

Notice is given of a Regional Pest Management Joint Committee Hearing to be held on:

Date: Monday 27 May 2024
Time: 9:30am - Hearings
Meeting Room: Tasman Council Chamber
Venue: 189 Queen Street, Richmond
Zoom conference link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84491379925?pwd=bFhWQWhBa1RWWFhRNk1OdWRqMVp3UT09>
Meeting ID: 844 9137 9925
Meeting Passcode: 737960

Regional Pest Management Joint Committee

HEARING AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP	Tasman District Council	Nelson City Council
Chairperson	Cr C Butler	
Deputy Chairperson		Cr R Sanson
Members	Deputy Mayor S Bryant	Cr M Benge
	Cr M Kininmonth	Cr A Stallard

Quorum 3 members – (a member from each Council must be present)

Contact Telephone: 03 543 8400

Email: councildemocracy@tasman.govt.nz

Website: www.tasman.govt.nz

AGENDA

1 OPENING, WELCOME, KARAKIA

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Recommendation

That apologies be accepted.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4 CONFIRMATION OF [MINUTES](#)

That the minutes of the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee meeting held on Friday, 8 December 2023, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5 REPORTS

7.1 Hearings report on the partial review of the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029..... 4

6 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

7 CLOSING KARAKIA

7 REPORTS

7.1 HEARINGS REPORT ON THE PARTIAL REVIEW OF THE TASMAN NELSON REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019-2029

Report To:	Regional Pest Management Joint Committee
Meeting Date:	27 May 2024
Report Author:	Guinevere Coleman, Team Leader Biosecurity & Biodiversity
Report Authorisers:	Rob Smith, Environmental Information Manager
Report Number:	RRPMC24-05-1

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Provide the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee with the summary of submissions received during consultation on the partial review of the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029
- 1.2 This report does not include the staff deliberations report or an analysis of the submissions. This will be provided to the Joint Committee before the deliberations meeting on 18 June 2024

2. Report Summary

- 2.1 This report is to enable the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee to accept and hear submissions on the partial review of the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029
- 2.2 The consultation period was open for one month and closed on 23 March 2024. We received 101 submissions on the partial review via the Shape Tasman submission form, and 10 full written submissions. We received one late submission from Project De-Vine Environmental Trust.
- 2.3 There are 14 submitters who wish to be heard.
- 2.4 A summary of all submissions received is attached. The schedule of presenters for this hearing is attached. Subsequent changes to the schedule will be advised before the hearing commences.
- 2.5 Staff will prepare an analysis of the submissions received for the deliberations meeting scheduled for 18 June 2024.

3. Recommendation

That the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee

- 1. receives the Hearings report on the partial review of the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029 report; and**
- 2. receives and considers all 101 submissions (including the late submission) on the partial review of the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029 received by 5.00pm 23 March 2024; and**
- 3. notes that an analysis of submissions will be provided for the 18 June 2024 deliberations meeting.**

4. Background and Discussion







- 4.1 The Regional Pest Management Joint Committee is responsible for the development and review of the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029 (RPMP), a joint RPMP between Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council.
- 4.2 Under the Biosecurity Act 1993, a partial review of RPMP's can be undertaken at any time, and if the changes are deemed significant must go through appropriate consultation.
- 4.3 This partial review is considering changes to the RPMP with rule changes related to:
 - 4.1.1 Blue passion flower
 - 4.1.2 Boneseed
 - 4.1.3 Moth plant
 - 4.1.4 Pampas
 - 4.1.5 Sabella
 - 4.1.6 Vietnamese Parsley
 - 4.1.7 Water Celery
 - 4.1.8 Pest/wilding conifers
 - 4.1.9 Feral cats
- 4.4 A number of key stakeholders were included in early consultation at the request of the Joint Committee. These included government agencies, adjoining Councils, sector groups and companies, and community organisations. Feedback from this early consultation helped form the Partial Review Proposal that went to public consultation. These groups were invited to further engage in the public submission process.
- 4.5 At its Tuesday 22 August 2023 meeting, the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee resolved to recommend the draft partial review proposal to both Tasman District and Nelson City Councils for approval to notify.
- 4.6 At its Friday 8 December 2023 meeting, the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee recommended to Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council that they approve public notification of the draft Regional Pest Management Plan 2019 – 2029 Partial Review Consultation document for the partial review of the Tasman–Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029, commencing 23 February 2024, for a period of one month, closing on 23 March 2024.
- 4.7 Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council approved public notification of the partial review consultation document in December 2023.
- 4.8 The consultation period was open for one month and closed on 23 March 2024. We received 101 submissions on the partial review via the Shape Tasman submission form, and 10 full written submissions. We received one late submission from Project De-Vine Environmental Trust.
- 4.9 Fourteen submitters wish to be heard.
- 4.10 Staff have organised for these submitters to present their views to the Council at today's meeting. Staff have contacted all submitters that wish to be heard and have booked a time for each submitter to speak.
- 4.11 The purpose of the hearing panel is to:

- 4.1.10 consider the views of submitters (from this hearing and from the written submissions); and
- 4.1.11 decide on changes that will need to be made to the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029 at the deliberations meeting on 18 June 2024.

