

13 September 2013

Memo To: His Worship the Mayor and Councillors

Memo From: Administration Advisers

**Subject: FINAL MEETING 2010-2013 TRIENNIUM – 19 SEPTEMBER
2013
LATE ITEMS**

1. Confirmation of Council Minutes

1.1 Council – to Deliberate on Submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation – 29 August 2013 and 12 September 2013

Document 1594285

A report titled Council – to Deliberate on Submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation – 12 September 2013 is attached to be considered as a major late item at this meeting. This report was listed as item 3.8 on the public agenda for the Council – Final meeting 2010-2013 triennium on 19 September 2013 to ensure elected members were aware that it would be presented to this meeting.

Section 46A(1)-(6) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 2.15.8 require that agendas are distributed with the associated reports. As this report was not distributed with the agenda for this meeting, it must be treated as a major late item to be considered at this meeting.

In accordance with section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 3.7.5, a procedural resolution is required before a major item that is not on the agenda for the meeting may be dealt with.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(i) the reason why the item was not on the agenda is because it came to hand after the agenda had been distributed.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(ii) the reason why discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting is to enable the current Council to approve these minutes.

Recommendation

THAT the item regarding Council – to Deliberate on Submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation – 12 September 2013 be considered at this meeting as a major item not on the agenda, pursuant to Section

46A(7)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to enable the current Council to approve these minutes.

2. Draft Annual Report 2012/13

Document 1576961

A report titled Draft Annual Report 2012/13 is attached to be considered as a major late item at this meeting. This report was listed as item 6 on the public agenda for the Council – Final meeting 2010-2013 triennium on 19 September 2013 to ensure elected members were aware that it would be presented to this meeting.

Section 46A(1)-(6) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 2.15.8 require that agendas are distributed with the associated reports. As this report was not distributed with the agenda for this meeting, it must be treated as a major late item to be considered at this meeting.

In accordance with section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 3.7.5, a procedural resolution is required before a major item that is not on the agenda for the meeting may be dealt with.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(i) the reason why the item was not on the agenda is because it came to hand after the agenda had been distributed.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(ii) the reason why discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting is because a resolution on the matter is required before the next scheduled meeting of the Council to enable the current Council to receive the draft Annual Report.

Recommendation

THAT the item regarding Draft Annual Report 2012/13 be considered at this meeting as a major item not on the agenda, pursuant to Section 46A(7)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to enable the current Council to receive the draft Annual Report.

3. Nelson Biodiversity Strategy Review 2013

Document 1591439

A report titled Nelson Biodiversity Strategy Review 2013 is attached to be considered as a major late item at this meeting. This report was listed as item 7 on the public agenda for the Council – Final meeting 2010-2013 triennium on 19 September 2013 to ensure elected members were aware that it would be presented to this meeting.

Section 46A(1)-(6) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 2.15.8 require that agendas are

distributed with the associated reports. As this report was not distributed with the agenda for this meeting, it must be treated as a major late item to be considered at this meeting.

In accordance with section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 3.7.5, a procedural resolution is required before a major item that is not on the agenda for the meeting may be dealt with.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(i) the reason why the item was not on the agenda is because it came to hand after the agenda had been distributed.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(ii) the reason why discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting is because a resolution on the matter is required before the next scheduled meeting of the Council to enable this Council to receive the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy.

Recommendation

THAT the item regarding Nelson Biodiversity Strategy Review 2013 be considered at this meeting as a major item not on the agenda, pursuant to Section 46A(7)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to enable this Council to receive the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy.

4. Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220)

Document 1572544

A report titled Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) is attached to be considered as a major late item at this meeting. This report was listed as item 8 on the public agenda for the Council – Final meeting 2010-2013 triennium on 19 September 2013 to ensure elected members were aware that it would be presented to this meeting.

Section 46A(1)-(6) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 2.15.8 require that agendas are distributed with the associated reports. As this report was not distributed with the agenda for this meeting, it must be treated as a major late item to be considered at this meeting.

