

Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Strategy

2012–2017



Biosecurity Act 1993

Adoption of the

Regional Pest Management Strategy

2012–2017

Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council hereby certify that each has adopted the Regional Pest Management Strategy for the Tasman-Nelson Region by resolution on 1 November 2012

The common seal of Tasman District Council was affixed in the presence of:



Richard Kempthorne
Mayor

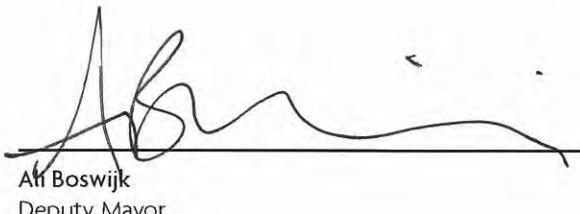
The common seal of Nelson City Council was affixed in the presence of:



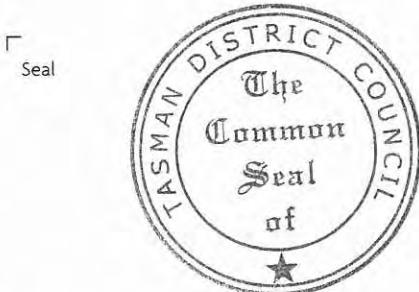
Aldo Miccio
Mayor



Lindsay McKenzie
Chief Executive



Alf Boswijk
Deputy Mayor



The Regional Pest Management Strategy for Tasman-Nelson became operative on 7 November 2012

Tasman–Nelson
Regional Pest
Management Strategy
2012–2017

TASMAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
NELSON CITY COUNCIL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND	6
1 Introduction	6
1.1 Purpose	6
1.2 Commencement and Duration	6
1.3 Area of Effect	6
1.4 Structure of the Strategy	6
2 Statutory and Planning Framework	8
2.1 Legislative Framework	8
2.2 Pre-requisites of a Pest Management Strategy	8
2.3 Organisms Declared to be Pests	9
2.4 Pests Banned from Sale, Propagation, Breeding and Distribution	11
2.5 Other Management Responses	12
2.6 Effects of the Strategy's Implementation	13
3 Management – Obligations and Responsibilities	14
3.1 The Councils	14
3.2 Stakeholders	14
PART II: PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMES	16
4 Total Control Pests	17
4.1 African Feather Grass	18
4.2 Bathurst Bur	19
4.3 Boxthorn	20
4.4 Cathedral Bells	21
4.5 Climbing Spindleberry	22
4.6 Egeria	23
4.7 Entire Marshwort	24
4.8 Hornwort	25
4.9 Madeira Vine	27
4.10 Phragmites	28
4.11 Saffron Thistle	29
4.12 Senegal Tea	30
4.13 Spartina	31
5 Progressive Control Pests	32
5.1 Banana Passion Vine (Golden Bay)	33
5.2 Boneseed (outside the Port Hills)	34
5.3 Chinese Pennisetum	36
5.4 Climbing Asparagus (eastern Golden Bay)	37
5.5 Gambusia	38
5.6 Koi Carp	39

