

## 8 Whakaaturanga āhua orotā / Monitoring

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Costs associated with surveillance and monitoring have been built into cost-benefit analyses for all programmes in this RPMP.

Surveillance is particularly important for programmes aiming to exclude or eradicate pests from parts of the region, including protection of past island eradications. In the Te Tīkapa Moana / Hauraki Gulf in particular, Auckland Council, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation, maintains an extensive network of traps and detection devices along with other surveillance methods such as the use of scent detection dogs to detect and respond to incursions on pest-free islands. Similarly, on-going island-wide pest plant survey work on Aotea / Great Barrier island group is critical to identifying pest plant incursions early and therefore increasing the chances of successful management. Other site-led programmes such as pest plant management on parkland require follow-up operational and outcome monitoring to assess the efficacy of the management programmes.

The Council will look to improve the robustness of its monitoring regimes over the lifetime of this plan, particularly by improving data management systems. Another aspect of monitoring that the Council will look to improve over the lifetime of the plan will be in assessing the efficacy of behaviour-change initiatives, to ensure programmes that seek to manage pests by influencing human behaviour (e.g. kauri dieback, Treasure Islands, freshwater pathway management) are successfully utilising best-practice social science to influence environmental outcomes.



Capturing, tagging and releasing tench to estimate the population size at Lake Tomarata.