In accordance with section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Order 3.7.5, a procedural resolution is required before a major item that is not on the agenda for the meeting may be dealt with.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(i) the reason why the item was not on the agenda is because it came to hand after the agenda had been distributed.

In accordance with section 46A(7)(b)(ii) the reason why discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting is to enable the current Council to approve the revocation of this bylaw.

Recommendation

THAT the item regarding Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) be considered at this meeting as a major item not on the agenda, pursuant to Section 46A(7)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to enable the current Council to approve the revocation of this bylaw.

Minutes of a meeting of the Nelson City Council to deliberate on submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic House, Trafalgar Street, Nelson

On Thursday 29 August 2013, commencing at 5.09pm

Present: His Worship the Mayor A Miccio (Chairperson), Councillors G Collingwood, R Copeland, E Davy, K Fulton, P Matheson, J Rackley, R Reese, D Shaw, and M Ward

In Attendance: Executive Manager Support Services/Acting Executive Manager Community Services (H Kettlewell), Executive Manager Network Services (A Louverdis), Manager Strategic Response (C Ward), Policy Adviser (S Yarrow), Manager Administration (P Langley), Administration Adviser (E-J Ryan)

Apologies: Councillors I Barker, A Boswijk, and P Rainey

1. Adjournment of Meeting

Resolved

THAT the meeting be adjourned to a time and place to be specified in the near future.

His Worship the Mayor/Rackley

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 5.09pm.

Minutes of a reconvened meeting of the Nelson City Council to deliberate on submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic House, Trafalgar Street, Nelson

On Thursday 12 September 2013, commencing at 2.37pm

Present: His Worship the Mayor A Miccio (Chairperson), Councillors I Barker, R Copeland, E Davy, K Fulton, P Rainey, D Shaw, and M Ward

In Attendance: Executive Manager Support Services/Acting Executive Manager Community Services (H Kettlewell), Executive Manager Network Services (A Louverdis), Manager Strategic Response (C Ward), Policy Adviser (S Yarrow), Manager Administration (P Langley), Administration Adviser (E-J Ryan)

Apologies: Councillors A Boswijk, G Collingwood, P Matheson, and R Reese

2. Apologies

Resolved

THAT apologies be received and accepted from Councillors Boswijk, Collingwood, Matheson and Reese.

His Worship the Mayor/Davy

Carried

3. Interests

There were no updates to the Interests Register.

His Worship the Mayor asked Councillors to identify any conflicts with agenda items as they arose over the course of the meeting.

4. Confirmation of Order of Business

His Worship the Mayor advised that there were two public late items to be considered at this meeting.

Resolved

THAT the items regarding Minutes of the Meeting to Hear Submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation – 27 August 2013, and Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) – Deliberations be considered at this meeting as major items not on the agenda, pursuant to Section 46A(7)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to enable the Council’s Deliberations on Submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation to comply with the decision-making principles as outlined in section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002.

His Worship the Mayor/Davy

Carried

5. Confirmation of Minutes – Meeting to hear submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation – 12 September 2013

Document number 1584266, late item refers.

Resolved

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Nelson City Council to hear submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation, held on 12 September 2013, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

His Worship the Mayor/Fulton

Carried

6. Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) - Deliberations

Document number 1572408, late item refers.

Councillors discussed the submissions received to the Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011, and noted that, under the Nelson Resource Management Plan, freedom camping was not a permitted activity in the Open Space and Recreation Zone which covered Nelson’s parks and reserves.

In response to a question, Policy Adviser Sarah Yarrow explained that, as each Reserve Management Plan was reviewed, consideration could be given to whether freedom camping was an appropriate activity for each reserve, but that this process would take some time. She added that, through revocation of the Camping Bylaw, there would be opportunities for freedom camping within Nelson.

