
Biodiversity Advisory Group

Minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group held on Tuesday 2 November, commencing at 1.00pm via Zoom.

Present: Councillors Lynette Lovett (Chair), and Diane Rawlinson; Mayor Neil Brown, Bert Hofmans (ADC); Marcelo Wibmer (Fonterra); Ian Soper (ADC); Edith Smith (Forest & Bird); Donna Field (ECan), Ian Fraser (DOC), Alice Shanks (QEII Trust), Angela Cushnie (Ashburton Water Zone Committee & Kanuka Trust), Mark Webb (Fish & Game)

In attendance: Aisling O'Reilly (Governance Support - minutes); Ian Hyde (District Planner, ADC); and Amy McIlwraith (Ecan).

1 Apologies

Mary Ralston and Val Clemens.

Smith/Rawlinson

Carried

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 3/08/21

That the minutes of the Biodiversity Advisory Group meeting held on 3 August 2021 be taken as read and confirmed.

Rawlinson/Smith

Carried

5 Significant Natural Areas

Ian Hyde reported on Areas of Significant Conservation Value (ASCVs) in reference to what is in the District Plan.

- These have similar characters to Significant Natural Areas (SNAs).
- Was initially expecting a policy statement to come through this year but this has been pushed back due to legislative changes. Expecting to happen in the early part of next year. Expect it will be a resource intensive process. Have engaged Mike Harding to do some desktop analysis to see what needs to be done for the Biodiversity National Policy Statement.
- Hoping new Biodiversity Officer will be able to assist in this work.
- Could be a formal regulatory approach or there is potential for a collaborative approach or something in between. Favours the collaborative approach. Will allow land owners to actually be invested in the process.

6 Meeting Dates for 2022

The meeting dates for 2022 were acknowledged and accepted by the group.

- There was discussion on the frequency of meetings and a suggestion was made to have more frequent meetings throughout the year. It was noted that there would have to be a visible need for additional meetings and meeting support would be dependent on the resource available. Chair to follow up with the Chief Executive.
- It was discussed that the Biodiversity Strategy is due for review in 2022. It was suggested that the draft strategy be shared with the group and for people to bring their ideas to the next meeting in the New Year.

Action Points

Action	Person Responsible
3/11 – Add Mary Ralston’s study on agenda for first meeting of 2022.	Governance Support
3/11 – Review Biodiversity Strategy and have feedback prepared for first meeting of 2022.	Biodiversity Advisory Group
3/11 – Circulate Biodiversity Strategy for review	
3/11 – Discuss with Chief Executive the suggested need for more meetings within a year.	Lynette Lovett
3/11 – Circulate presentation by Alice Shanks on planting.	Bert Hofmans Completed
3/08 - Circulate report that Mike Harding is working on around Alford Forest Vegetation Monitoring	Bert Hofmans, will circulate report next week after it has been through Council.
3/08 - Circulate web link to District Plan which shows location of all areas of significant nature conservation value (ASCVs).	Bert Hofmans Completed
3/08 - Invite Ian Hyde to next meeting to get more explanation from him on SNAs. Any questions to be sent to Governance@adc.govt.nz in advance.	Aisling O’Reilly Completed

Next Meeting

Tuesday 1 February 2022

The meeting concluded at 2:23pm