5.7	Nassella Tussock	40
5.8	Old Man's Beard (Golden Bay to Kaiteriteri, Upper Buller Catchment)	41
5.9	Perch	43
5.10	Purple Loosestrife	44
5.11	Reed Canary Grass	45
5.12	Reed Sweet Grass	46
5.13	Rooks	47
5.14	Rudd	48
5.15	Tench	49
5.16	Variegated Thistle	51
5.17	White-edged Nightshade	52
5.18	Wild Ginger Species (Golden Bay to Kaiteriteri)	53
6	Containment Pests	54
6.1	Argentine Ants	55
6.2	Australian Magpie	57
6.3	Broom (Howard - St Arnaud)	58
6.4	Brushtail Possum	59
6.5	Darwin's Ants	60
6.6	Feral Cats	62
6.7	Feral Rabbits and Hares	63
6.8	Gorse (Howard - St Arnaud)	64
6.9	Lagarosiphon	65
6.10	Mustelids – Ferrets, Stoats and Weasels	66
6.11	Purple Pampas	67
7	Boundary Control Pests	68
7.1	Australian Sedge	69
7.2	Blackberry	70
7.3	Broom (outside Howard - St Arnaud)	71
7.4	Buddleia	72
7.5	Codling Moth, Black Spot and Powdery Mildew	73
7.6	European Canker	75
7.7	Fireblight	77
7.8	Giant Buttercup	79
7.9	Gorse (outside Howard - St Arnaud)	80
7.10	Nodding Thistle	81
7.11	Ragwort	82
8	Regional Surveillance Pests	83
8.1	Parrot's Feather	84
8.2	Lodgepole pine	85
8.3	Undaria	86
8.4	Yellow Flag	87

9	Pest Control in Sites of High Public Value	88
9.1	Explanation	88
10	Biological Control Programme	89
11	Marine Biosecurity	91
PART III: ADMINISTRATION PROVISIONS		92
12	Powers Conferred for Purposes of Implementing the Strategy	92
12.1	Provision of Advice and Education	94
12.2	Monitoring and Inspections	94
12.3	Regulatory Management	95
12.4	Integrated Management and Cross-Boundary Issues	96
12.5	Funding	97
12.6	Review of the Management Agency and the Strategy	99
13	Definition of Terms	100
REFERENCES		103
APPENDICES		104
Appendix 1:	Problems Caused and Parties Affected by Pests	104
Appendix 2:	Pests Declared to be Unwanted Organisms	109
Appendix 3:	Pest Plants listed in the National Pest Plant Accord	110
Appendix 4:	List of Notifiable Organisms (Plants) and Pests to be managed under MPI-led programmes	114
LIST OF TABLES		
Table 1:	Organisms Declared to be Pests	9–10
Table 2:	Administrative Powers under the Act	92
Table 3:	Offences and Penalties That Relate to Regional Pest Management Strategies	93
Table 4:	Indicative Costs and Sources of Funds	98
LIST OF FIGURES		
Figure 1:	Infestation Curve	11

LIST OF MAPS

115

Map 1: Administrative Boundaries of Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council

116

Total Control Pests (known sites)

Map 2:	African Feather Grass	117
Map 3:	Bathurst Bur	118
Map 4:	Boxthorn	119
Map 5:	Cathedral Bells	120
Map 6:	Climbing Spindleberry	121
Map 7:	Egeria	124
Map 8:	Entire Marshwort	125
Map 9:	Hornwort	126
Map 10:	Madeira Vine	127
Map 11:	Phragmites	128
Map 12:	Saffron Thistle	129
Map 13:	Senegal Tea	130
Map 14:	Spartina	131

Progressive Control Pests (known sites)

Map 15:	Boneseed (Outside the Port Hills Area)	132
Map 16:	Chinese Pennisetum	136
Map 17:	Climbing Asparagus (eastern Golden Bay)	138
Map 18:	Gambusia	139
Map 19:	Koi Carp	140
Map 20:	Nassella Tussock	141
Map 21:	Old Man's Beard (Golden Bay, Kaiteriteri and Upper Buller Catchment Areas)	143
Map 22:	Perch	147
Map 23:	Purple Loosestrife	148
Map 24:	Reed Canary Grass	149
Map 25:	Reed Sweet Grass	150
Map 26:	Rooks	151
Map 27:	Rudd	152
Map 28:	Tench	153
Map 29:	Variegated Thistle	154
Map 30:	White-edged Nightshade	158
Map 31:	Wild Ginger Species (Golden Bay to Kaiteriteri)	160

Containment Pests (known sites)

Map 32:	Argentine Ants	163
Map 33:	Broom (Howard – St Arnaud)	164
Map 34:	Darwins Ants	165
Map 35:	Gorse (Howard – St Arnaud)	166
Map 36:	Purple Pampas	167