Councillors further discussed freedom camping in Tahunanui Reserve and the Maitai Valley Reserves. In response to further questions, Ms Yarrow explained that signs would be used to indicate where camping was not permitted, and that any complaints would be responded to. She added

Council – to deliberate on submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation
– 29 August 2013 and 12 September 2013

that Council had been unable to enforce the Camping Bylaw last summer, but that there had been few issues with freedom camping in Nelson.

Resolved

THAT the report Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) – Deliberations (1572408) and its attachments (1531790, 1080757, 1581115 and 1572635) be received;

AND THAT the Council consider, deliberate and make decisions on submissions to the Statement of Proposal to Revoke the Camping Bylaw 2011 (220).

Davy/Fulton

Carried

There being no further business the meeting ended at 2.49pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings:

_____ Chairperson _____ Date

Council – to deliberate on submissions to the Camping Bylaw Revocation
– 29 August 2013 and 12 September 2013

Draft Annual Report 2012/13

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To receive the draft Annual Report 2012/13.

2. Recommendation

THAT the report Draft Annual Report 2012/13 (1576961) and its attachment (1594604) be received.

3. Discussion

- 3.1 The purpose of an Annual Report is to compare the actual activities and performance of the local authority with those intended, as set out in the applicable long term plan or annual plan. It also aims to promote the local authority's accountability to the community for the decisions made throughout the year. An Annual Report is required under section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 3.2 The attached draft Annual Report 2012/13 is intended to provide Councillors with all the information officers have obtained to date before the election process begins. The intention is not to present a completed Annual Report at this stage, but rather to provide as complete a picture as possible for consideration. This draft has not yet been audited by Audit New Zealand, and is likely to require some modification through the auditing process.
- 3.3 The final Annual Report 2012/13 is required to be adopted by Council within four months of the financial year's end (by the end of October) and is proposed to be brought to Council for adoption at the first meeting after the election.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 An Annual Report is required to be completed under the Local Government Act 2002.
- 4.2 The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with a draft version of the Annual Report 2012/13 prior to the election.

Paul Harrington
Policy Adviser

Attachments

Attachment 1: Draft Annual Report 2012/13 [1594604](#) (this attachment has been circulated as a separate document)

No supporting information follows.

Nelson Biodiversity Strategy Review 2013

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To receive the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy 2013.

2. Recommendation

THAT the report Nelson Biodiversity Strategy Review 2013 (1591439) be received;

AND THAT the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy 2013 as reviewed by the Nelson Biodiversity Forum (1593133) be received;

AND THAT the Nelson Biodiversity Forum be thanked for their work in reviewing the Biodiversity Strategy;

AND THAT Council agrees to be the lead agency for those actions identified in the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy (1593133) with the exception of action 9 (increasing range and security of eel grass);

AND THAT staff assess the feasibility and priority of those actions not currently allocated resources, for Council to consider as part of the Annual Plan 2014/15.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Nelson Biodiversity Strategy was originally developed by the Biodiversity Strategy Inter-Agency Working Group and was adopted by the Council's Policy Committee on 1 May 2007. Funding was subsequently secured from Central Government's Biodiversity Action Fund to support the (then) proposed Biodiversity Forum and the Forum's development of Biodiversity Action Plans. Three Biodiversity Action Plans were prepared, covering the marine, freshwater and terrestrial environments, but have not previously been adopted by Council.
- 3.2 The Nelson Biodiversity Strategy was reviewed in 2009 by the Forum and has again been reviewed, along with the three Action Plans, during the first half of 2013. There has been no specific public consultation during either of the reviews.

4. Discussion

Vision, Goals, Objectives and Principles

- 4.1 The vision, goals, objectives and principles contained in the reviewed Strategy are unchanged from those adopted in 2007. These are consistent with Nelson 2060. It would be useful to make that link explicit within the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy in subsequent reviews.

Key Focus Areas and Priority Actions

- 4.2 The Key Focus Areas for 2013 to 2016 have been drawn from the priority actions list and are identified as:

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

- 4.3 The priority actions have changed substantively from those identified in 2007. The development of the action plans and discussion within the Biodiversity Forum has informed the new priority actions.

