

Nelson Biodiversity Strategy

Reviewed 2013



5 December 2013

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Preface

It was Jared Diamond who popularised the mass extinction hypothesis in *The Rise and Fall of the Third Chimpanzee*. Simply put, if we extrapolate the data on past extinctions to our current environmental scenario we should be able to predict future extinctions, and the predictions are not good.

The World Wide Fund for Nature's *Living Planet Report* followed 695 representative populations of terrestrial species to calculate the Terrestrial Living Planet Index. If the total terrestrial species population in 1970 is taken as 100 units, then in 2003 only about 69 units were left. The terrestrial species index therefore shows a 31% decline from 1970 to 2003.

In Nelson we want to do better, and sustain our part of the living diversity of planet Earth. This Strategy is about building better cooperation in that effort. Every day landowners and volunteers are out there restoring our collective biodiversity. This is great work, and as responsible agencies and organisations we want to become more effective in supporting those efforts. We also are committed to focusing our work in a common direction. This is the work of the Nelson Biodiversity Forum.

As we reviewed the first two years of action under this Strategy we realised the need for more collaboration across the Top of the South Island. Here in the prow of Maui's canoe we have many treasured species and places, and limited resources to apply to their care. Nowhere is the need for cooperation and alignment better seen than in Tasman Bay. With three councils and several government agencies involved, and evidence of ecological tipping points being reached, the only responsible approach is to work together to identify and resolve the threats to our marine environment. We recognise the good work done by our neighbours and are keen to make the most of our complementary strengths.

I am proud to release this reviewed and updated Strategy as a foundation for effective action to sustain our biological heritage in Nelson and in Te Tau Ihu o te Waka a Maui.

Rachel Reese
Chair
Nelson Biodiversity Forum

Introduction

The purpose of this strategy is to create a biologically rich and sustainable future for Nelson through aligned action on biodiversity. After six years of operation the strategy has been revised and updated.

Vision

Our vision is that Nelson is celebrated as the gateway to a region richly endowed with natural places that teem with native plants and animals.

The mauri (life force) and wairua (spirit) of ecosystems and species of significance to tangata whenua, and to the community as a whole, are protected and enhanced.

Nature is accessible in and around the city.

Tangata whenua customary use of nga taonga tuku iho (the treasured resources) is a recognised and accepted part of the wider integrated management of biological diversity in Whakatū.

Valued exotic species thrive in appropriate places, and pest and weeds are controlled and/or eradicated.

Goals and objectives

Goal 1 Active protection of native biodiversity

Nga taonga tuku iho (the treasured resources), native species, and natural ecosystems of Nelson/Whakatu are protected and restored.

Objective 1.1 Ecological health, mauri and wairua of natural ecosystems are sustained.

Objective 1.2 Native biological diversity is restored, enhanced and, where appropriate, connected.

Goal 2 Ecologically sustainable use of biodiversity

The community has the living resources it needs, and has minimised adverse effects on valued biodiversity.

Objective 2.1 Biodiversity use is ecologically sustainable.

Objective 2.2 Biodiversity resources are available for the community to prosper including tangata whenua customary use of nga taonga tuku iho.

How this strategy works

This strategy is founded on the proposition that aligned action by responsible agencies and committed individuals will lead to achieving our biodiversity vision for Nelson. The Strategy works through a ‘Whole of Council’ and ‘Whole of Community’ approach.

- ❖ **Whole-of-Environment approach:** Partners to this Strategy will commit to building a network of partnerships with overlapping interests, particularly within our bio-geographic region, Te Tau Ihu o te Waka a Maui.
- ❖ **Whole-of-Council approach:** The principles, goals and objectives of the strategy will be considered whenever Council policies and projects are developed, implemented, and reviewed.
- ❖ **Whole-of-Community approach:** Partners to this strategy will work through the Biodiversity Forum to create a better biodiversity future for Nelson by committing to aligned action under the principles, goals and objectives of the strategy.

The Strategy builds on the initiatives and actions that already exist, linking them together under a common vision; and it introduces some new actions that address the priority issues related to biodiversity management in the region.

A key element has been the creation of Biodiversity Action Plans one for each of the marine, freshwater and terrestrial environments. The Action Plans have three parts:

1. Agreed priority actions for the partners in the Nelson Biodiversity Forum.
2. Current actions that sustain biodiversity and identification of how better to align these with one another.
3. Further desirable actions that could be taken if resources become available.