COVER PHOTOS

Front: Banana Passion Vine, Saffron Thistle, Argentine Ant (from top left)

Back: Hornwort (Background photo), Koi carp, Perch, Gambusia (from top left)

PART I: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Regional Pest Management Strategy (the Strategy) is to provide a framework for efficient and effective pest management in the Tasman-Nelson region so as to:

- (a) minimise actual and potential unintended effects associated with the organisms identified as pests; and
- (b) maximise the effectiveness of individual pest management action by way of a regionally co-ordinated response.

There are many introduced plants and animals in the Tasman-Nelson region that are considered undesirable. The majority of these are best dealt with on an individual property basis, but there are several that justify a regional response.

Objectives specific to each pest are set out in Part II of the Strategy.

1.2 Commencement and duration

The Strategy will become operative on 7 November 2012 and remain in force until 6 November 2017 or until such time as a review establishes that the Strategy be extended, amended or revoked (refer Section 12.6).

1.3 Area of effect

The Strategy will have effect over the combined area that lies within the administrative boundaries of the Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council (the Councils).

1.4 Structure of the strategy

The structure of the Strategy is based upon the requirements for a proposed regional pest management strategy that are set out in Section 76 of the Biosecurity Act.

- ▶ **Part I**

provides background information on the Strategy.
It is divided into three sections:

- Section 1
contains the Introduction to the Strategy; it states the purpose, duration, effect, and structure of the Strategy.
- Section 2
outlines the statutory and planning framework relevant to the preparation, administration and implementation of the Strategy.
- Section 3
identifies affected parties, ie, those with management obligations or responsibilities under the Strategy.

- ▶ **Part II**

specifies the management programmes for individual pests. It is divided into sections that reflect different levels of regional intervention for the different pest categories. These programmes identify the pest's effects to be addressed, the objective to be achieved, the principal methods (including alternatives) to achieve the objective, and the Strategy rules relating to that pest.

- Section 4
sets out management programmes for Total Control Pests.
- Section 5
sets out management programmes for Progressive Control Pests.

- Section 6
sets out management programmes for Containment Pests.
- Section 7
sets out management programmes for Boundary Control Pests.
- Section 8
sets out management programmes for Regional Surveillance Pests.
- Section 9
sets out management programmes for Sites of High Public Value.
- Section 10
outlines the biological control agents that are controlling pest plants.
- Section 11
outlines the marine biosecurity programme.

- **Part III**

details the administrative policies and procedures of Tasman District Council as they relate to the implementation of its responsibilities as the Management Agency for the Strategy.

- Section 12
lists the powers conferred for the purpose of implementing the Strategy.
- Section 13
contains the definition of the terms used in the Strategy.
- References.
- Appendices.

2 STATUTORY AND PLANNING FRAMEWORK

2.1 Legislative framework

The Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Act) provides for the eradication and effective management of harmful organisms. It empowers regional and unitary councils to have a significant statutory role in implementing the Act by proposing and implementing regional pest management strategies. Any other person or group may propose a Regional Pest Management Strategy.

The Act does not impose a statutory obligation on councils to undertake pest management activities. If it chooses, a council could have no Strategy, or confine itself to approving someone else's strategy. Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council have recognised their responsibilities for pest management and agreed to continue with a joint Regional Pest Management Strategy.

Pest management strategies are pest programmes that have been considered, planned and funded pursuant to Part V of the Act. Any harmful organism can be declared a "pest" through its inclusion in a pest management strategy. However, it must meet the tests set out in Section 72 of the Act (refer Section 2.2 of the Strategy). The management of other harmful organisms may be addressed through other avenues (see Section 2.5 of the Strategy), such as small-scale management programmes, as provided for under Section 100 of the Act.