- 4.4 There are now 34 priority actions, split under four headings: Coastal and Marine Environment, Freshwater Environment, Terrestrial Environment, and Public Awareness and Advocacy. For each action a lead agency has been identified, along with how the action links to other priority actions.

- 4.5 Nelson City Council has been identified as lead agency for 15 of the actions. These actions are discussed below.

- 4.6 The Strategy states:

'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.'

- 4.7 Councillors should note that progress on every action may not be possible in this financial year, given current priorities and resourcing. Council may also want to consider whether it believes it is the appropriate lead agency for some of these actions.

- 4.8 Several of the actions led by other agencies will also require Council input/effort. The level of this has not been assessed yet.

Priority Actions with Council as Lead Agency

4.9 Coastal and Marine Environment Actions

- 4.9.1 *Priority Action 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.

- This would require co-ordination of a multi-agency effort to develop some key actions, which would need to be based on scientific understanding of the issues. Research is ongoing but results are some time away. There is a need to engage with stakeholders, and in particular with the fishing industry.
- Council has allocated a budget of \$20,000 in this financial year to support research into the Tasman Bay. Significant further funding will be needed if this action is to be fully addressed.

- 4.9.2 *Priority Action 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.

- This is a complex issue that may require significant resource and willingness of other parties to address.

- 4.9.3 *Priority Action 7:* Reduce land-based pollution of the sea by:

- 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).
- Sedimentation is currently monitored in the Waimea Estuary as part of Tasman District Council's monitoring programme. Baseline studies have been done in the Waimea Inlet, Nelson Haven and Delaware Bay. Each estuary will be re-assessed every 5 years. Current analysis indicates that sedimentation from land use is not a significant issue.

- Council monitors the impact of stormwater sediment on rivers and is investigating street cleaning to reduce contamination. Low impact design is encouraged in the Land Development Manual but not all systems described above are appropriate for Nelson conditions.
 - Information is currently collected on the Nelson Council area by Environmental Inspections Ltd. Council holds consents for its stormwater discharges and is working to improve stormwater quality, including investigating the impacts of run-off from car parks and road surfaces on water quality.
- 4.9.4 *Priority Action 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.
- The projections and inventory will be carried out as Council considers giving effect to the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. Staged retreat may be considered as one of a number of potential responses.
- 4.9.5 *Priority Action 9:* Increase the range and security of the habitat forming eel grass *Zostera*.
- Officers advise that improvements to the city's stormwater discharges will improve natural regeneration. Eel grass is an indicator species and it is not clear what is proposed to increase its range and security.
 - The Nelson Airport has expressed concerns regarding eel grass within the flight paths as it is a habitat for black swans, which are a hazard to aircraft.
- 4.10 Freshwater Environment Actions
- 4.10.1 Council officers recommend that an integrated approach is taken to fresh water improvements, as freshwater channels serve multiple roles, including: as stormwater channels, as biodiversity corridors, and as recreational spaces.
- 4.10.2 *Priority Action 10:* Pursue ecological restoration of the Maitai River (including the Brook Stream) and its riparian margins.
- Council's Parks team does have a planting programme; this needs to be co-ordinated with stormwater improvement works.
- 4.10.3 *Priority Action 11:* Support the Stoke Streams Rescue Project to restore ecological functioning, water quality, habitat, flows and amenity values in the streams.
- Whilst the main funding for the Stoke Streams Rescue Project has now concluded, ongoing support for this falls within the business as usual role of the Land Management Adviser. Poormans Stream has been identified as an ecologically important urban stream.

4.10.4 *Priority Action 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.

- Council officers are involved in monitoring habitats and identifying and resolving fish passage barriers. The Parks team and the Land Management Adviser work with monitoring officers to generally manage riparian areas to support ecological habitats, with a specific focus on inanga. Officers consider that the Department of Conservation may be a more appropriate lead agency for this action.

4.10.5 *Priority Action 15*: Improve monitoring and enforcement of Resource Management Act consent conditions for freshwaters.