The partners have agreed to periodically update the plans to sustain alignment and adapt to changing circumstances.

Principles

The eight principles for biodiversity management action by the parties to this strategy have been reaffirmed unchanged as:

1. Our unique ecological heritage will be protected now and for future generations.
2. Action will contribute to the sustainable management of Nelson ecosystems and take into account our national and global responsibilities.
3. The biodiversity foundations of Nelson's prosperity will be protected and enhanced.
4. The precautionary principle will be used in making decisions to allow for the limits to our understanding of biological complexity.
5. Costs, benefits and risks, including environmental effects, will be rigorously assessed to enable best use of limited resources.
6. Nelson's sense of community and its capacity for cooperative enterprise will be fostered.
7. Action will encourage individual responsibility, participation, equity and humane treatment.
8. Partners will work within their organisations to ensure that these commitments are discussed, understood and acted on by all appropriate staff.

Achievements to March 2013

Sustaining biodiversity has become part of business as usual in Nelson for many sectors of the community. The Nelson Biodiversity Forum has explored integration with similar initiatives in Tasman and Marlborough and better coordination is still under discussion.

For example partners to the forum have been engaged in the projects described below.

The Nelson Biodiversity Forum has been active with most of the 24 signatory organisations active both around the Forum table and inside their own programmes.

Three action plans were agreed by the Forum to focus work on the major environments of Nelson - marine, freshwater and terrestrial. Implementation of these plans has progressed with a strategic plan being completed for the Waimea Estuary and the estuary now having its own forum and implementation programme. The attention of the Nelson forum has moved to integrated management of wider Tasman Bay. The marine science community of Nelson has obtained national funding for research on the issues facing Tasman Bay.

The Forum has urged the three Councils to work together to take the findings of this work and implement it in coordinated management of the Bay.

The Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust has been steadily working towards the vision of a thriving pest-free forest 700ha sanctuary in the upper Brook Valley. In April 2007, the Visitor Centre was opened. It provides an introduction for visitors and is a base for volunteers. Their efforts have resulted in a network of tracks, removal of many animal pests and weeds, a general improvement in the health of the forest and a noticeable increase in native birds. The resource consents for the predator-proof fence and associated tracks have been obtained. All going well, construction will begin in late 2013 and take about 15 months. Visits by school groups, open days and other public events, along with special work parties and campaign headquarters in the centre of Nelson continue to grow community involvement in and support for the sanctuary."

The Department of Conservation eco-sourcing guidelines for restoration of native plant communities has been taken up and is being implemented by Nelmac and Titoki Nursery.

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society has supported the action plans, focusing volunteer efforts on the alluvial/riparian and coastal ecosystems of Paremata Flats (Whakapuaka Catchment) by undertaking predator control and restoration; predator control on the Grampians (now picked up by Bird Life); bat research. Other volunteer groups, both new and existing, have extended their reach with trapping and restoration programmes.

Over 2009 to 2013 a start was made on:

- Getting effective action to sustain the environmental health of Tasman Bay.
- Pursuing ecological restoration of the Brook Stream as a flagship freshwater project for Nelson.
- Protecting and restoring existing alluvial, riparian and coastal ecosystems.
- Correcting impediments to the natural flow of water into the coastal environment
- Improving community knowledge of coastal and marine environments and developing understanding and commitment to their protection.
- Reviewing existing coverage and undertaking surveys of benthic marine habitats in Tasman Bay mapping both biodiversity hot spots and risk zones.
- Obtaining information about land use activities across Tasman Bay catchments to identify where sediment is coming from and estimate sediment accumulation rates as a basis for a review of land use management practices.
- Assessing urban stormwater and initiating action to correct issues.
- Completing projections for sea level rise.

- Public awareness programmes.
- Identifying critical habitats for longfin eel, giant kokopu, and koaro in Nelson.
- Improving monitoring and enforcement of Resource Management Act consent conditions for freshwaters.
- Integrating upland pest and weed management programmes for the publicly owned uplands.
- Understanding the range of long tailed bats.
- Implementing high value, low risk opportunities for restoration.
- Developing plans to enhance the City with biodiversity corridors across the urban environment linking the hills to the coast.
- Publicly recognising the work of citizens in sustaining biodiversity.
- Focusing public education and awareness on biodiversity around flagship sites.
- Publicising biodiversity issues.
- Compiling details on taonga species important to tangata whenua iwi.
- Hosting workshops for partners, practitioners, and volunteers on practical skills for effective biodiversity action.