Joint Strategies

Section 83(1) of the Act enables "Any two or more regional councils to separately propose and approve a joint regional pest management strategy" (ie, where adjoining regions have similar pest management problems). To achieve this, this joint Strategy must be approved by both Councils. Where the Strategy will be implemented by one of the Councils (Tasman District Council), the Act shall have effect as if the regions of the Councils are a single region (Section 83(1)(c)(i)).

2.2 Pre requisites of a pest management strategy

Any decision to declare particularly harmful organisms a pest involves a degree of subjectivity when ranking, weighting and assessing the regional impacts of particular harmful organisms. In making that decision, the Councils need to have regard to what they can most effectively and efficiently achieve, given finite resources.

In preparing previous Strategies, the Councils screened a large number of potentially harmful organisms to determine what (if any) regional intervention would be appropriate. Appendix 1 contains a summary of impacts and who is affected. The full analysis of impacts carried out by the Councils was set out in a separate Section 72 report. Section 72(l) of the Act requires that before notifying a proposed strategy, the Councils are of the opinion that:

"The organism is capable of causing at some time a serious adverse and unintended effect in relation to the region on one or more of the following:

- (i) *economic well-being; or*
- (ii) *the viability of rare or endangered species of organisms, the survival and distribution of indigenous plants or animals, or the sustainability of natural developed ecosystems, ecological processes and biological diversity; or*
- (iii) *soil resources or water; or*
- (iv) *human health or enjoyment of the recreational value of the natural environment; or*
- (v) *the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, waters, sites, waahi tapu, and taonga."*

For those organisms qualifying through these criteria, the Councils then had to be satisfied (Section 72(1)(a)) that the benefits of having a Strategy for a particular pest outweighed

the costs, after having taken into account the likely consequences of inaction or alternative courses of action.

Further, (Section 72(1)(b)) requires that the Councils have to be satisfied that the net benefits of regional intervention exceeded the net benefits of individuals' collective actions.

2.3 Organisms declared to be pests

After having regard to Section 72 of the Act, the organisms in Table 1 have been declared pests in this Strategy. These pests are banned from sale, propagation, breeding, distribution and commercial display in accordance with Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act.

Table 1: Organisms declared to be pests

Pest Designation	Common Name	Scientific Name
Total Control Pests	African Feather Grass	<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i>
	Bathurst Bur	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>
	Boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>
	Cathedral Bells	<i>Cobaea scandens</i>
	Climbing Spindleberry	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
	Egeria	<i>Egeria densa</i>
	Entire Marshwort	<i>Nymphoides geminata (R Br) Kuntze</i>
	Hornwort	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>
	Madeira Vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>
	Phragmites	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
	Saffron Thistle	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>
	Senegal Tea	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>
	Spartina	<i>Spartina spp</i>
Progressive Control Pests	Banana Passion Vine (Golden Bay)	<i>Passiflora mollissima/mixta</i>
	Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoïdes monilifera</i>
	Chinese Pennisetum	<i>Cenchrus purpurascens</i>
	Climbing Asparagus	<i>Asparagus scandens</i>
	Gambusia	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>
	Koi Carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
	Nassella Tussock	<i>Nasella trichotoma</i>
	Old Man's Beard (Golden Bay, Kaiteriteri and Upper Buller Catchment)	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
	Perch	<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>
	Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	Reed Canary Grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
	Reed Sweet Grass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>
	Rooks	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
	Rudd	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
	Tench	<i>Tinca tinca</i>
	Variegated Thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i>
	White-edged Nightshade	<i>Solanum marginatum</i>
	Wild Ginger (Golden Bay to Kaiteriteri)	<i>Hedychium gardnerianum and H flavescens</i>

