterways and wetlands in respect of recreation and hazard risk values.	All land occupiers who do not control Giant gunnera infestations on their land. Land occupiers who intentionally dump or incorrectly dispose of Giant gunnera or who spread the weed along pathways through poor weed hygiene practices.
Gorse	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who will benefit from the protection of agricultural production values. Other land occupiers who will benefit from protection of waterways and lakes.	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who do not control Gorse infestations on their land. All other land occupiers who do not control Gorse infestations on their land.

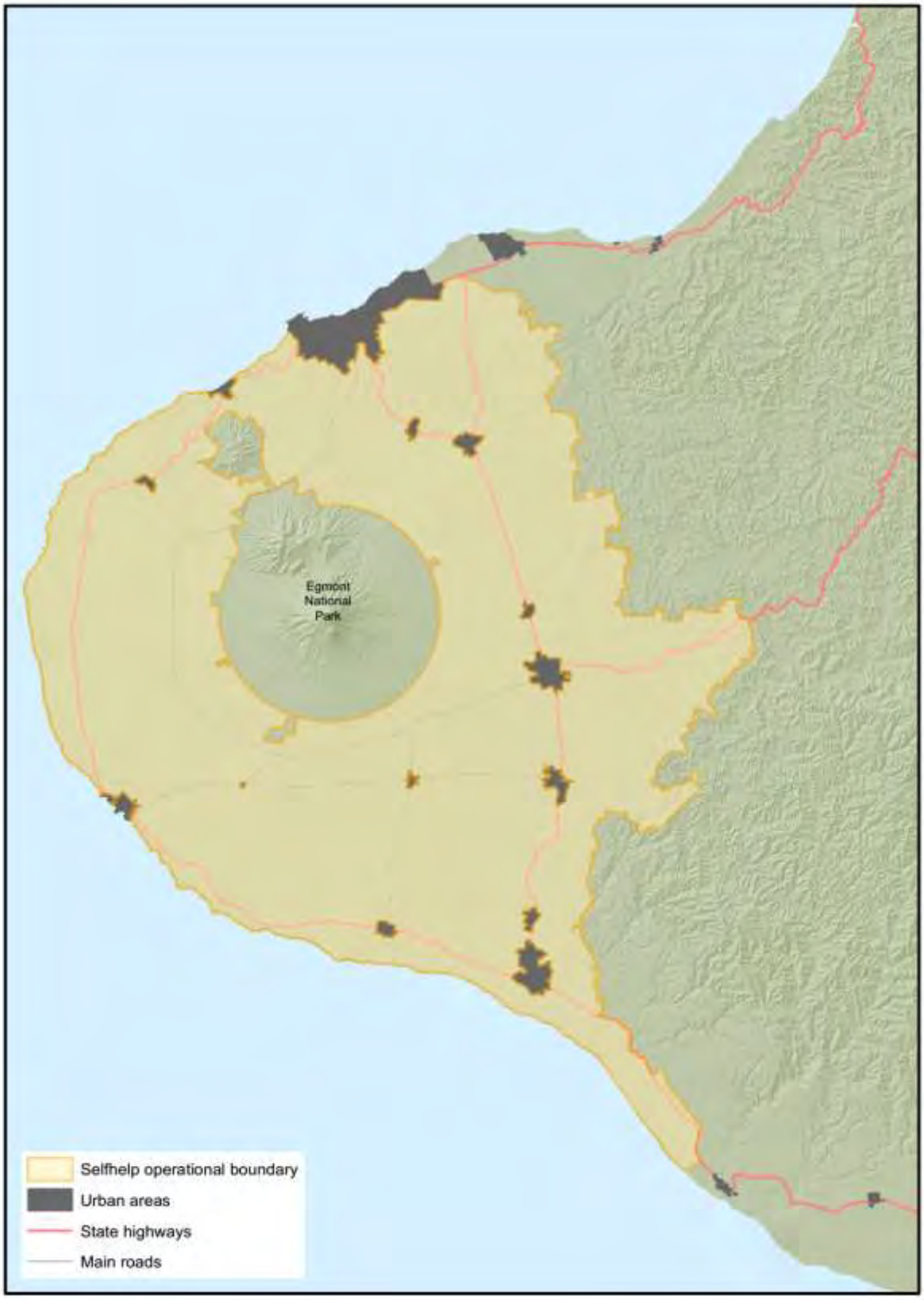
Pest/s	Beneficiaries	Exacerbators
	Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of regional and international economic values of pasture farmers, species diversity, and social / cultural values. Plantation forestry sector that will benefit from the protection of production values.	Plantation forestry owners/ occupiers who do not control Gorse infestations on their land.
Nodding, Plumeless & Variegated thistles	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who will benefit from the protection of agricultural production and animal health values. Other land occupiers who will benefit from protection of arable production values and international trade. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of social/ cultural values.	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who do not control Nodding, Plumeless or Variegated thistle infestations on their land. All other land occupiers who do not control Nodding, Plumeless or Variegated thistle infestations on their land. Anyone who intentionally dumps or incorrectly disposes of Nodding, Plumeless or Variegated thistles or who spreads the weed along pathways through poor weed hygiene practices.
Old man's beard	Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of indigenous biodiversity and social/ cultural values. Plantation forestry sector that will benefit from the protection of production values. Land occupiers who will benefit from protection of arable and amenity values.	All land occupiers who do not control Old man's beard on their land. Anyone who intentionally dumps or incorrectly disposes of Old man's beard.
Pampas (Common and Purple)	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of forestry and pastoral production and indigenous biodiversity values. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of economic production, and biodiversity values.	All land occupiers who do not control flowering Pampas on their land.
Wild broom	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of forestry and agricultural production values. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of environmental and social / cultural values.	All land occupiers who do not control Wild broom on their land. All forestry occupiers/owners who do not control Wild broom on their land.
Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili)	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of indigenous biodiversity and plantation forestry. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of access to recreation and cultural sites.	All land occupiers who do not control Wild ginger (Yellow and Kahili) on their land. Anyone who intentionally dumps or incorrectly disposes of Wild ginger (Yellow or Kahili).
Yellow ragwort	All land occupiers in the dairy/ sheep and beef sector who will benefit from the protection of agricultural pastoral production values and animal health. All other land occupiers, both Crown and private, who will benefit from the protection of social / cultural values. Regional community, who will benefit from the protection of regional and international economic values and of animal health.	All occupiers of intensively farmed land west of the Pest Management line who do not control Yellow ragwort on their land. All land occupiers (Crown and private) on land east of the Pest Management line who do not control Yellow ragwort on their land.
Other unwanted organisms	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, and the regional community, who will benefit from site-led protection of production, environmental, and social / cultural values from one or more of the pests included in the 'other unwanted organisms' list.	All land occupiers, both Crown and private, and the regional community, who do not control one or more of the 'other unwanted organisms' listed in this Plan on their land. Anyone who intentionally dumps or incorrectly disposes of a pest plant.