Gaps in implementation

Over the same period **little progress** was made on:

- Providing information programmes for community, professional and commerce/industry groups.
- Sponsoring annual public participation events.
- Establishing a local assistance programme.
- Developing a memorandum of understanding with marine industries on data sharing to release information on benthic habitats currently withheld as commercially sensitive.
- Completing a stock take of current community actions aiding freshwater biodiversity.
- Mapping the location and extent of Nelson's original (pre-1840) waterways.

The priorities for 2013 and beyond

There are many urgent things that need to happen to stem and reverse the loss of biodiversity in Nelson. To assist partner organisations and others this strategy includes 34 priorities for action below.

The Forum has found, however, that it can get real progress on only a limited number of matters at any one time. To be effective it must strategically focus its efforts. It has therefore selected the four highest priorities for implementation over the next three years. These actions take into account opportunities afforded by other processes to make gains. The key focus areas for the Forum for 2013 to 2016 are:

- A. Getting effective action to sustain the **environmental health of Tasman Bay.**
- B. Pursuing **ecological restoration of the Maitai River and its riparian margins.**
- C. Protecting and **restoring existing alluvial, riparian and coastal ecosystems** focusing special attention on the Whakapuaka Valley and Delaware Bay.
- D. Promoting **public awareness of biodiversity** in Nelson City and integrating biodiversity priorities into the ongoing development of the city.

The Nelson City Council will provide ongoing facilitation by convening and hosting the Nelson Biodiversity Forum.

The Forum advocates that the agencies identified as “lead” as suggested for each action point agree to undertake to being the focus for that action. Being a “lead” commits the agency representative on the Forum to act as a focal point for initiating activity on the action point and keeping the Forum up to date on progress. Each Partner will determine the actual work to be done by its organisation in a given year as part of its overall planning and budgetary cycle. Each will consult on and coordinate its efforts through its engagement in the Biodiversity Forum. Each partner will report its progress on the priority actions to the Forum annually and these will be compiled and published on the Council’s website, or in the future on the Forum’s own site.

The full range of priority actions for implementation are:

(Note that focus areas for the next three years are shown in are green):

Coastal and Marine Environment Actions¹

1. Leading stakeholders and institutions to develop **integrated management of greater Tasman Bay** in a way that sustains or enhances its biological diversity and protects **sensitive habitats, biological communities and species**. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 19, 23, 24, 30, 31, 32, 34.*²
2. Identify and correct **impediments to the natural flow** of water into and through the coastal environment including reviewing the need for all tidal flap gates and ensuring consents are applied for those that are found to be unauthorised. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 25, 32, 34.*
3. Protect and restore the natural communities of the **Nelson Boulder Bank** and the publicly owned portions of the Whakapuaka sand flats both in the sea and on the land. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 1, 4, 7, 8, 32, 34.*
4. Improve **community knowledge** of coastal and marine environments and developing understanding and commitment to their protection. (Lead: Friends of Nelson Haven and Tasman Bay). *Links to 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34.*
5. Collate, order and analyse information about Nelson marine biodiversity to enable effective long term management; developing a **memorandum of understanding** with marine industries (including aquaculture and fisheries) on data sharing to release information on benthic habitats currently withheld as commercially sensitive. (Lead: Cawthron Institute). *Links to 1, 4, 24, 25, 32, 34.*
6. Review existing coverage and undertake **surveys of benthic marine habitats** in Tasman Bay mapping both biodiversity hot spots and risk zones. (Lead: NIWA). *Links to 1, 3, 4, 5, 32, 34.*
7. Reduce land-based pollution of the sea by:

¹ All of the marine actions above are joint initiatives to be pursued with Tasman and Marlborough.

² NIWA has a major project underway to investigate the drivers of shell fish decline in Tasman Bay and this will be a key factor in developing proposals for integrated management.