Pest Designation	Common Name	Scientific Name
Containment Pests	Argentine Ants	<i>Linepithema humile</i>
	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>
	Broom (Howard - St Arnaud)	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
	Brushtail Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>
	Darwin's Ants	<i>Doleromyrma darwiniana</i>
	Feral Cats	<i>Felis catus</i>
	Feral Rabbits and Hares	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus, Lepus europaeus</i>
	Gorse (Howard - St Arnaud)	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
	Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
	Mustelids – Ferrets, Stoats and Weasels	<i>Mustela furo, M erminea, M nivalis vulgaris</i>
Boundary Control Pests	Purple Pampas	<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>
	Australian Sedge	<i>Carex longibrachiata</i>
	Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>
	Broom (outside Howard - St Arnaud)	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
	Buddleia	<i>Buddleja davidii</i>
	Codling Moth, Black Spot, and Powdery Mildew	<i>Cydia pomonella, Venturia inaequalis, Podosphaera leucotricha</i>
	European Canker	<i>Neonectria ditissima</i>
	Fireblight	<i>Erwinia amylovora</i>
	Giant Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
	Gorse (outside Howard - St Arnaud)	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Regional Surveillance Pests	Nodding Thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
	Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
	Parrot's Feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
	Pinus contorta	<i>Pinus contorta</i>
Regional Surveillance Pests	Undaria	<i>Undaria Pinnatifida</i>
	Yellow Flag	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>

The Strategy has used the Infestation Curve Model to demonstrate basic “pest” population dynamics and to help determine appropriate Strategy objectives and management programmes with respect to the above pests. The lower the pest is placed on the curve, the more cost-effective it will be to eradicate the pest and the greater number of people in the community who will benefit. The higher the pest is on the curve, the more difficult and costly it will be to manage, the smaller the number of people in the community who will benefit, and the increasing likelihood that eradication will not be practical.

The infestation curve can be divided into three phases (Figure 2):

- (a) The first is the “Lag phase”. During initial establishment, the pest’s distribution is very limited and the rate of spread is slow; the curve is almost flat (1-3).
- (b) The second is the “Explosion phase”. Its distribution is still restricted in range but the densities and range are increasing rapidly; the curve is rising steeply (4-6).
- (c) The third is the “Widespread phase”. The pest population has filled most of the available habitat and has formed dense populations; the curve is levelling off (7-8).