- Council does monitor and enforce consent conditions. Further monitoring of stormwater management is planned by Environmental Inspections Ltd. on behalf of Council, but this will focus primarily on commercial and industrial users.

4.11 Terrestrial Environment Actions

4.11.1 *Priority Action 16*: Protect and restore existing alluvial, riparian and coastal ecosystems of the Maitai Valley and the urban area of the city.

- Council’s Parks team and the Land Management Adviser have a rolling programme of work to protect and improve these ecosystems.

4.11.2 *Priority Action 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.

- For land currently in Council ownership, this is business as usual for the Parks and Reserves business unit and the Land Management Adviser from existing budgets. For new developments, this is provided for in the Land Development Manual (s12).

4.11.3 *Priority Action 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.

- There is already provision within the policy framework of the Nelson Resource Management Plan for biodiversity corridors. Implementation on Council land is carried out by the Parks team – the creation of new corridor locations is reliant on development occurring.

4.12 Public Awareness and Advocacy Actions

4.12.1 *Priority Action 29*: Sponsor annual public participation events that focus on the three action plans.

- Participation in relevant events is organised by the Land Management Adviser and Sustainability Adviser.

4.12.2 *Priority Action 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.

- This is part of the Land Management Adviser's role.

4.12.3 *Priority Action 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.

- This can be facilitated by the Land Management Adviser, but requires leadership from the different representatives on the Nelson Biodiversity Forum.

Council's Current Work Programme 2013/14

4.13 Council supports a range of biodiversity projects and business as usual actions, including revegetation projects in reserves, pest management programmes, restoration work at Delaware Spit, biodiversity survey work, supporting community planting and improvements to fish passage.

4.14 It has a dedicated Land Management Adviser (0.6 FTE), who is supported by officers from the Parks team and the Monitoring Officer.

4.15 At this stage it is not possible to quantify if the actions identified by the Biodiversity Forum require resources above and beyond that already allocated by Council. It is also not clear how the priority actions might align with Council's own priorities.

4.16 However, some parts of some actions do sit within Council's current work programme and Council can commit to leading on those on the understanding that this does not mean that Council adopts sole responsibility for the actions or that it will be held accountable for their delivery.

Fit with Nelson 2060

4.17 Goal Three of Nelson 2060 is 'Our natural environment – air, land, rivers and sea – is protected and healthy'. Nelson 2060 highlights the leadership role of the Nelson Biodiversity Forum in working towards this goal. The recently adopted Nelson 2060 Implementation Plan includes the following relevant actions:

- Establish a collaborative approach between the Top of the South Councils and the region's eight iwi for fresh and coastal water management.

- Progress work on the health of Tasman Bay through the Biodiversity Forum.
 - Review how we manage Nelson’s coastal areas (through the Nelson Resource Management Plan).
 - Increase resourcing of non-regulatory approaches for biodiversity, land and water management.
- 4.18 At a high level, Nelson 2060 is broadly supportive of the Nelson Biodiversity Strategy. The Strategy moves us towards our vision and goals, is in line with our sustainability principles and allows us to keep our options open for the future.
- 4.19 Further analysis is recommended in order to ascertain whether the actions are good investments, or whether particular actions should be prioritised over others.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The Nelson Biodiversity Strategy has been reviewed and revised by the Biodiversity Forum. It has not been publicly consulted on and identifies Council as lead agency for a number of actions that may not be currently resourced.
- 5.2 Officers recommend that the reviewed Strategy be received and that prior to any adoption of the reviewed Strategy, the Chief Executive be asked to assess the feasibility and the budget required to implement the actions identified, and to identify the priority of these actions in relation to other Council work programmes in this area.
- 5.3 In the meantime, Council can indicate its willingness to act as lead agency on a number of the actions, in order that some progress can be made.

Chris Ward
Manager Strategic Response

Attachments

Attachment 1: Nelson Biodiversity Strategy Reviewed 2013 [1593133](#)

Supporting information follows.