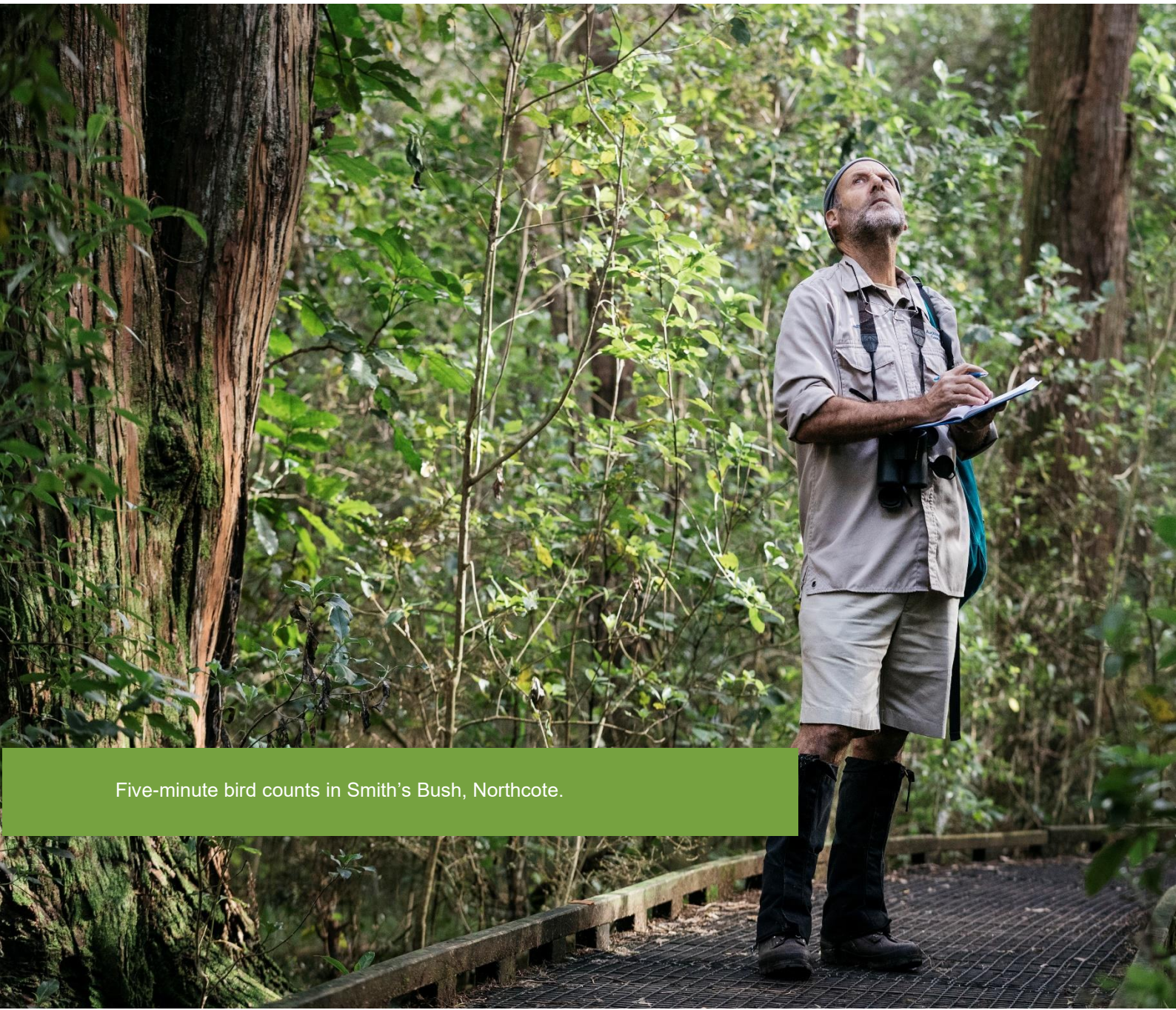
**Table 1 Monitoring objectives**

Anticipated result	Indicator	Method of monitoring	Frequency of monitoring	Frequency of reporting
Exclusion	Presence/absence	Active and passive field surveys when undertaking other service delivery, public reports	As reports are received and while undertaking other field activities.	Annually and as required
Eradication	Presence/absence, distribution and extent, life cycle status	Field surveys, public reports	Frequency determined by species' time to sexual maturity to prevent reproduction, or as reports are received	Annually and as required
Progressive containment	Presence/absence, distribution and extent, life cycle status	Field surveys and public reports	Frequency determined by species' time to sexual maturity to prevent reproduction, or as reports are received	Annually and as required
Sustained control	Output and outcome based, pest trend monitoring	Species-led national inspection protocols (e.g. NPPA, NPPBA), public reports.	Ongoing and in accordance with operational plans	Annually and as required
Site-led	Output and outcome based, including trends in pests being controlled and site values being protected (e.g. native vegetation recruitment).	Field surveys, public reports.	Ongoing and in accordance with operational plans, and outcome values being monitored. Frequency may be determined by pest species' time to sexual maturity	Annually and as required

## 8.1 Te aroturuki i ngā mahi a te tari whakahaere / Monitoring the management agency's performance

Auckland Council is the management agency. As the management agency responsible for implementing the plan, the Council will:

- prepare an operational plan within three months of the plan being approved
- review the operational plan annually, and amend it if needed
- report on the operational plan each year, within five months after the end of each financial year
- implement the plan in line with the operational plans
- maintain up-to-date databases of complaints, pest levels and densities, and responses from land occupiers.



Five-minute bird counts in Smith's Bush, Northcote.

## 8.2 Te aroturuki i te whaihua o te mahere / Monitoring plan effectiveness

Monitoring the effects of the plan will ensure that it continues to achieve its purpose. It will also check that relevant circumstances have not changed to such an extent that the plan requires review. A review may be needed if:

- the Biosecurity Act is changed, and a review is needed to ensure that the plan is not inconsistent with the Act
- other harmful organisms create, or have the potential to create, problems that can be resolved by including those organisms in the plan
- monitoring shows the problems from pests or other organisms to be controlled (as covered by the plan) have changed significantly
- circumstances change so significantly that the Council believes a review is appropriate.

If the plan does need to be reviewed under such circumstances, it will be reviewed in line with s100D of the Biosecurity Act. Such a review may extend, amend or revoke the plan, or leave it unchanged.

The procedures to review the plan will include officers of Auckland Council:

- assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of the principal measures (specified for each pest and other organism (or pest group or organisms) to be controlled to achieve the objectives of the plan
- assessing the impact the pest or organism (covered by the plan) has on the region and any other harmful organisms that should be considered for inclusion in the plan
- liaising with other agencies and key interest groups on the effectiveness of the plan.