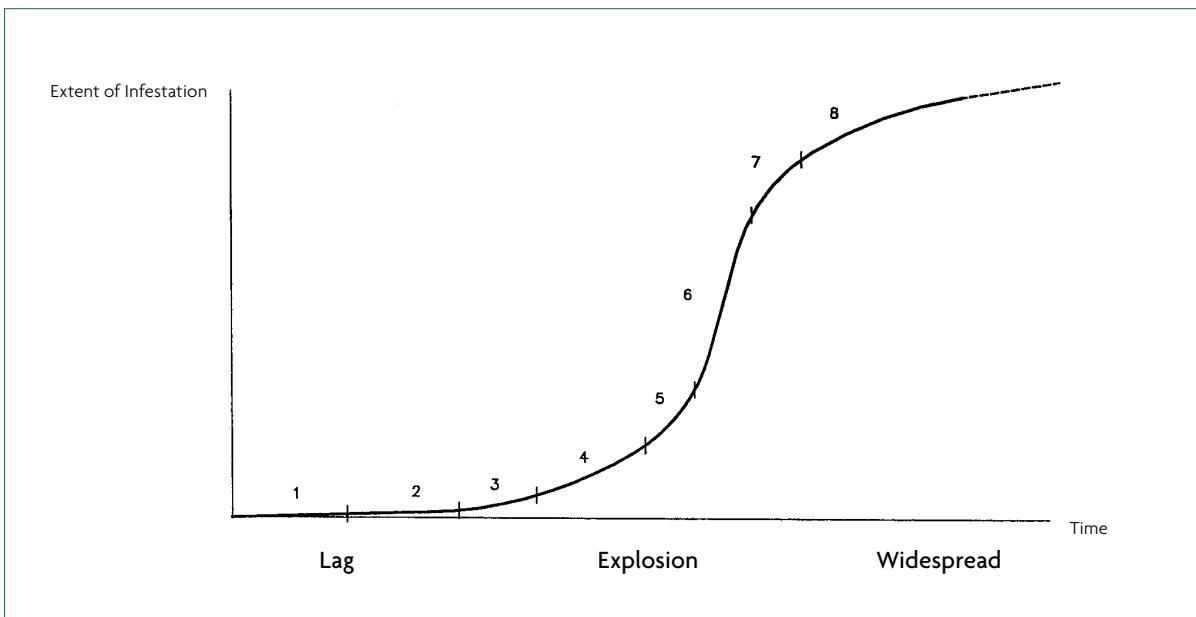


Figure 2: Infestation Curve

Sections 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Strategy categorise pests according to the different levels of regional intervention considered appropriate. An explanation of the different levels of intervention proposed is provided in the Introduction to Part II of the Strategy.

2.4 Pests banned from sale, propagation, breeding and distribution

All organisms listed in Table 1 of this Strategy (Section 2.3) are subject to the provisions of Sections 52 and 53 of the Biosecurity Act 1993. These sections restrict the sale, propagation, breeding, release and commercial display of these pests.

The Councils will participate in the National Pest Plant Accord. This is a non-statutory agreement between organisations with an interest in managing risks associated with the sale, propagation and distribution of plants that

have been identified as being, or having the potential to be, harmful pest plants. It is led by the Ministry for Primary Industries, and includes the Department of Conservation, regional councils, and the Nursery & Garden Industry Association. The Accord contains a list of recognised harmful plants that have been declared “unwanted organisms”. It bans these plants from sale, propagation and distribution throughout New Zealand, and allows councils to undertake small-scale management programmes for these plants without having to include the plants in a regional pest management strategy. Accordingly, these plants are not included in the body of the Strategy, but are listed in Appendix 3. The list was last revised in 2012. Appendix 3 contains a link to the most recent list.

2.5 Other management response

There are a large number of harmful pests that are established elsewhere in New Zealand but not yet present in the Tasman-Nelson region. They are not included in the Strategy. The most harmful ones have been classified as “unwanted organisms”, allowing each council the option of funding a small-scale management programme under Section 100 of the Act where it believes that:

- (a) effective control can be achieved within three years;
- (b) the cost of taking measures to control the organism is (currently) likely to be less than \$500,000;
- (c) the impact of these measures will not be significant.

The Councils are committed to responding rapidly to the incursion of harmful organisms using small-scale management programmes, or other means, when this is deemed necessary. Any decision on a rapid response will be made in consultation with relevant agencies and organisations; it will usually involve the Ministry for Primary Industries but it may also include agencies such as the Department of Conservation, industry organisations, or community groups. The Councils will encourage Central Government agencies to be proactive in preventing the arrival of new organisms into New Zealand and the spread of organisms that are new to the Tasman-Nelson region.

For high-risk pests, national intervention may be necessary. The Ministry for Primary Industries has responsibility for the management of new incursions, Notifiable Organisms (previously called Class A noxious plants and listed in Appendix 4), and some environmental pests, that were previously the responsibility of the Department of Conservation. has also accepted responsibility for co-ordinating action on the management of some established pests, such as Argentine Ant; however, management responsibility of these pests lies with individual councils because of their widespread distribution in parts of New Zealand.

The pests that have been recommended by an Inter-Agency Group to be managed as MPI-led programmes are listed in Appendix 4.

The Animal Health Board (AHB) is responsible for managing and implementing the National Pest Management Strategy for Bovine Tuberculosis (NPMS) in New Zealand. The NPMS was approved by the Government in 1998 and amended in 2004. The primary objective of the NPMS is to reduce the number of tuberculosis-infected cattle and deer herds in New Zealand to a 0.2% Annual Period Prevalence rate by 2012–13. Under the Biosecurity (National Bovine Tuberculosis Pest Management Strategy) Order 1998, the AHB was appointed to manage and implement the NPMS, and is provided with the necessary legal powers. Funding is shared between the Crown (50%), farmers (40%), and regional councils (10%). For the year ending June 2012, the Tasman District Council contributed \$222,703 to the AHB for Bovine tuberculosis control in the Tasman District.