The hearing process

- 4.12 A summary of all submissions received is appended as **Attachment 1**. This includes a late submission. The schedule of this hearing is attached as **Attachment 2**. A copy of the submissions made by each presenter is attached as **Attachment 3**.
- 4.13 Each submitter has been allowed a maximum of 10 minutes to speak to their submission. This time includes any points of clarification from the Regional Pest Management Joint Committee.
- 4.14 Staff have asked submitters to be available from the start of the hour that they have been assigned, and staff have allocated up to six submitters per hour. This is in anticipation that some will not use their allocated 10 minutes and that some submitters may not attend.
- 4.15 Submitters will be present either in person or on Zoom.

5. Attachments

1.			Summary of all submissions to the JRPMP partial review	7
2.			Draft Hearing Schedule as at 22 May 2024	119
3.			Submissions in speaker order	120

Appendix 1

Summary of Submissions

Partial Review of the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan 2019 - 2029



Address for service:

Tasman District Council
Management Agency for the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan
189 Queen Street
Private Bag 4
Richmond 7050
Phone: 03 543 8400
Website: www.tasman.govt.nz

1. Introduction to report

On 23 February 2023 Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council, together, notified a Partial Review (the Proposal) of the Tasman-Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) for public comment. A total of 100 submissions were received by the closing date of 28 March 2024 with one further late submission received 23 April 2024. A public hearing is to be held in front of a Joint Committee, with representatives from both Councils, on 27th May 2024.

This report is a summary of submissions made. It summarises all submission points on the Proposal, in tabular form, and presented in the order of the proposed programmes as written in the Proposal. The main threads of the submissions have been captured verbatim. However, with the full written submissions received, while the authors have sought to represent each submission as faithfully as possible, a degree of interpretation and abridgement is unavoidable with respect to longer or written submissions. Therefore, where there is an abridgement to the submission in the table, there is a directive to refer to the full submission. The full written submissions are appended to the end of this summary.

2. Submissions

Submitter's name	Sub. point ID	Summary of Submission
Overall comments		
Pamela Pope	n/a	<p><i>A copy of the full Forest & Bird submission is attached - Appendix 1.</i></p> <p><u>Pest plants general</u> - I highly agree that the above Plan needs to be amended and more comprehensively than is currently being proposed. I am of the opinion that both councils have been 'sleeping on the job' for years while the many pest plants spread all over the District. Some on private land, some on NCC Road reserves etc. Maybe it's high time for more education on these species, which is sadly lacking. The following is a list of species easily found on the hills around Nelson and Tasman, most of them are on the National Pest Plant Accord which means they are banned from sale, distribution or propagation (<i>a list of 20 pest plants are included as examples</i>), of which agapanthus, fan palm and creeping fig have been, sadly, actively planted by NCC.</p>
Pamela Pope	n/a	<p><u>Hedgehogs</u> - we need to pay more attention to this problem. Also, as they carry toxoplasmosis and cause massive biodiversity loss. Skinks, geckos and ground nesting birds don't stand a chance with hedgehogs around.</p>
Forest and Bird – Golden Bay Branch	n/a	<p><i>A copy of the full Forest & Bird submission is attached - Appendix 1.</i></p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Tasman Nelson RPMP. Current animal and pest plant management undertaken by Forest and Bird in Golden Bay focuses on the coastal environment. Our priority is to provide protection and suitable habitat for our ground nesting and roosting shorebirds and seabirds - through E TORU NGA AWA: KO TAKAKA, KO MOTUPIPI, KO ONAHAU – The Three Rivers project.</p> <p>The following three points are submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tasman Nelson Pest Management Plan has no identified sites in its Site-led programme in Golden Bay. We are asking Council to include E Toru Nga Awa: Ko Takaka, Ko Motupipi, Ko Onahau the Three Rivers project area in the Plan as part of its Site-led pests programme. • We are asking Council to include two additional animal species in their list of animal pests in the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan – the European hedgehog (<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>) and the European Brown Hare (<i>Lepus copenus europaeus</i>). • Forest and Bird are requesting marram grass (<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>) is a notified pest plant in E Toru Nga Awa: Ko Takaka, Ko Motupipi ,Ko Onahau – the Three Rivers site. Eradication of marram grass in the Three Rivers site would free up valuable nesting and roosting space. Nesting and roosting birds would no longer compete for space. Existing native vegetation, sand convolvulus, native spinach and sand carex would be able to flourish.