A review is initiated by a proposal made by Auckland Council giving reasons for the proposal and setting out:

- any proposed amendments; or
- any proposed replacement parts of the plan.

The review must follow s68-78, including consultation requirements, to the extent that these sections are relevant to the proposed changes.



## 9 Te mana kua uhia / Powers conferred

The Principal Officer (Chief Executive) of Auckland Council may appoint authorised persons to exercise the functions, powers and duties under the Biosecurity Act in relation to a RPMP.

Auckland Council will use those statutory powers of Part 6 of the Biosecurity Act as shown in Table 2 or any other such relevant powers under the Act, where necessary, to help implement this plan.

**Table 2 Powers from Part 6 of the Biosecurity Act to be used.**

Power	Section of the Biosecurity Act
The appointment of authorised and accredited persons	Section 103(3) and (7)
Delegation to authorised persons	Section 105
Power to require assistance	Section 106
Power of inspections and duties	Section 109, 110 and 112
Power to record information	Section 113
General powers	Section 114 and 114A
Use of dogs and devices	Section 115
Power to seize abandoned goods	Section 119
Power to intercept risk goods	Section 120
Power to examine organisms	Section 121
Power to apply article or substance to place	Section 121A
Power to give directions	Section 122
Power to act on default	Section 128
Liens	Section 129
Declaration of restricted areas	Section 130
Declaration of controlled areas	Section 131
Options for cost recovery	Section 135
Failure to pay	Section 136

**Note:** Any non-compliance with the Biosecurity Act, or contravention of any rules under the RPMP will be subject to the enforcement provisions under Part 8 of the Biosecurity Act.

An occupier or any person in breach of a plan rule creates an offence under s154N(19) of the Biosecurity Act, where the rule provides for this. Auckland Council can seek prosecution under s157(5) of the Biosecurity Act for those offences.

In the event that the Minister amends the Biosecurity (Infringement Offences) Regulations 2010 to provide for infringement notices to be applied to rules in Regional Pest Management Plans, Auckland Council may apply the use of infringement notices to any rule in this plan that provides for an offence under s154N(19).

A Chief Technical Officer (employed under the State Sector Act 1988) may appoint authorised people to implement other biosecurity law considered necessary. One example is where restrictions on selling, propagating and distributing pests (under s52 and s53 of the Biosecurity Act) must be enforced. Another example is where occupiers of land are asked for information (under s43 of the Biosecurity Act).





## 10 Tuku tahua pūtea / Funding

## **10.1 Ngā ara pūtea tahua me ngā take mō te tuku pūtea / Funding sources and reasons for funding**

The Act requires that funding is thoroughly examined. This includes the reason for, and source of, all funding.

The Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 require that funding is sought from:

- People who have an interest in the plan
- Those who benefit from the plan
- Those who contribute to the pest problem

Funding must be sought in a way that reflects economic efficiency and equity. In general, efficiency is best achieved by targeting costs to those closest to a particular work where those paying can act in respect of those works. If the person deciding has to pay for the results of their action or inaction, they may change their behaviour to minimise costs. Doing so would lead to the least-cost outcome for society. But if another person pays those costs, the incentive to change behaviour is minimal. This may lead to a higher cost for society. Efficiency includes close targeting of costs to benefits and to those contributing to the problem (exacerbators). Where a collective public good is the primary benefit of the programme, the regional community may reasonably bear some costs in achieving the outcome through a general rate.

## **10.2 Ngā utu manako hei whakarite i te mahere / Anticipated costs of implementing the plan**

Council has decided to fund implementation of the plan through a combination of general rates and a targeted rate that applies throughout the region. The natural environment targeted rate provides approximately \$161m for Auckland Council's implementation of this Regional Pest Management Plan over 10 years, in addition to \$85m from a general rate. Additional funding will be sought from strategic partnerships, specifically for mammal eradications on Kawau and Waiheke islands. In the case of Waiheke, at time of writing<sup>1</sup> over \$3.4m of aligned funding is already committed by other parties through Te Korowai o Waiheke.

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<sup>1</sup> 1 February 2019