- Obtaining information about land use activities across Tasman Bay catchments to identify where **sediment** is coming from and estimate sediment accumulation rates as a basis for a review of land use management practices.
 - Continued assessment of **contaminated land impacts** on marine environments.
 - **Assessing all urban stormwater and initiating action to correct issues**, including adopting low impact design for sustainable urban drainage systems (e.g. rain gardens, wetlands, swales, rainwater collection, detention ponds). (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 1, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 32, 34.*
8. Complete projections for **sea level rise** and an inventory of biodiversity resources at risk as a basis for future planning of staged coastal retreat for sea level rise with biodiversity objectives included. For example: reducing activities on and development of land vulnerable to future tidal inundation. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 14, 17, 18, 30, 32, 34.*
 9. Monitoring the environmental health of our estuaries using the range and security of the habitat forming **eel grass *Zostera*** as indicator of progress. (Lead: Cawthron Institute). *Links to 1, 2, 6, 8, 32, 34.*

Freshwater Environment Actions

10. Pursue **ecological restoration of the Maitai River (including the Brook Stream) and its riparian margins**. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 23.*
11. Support the **Stoke Streams Rescue Project** to restore ecological functioning, water quality, habitat, flows and amenity values in the streams. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 2, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34.*
12. Complete a full **stock take of current community actions** aiding freshwater biodiversity and identify and resolve barriers to effective progress and to acknowledge actions of private landowners, industrial companies, contractors, tourism operators and individuals that promote and enhance biodiversity. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 10, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34.*
13. Map the location and extent of Nelson's **original (pre-1840) waterways** and make these available together with the current state of these water bodies the public and to decision-makers. (Lead: Cawthron Institute). *Links to 3, 7, 10, 14, 16, 23, 24, 27, 28, 32, 34.*
14. Identify and where necessary recreate critical habitats for **longfin eel, giant kokopu, koaro and other "at risk" species** in Nelson and implement physical and legal protection to safeguard habitats of these

species. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 34.*

15. Improve **monitoring and enforcement** of Resource Management Act consent conditions for freshwaters. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 1, 2, 7, 10, 25, 32, 33, 34.*

Terrestrial Environment Actions

16. **Protect and restore existing alluvial, riparian and coastal ecosystems of the Maitai Valley and the urban area of the city**³. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 10, 12, 14, 20, 22, 23, 31, 32, 34.*

17. **Protect and restore existing alluvial, riparian and coastal ecosystems of Whakapuaka Valley and Delaware Bay including Paremata Flats**⁴. (Lead: Forest and Bird). *Links to 14, 20, 31, 32, 34.*

18. Supporting the flagship **Brook Waimarama Sanctuary restoration**. (Lead: Brook Waimarama Sanctuary). *Links to 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 32, 34.*

19. **Protect and restore existing alluvial, riparian and coastal ecosystems of Whangamoia Valley including the Kokorua dune complex**⁵. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 14, 20, 23, 31, 32, 34.*

20. Implement high value, low risk **opportunities for restoration**, particularly on land where the results will be legally protected and where public land is gained as part of land-use intensification. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 10, 16, 17, 19, 22, 23, 32, 34.*

21. **Integrated upland pest and weed management** programmes for the publicly owned uplands with predominantly native cover including the

³ **Haven and Maitai Catchments** - Integrating restoration of indigenous biodiversity in Nelson's largest, most populated catchment focusing on creating linking strips of vegetation along waterways both for indigenous biodiversity value and for reducing peak temperatures in waterways, remedial action on culverts and other action to restore fish passage including targeted restoration of the lower Brook Stream, predator control for eventual re-introduction of blue duck, and threatened species programmes focusing on lowland totara and kereru.

⁴ **Whakapuaka Catchment Restoration** - Capitalise on highest restoration opportunities in Nelson associated with remnant vegetation and active community through replanting, restoration and predator control, riparian margins restoration and land use controls and threatened species programmes focusing on long-tailed bats and green gecko.

⁵ **Whangamoia Maintenance and Improvement** - Maintain and enhance these catchments as the least modified sequence and range of indigenous ecosystems in Nelson through improved landowner assistance and outreach assisting community action, possible land purchases and land use controls and threatened species programmes focusing on long-tailed bats and green gecko.

nationally rare mineral belt ecosystem integrated between NCC and DOC with links to forestry company programmes to ensure overall natural character of these areas is sustained. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 21, 32, 34.*

22. Increase the range and security of the umbrella species of the locally rare and iconic **lowland totara** and **fernbird**. (Lead: Forest and Bird). *Links to 20, 23, 31, 32, 34.*
23. Develop and implement plans to enhance the City with continuous **strips of vegetation** (biodiversity corridors) across the urban environment linking the hills to the coast. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 7, 10, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 32, 34.*