Where there are pests that may have a severe impact on one sector of industry, either the Ministry for Primary Industries, or the industry may prepare their own national pest management strategy. The Ministry for Primary Industries prepared a National Pest Management Strategy for Varroa bee mite, a disease of bees that is widely distributed in the North Island because of the significant impact it would have on the agricultural sector in the South Island; however, the costs of funding the Strategy fell on South Island regional councils (on behalf of the agricultural sector) and the South Island beekeepers. The Pork Industry Board has developed a national pest management strategy to manage a disease in young pigs (post-weaning multi-systemic wasting syndrome). Kiwifruit Health is proposing a national pest management strategy for the Kiwifruit Vine disease Psa-V. Where this is appropriate, the Councils will encourage and support interested groups who want to prepare a pest management strategy for a specific pest, provided it will not detract from integrated pest management in the region.

2.6 Effects of the strategy's implementation

In addition to considering what pests are to be managed by the Strategy, the Councils need to have regard to the effects of the Strategy's implementation, as required by Section 76(1)(g) and (h) of the Act. Given their experience under previous Strategies, the Councils are satisfied that the overall effects of this Strategy will be beneficial. The effects of implementing the Strategy on Maori, the environment and on overseas markets are outlined below. These effects include not just the beneficial impacts that arise from controlling pests, but also any detrimental "side effects" arising from that control.

2.6.1 Effects on the Environment

The Strategy's implementation will avoid or reduce the incidence of pests having adverse effects on the environment, and in many cases assist with the protection of the significant biodiversity values of the Tasman-Nelson region. The Strategy will also protect recreation and amenity values in the region. Spartina was widely planted along estuarine shorelines up to the 1950s, but control programmes that started in the 1980s have almost eliminated it from these sites.

The implementation of the Strategy will require land occupiers to control a wide range of pests. A variety of methods can be employed – these include manual, mechanical, chemical and non-chemical means. While there is some public concern over the environmental effects of pesticides, the risk to the environment and public health is low when they are applied in accordance with the manufacturer's directions. For many pests, there is no practical alternative to the use of pesticides. The Management Agency will consider the use of all control methods, including organic control methods, when recommending control programmes. The Councils will continue to address any adverse or unintended effects from the use of pesticides through their Resource Management Plans.

2.6.2 Effects on the Relationship of Maori and their Culture and Traditions with their Ancestral Lands, Waters, Sites, Waahi Tapu and Taonga

The iwi of the Nelson area (nga tangata whenua ki Whakatu) have outlined their resource management priorities for Nelson in their iwi management plan (nga taonga tuku iho ki Whakatu). Iwi management plans are also being prepared for areas within Tasman District.

The Regional Pest Management Strategy is expected to have some beneficial effects in terms of Maori culture and traditions. Specifically, the Strategy should avoid or reduce incidents of pest plants invading and possibly degrading waahi tapu and taonga raranga sites. An example of a potential benefit from implementing the Strategy is avoiding or reducing the incidence of aquatic pest plants such as Senegal Tea, Egeria, or Lagarosiphon displacing watercress. The Strategy should also contribute to the protection of native flora and fauna and traditional foods.

Iwi have expressed concern that the application of pesticides could contaminate soils and waterways. As noted above, these concerns are addressed by the Councils through their Resource Management Plans.

2.6.3 Effects on the Marketing Overseas of New Zealand Products and on New Zealand's International Obligations, Assurances and Reputation

The Strategy is expected to have a positive effect on the marketing of New Zealand products overseas. The control of pests will avoid adverse impacts on agricultural production, and may increase agricultural production. The control of pests will also enhance biodiversity, recreational and amenity values, providing benefits to tourism.