Submitter's name	Sub. point ID	Summary of Submission
Cynthia McConville and Patrick Steer	19680 19742	I am writing in support of the Forest and Bird submission on the TNRPMP. Specifically the inclusion of the Three Rivers Project area as a site-led programme and the inclusion of feral cats in Golden Bay, European hedgehogs and European brown hares in the revised plan. I have seen the impact these animals have on our coastal shorebirds and seabirds at sites where they roost and nest along our coastline. We would like to see council take more action to support our coastal bird population through greater pest control. Specifically include the coastal area between Motupipi, Takaka and Onahau Rivers in Golden Bay - this is an internationally important area for coastal birds that has no protection from multiple plant and animal pests.
Robyn Jones	19682	I would like to support the Forest and Bird Golden Bay Branch submission to the Tasman Nelson Regional Pest Management Plan.
The Ornithological Society of New Zealand – Tasman-Nelson region	n/a	Garnering public support for the Pest Management Plan. To achieve this, the Plan needs to be credible and appropriately communicated. We were very disappointed with the sensational fearmongering that accompanied the report of a rook sighting in Stoke in 2023. Material posted on Facebook by Council included unsubstantiated comments regarding Rooks preying on 'native species, including small ground nesting birds and their eggs'. Stuff subsequently claimed that 'There have been reports of them pecking out and eating the eyes of living sheep and lambs that were immobilised.' In correspondence with your staff no reports of such behaviour were forthcoming despite us being advised that 'While the attacks are mostly carried out by crows and ravens, magpies and rooks have also been observed attacking lambs' – our own literature review also failed to find any reliable records of such behaviour. Such unsubstantiated 'information' detracts from the value and importance of the Management Plan in supporting biodiversity conservation.
Allen Berthelsen	19825	I think it is very important to have robust pest management to protect our native biodiversity and therefore I am very supportive of the additional inclusions to the plan.
Cam Carter	19824	I think it is very important to have robust pest management to protect our native biodiversity and therefore I am very supportive of the additional inclusions to the plan.
Anna Berthelsen	19823	I think it is very important to have robust pest management to protect our native biodiversity and therefore I am very supportive of the additional inclusions to the plan.
Brook Waimārama Sanctuary	n/a	Key pests for biodiversity restoration in the Nelson district don't just include ungulates – grazing animals such as goats, deer, pigs and possum, but include plants such as wilding conifers, vines like Old Mans Beard and certain insects like Vespula (German) wasps. We would like to highlight emerging pests like cats as being part of an effective pest management plan. We support a tougher stance upon cats, see specific notes below. For all pests control we would support strongly that early control is both easier and cheaper to achieve planned outcomes. We would have hoped more pest control be set across at least the Nelson district. We have considered the draft NCC long term plan in conjunction with the proposed pest management plan and are concerned about the long-term plan including;

Submitter's name	Sub. point ID	Summary of Submission
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the natural environment being the first point listed in key community outcomes, there appears very little direct spending in the next 10 years for conservation. • Big savings in weed control- see page 87 of the activity's summaries. We see the growing weed problem across the district as serious, and only going to get worse if it is not controlled. This real threat to the NCC budget will only catch up with NCC later with even more cost and resources needed to achieve control to acceptable levels. This is a bad decision to cut spending on pest control.
DOC	n/a	<p>Overall, the Partial Review is aligned with the National Policy Direction (NPD) and guidance material.</p> <p>I support the proposed amendments to the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP), subject to the specific comments set out in Attachment 1 to this submission.</p>
Sections 1, 2 and 3 comments		
DOC	n/a	<p>Whilst the RPMP has a particular statutory function and purpose, and must be prepared in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and NPD, it is desirable that it also:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. has clear strategic intent and SMART objectives (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound); 2. supports current strategic (regional and cross-regional) initiatives and programs for the restoration, protection and enhancement of indigenous biodiversity; and 3. supports initiatives and programs that are currently in development, e.g. under the Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Strategy; and other collaborative landscape-scale projects that may be progressed during the period of the RPMP. <p>These matters are relevant to the RPMP as a whole and to the proposal to include new pests and policies through this Partial Review.</p> <p>Whilst to a large extent the strategic initiatives and programs in (2) and (3) will depend on voluntary collaboration between partner organisations, landowners and the wider community, the RPMP can provide further strategic direction and a regulatory backstop to support the delivery of programs on the ground.</p> <p>The choice of management programme – and the specific objective – should be informed by the values to be protected or at risk, the pests that impact on the values, the area affected (or potentially affected), the level to which the pest must be controlled to manage impacts to an acceptable level, and an analysis of the benefits and costs that satisfies the requirements of the NPD.</p>