Supporting Information

1. Fit with Purpose of Local Government

The control of the use of land, the allocation of coastal space and water resources, and the control of discharges is a regional function of Council for the purposes of maintaining and enhancing the quality and quantity of freshwater and coastal waters, and the integrated management of natural and physical resources generally.

The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies, and methods for maintaining indigenous biological diversity is a Regional function of Council for the purpose of giving effect to the Resource Management Act 1991 s30.

2. Fit with Community Outcomes and Council Priorities

Healthy land, sea, air, and water

- We protect the natural environment.

People-friendly places

- We build healthy, accessible and attractive places and live in a sustainable region.

Good leadership

- Our leaders are proactive, innovative, and inclusive.

3. Fit with Strategic Documents

The Nelson Biodiversity Strategy is consistent with Nelson 2060.

4. Sustainability

Goal three of the Nelson 2060 Strategy states 'Our natural environment – air, land, rivers and sea – is protected and healthy'. The Nelson Biodiversity Strategy contains actions that relate to this goal.

5. Consistency with other Council policies

The Strategy is not inconsistent with other policies.

6. Long Term Plan/Annual Plan reference and financial impact

Several of the priority actions within the Strategy are not specifically resourced. It is recommended that this be considered as part of the 2014/15 Annual Plan.

7. Decision-making significance

This is not a significant decision in terms of the Council's Significance Policy.

8. Consultation

The original Biodiversity Strategy was subject to a full public consultation in 2007. This review has involved consultation with members of the Nelson Biodiversity Forum.

Supporting Information
9. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process Ngati Kuia, Ngati Tama, Ngati Koata are represented on the Nelson Biodiversity Forum.
10. Delegation register reference This is a Council decision.

Nelson Biodiversity Strategy

Reviewed 2013



9 September 2013

1593133

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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. Increase the range and security of the habitat forming eel grass **Zostera**. (Lead: Nelson City Council). *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 city³. (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 Flats⁴. (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 complex⁵. (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

June 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. Ngati Koata
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 Toursim
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

Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220)

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To formally revoke the Camping Bylaw 2011(220).

2. Recommendations

THAT the report Revocation of Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) (1572544) and its attachment (1596077) be received;

AND THAT the Council revoke the Camping Bylaw 2011 (220).

3. Background

- 3.1 A Statement of Proposal was released for consultation on 19 July 2013 which invited submissions on the proposal to revoke the Camping Bylaw 2011 (220).
- 3.2 Submissions on the proposal closed on 20 August 2013 with 15 submissions received. Two submitters made verbal presentations at a hearing on 27 August 2013.

4. Discussion

Council decision on submissions

- 4.1 Council deliberated on submissions on 12 September 2013 and Council's decisions on submissions are included in Attachment 1.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 A Statement of Proposal was publicly notified on 19 July 2013 seeking to revoke the Camping Bylaw 2011 (220). Submissions closed on 20 August 2013, with 15 submissions received and two submitters presenting to a hearing on 27 August 2013.
- 5.2 Information and recommendations were provided by officers to support the consideration of submissions at a deliberations meeting on 12 September 2013, where Council decisions were made.

Sarah Yarrow
Policy Adviser

Attachments

Attachment 1: Council decisions on submissions to the Statement of Proposal to revoke the Camping Bylaw 2011 (220) [1596077](#)

Supporting Information

1. Fit with Purpose of Local Government

Consideration of Council's current Camping Bylaw in light of new legislation fits the purpose of Council performing its regulatory functions.

2. Fit with Community Outcomes and Council Priorities

Appropriately providing for and managing freedom camping helps achieve the following Community Outcomes:

- Healthy land, sea, air and water (by protecting the city from environmental degradation caused by uncontrolled camping).
- People friendly places (by ensuring freedom camping does not cause a nuisance in public places).

3. Fit with Strategic Documents

The proposal is consistent with the Nelson Resource Management Plan, Reserves Act 1977 and Council's various Reserves Management Plans.

4. Sustainability

The proposal allows Council to mitigate the amenity effects of freedom camping and to ensure unavoidable waste is disposed of safely, avoiding soil and water pollution.