Public awareness and advocacy actions

24. Focus **integrated public education and awareness** on biodiversity around flagship sites (for example: the Boulder Bank, the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary, the Horoirangi Marine Reserve, the Maitai River, and Tahunanui/Back Beach duneland/estuary complex). (Lead: Forest and Bird and Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust). *Links to 1, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 32, 33, 34.*
25. **Advocate** for biodiversity goals in planning for sustainability and in responding to wider issues such as climate change where biodiversity is adversely affected by these issues. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 1, 2, 5, 14, 32, 33, 34.*
26. Publicly recognise and celebrate the **work of citizens** in sustaining biodiversity. (Lead: Forest and Bird). *Links to 4, 11, 12, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34.*
27. Provide **information programmes** for community, professional and commerce/industry groups on biodiversity issues and solutions to encourage knowledge transfer and best practice. (Lead: Department of Conservation) *Links to 4, 11, 12, 28, 29, 32, 34.*
28. **Publicise** biodiversity issues, options and successes through regular seminars, mail drops and media releases. (Lead: Forest and Bird). *Links to 4, 11, 12, 25, 26, 27, 2, 32, 34.*
29. Sponsor annual **public participation events** that focus on the three action plans. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 4, 11, 12, 26, 27, 28, 32, 34.*
30. Establish a **local assistance programme** to connect people with appropriate advice and the resources they need to be able to provide a better biodiversity future for Nelson. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to 26, 32, 34.*

31. **Compile details** on special places, ecosystems and taonga species important to tangata whenua iwi. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 1, 14, 16, 17, 19, 22, 32, 34.*
32. **Work for integration of Biodiversity** effort across the wider **Top of the South** region. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to all.*
33. **Host workshops** for partners, practitioners, and volunteers on practical skills for effective biodiversity action. (Lead: Department of Conservation). *Links to 4, 12, 15, 24, 25, 26, 32, 34.*
34. Encourage further agencies and sectors to sign up as **partners** to the Strategy, including Ministry for Primary Industries, the NZ Transport Agency and industry groups such as commercial fishers. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *Links to all.*

Monitoring and review

The key indicators for this strategy will be based on assessing:

1. Progress with implementing each of the actions above.
2. The state of remnants existing alluvial, riparian and coastal forest including: the state of its surroundings, work done over the year, issues at the site including those arising from its surroundings, opportunities at the site.
3. The state of the benthic ecology of Tasman Bay and/or Waimea Estuary.
4. The state of biodiversity based on Nelson City Council state of the environment reporting.

The Strategy will be reviewed every three years in advance of the Nelson City Long Term Council Community Plan.

GLOSSARY

Biodiversity is the natural diversity of all life, including diversity in genes, species, populations and ecosystems.

Connected biodiversity is found where ecological pathways allow natural flows of biological resources between parts of the environment with related biological processes.

Ecosystem refers to a dynamic complex of plant, animal, and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

Enhance in relation to ecosystem connections means to improve the capacity for natural ecosystem processes (such as the migration of animals or the dispersal of plants) to function between different parts of the environment.

Eradicated in relation to pests mean removed from the environment where a natural or artificial barrier prevents their spread back into the area without active management intervention.

Equity is the equal treatment of people regardless of their personal circumstances and characteristics.

Exotic species are those that have evolved elsewhere and been brought by people to this place.

Goals set out what we want to achieve. In the context of this strategy they have a fifty to hundred year timeframe.

Habitat is the environment in which a species or community of organisms lives.

Humane treatment of animals is action that avoids unnecessary pain and suffering and respects the dignity of individuals.

Indigenous species are the native plants and animals of a place.

Integrated public education and awareness activities bring together the management, motivational and education activities of Partners to the Strategy into a coordinated programme.

Invasive weeds and pests are those with a capacity to establish in native ecosystems and adversely affect their natural functioning.

Kaitiaki are tangata whenua who have an inherited responsibility of to look after the mauri (life force) of nga taonga tuku iho (treasured resources). It

includes protecting biodiversity and the maintenance of resources for present and future generations.

Mauri is the life force of places and natural things.

Natural functioning in relation to ecosystems means sustaining the capacity of the ecosystem to support the range of life that evolved and is naturally present in this context, sustaining the potential for natural biological productivity, sustaining the functioning of natural ecosystem processes such as nutrient and water cycling and sustaining the resilience of ecosystems to retain their recognisable form in the face of natural perturbations.

Nga taonga tuku iho are the treasured resources (particularly natural) of this area.

Objectives are the things we strive towards over the next 10 years to achieve our goals.

Pests are organisms that threaten our valued biodiversity resources.

