
MINUTES
of the
REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE
MEETING

held
1.30 pm, Tuesday, 22 August 2023
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
and via Zoom

Present: **Tasman District Council:** Deputy Mayor S Bryant, Councillors C Butler (via Zoom) and M Kininmonth

Nelson City Council: Councillors R Sanson (Acting Chair), and A Stallard

In Attendance: **Tasman District Council:** Team Leader – Biosecurity and Biodiversity (G Coleman), Special Projects Analyst – Biosecurity (P Sheldon), Environmental Information Manager (R Smith) Executive Assistant and Advisor to the Mayor (R Scherer) and Executive Support Officer (A Brough)

Nelson City Council: Environmental Programmes Advisor (R Frizzell), Team Leader Biodiversity and Biosecurity (L Marshall) and Environmental Programme Advisor (P Cochrane)

Consultant (J Lambie) and Consultant (P Russell)

1 OPENING, WELCOME

Acting Chairperson, Councillor Sanson welcomed everyone to the meeting and offered the opening karakia.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Moved Councillor Sanson/Councillor Kininmonth

RPMC23-08-1

That an apology for lateness from Deputy Mayor S Bryant be accepted.

CARRIED

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Councillor Stallard/Councillor Kininmonth

RPMC23-08-2

That the minutes of the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee meeting held on Friday, 24 March 2023, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

5 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

6 REPORTS

8.1 Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029

Tasman District Council Team Leader – Biosecurity and Biodiversity, Guinevere Coleman presented the report, which was taken as read.

The following was discussed:

- The universally understood definitions of pest cats versus feral/stray/unowned cats. These referred to a feral cat as a cat that had never met a person, a stray cat as an animal that was found closer to a town and may be getting fed, and a companion cat which was homed and was being fed.
- The consultation document - it was noted that staff would work with communications staff from both councils to assist with the final consultation document for the partial review of the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan.
- Funding for the delivery of the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan.

Deputy Mayor Bryant joined the meeting at 1.38 pm.

The Committee discussed each of the pests and programmes proposed for inclusion in the partial review of the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan as follows:

Blue passionflower – the preferred option was eradication.

Boneseed – there was a high density of this pest species in the Nelson Port Hills which was a source of seed for the rest of the Nelson-Tasman region. It was noted that eradication of this plant may not be an option but that it could be suppressed.

Moth plant – eradication was recommended. This was a poisonous plant and a major pest nationwide.

Pampas – specific to Tasman District, there were two locations in Golden Bay where staff believed pampas could be controlled. It was noted that some people may find it difficult to distinguish between native toitoi and pampas. Eradication of this pest plant would require public education and targeted consultation.

Sabella – the plan review included an additional rule around the level of hull fouling on boats, alongside the sabella eradication rule.

It was noted that Nelson City had a haul-out facility that enabled boats to be lifted out of the water and treated for sabella. Motueka had limited facilities for this activity and there had been a request for a similar facility at Port Tarakohe. Sabella affected mussel lines and therefore would be a significant issue in Golden Bay.

Water celery and Vietnamese parsley – neither species were included in the current Regional Pest Management Plan. A sustained control programme was recommended in the revised plan.

Wilding conifers – This rule included a requirement that any land that had previously been cleared of wilding pines would remain clear in the future. Once included in the plan, it would require good communication with corporate plantation forestry companies noting that the nature of ownership of plantation forests had changed. Specific consultation would also be required with iwi.

Koi carp – this included a minor amendment to the rules to account for the change of the Latin name of this species.

Feral and Stray cats

The following was discussed:

- Control of cats around areas of high biodiversity.
- The Department of Conservation's current feral cat programme in the Abel Tasman National Park.
- The cost of microchipping and neutering cats. It was suggested that both councils would engage with the SPCA to look at options of community clinics where people could get advice on how to get their cats chip and neutered.

Special Projects Analyst – Biosecurity, Paul Sheldon referred to previous research that focused on tracking cats and agreed to share the research findings with the Committee.

Moved Councillor Kininmonth/Stallard

RPMC23-08-3

That the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee:

- 1. receives the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029, RPMJC23-08-1; and**
- 2. endorses the proposed amendments to the Tasman – Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019 – 2029 in Attachment 1 to the agenda report; and**
- 3. recommends to Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council that they approve public notification of these proposed amendments for consultation by way of a limited review of the Tasman–Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029; and**

4. **agrees that the Committee will review the draft consultation document prior to the formal consultation process commencing.**

CARRIED

7 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

Councillor Sanson offered the closing karaka and the meeting concluded at 3.23 pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings by resolution on 8 December 2023.

RPMC23-12-1

That the minutes of the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 22 August 2023, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.