5. Consistency with other Council policies

The proposal does not raise any known consequential inconsistencies with any other Council policies.

6. Long Term Plan/Annual Plan reference and financial impact

The proposed approach does not result in any financial impact – freedom camping will continue to be managed and enforced within current budgets.

7. Decision-making significance

This is not a significant decision in terms of the Council's Significance Policy.

8. Consultation

The special consultative procedure has provided the opportunity for public participation in the Bylaw revocation process

9. Inclusion of Māori in the decision making process

Consultation with Māori has not been specifically included during the review of this Bylaw, but was provided through the special consultative procedure.

10. Delegation register reference

This is a decision of Council.

Camping Bylaw Revocation -Council Decisions on Submissions

* Submitters who wish to be heard

No	Submitter	Support	Main issues	Council decision
1	Andrew Garrett	No	Wishes to retain making it difficult for freedom campers	Blanket bans on freedom camping within a district are not permitted under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (FCA). Freedom camping will continue to be monitored and enforcement carried out as required
2	Chris Roff	Yes	Fully supports	Supports revoking bylaw
3	Jeff Rawlings	Yes	Supports self contained freedom camping	Supports revoking bylaw
4	David Remnant	Yes	Fully supports	Supports revoking bylaw
5	Angela Sargeant	Yes	Fully supports	Supports revoking bylaw
6	Andy Swanson	Yes	Supports self contained freedom camping. Restrict non self contained campers to specific sites	Supports revoking bylaw
7	Brendon Turner	Yes	Fully supports	Supports revoking bylaw
8	Verena Greve	Yes	Fully supports. Would like camping to extend to parks and reserves	Camping in parks and reserves will be reviewed as Reserve Management Plans are reviewed/written and when the Open Space and Recreation Zone provisions of the Nelson Resource Management Plan are reviewed
9*	Peter Pattullo Tasman Bay Backpackers	Yes	Acknowledges the current bylaw must be revoked. Provides information on issues experienced with freedom campers	Concerns noted - freedom camping will continue to be monitored and enforcement carried out where required. Freedom camping is not permitted in the Residential Zone or Open Space and Recreation Zone unless this is allowed for through a Reserve Management Plan

Camping Bylaw Revocation -Council Decisions on Submissions

* Submitters who wish to be heard

No	Submitter	Support	Main issues	Council decision
10	Mark Howard NZ Motorhome and Caravan Forum	Yes	Fully supports. Would like review of reserve management plans with a view to freeing up more parks and reserves for freedom camping. Take another look at the circumstances that allows Council to employ the FCA infringement regime	Camping in parks and reserves will be reviewed as Reserve Management Plans are reviewed/written and when the Open Space and Recreation Zone provisions of the Nelson Resource Management Plan are reviewed
11	Queenie Balance Nelson National Council of Women	Not stated	Central carparks will need careful monitoring. Proposes Tahunanui as a good place for freedom camping	The Tahunuanui Reserve Management Plan prohibits camping except for in the licenced campground
12	Ken and Carol Redwood	Yes	Fully supports	Supports revoking bylaw
13*	Cynthia McConville	No	Objects to relying solely on existing regulations. Council needs to consult with the community and identify a suitable area for freedom campers who are without facilities	Need to ensure that camping areas along the Maitai River Valley are clearly signed and that freedom camping activity is regularly monitored, especially in the summer camping season
14*	James Imlach NZ Motor Caravan Association	Yes	Recommends reviewing the NRMP and Reserve Management Plans that prohibit freedom camping to create a consistent regime for freedom camping in Nelson	Camping in parks and reserves will be reviewed as Reserve Management Plans are reviewed/written and when the Open Space and Recreation Zone provisions of the Nelson Resource Management Plan are reviewed
15	Dot Kettle Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce	Not stated	Do not support encouragement of vehicle based camping overnight in the city carparks	Regular patrols of camping 'hotspots', including city car parks, will be carried out