The **precautionary principle** is a moral and political principle which states that if an action or policy might cause severe or irreversible harm to the public, in the absence of a scientific consensus that harm would not ensue, the burden of proof falls on those who would advocate taking the action.

Protection in relation to a resource, means its maintenance, so far as is practical, in its current state and includes its restoration to some former state and its augmentation, enhancement, or expansion.

Restore in the context of indigenous biodiversity means to re-introduce elements that have been lost, reinstate ecological processes that have been interrupted, and to re-create natural biotic patterns that have been modified. It seeks to sustain the biological elements that gave Nelson its original natural character whilst recognising that a return of our ecology to a pre-human condition is impractical.

Species are groups of genetically closely related organisms that naturally interbreed.

Sustainable means the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economical and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety while -

- a. sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations, and
- b. safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems, and
- c. avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

Sustained integrated pest and weed management is management that treats the suite of pests and weeds at a site causes adverse environmental effects where that management is sustained over decades.

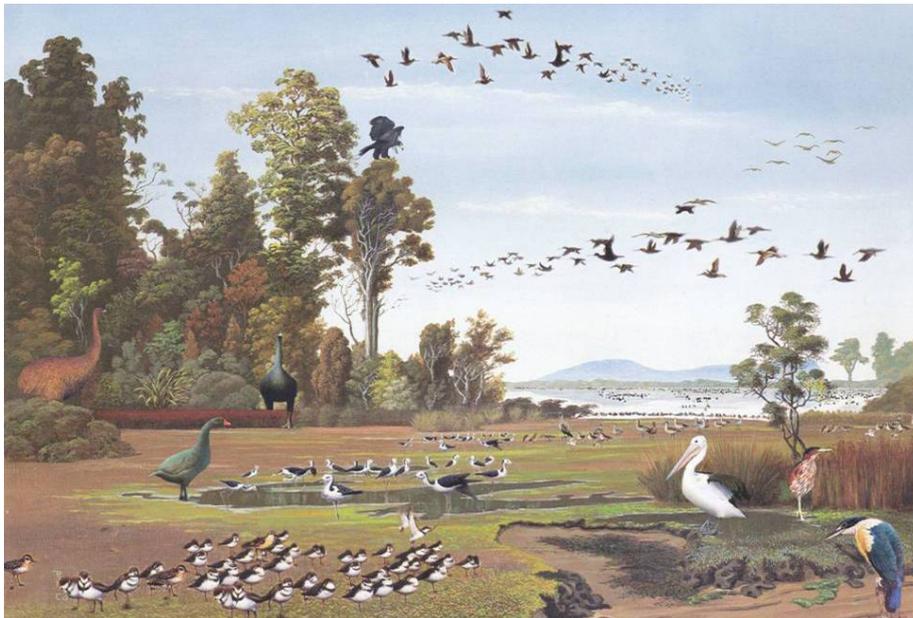
Tangata whenua, literally the people of the land, means the original people of a place, the local people or hosts.

Taonga species are plants and animals treasured by tangata whenua.

Threatened native species are those officially listed by the Department of Conservation as being in danger of extinction if action is not taken to prevent this.

Vision is an image of the ideal future we would like to reach.

Wairua means spirit.



Current biodiversity partners to the Strategy November 2013

Biodiversity Partners have committed to being actively involved in creating a positive biodiversity future for Nelson. Signatories align their efforts with others through the Forum. Partners support one another to make most efficient use of the resources available. The Partners are to be recognised for their leadership and will work for wider community support of the principles, goals and objectives of the Strategy.

Current partners:

1. Nelson City Council
2. Department of Conservation
3. Forest and Bird
4. Ngati Kuia
5. Ngati Tama
6. Ngāti Kōata
7. Port Nelson Limited
8. QE II National Trust
9. Nelmac Limited
10. Nelson Environment Centre
11. Nelson Province of Federated Farmers
12. Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust
13. NIWA
14. Cawthron Institute
15. Cawthron Institute Trust Board
16. Fish and Game [Nelson/Marlborough Region]
17. Nelson/Tasman Tourism
18. Nelson Forests Ltd
19. Kaitiaki o Ngahere
20. Fish & Wildlife Services Tom Kroos
21. Hancock Forest Management
22. Friends of Nelson Haven & Tasman Bay
23. Nelson Tasman Weedbusters
24. Dr Glen Lauder
25. Ornithological Society of NZ (Nelson Branch)
26. Waimea Inlet Forum