The control of pest plants will assist New Zealand to meet its exporting obligations, such as the control of Fireblight in pipfruit production. In the future, there will be increasing focus from international markets on the use of pesticides during the growing cycle. Land occupiers need to be aware of this when considering the choice of methods of pest control.

3 MANAGEMENT – OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section identifies parties that will have management responsibilities and obligations under the Strategy.

3.1 The councils

3.1.1 Proposers of the Strategy

Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council will separately propose and approve the Strategy under Section 71 of the Act.

3.1.2 Management Agency

Tasman District Council will be the Management Agency responsible for implementing the Strategy. This involves developing and administering systems that ensure the Strategy's objectives are being achieved. It also involves ensuring that the funding, monitoring and review processes in place are consistent with the requirements of the Act and any other statutory provisions.

The Councils, in appointing Tasman District Council as Management Agency, are satisfied that it meets the requirements of Section 84(3) of the Act in that:

- (a) Tasman District Council is accountable to Strategy funders through representation and annual reporting requirements established under the Local Government Act 1974; and
- (b) Tasman District Council is acceptable to funders and to those persons who may be subject to the management provisions of the Strategy; and
- (c) Tasman District Council has the management capacity, competency and expertise available to carry out the implementation of the Strategy.

The means by which the Management Agency will meet its management responsibilities are identified in Part II (Management Programmes); the manner in which it will undertake those responsibilities is described in Part III (Administrative Systems and Processes).

The responsibilities of Tasman District Council as Management Agency include:

- 1 Managing and implementing the Strategy.
- 2 Monitoring and enforcement:
 - Surveillance for new pests.
 - Monitoring pest infestation.
 - Advising when control is required.
 - Enforcing control action when rules are breached.
- 3 Involving communities:
 - Education, advice and support of research.
 - Technical advice to assist community responses to local problems.
- 4 Working closely with other agencies:
 - Integrating control operations
 - Developing Strategic Management Plans for high-risk pests.

3.2 Stakeholders

For the purposes of this Strategy, “stakeholders” are defined as “... *the beneficiaries and exacerbators identified in this Strategy as being bound to, and contributing to, the Strategy*”.

For pest plants, the occupier of infested land in this Strategy is generally the exacerbator of the problem and, in most instances, the beneficiary of any control action. Accordingly, the onus is placed on the land occupier to undertake the control and management of pest plants on land for which they are responsible. The obligations and responsibilities of the stakeholders are set out below.

3.2.1 Roadside Verges

Private land occupiers are not legally responsible for the control of pest plants on their adjacent road frontages. Roading authorities (such as Transit New Zealand) and territorial local authorities (such as Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council) are to be treated as the occupiers of formed roads and will be responsible for pest plant control on road verges. It is consistent with the principles of the Act that road controlling authorities are treated in the same way as any other land occupier. If an occupier wishes to control pests on their adjacent road frontages, they may do so as long as they meet the requirements of the Strategy.

3.2.2 Private Land Occupiers

Private land occupiers are required to control pests on land that they occupy, as set out in any rule prescribed in Part II (Management Programmes) of this Strategy.

3.2.3 Crown Land Occupiers

The Councils propose that the Crown will be asked to accept responsibility for controlling pests on land that it administers, as set out in the Strategy rules prescribed in Part II of the Strategy.

The Councils also propose that the relevant Crown agencies contribute to funding the implementation and administration of the Strategy in accordance with the funding provisions set out in Section 10.5 of the Strategy. The Crown cannot be required to fund the Strategy, or be bound by it, unless it has agreed to do so by Order in Council (Section 87). This is one of the provisions that will change with the introduction of the Biosecurity Amendment Act in 2012.

3.2.4 Territorial Local Authorities

Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council are unitary authorities and exercise the functions of a territorial local authority. They are effectively occupiers of the land that is owned and administered by them. As such, they are required to control pests in accordance with Part II of this Strategy.