Appendix A: Pest Management Line

The Pest Management Line is used to demarcate that part of Taranaki that is predominantly intensive dairy farming land from that part of the region where other land uses predominate. It is based on the Land Use Capability database, which provides detail of land types across the whole country. The Pest Management Line is referred to in rules relating to Yellow ragwort.


New Plymouth District
Stratford District
South Taranaki District
Legend
Pest Management Line
Public conservation land
Urban areas
District boundaries
State highways
Main roads

Appendix B: Self-Help Possum Control Programme (as at May 2017)



NB: this map is indicative only. More properties may be added during the lifetime of this Plan with the agreement of land owners who join the Programme.

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Appendix C: Plants listed in the National Pest Plant Accord List

The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is designed to prevent the sale, distribution and propagation of a set list of pest plants (the Accord list) within New Zealand. If allowed to spread further, these pest plants could seriously damage the New Zealand economy and environment. The NPPA is a cooperative agreement between:

- MPI
- New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated (NZPPI)
- unitary and regional councils
- Department of Conservation.

All plants on the Accord list are among the plants on the list of 'unwanted organisms' specified under the Biosecurity Act 1993. This means they cannot be distributed or sold in New Zealand. The NPPA is used alongside other pest management plans and strategies.

MPI consults with a group of key stakeholders and parties interested in the NPPA or the Accord list and the group is updated when the Accord list changes. Anyone interested in the NPPA and the Accord list can sign up.

It should be noted that the Accord List is current at the time of printing this Plan and will be altered in the future.

The full list, further information, and updates on the list can be obtained directly from Ministry of Primary Industries or by visiting their website on:

http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/long-term-pest-management/national-pest-plant-accord

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